

# Star of the Sea Catholic College

## Newsletter

19th May 2020

The present moment is filled with joy and happiness. If you are attentive, you will see it.

- *Thich Nhat Hanh*

Attentiveness  
Hospitality  
and  
Compassion



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### From the Principal

There are some people in various religious circles who say that the COVID-19 virus is a punishment from God. Their idea is that God is punishing people for one transgression or another, for the way people choose to live, for their sexuality, for their turning away from some church or another.

I personally think that that idea is a load of baloney.

I don't believe in a God who inflicts punishment on people randomly, nor do I believe in a God who seemingly put us on the Earth just so he or she could test us and then casts us into heaven or hell depending on whether we passed the test or not.

Theologians would say that we become the God we worship. If we worship a God who is bigoted, racist or sexist, then we will become bigoted, racist and sexist. If we worship a God who is loving and all-embracing, then we will become people who are loving and all-embracing.

I do believe in a God who is with us. Not a God who is distant or is "out there" somewhere. I don't believe in God being someone I

can meet like I meet someone down the street. Instead, God is something I have to fine tune my hearing in order to listen to and understand.

And if God is with us, how lucky we are! It is like having a good friend who we can spend time with. When we are truly engaged with a good friend, we are not thinking about the past or the future. We are caught in the present moment. We are listening intently to what each of us have to say. We are not worrying about yesterday or tomorrow.

And God wants us to be in that present moment. COVID-19 or no COVID-19, God wants us to live in the present. It just so happens that when there is a global pandemic, the present is the best time to live in. Because we can worry about the future, asking ourselves when things will be back to normal, when will I be able to travel again, will my family be okay? But all of that worrying will not help. All we can do is live in the present.

To live in the present we are called to pay extra attention to what is around us. Do we feel the

cool Autumn breeze on our faces? Do we stop and look at our children playing and smiling? Do we watch the water as it flows in and out of the Tamar and into the Cove? These are moments that creation has brought us to. Moments that, without us being around to see them or feel them, would have no reason to exist. We have been created to enjoy these moments, to experience creation, to see what is in the present. Now is the day to do it.

So, as members of the Star of the Sea Catholic community, let us do what we have always been called to do - just live each day as it comes. When we wake up each morning, let us be curious about what the day will bring, and welcome each experience of that day with a sense of gratitude. Let us find God in the face of everyone we meet, as we strive to become the loving and all-embracing people God calls us to be.

**Mr Richard Chapman**  
Principal



**Advance notice: In preparation for returning to school  
Friday 22nd May is a Student Free Day**



*Star of the Sea Catholic College acknowledges the Leterremairener people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.*

# Religious Education and Faith Development

## May is the Month of Mary



Heart  
Spirituality



Attentiveness  
Hospitality

The month of May is a time when Christians express their love and devotion to Mary. Christians honour Mary because she said yes to God and became the Mother of Jesus, who is our Lord and Son of God. For this reason she has a special place in the Church and in the history of salvation. Mary is a model of discipleship and our model of grace and trust in God.

During the month of May Pope Francis encourages us to pray the rosary at home. The rosary is a special prayer in devotion of Mary. It uses special beads to count prayers and it is essentially a meditation on the life of Jesus.

Our college is a Marian school because the Presentation Sisters took their name from the Feast of The Presentation of Mary in the Temple. This feast celebrates that God lives among us –in our lives and in our communities.

We can all be God's loving presence to others. As part of the Presentation family, like Mary, we are 'Temple' people who are God's loving presence and compassionate heart in our community.

Daniel Leary, priest and author wrote, "God comes to us disguised in our lives." In this time where life has taken us in a different direction, rather than be frozen by the fears brought on by a changed way of living, may we be God's loving presence in simple gestures of kindness.

### Stars of the Week - 14th May 2020

Kinder	Mia Barker	For her enthusiasm with learning.
Prep	Hazel-Mae Provis	For making an excellent start at her new school. Welcome Hazel-Mae!
Grade 1	Chantz Brown	For fantastic engagement with her Learning@Home class work. Well done.
Grade 2/3	Seth Sturzaker	For his effort with his Learning@Home tasks. Keep up the great work!
Grade 4/5	Matilda Trotter	For an excellent start in Grade 4/5.
Grade 5/6	Axle Sturzaker	For his commitment to completing all his Learning Online tasks. Keep up the great work!

