

# Star of the Sea Catholic College

## Newsletter

16th March 2021

### From the Principal

***How do we display compassion when we haven't experienced what others have or are experiencing?***

Saint Oscar Romero, the El Salvadorian bishop who was assassinated in 1980 for speaking out against poverty and social injustice in his country, said that "there are many things that can only be seen through eyes that have cried." When we think about one of our guiding words here at Star of the Sea - *compassion* - we start to understand what he meant by that.

The origin of the word *compassion* is to 'suffer with' someone. That is, we have sympathy for the misfortunes of others. But the reality is that it is sometimes difficult to do that if we haven't had similar misfortunes ourselves. We may find it hard to understand the feelings of someone who has recently had a parent who has died if we ourselves have not experienced this. We may find it difficult to have sympathy for someone with a terminal illness if we have not been affected by someone with a similar experience.

But the same can go for those on the margins of our society. It can be easy to not feel compassion for people who are homeless or live in poverty if our lives have been privileged and we have never been close to the poverty line. Instead, our reaction may be the opposite to compassion. We may demand that these people "go out and get a job" or "stop being dole bludgers." Similarly, we may not feel compassion for those of a different race or country of origin since we ourselves have never had the experience of being an outcast in this country.

So how do we display compassion when we haven't experienced what others have or are experiencing?

The first thing we can do is to listen to their stories. International aid agencies like Caritas and World Vision often send their members information in the mail, mainly consisting of stories of the terrible plight of people around the world, in the hope that by people hearing these stories they will have compassion and donate more money. But the most powerful form of listening is to listen first hand to the stories of those who are suffering or are living on the margins of society.

The other thing we can do, although sometimes difficult, is to try to place ourselves in other people's shoes for a while. We ask ourselves, "How would I feel if every day I was subjected to racism?" or "How would I feel if I knew I was never going to see my mother or father again?" Some people, perhaps those who are naturally compassionate, find this easier than others, but it is worth all of us practising it from time to time.

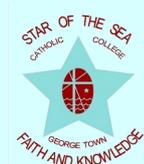
In the Star of the Sea Catholic community there is a great need for us to help our students develop their compassion. Jesus is our great model of compassion, but just like maths or English, it is something we need to practise regularly in order for us to become better at it.

**Mr Richard Chapman**  
Principal



There are many things that can only be seen through eyes that have cried.  
-Saint Oscar Romero

*Attentiveness,  
Hospitality  
and  
Compassion.*



PO Box 206  
Corner Friend &  
William Street  
George Town 7253

*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

## Happy St Patrick's Day



Heart  
Spirituality



Attentiveness  
Hospitality

Did you know that St Patrick's Day is celebrated in more countries than any other National Festival? It is a day of revelry and celebration of all things Irish and a day to wear green. Most importantly, it is a day to celebrate the life of St Patrick. So, who was St Patrick and why do we celebrate St Patrick's Day?

St Patrick was the Patron Saint of Ireland who was born in Britain some time during the 5<sup>th</sup> Century. His early life was very difficult as he was kidnapped and taken as a slave to Ireland. It was while working as a shepherd that he converted to Christianity. He escaped and returned to Britain, but he eventually returned to Ireland, inspired to take the Word of God to the people of his adopted land. Through his passion and witness many Irish were converted. Patrick's relationship with God sustained him through many challenges he encountered and his influence and fearless witness to the good news of Jesus lives on today.

Patrick's belief in the loving presence of God is expressed in the prayer of Saint Patrick:

*"Christ with me,  
Christ before me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ in me,  
Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ on my right,  
Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down,  
Christ when I sit down,  
Christ when I arise."*



## The 'Interhouse Money Line' is coming!



**When: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

**What to wear: Your house colours**

**What to bring: All your change.**

## Star of the Sea's Commitment to Child Safety

Catholic Education Tasmania, and therefore Star of the Sea Catholic College, has a commitment to child safety and has policies and procedures surrounding this. Staff are trained in these policies when they initially enter Catholic Education, and then are provided with refreshers on a regular basis.

While the policies and procedures are quite detailed, it is worth mentioning a few important points here:

- We are committed to child safety and embedding a child safe culture in our schools.
- Staff and volunteers are expected to comply with codes of conduct that set out clear behavioural standards towards children.
- People are recruited on the basis of their suitability to work with children and their commitment to child safety.
- Staff and volunteers are regularly screened (WWVP checks) and receive training on the school's child safe practices and Mandatory Reporting.
- Star of the Sea Catholic College staff are mandatory reporters, which means they are legally bound to report any reasonable belief or suspicion that a child or young person has been or is being abused or neglected, or is an affected child as defined in the Family Violence Act 2004.

As families will appreciate, whilst we are committed to child safety this commitment also comes with the responsibility for our staff to keep confidential matters, including our reporting, just that - confidential.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr Craig Duncan who was recognised as one of the *50 Gems of George Town* last Wednesday at a special launch by the Premier of Tasmania at the Memorial Hall. To see the video of Mr Duncan, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWCfmzMOzAk> or go to Youtube and search "Future Impact Group" to see all of the *50 Gems of George Town* videos.

## Year 9 Camp

Our Year 9 students are off on camp this Wednesday to Friday, travelling to the East Coast and camping out overnight. We wish them well and thank Mr Cook for his organisation of this and other staff for attending the camp with the students.

The Year 8 students will have their camp next week.

## College Board

The College Board will meet for the first time this year tomorrow evening, while the AGM will be next term.

