

# Star of the Sea Catholic College

## Newsletter

2nd March 2021

### From the Principal

***We sacrifice one part of our life so that the next part can be more rewarding.***

As I have got older I have found that life is a constant call to let go. Another way of looking at it, perhaps, is to say life is full of sacrifices, as we sacrifice one part of our life so that the next part can be more rewarding.

When I look back at my life I recognise that the most difficult times were when I had tried to hang on to something that was no longer there, or no longer necessary. Sometimes it was a way of living, sometimes it was a belief, but it was always a case of me trying to hang on to something that was no longer helpful for my future, and perhaps even detrimental to my happiness.

Those of us who are married and have children will perhaps know what I am referring to here. When we get married we let go of our single lives and enter into a new life - one with a partner. If we try to continue with our single lives when we are married we not only find it hard but it is also not a great thing for our marriage and can lead to problems.

Similarly, when we have children we let go of the way our lives were beforehand and instead enter into a new type of life which is less focussed on ourselves and more focussed on our children. Again, if we try to continue with our old lives our relationship with our children suffer.

When someone close to us dies one of the hardest things to do is to let go of them. We can hang onto the type of lives we lived when they were still around, which can be very unhealthy for us. As hard as it may be, at some point we need to let go so that we can continue to grow as human beings. That doesn't mean we stop missing them, it just means we carry their memory in a different way.

Jesus knew a thing or two about sacrifices. He ended up sacrificing his life so he could return in a new and different way. He managed to have the courage to let go of everything. As we journey through Lent it is something for us to keep in mind. What can we let go of in order to enter into a new and more fulfilling life.

In the Star of the Sea Catholic community we need to be prepared to let go. Whether that be letting go of what we once thought was important or letting go of grudges against others, if we are going to join Jesus in the resurrection at Easter we need to let go now of the things that stop us from becoming the people God calls us to be.

**Mr Richard Chapman**  
Principal

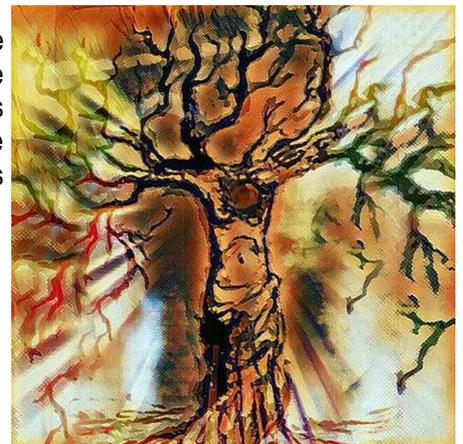
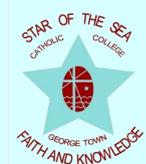


Image of *Tree of Life* by Annah Wakesho Mkoji sourced from <https://fineartamerica.com/art/living+sacrifice>

When you let go  
you create space  
for better things  
to enter your life.  
- Unknown

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

## BRINGING ABOUT CHANGE THROUGH PROJECT COMPASSION SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Our Lenten Journey to Easter has begun and it is time to return to God and deepen our love for others. Lent gives us an opportunity to do something positive that leads us to God and each other. One way we can grow in faith, hope and love is in opening our hearts to others through Project Compassion.

We have raised money for Project Compassion for many years through the money line. It is a Star Tradition for each house is to attempt to make the biggest line of small change. This year the money line will be a greater challenge as we are slowly becoming a cashless society. Most of us use our card when shopping even for little items. So, the challenge is now is to collect that small change. It is four weeks to the money line. Please support Project Compassion by collecting that change. May the best house win!

Heart  
Spirituality



Attentiveness  
Hospitality



This week through Project Compassion we learn about 39-year-old Margret, a teacher at a vocational school for deaf students in the Solomon Islands.

She was born deaf, so she knows the challenges it poses to education and employment. Apart from the difficulties the students all have, the school also faced water shortages, with not enough to supply staff and students with safe water for drinking, cooking, washing and growing vegetables.

Then Tropical Cyclone Harold damaged the school and its vegetable garden, amidst the threat of COVID-19. Staff and students rely on the vegetable garden to provide food for their meals.

With Caritas Australia's support, the school installed water tanks, provided cyclone-proof building materials and helped to implement COVID-19 prevention measures. Margret's school now has enough water for its students and the

capacity to cater for more, with plans to boost food security, through increased agricultural production. Around 60% of people in rural areas in the Solomon Islands don't have access to piped water, while about 80% don't have access to latrines or toilets.