## SetUp for Success

Don't forget to check out our SetUp for Success Facebook page!  
To receive posts from this page please use the following:

1. log into our Facebook page (Star of the Sea Catholic College)
2. find a recent SetUp post
3. click on the icon  and it will take you straight to the SetUp page
4. once there like  it and you will then receive all Setup posts



## Return to School

School starts again for all of our Primary students next Monday 25th May. This Thursday 21st May is the last day that *Learning at Home* activities will be provided for our Primary students. This Friday 22nd May is a student-free day for both students who are attending school and students who are learning at home. The day will be used by our staff to prepare for students returning to school.

Social distancing - whilst the adults in our staff will practise social distancing with each other, our students are not expected to social distance.

When to stay home - we would ask if parents could ensure their children stay home if they are sick, especially with cold or flu symptoms. Otherwise, all Primary students are welcome back at school unless a doctor or a specialist has advised them not to return, and then we would ask families to provide a doctor's certificate.

Hygiene at school - students will be reminded about good hygiene. There will be regular opportunities to wash hands, and we will remind students to cough or sneeze into their elbow. Our surfaces will be wiped regularly and our playground equipment also cleaned.

What to bring back to school - all books and any computer or device that was borrowed and taken home.

Parent Social distancing - in order to support our staff and students, parents are asked not to enter our Upper Primary building when school returns. Students can be dropped off or picked up outside of the building. When waiting to pick up students at the end of the day, please make an effort to remain 1.5m away from other adults who are not in your immediate family. For our lower Primary (Kinder to Grade 1), we would encourage all parents to drop their children off at the door to the classroom, only entering if you really need to, and then only for a short time. In order to avoid large numbers of adults congregating for a long time outside of buildings, please do not enter the school grounds until just before 3:00pm and then leave the grounds after you have picked up your children. If you would like to speak to a teacher, please do so via the phone or email.

Assemblies - we are unable to hold assemblies at this point. They will continue to be held through Zoom and parents will be welcome to attend. Codes will be provided via Compass.

Expectations are constantly changing, so the way we operate will be reviewed regularly and restrictions will be relaxed when possible.

Secondary students will return to school on Tuesday 9th June.

## Learning at Home

Our Primary students are now in the last week of Learning at Home, with our Secondary students having just under three weeks to go. Engagement in this learning has been excellent and we thank all parents and families for their support. We would encourage everyone to keep engaging as best they can right up until when school returns so that the transition back to learning in the classroom can be as smooth as possible.

## Enrolments

We are open for enrolments for 2021, especially Kinder and Year 7. A flyer will go out in the mail to all families in George Town, and we will also advertise through our social media. If you would like to enrol your child into Star of the Sea for 2021, or know someone who would, our enrolment forms are available through the office or our website ([starsea.tas.edu.au](http://starsea.tas.edu.au)).

## Fee Relief

If any of our families have been affected financially by the COVID-19 outbreak, or are struggling financially for other reasons, please contact our College Bursar, Mrs Kathryn Condric. Support is always available for families who require it.

## Primary Assembly

This week's Primary Assembly will be held at 2:00pm via Zoom. Keep an eye on Compass for the code to join.

## Virtual Cross Country

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our Virtual Cross Country . Points are as follows:

Presentation 82 points

Regina 70 points

Nagle 36 points

Please check our Facebook page to see a video message from our House Captains.

## Uniform Shop

Just a reminder that the Uniform Shop will be open Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm for all your winter uniform requirements.

