

Star of the Sea Catholic College

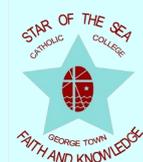
Newsletter

23rd March 2021

From the Principal

An inclusive education finds a place for all and does not select in an elitist way the beneficiaries of its efforts. - Pope Francis

Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.



PO Box 206
Corner Friend &
William Street
George Town 7253

In 2021, what's the point of Catholic Education?

This year Catholic Education is celebrating its 200th Anniversary. It was in October 1820 that the first Catholic school was opened in Parramatta, serving 31 students, 7 of which weren't Catholic. And although throughout the year there will be opportunities for us to celebrate Catholic Education and what it has provided to Australia, it also gives us a chance to ask the question - in 2021, what's the point of Catholic Education?

It is a question that I sometimes challenge the staff at Star of the Sea with - what's the point of Star of the Sea existing? Because only when we understand why we exist can we move forward. Schools that don't understand why they exist probably shouldn't. And when times get hard, it is these schools that struggle the most. So it is an important question for us to be able to answer.

My answer to this question, and others may disagree, is that Catholic schools should exist, and in history have generally existed, to meet a need. Quite often that need was specific to a community. When St Mary MacKillop opened her first school in Penola, it was to educate the poor. In the Irish context, when Venerable Nano Nagle opened her first school in Cork, it too was to serve the poor. Other Catholic schools have opened to serve a particular town or area which had no schools at all, and many Catholic schools have closed in the last 200 years after they were no longer required because the needs were being met in other ways or by other schools.

Which leads us to the next point. Catholic schools shouldn't hang around forever. Although it's nice to have history and tradition attached to a school, if a Catholic school is no longer meeting the needs of the community and is just hanging around because it always has, it is actually wasting good resources which could be serving other communities who genuinely have needs which are not being met.

So what's the point of Star of the Sea? Why do we still exist? What need are we meeting?

The simple answer to this question can be found in our Vision Statement. Star of the Sea exists because we feel George Town needs a school which is *a Christ-centred, welcoming and compassionate community, providing quality education so we can embrace the future as people of hope*. From that point of view, the way we are a Catholic school is not by being a school for Catholics, but by having a Catholic vision and mission, one centred on hope and the Good News.

As we celebrate 200 years of Catholic Education, let's keep in mind at the Star of the Sea Catholic community that we exist to provide hope, and that we will continue to exist as long as hope is needed.



Catholic Education
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS
Faith in the future

Mr Richard Chapman
Principal

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

Can you help with donations for our community garden?

If you have any free plants from the Woolworths Discovery Garden that you do not want please send them in to school. As we are starting up our community garden, we would like to teach our children about growing food and propagating plants in our College green house.

We are hoping to start up in term two, so any donations would be greatly appreciated.



Heart
Spirituality
Attentiveness



Hospitality
Compassion

Change is Coming

It is not long till our Interhouse Money Line competition so keep collecting that loose change to help your house make the longest money line. It all goes to helping Project Compassion assist millions of people in our human family who are suffering because of poverty. Let's help create a fairer world for everyone. If you've forgotten the details, here they are.

The 'Interhouse Money Line' is coming!

When: Tuesday 30th March

What to wear: Your house colours

What to bring: All your change.

May the best house win!

Let's do it for Project Compassion!



Oscar Romero

This week we celebrate the feast of Oscar Romero. He was the archbishop of the Catholic Church in El Salvador where he lived and worked. El Salvador was a very poor and impoverished country in South America. He fought for justice and quality for his people and had a great love for the poor, homeless and abandoned.

In his action and words, Romero demanded a peace that could only be achieved when people had access to basic needs and their rights were upheld. Romero raised awareness globally about the people in his country who had been killed and continued to use the radio to broadcast his Sunday sermons to tell people what was happening throughout the country.

On 24 March 1980 while celebrating Mass he was shot and killed in front of his congregation. His heroic martyrdom was recognised by the Church when he was canonised in 2018. He is recognised by other Christian denominations and is one of the 20th century martyrs depicted in Westminster Abbey.

His dedication to social justice, particularly the poor, has earned him the title of Patron Saint of Caritas Internationalis.

Whenever we see a Project Compassion poster with the words 'Aspire not to have more but to be more' we are listening to the words of Oscar Romero.