### WHAT: INTERHOUSE MONEY LINE COMPETITION

WHEN: TUESDAY, 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH

WHERE: HALL

### Stars of the Week - 25th February 2021

Kinder	Bienvinido Bennett	For great listening at mat times.
Prep/1	Yueni Tan	For her beautiful art work especially her drawing and colouring.
Grade 1/2	Ruby Davidson	For her kindness towards others.
Grade 3/4	Jai Jacobs	For working hard and completing all literacy tasks to the best of his abilities.
Grade 5/6A	Indiana Cartwright	For working diligently to improve her mathematical knowledge and skills.
Grade 5/6B	Macklin Grimsey-Boersma	For his dedication to improving his multiplication facts every day. Well done! Keep up the good work.

## From Our Vision and Mission Statement

### As people who are hospitable we will strive to:

- Provide a learning community that welcomes everyone regardless of background, belief or ability
- Create an environment that makes others feel safe and valued, promoting wellbeing and inspiring learning
- Celebrate, as a community, feast days, milestones and achievements, as well as school and local events
- Foster a culture that encourages staff and students to build a relationship with Christ

## What I Should Do If My Child is Having Problems at School

Sometimes our children come home and tell us about problems they are having at school, not only with school work but possibly with other students or situations. If this is the case, here are some tips about how to deal with this:

- Listen to your child. Try to get a clear understanding of what the problem is. Ask your child if they have told a teacher about this. If they say yes "but the teacher didn't do anything about it," it is usually a sign that they perhaps didn't explain the problem clearly to the teacher and the teacher got the wrong idea about it, so they need to try again, perhaps with adult support.
- Ask whether this is an on-going problem or just a once off. If it is an on-going problem it might be time for an adult to contact the school and speak to teachers about it.
- Decide whether this is a problem the child can work through themselves or needs adult help with. As parents and carers we can't be continuously solving problems for our children or they will never learn to solve problems themselves. However, depending on their age and capability, some students may need adult support from both families and teachers to help solve the problem.
- Contact the school, even if your child does not want you to. Children often believe that by contacting the school that things will get worse, but in 99.9% of cases, it never gets worse. It is probably better to think that if you don't contact the school, nothing will change, so if it is bad already, it will stay bad.
- Don't assume the school knows about the problem. At Star of the Sea we only work on problems we know about. No one works on problems they don't know about!
- Don't expect a quick-fix. Whilst some problems can be fixed within a day or so, others can take weeks to work through. Be patient and look for small signs of improvement, and keep in contact with the teacher dealing with the problem if you feel there is no improvement.
- Remember, children don't always tell the truth, or they exaggerate or twist stories around to make themselves out to be the victim. There is a saying in education which is handy to remember - "If you only believe half of what your child tells you about school, we'll only believe half of what they tell us about home."

## 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. Every fortnight we will put a reminder of these restrictions in our newsletter, assuming there are no significant changes. Here is this week's:

- 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 or dropping off your children, please maintain social distance from others. Only stay as long as you need to in classrooms.
- If attending Primary assembly, please sign in and use hand sanitizer. We will space the chairs out.
- Should you wish to contact your child's teacher but are reluctant to come into the school, you can contact them through phone or email.
- If you have any questions, please contact the College office.

## 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*



## Staff Movements

Mrs Briscoe was away yesterday and Mrs Harmer was away today due to meetings. Mr Taylor will be away Thursday and Friday, representing Mr Chapman at Principal meetings in Hobart.

## Congratulations



Congratulations to Mrs Lynelle Davis who was one of three winners around the state of the University of Tasmania 2020 Supervising Teacher of the Year, which recognises her role in guiding university students in their prac placements at Star of the Sea. Mrs Davis was presented with her award today at a special morning tea by Dr Tracey Muir, Director of Initial Teacher Education at UTas. Congratulations Mrs Davis, and thank you for your guidance and support of our teachers in training!

## International Women's Day Breakfast

Mrs Tame and two College Captains and one House Captain represented the College today at the Soroptimist International Women's Day breakfast.



## GRIP Leadership

Our Year 10s will be involved in a GRIP Leadership conference on Friday. The purpose of the conference is to help them recognise and build upon their leadership skills.

## Sacramental Program for George Town Catholic Parish

The Sacramental program will soon begin in George Town for students in grade 4 or above wishing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. The program will be coordinated by our Grade 5/6 teacher, Mrs Lynelle Davis. If you would like your child/ren to take part in the program, which takes place outside of school hours, and receive the Sacraments, please contact Mrs Davis by emailing her: [lynelle.davis@catholic.tas.edu.au](mailto:lynelle.davis@catholic.tas.edu.au).