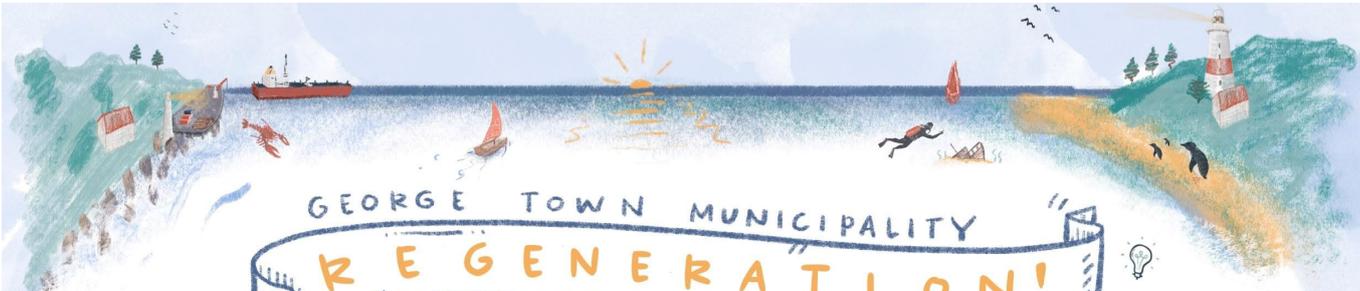
## Shout Out Term 2, Week 3, 2020

Student's Name	Reason
Karol Aziz	She has been working hard to complete her school work at home.
Isaac Leslie	Excellent Learning@ Home.
Lucinda Hockey	Developing excellent leadership skills.
Shiloh Leslie	Excellent Learning@ Home.
Jack Lindfors	Developing excellent leadership skills.
Maddison MacDonald	Excellent Learning@ Home.
Indiana Cartwright	Completing work independently.
Lachlan Crick	Excellent Learning@ Home.
Sabian Hawes	For his very creative picture graph in Digital Technologies.
Maddison Hyland	Excellent Learning@ Home.
Grace Mahnken	Excellent Learning@ Home.
Alyssia Skye	Excellent Learning@ Home.

This weeks winners of the \$5 vouchers were:

Shiloh Leslie - for great work when learning at home.

Oliver Smith - for participating in his first Zoom Meeting.



GEORGE TOWN MUNICIPALITY

# REGENERATION!



YOU MAY HAVE HEARD THAT THERE IS CURRENTLY A CHANCE FOR GEORGE TOWN MUNICIPALITY (GTM) TO RECEIVE SOME FUNDING



WE HAVE BEEN LISTENING TO YOUR VOICES AND WHAT YOU HOLD TO BE IMPORTANT THE 3 IDEAS ON PAGE 2 HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD TO REFLECT WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE

We are hoping that all 3 of these ideas will receive funding to provide a space to grow and support your big ideas, bring energy back to the main st and set up GTM with the right technology to strive into the



## FUTURE



WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS ON THESE IDEAS. PLEASE CONTACT US AT - [futureimpactgroup.GTM@gmail.com](mailto:futureimpactgroup.GTM@gmail.com)



THANK YOU TO THE 480 GTM RESIDENTS THAT SHARED THEIR VOICES, YOUR THOUGHTS INFORMED THESE IDEAS

WE ARE HOPING TO REACH 1,000 VOICES! PLEASE JOIN IN THIS COMMUNITY CONVERSATION BY FILLING OUT OUR SHORT SURVEY

BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE



CHECK OUT THE 3 IDEAS ON PAGE 2!



GTM - FUTURE IMPACT GROUP



## THE 3 IDEAS

1

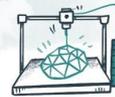
GTM Community members have said they want more activities, opportunities for employment, training and support for small businesses

Introducing the...

### ACTIVATION HUB

A local space where everyone can come together, grow their ideas and learn in a state-of-the-art facility

- Central building equipped with modern technology (with support) that everyone in community can access, outside business hours
- Flexible working spaces, meeting rooms, training rooms
- Learning and training equipment and tinker spaces such as commercial kitchen, tools, laser cutter etc...
- A place for everyone to bring forward their great ideas so that they can grow!



2

Introducing...

### RENEW GEORGE TOWN

Making sure George Town main street is an energetic and exciting place to be and to visit by fixing the boarded-up shops and bringing them back to life!

You told us you would like the main street to be a lively, creative and welcoming place

- Bring unloved, boarded up buildings on the main street back up to standard
- Offer them as cheap spaces for start-ups, pop up shops, creative projects and community groups
- Find potential long-term tenants for unused buildings
- Bring activity and excitement back to the main street of George Town!



3

Surveys tell us that some people in our community don't have access to technology and the internet. This can make it hard to learn and to stay connected

Introducing the...

### DIGITAL ACCESS PROJECT

We want George Town Municipality to be a place where everyone has access to technology and knows how to use it. Let's set up our community to stay connected and educated in a quickly changing world.

- Computers and Internet Packages for students who do not have access
- E-Reading Devices for the senior citizens within George Town Municipality
- Training and support – Helping people feel confident to connect online
- Video memberships for local community groups and clubs
- Setting George Town Municipality up to thrive post COVID as one of the most technologically connected communities in Tasmania!



GTM - FUTURE IMPACT GROUP

FROM  
the  
F.I.G.