The College Board consists of: Mr Paul Thomas (Chair), Mrs Jacqui Leslie (Secretary), Mrs Suzanne Painter, Mr Brent Daire, Mr Michael Doherty, Mr Andrew Parkes, Mr Richard Chapman (ex-officio), Fr Bala (ex-officio).

There are currently no vacancies on the College Board.

## Sacramental Program

Sunday saw the commissioning and blessing of the candidates who will be receiving their Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist this year. We congratulate and pray for Jennifer (Year 7), Charlotte (Grade 6) and Billy (Grade 5) as they undertake this journey.

## Bike Education

Our Grades 3-6s will be participating in Ride2School's Bike Ed program tomorrow throughout the day. Students are encouraged to ride to school (with a helmet), but bikes and helmets will be available for those students who are unable to bring their own.

## SetUp for Success

Our Early Learning program, **SetUp for Success** (simply known as *SetUp*) runs every Wednesday from 9:00am to 10:30am in the Kinder room. Mrs Trudy Hoffman runs the program, which is a free Early Learning program for children aged 0-5 and their families.

We ask families not to attend SetUp if they or their children are ill.

Our SetUp for Success Facebook page is now up and running.

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*



## Star Swimming Carnival - Rachael Milner

On the 9th March, we hosted our Swimming Carnival at George Town Pool.

The sun was shining and perfect conditions to host the event. Each House team gave their very best and competed in a fantastic spirit. It was especially encouraging to see so many students create teams for the staff V students V ex students race.

Congratulations to all swimmers who participated and were awarded points for their House. We witnessed outstanding results with plenty of students taking away multiple blue ribbons and booking their spot in the 2021 Interhigh.

I would like to give a massive thank you to all staff who assisted with officiating, supervising and taking part in the events on the day and Presentation came away with the win.

### House points :

Presentation 744

Regina 658

Nagle 412



## 2021 Calendar - Term 1

<b>Wednesday 17-19th March</b>	Year 9 Camp
<b>Wednesday 17th March</b>	SetUp for Success 9.00-10.30am
<b>Thursday 18th March</b>	Primary Assembly 2.10pm
<b>Tuesday 23rd March</b>	Year 8 Immunisations
<b>Wednesday 24th - 26th March</b>	Year 8 Camp
<b>Wednesday 24th March</b>	SetUp for Success 9.00-10.30am
	Year 7 & 10 Immunisation
<b>Thursday 25th March</b>	Primary Assembly 2.10pm
<b>Friday 26th March</b>	TPSSA Athletics Carnival
<b>Monday 29th March</b>	NHSSA Div 2 Swimming Carnival
<b>Tuesday 30th March</b>	Money Line Caritas fundraiser
<b>Thursday 1st April</b>	Holy Thursday; Term 1 ends; End of Term Assembly

### Stars of the Week - 11th March 2021

Kinder	Maddi Struzaker	For her enthusiasm to take part in all Kinder activities.
Prep/1	Alby Hawkins	For his fantastic artwork.
Grade 1/2	Ether Daire	For an excellent attitude towards his learning.
Grade 3/4	Connor Judd	For focus and determination with all literacy tasks. Well done Connor.
Grade 5/6A	Lillian Hockey	For her focus and determination towards her school work.
Grade 5/6B	Ruby Gower	Fantastic attitude towards improving her literacy (reading and comprehension) skills. Keep up the good work!



Wednesday 31st March  
3.00—4.00pm  
in the Star of the Sea Hall  
Adult supervision is required

## Invitation to Families

Come along and decorate your own  
family Easter (Paschal) candle



## Shout Out Term 1, Week 6, 2021

You are a Star

Grace Mahnken	Amazing effort at the swimming carnival.
Charlotte Judd	Answering a tricky question.
Jaxsyn Pollock	Fantastic effort at the swimming carnival.
Brooke Baillie	Tidying up mess that wasn't hers.
Isaiah Widdowson	Fantastic effort at the swimming carnival.
Luis Lee	Being a great listener.
Isaiah Widdowson	Awesome PE lesson.
Darcie Power	Tidying up our room really well.
Leo Linley	Awesome PE lesson.
Tommy Smith	Being a great listener.
Jack Lindfors	Awesome PE lesson.
Mia Barker	Being a great listener.
Ruby Gower	Awesome PE lesson.
Stephen Gerges	Tidying up cleverly.
Jaxsyn Pollock	Awesome PE lesson.
Sarah Summers	Awesome PE lesson.
Luci Hockey	Great effort at the swimming carnival
Luci Hockey	Awesome PE lesson.
Mia Barker	Being a good helper at tidying up time.
Isabelle Anlezark	Fantastic effort at the swimming carnival.
Danica Sweet	Being a great helper at tidying up time.
Jack Lindfors	Great effort at the swimming carnival.
Leo Batte	Working so quietly.
Joshua Chapman	Amazing effort at the swimming carnival.
William Singline	Great listening on the mat.
Ruby Gower	Awesome PE lesson.
Yueni Tan	Being a great listener.
Charlotte Power	Amazing PE lesson
Maddi McDonald	Awesome PE lesson.
Axle Sturzaker	Awesome PE lesson.
Axle Sturzaker	Fantastic effort at the swimming carnival.
Joshua Chapman	Awesome PE lesson.
Sarah Summers	Super-duper effort in the swimming carnival.
Macklin Grimsey	Awesome PE lesson.

### PBS FOCUS

We are Engaged Learners when we complete our work in the classroom and ask for help if we are struggling.

### This weeks winners are:

*Allira Harris*  
*\$2 canteen voucher*

*Daniel McConnell*  
*30min free time*

Well done!



Secondary Students Congratulations Cards 2021

Lauren Archer and Dan Ungerhofer