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 few weeks 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.

Camps

Our Year 9s returned last Friday from their camp which was a great experience for all.

Our Year 8s have their camp from tomorrow until Friday. We are sure it will be another great time and we thank all of the staff who have attended the camps, especially Mr Cook for organising them and going on both camps, and Kathy Baker and Alec Daniels who are attending both camps.

Parents and Friends

After last year's Parents and Friends came to a sudden halt due to COVID-19, we are slowly getting back into reintroducing the P&F to our school. The first meeting will be held on **Tuesday 30th March at 9:00am**. It will only be a short meeting to discuss Term 2's Mother's Day Stall. All are welcome. Please sign in at the office. As we move into Term 2 we hope to meet on a regular basis and develop some more long-term plans.

TPSSA Athletics

This Friday sees our Grade 3-6s competing in the TPSSA Athletics Carnival. We wish them all the best.

NHSSA Swimming Carnival

Next Monday 29th March our secondary students will be competing in the NHSSA Swimming Carnival. Again, we wish them well for the day.

Winter Uniform

Next term we move into winter uniform. We encourage families to check their children's winter uniform to see if it still fits. The Uniform Shop is open on Thursdays between 2pm and 4pm.

End of Term Assembly

Our End of Term Assembly will be held next Thursday 1st April. At this stage we hope to be able to invite parents along assuming we can sort out a COVID-safe plan for having parents attend. More information will be given before the event.

Enrolment Timeline for 2022

We're not kidding, we're starting the process for enrolment for 2022! Early next term we will be providing information to the George Town community regarding our enrolment timeline. We are happy to accept Kinder and Year 7 enrolments for 2022 from the beginning of Term 2 onwards.

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*



Animals on School Grounds

Did you know... An extract of relevant Tasmanian legislation (Dog Control Act 2000) states:

(1) A person must not take a dog into –

(a) any grounds of a school, or other place for the reception of children without the permission of a person in charge of the place.

(2) This section does not apply to –

(a) a guide dog that is accompanying a wholly or partially blind person or is in training for that purpose;

There are other exceptions besides just '2a' above.

Your duty... if you wish to bring any animals onsite, prior approval needs to be obtained from the Principal, or their nominated rep. This includes walking your dog to and from school to drop off or pick up children. The school may give approval, and discuss with you reasonable precautions. The school and/or individuals can be fined.

School Jackets

For a few years the students, especially secondary students, have been requesting a school jacket to keep warm during winter. Last year the students were consulted about the design of this and we are now in the position where we are ready to take orders for the jackets.

The jackets are available for primary and secondary students (and staff) and will cost \$55. They are not a compulsory piece of uniform. A sample of the jacket is pictured below, minus the school logo.

The jackets **will not** be sold through the Uniform Shop. Instead, they need to be ordered. We will only do one order this year and orders are due by the end of term. When the jackets arrive in Term 2 they can be picked up and paid for then.

How can I order a jacket?

Secondary students can order a jacket through the canteen (assuming their parents/carers know and can pay). We have samples the students can try on to get the right size.

Primary students must have their parents/carers order for them. This can be done either tomorrow or next Monday and Tuesday morning before school in the Primary Gallery (Mr or Mrs Brunacci will be there to take orders), on Thursday between 2pm and 4pm at the uniform shop, or by contacting the school to place an order. Again, we have samples the students can try on to get the right size.



2021 Calendar - Term 1

Wednesday 24th - 26th March
Wednesday 24th March

Year 8 Camp
SetUp for Success 9.00-10.30am
Year 7 & 10 Immunisation

Thursday 25th March

Primary Assembly 2.10pm

Friday 26th March

TPSSA Athletics Carnival

Monday 29th March

NHSSA Div. 2 Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 30th March

Money Line Caritas fundraiser
9.00am Parents and Friends meeting

Thursday 1st April

Holy Thursday; Term 1 ends; End of Term Assembly

Monday 26th April

Term 2 begins.