If you are an adult and are interested in becoming a Catholic, or if you would like to have your children baptised into the Catholic Church, please also contact Mrs Lynelle Davis as above for further information.

## Clean Up Australia Day

This Thursday our school will be participating in Clean Up Australia Day. In order to encourage House spirit our Year 10s have organised the day to occur in House groups and students are encouraged to wear House colours for the day.

## Star of the Sea Swimming Carnival

Next Tuesday sees our Star of the Sea Swimming Carnival for Years 3-10, held for the first time in two years! We are looking forward to a great day and, hopefully, great weather. Information around this has been sent via Compass. Please note that the George Town Pool has certain COVID restrictions around interactions between families and students on the day, so we ask all spectators to follow these restrictions.

## Public Holiday for 8 Hour Day

A reminder that next Monday 8th March is a public holiday for 8 Hour Day, so the school will be closed for the day.

## Progress Reports

Progress reports are currently being worked on by our teachers and we hope to have them home to families on Friday 12th March. The purpose of these reports is to give families an idea of how the students have started the year. They do not contain grades or comments but are simply tick-a-box reports to give an indication of progress. We hope to follow up these reports with a Welcome Afternoon for families in the near future.

## Developments Around the School

Eagle-eyed parents may have noticed that we removed our old shed in the Primary playground last week. This is in preparation for a new and bigger shed to be put up in that area over the Easter holidays. We have found that we are running out of storage space within our school and we hope that this shed will alleviate some of our problems.

## What's Happening in German

In Prep/1 and 1/2 German over the past couple of weeks we have been celebrating *Karneval*. Karneval is the German celebration in the days leading up to Ash Wednesday when people dress up, party and eat special foods before moving into the period of Lent.

So Felix and Franz inspired the students to make some masks, and last week we finished them in class, shared in some jam donuts (a traditional Karneval food) and danced along to the *Fliegerlied* (a party song for young and old, check it out on Youtube).



## Shout Out Term 1, Week 4, 2021

Ether Daire	Excellent reading.
Huntar Carnie	Excellent reading.
Chantz Brown	Excellent lockdown practice.
Jade Jenkins	Her great job at doing her recount.
Seth Sturzaker	His awesome reading and his great recount of the potato people.
Bronte Heppel	Listening well during RE lessons.
Allira-Grace Harris	For her bravery for jumping in the deep end of the pool for the first time.
Ryda Howard	For his bravery for jumping in the deep end of the pool for the first time.
Danica Sweet	Beautiful drawing
Ruby McDonald	Being part of the successful think tank.
Jai Jacobs	Great focus and concentration with sounding out letters.
Indiana Cartwright	Having the courage to read during the Ash Wednesday liturgy.
Miley MacFarlane	Being part of a successful think tank.
Allira-Grace Harris	Being part of the successful think tank.
Bronte Heppel	Being a fabulous rester.
Connor Judd	Being part of the successful think tank.
Yueni Tan	Being a fabulous rester
Evie King	Helping in the classroom.
Danica Sweet	Sharing great ideas in RE lessons.
Ryda Howard	Being part of a successful think tank.
Ryda Howard	Great focus with writing activities
Macey Crick	Picking up rubbish without being asked
Mia Barker	Sharing great ideas in RE lessons
Karol Gerges	Being part of a successful think tank.
Mia Barker	Writing neatly.
Niklaus Quilty-Maguire	Great work.
Daniel McConnell	Being part of a successful think tank.
Sabian Hawes	Being part of a successful think tank.
Danica Sweet	Being a fabulous rester.

# You are a Star

### PBS Focus: SAFE

**We are safe  
when we  
are sitting  
down to  
eat our  
Recess and  
Lunch**



### This weeks winners are:

**Jackson Summers** for joining in at music time 30min free choice  
**Toby Jones** for working well in all areas and doing his best work. Pick from the prize box

# Well done!

## 2021 Calendar - Term 1

<b>Wednesday 3rd March</b>	SetUp for Success 9.00-10.30am
<b>Thursday 4th March</b>	Clean Up Australia Day Primary Assembly 2.10pm
<b>Monday 8th March</b>	Eight Hours Day public holiday
<b>Tuesday 9th March</b>	Star of the Sea Swimming Carnival (Grades 3-10)
<b>Wednesday 10th March</b>	SetUp for Success 9.00-10.30am
<b>Thursday 11th March</b>	Primary Assembly 2.10pm
<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>Wednesday 24th - 26th March</b>	Year 8 Camp
<b>Wednesday 24th March</b>	SetUp for Success 9.00-10.30am
<b>Thursday 25th March</b>	Primary Assembly 2.10pm Year 7-8-10 Immunisation
<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