

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

1st September 2020

It is how we embrace the uncertainty in our lives that leads to the great transformations of our souls.

- Brandon A Trean

Attentiveness
Hospitality
and
Compassion



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From the Principal

Whilst listening to *Australia All Over* recently (a radio program on Sunday mornings on the ABC), a listener rang in to tell Macca that “the tolerance of uncertainty is the greatest burden to bear.”

This particular listener was relating it particularly to the COVID-19 pandemic where lockdowns and restrictions with no definite end point have left a lot of people uncertain. And it is this uncertainty which is difficult to bear. Many of us are wondering when we’ll be able to see loved ones again, or enjoy travelling again, or even just feel comfortable shaking people’s hands again. Every day this uncertainty can become, if we let it, a huge weight on our shoulders.

For others in the community the uncertainty can take the form of being unsure if we will have employment now or in the future. Still others are uncertain as to whether or not they will be able to cope with

the changes that COVID-19 has brought about.

But uncertainty is part of our lives in other ways as well. Those of us with children live with uncertainty every day. We wonder if they will turn out okay, or whether what we are doing and the way we are raising our children is for their benefit or not. If our uncertainty becomes too much then we look for “quick fixes” for problems that may or may not exist. The term “helicopter parenting” is also used for when we find it difficult to bear the burden of uncertainty, so we try to “hover” over our children and control every part of their lives to make sure they don’t have to face any obstacles.

These reactions, while not overly healthy, are also not surprising. In times of uncertainty we look for certainty, so we do things to try to bring that certainty back into our lives.

So what is a more healthy response to uncertainty?

Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest and theologian, suggests another way of looking at things in times like this. To paraphrase some of his work, he basically says that, from the point of view of believing in a creator God, the universe is unfolding as it should despite anything that we do, so we may as well enjoy the ride. That’s not to say we should sit back and do nothing. On the contrary, Jesus wants us to have life in abundance (John 10:10). But we need not worry what the future will bring. God’s got that under control. So let go of the burden of uncertainty and let God run the show.

In our Star of the Sea Catholic community, let us not be afraid to let go and let God. Let us not worry about what the future may bring. God can handle that. Instead, let us work with each other to have life, and have it in abundance.

**Mr Richard Chapman
Principal**

Wednesday 2nd September	9.00am –10.30am SetUp for Success 9/10 Winter Sport
Thursday 3rd September	Year 7/8 Winter Sport 2.10pm Primary Assembly
Friday 4th September	7.30am – 8.15am Fathers Day Breakfast please RSVP overleaf Primary Winter Sport @ Lilydale

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

Religious Education and Faith Development

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Whole-Hearted Service

Saint Teresa of Calcutta was canonized by Pope Francis on 5th September. She was an Albanian nun devoted to the poorest of the poor in India. She served the poor, the hungry, the crippled, the blind and the lepers; all those people who felt unwanted, unloved, and uncared for in society.



Her motivation was summed up in this statement she made during an interview: "I see God in every human being. When I wash the leper's wounds, I feel I am nursing the Lord himself. Is it not a beautiful experience!"

She was responsible for facilities such as mobile health clinics, soup kitchens, emergency response centres, orphanages and schools for abandoned children which were established in a number of countries throughout the world.

Many people did not believe that Teresa of Calcutta could make a difference, but she was joined by others who formed the Missionaries of Charity who now work in communities all over the world.

Jesus and Saint Teresa of Calcutta teach us that the choices we make must be made out of love. How do we follow her example and overcome the obstacles of our everyday to show kindness and love to others?

Heart

Spirituality



Attentiveness

Hospitality

Stars of the Week - 27th August 2020

Kinder	Stephen Gerges	for always remembering to say please and thank you
Prep	Macey Crick	for getting so clever at writing by herself!
Grade 1	Savannah Grimsey-Gray	for working hard to complete all her tasks within the given timeline. Keep it up Savannah
Grade 2/3	Ruby McDonald	for working hard to improve her reading. Well done, keep up the great work!
Grade 4/5	Jack Lindfors	for demonstrating excellent leadership skills
Grade 5/6	Emma Thomas	for her dedication towards improving her multiplication and divisions skills! Well done

SetUp for Success

SetUp, our free Early Learning program for 0-5 year olds, is held every Wednesday during term time from 9:00am to 10:30am in the Kinder room. We ask that only one adult attends with each child (to help with social distancing), that children bring a drink bottle and maybe a piece of fruit, and that you don't attend if you or your child has cold or flu like symptoms. Feel free to ring the office for more information.