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 7, 2021

Shekinah MacFarlane	Being a helpful member of our class.
Lillian Hockey	Being a helpful member of our class.
Jessie Anlezark	Excellent work during HaSS.
Eli Bromley	Using polite manners.
Maddison Hyland	Finding a positive in something out of her comfort zone.
Bronte Heppel	Always trying her best
Indiana Cartwright	Excellent focus on her HaSS assignment.
Shiloh Leslie	Excellent work during HaSS.
Connor Judd	Working hard in all literacy areas.
Elijah Parker	Being a great friend.
Seth Sturzaker	For completing all literacy task
Ruby McDonald	Working hard on her poetry.
Bernard Moore	Being a focused learner.
Carlie Lowe	Amazing focus with her work.
Scarlett Bailey	Working hard to complete class tasks.
Zoe Gillies	Excellent class work
Toby Jones	Working hard with his poetry.
Ryda Howard	Great work in poetry.
Lachlan Smith	Moving so another person could sit near his friends.
Allira Grace Harris	Great writing.
Miley MacFarlane	Always working at 100%.
Mia Syms	Great listening on the mat
Finley Upston	For trying his best with a difficult task.
Isabel Walker	Packing blocks away without being asked.
Enoch Daire	Great listening at story time.
Maliah Cunningham	Being a great listener.
Daniel McConnell	Great work with poetry.
Jackson Summers	Sharing interesting things about owls.
Jarod Fisher	Helping an injured student.
Jarod Fisher	Great listening at the swimming carnival
William Power	Working when during maths.
Jai Jacobs	His great work on prodigy.
Lachlan Crick	Working well during maths.
Jai Jacobs	Great work with poems.
Ashton Meessen	Excellent work during HaSS.
Elijah Parker	Great class work and focus with task.
Shekinah MacFarlane	For demonstrating leadership skills in class.
Karol Gerges	Being part of a successful think tank.
Karol Gerges	Always working at 100%.
Leo Batte	Trying his best with a difficult task.
Maverick Watson	Working hard with literacy task.
Evie Evans	Picking up rubbish in the playground without being asked.

You are a Star

This weeks winners are:

Shekinah MacFarlane for demonstrating leadership skills in class.

Karol Gerges for being part of a successful think tank.

Both students choose a \$2 canteen voucher.

PBS FOCUS

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

Secondary Students

Congratulations Cards 2021

Olivia Hockey

Emma Thomas

Both students choose a \$10

canteen voucher

Well done!



Stars of the Week - 18th March 2021

Kinder	Isabelle Saunders	For being a great listener at mat times.
Prep/1	Thomas Smith	For fabulous work at counting by tens.
Grade 1/2	Demitrius Quilty-Maguire	For his focus and determination in completing his work.
Grade 3/4	Allira-Grayce Harris	For huge effort and determination in Mathematics.
Grade 5/6A	Shiloh Leslie	For her great enthusiasm during literacy learning activities.
Grade 5/6B	Jarod Fisher	For a great effort at the swimming carnival.

Mother's Day Stall

Mother's Day is fast approaching, and this year our Mother's Day stall will be held on **Thursday 6th May**.

The stall will provide an opportunity for our Kinder to Year 10 students to purchase gifts for their mothers, grandmothers and other important women in their lives. Items will range in price from 50c to \$5.

We would be grateful for any gifts you may be able to donate to the stall such as:

- Any suitable store bought items
- Handmade items
- Cellophane, gift bags, ribbon etc
- Cash which the Parents and Friends Group can use to purchase items for the stall
- Glass jars

Items can be donated at the office any time between now and the end of Term 1.

Thank you for your support.



Holy Week Masses and Celebrations **George Town**

Palm Sunday:	<i>Sunday 28th March</i> Passion (Palm) Sunday Mass	11.00am
Holy Thursday:	<i>Thursday 1st April:</i> Mass of the Lord's Supper	6.30pm
Good Friday:	<i>Friday 2nd April:</i> Stations of the Cross Commemoration of the Lord's Passion	9.30am 3.00pm
Holy Saturday:	<i>Saturday 3rd April:</i> Reconciliation / Confessions Easter Vigil Mass	10.30am — 11.30am 6.30pm
Easter Sunday:	<i>Sunday 4th April:</i> Easter Day Mass	11.00am

Easter Raffle

\$1 / ticket

Star of the Sea will be holding an Easter Raffle this year.

Tickets will be sold by the Year 10 students at lunchtimes in the primary and secondary playgrounds.

Tickets will also be available from the office.

Students may also bring a book of ten home to sell on request, please ask Mrs Tame.



**Year
9
Camp**