Father's Day Breakfast

This Friday we will be holding our COVID safe Father's Day Breakfast. Because a sit-down breakfast is not an option this year, we are instead inviting fathers and father-figures to join their children for a bacon and egg roll and a hot drink and a play outside (weather permitting). There may also be a chance to see children's classrooms. See the attached slip on this newsletter and please RSVP by tomorrow so catering can be arranged.

COVID-19 Restrictions

We thank all of our families for the way they have followed the COVID-19 restrictions that have been placed upon schools. Here is our fortnightly reminder of what they are. With this in mind:

- Students should not come to school if sick (especially with cold or flu symptoms), and parents and carers are also asked not to come on to the property if sick.
- If waiting for your child outside the buildings, please maintain social distance from others.
- If attending Primary assembly, please sign in and use hand sanitizer. We will space the chairs out.
- If you have any questions, please contact the College office.

Academic Competitions

Our season of academic competitions finishes tomorrow (Wednesday) with the Maths Competition. We thank all of the students for their participation and we especially thank Mrs Tame for her organisation of these.

Grade 10 Transition

Our Grade 10s are starting to think about school for next year. They have already visited St Patrick's College and in the coming weeks will visit Newstead College and Launceston College.

Grade 6 Transition

Our Grade 6s will be involved in their first Transition session on Tuesday 15th September. Students from the other schools in George Town will join the Star of the Sea Grade 6s as they spend some time in the secondary area getting to know new people and new teachers.

Whilst our Grade 7 numbers for 2020 are quite healthy, there is still room, so if you would like your child to be enrolled in Grade 7 next year or know of someone who does, you can pick up an enrolment form from the office or from our website (www.starsea.tas.edu.au).

Little Stars

Our Kinder transition program, Little Stars, is starting earlier this year and will commence next Wednesday September 9th. The reason for this is because families have not had as much chance this year for their children to be involved in play with others due to restrictions earlier in the year. SetUp will continue to operate on Wednesday mornings while Little Stars will be in the afternoon. To allow Mrs Hoffman to run Little Stars, Mrs Armstrong will take over teaching Art to the 4/5 and 5/6 classes.

Whilst our Kinder numbers for 2020 are quite healthy, there is still room, so if you would like your child to be enrolled in Kinder next year or know of someone who does, you can pick up an enrolment form from the office or from our website (www.starsea.tas.edu.au).

2021 Enrolments

Whilst we often advertise that enrolments are open for Kinder and Grade 7, we are also accepting enrolments for all other year levels for 2021. Whilst we have room in almost all year levels, early in Term 4 we will be deciding upon our class structures for Primary. This always involves at least one composite class so it is helpful to know approximate numbers in 2021 for each year level so we can create appropriate class sizes.

Staff Professional Learning

It has been difficult for our staff to undertake Professional Learning this year due to restrictions on travel. However there have been some opportunities.

- On Friday our staff were involved in a Spirituality Day which focussed on the Presentation Sisters priorities of advancing the rights of Indigenous people and the rights of the Earth. We were fortunate enough to have a discussion with Aboriginal elder Aunty Dawn as well as do some activities which broke open the Pope's teaching on the environment and discussing how we can become a more sustainable school.
- Throughout this term and last our Primary staff have been involved in some professional development via Zoom about the teaching of Mathematics in the primary area. This has formed part of an ongoing process of looking to improve our student outcomes in primary mathematics.

Primary Winter Sport

This Friday sees the last round of a shortened Winter Sport season for our Grade 4, 5 and 6s. Two weeks after that is the Country Gold competition of which we have 4 students taking part. We thank the class teachers, teacher assistants and Grade 8 students for helping everything to run smoothly, and Mr Taylor for his coordination and for being our school's TPSSA representative.

Shout Out Term 3, Week 6, 2020

Due to the short week, Shout Outs will be published in next week's newsletter.

Secondary Students Congratulations Cards

Term 3 Week 6 winners:

Hayley Blythe (canteen voucher)

Hayley Ford (newsagent voucher)

Well done!!

PBS Focus: We are respectful when we use kind words and encourage others.



Last weeks winners are:

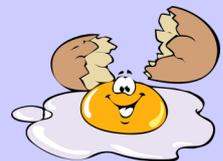
Oscar Smith for picking up rubbish. (choose a game for the class)

Archie Parker for being kind to others. (\$5 newsagent voucher)



Father's Day Breakfast

Friday 4th September,
7:30am to 8:30am.



Fathers and father-figures are welcome to come to school and enjoy an egg and bacon roll with the students, as well as a chance for a play before work!

For catering purposes please RSVP by Wednesday 2nd September.

_____ will attend the Father's Day breakfast with my child/ren

_____.

We will be there about (please circle) **7.30am** **7.45am** **8.00am** **8.15am**

Can you please cater for the following dietary requirement/s.
