

# Star of the Sea Catholic College

## Newsletter

17th August 2021

### From the Principal

#### ***Meeting these people had changed strangers into friends.***

Last Friday our staff gathered to participate in our Spirituality Day. We set aside this day every year as a chance to refocus on what we are called to do as a Catholic school, in the spirit of Nano Nagle. It is also one of the few times that we manage to get most of our staff in the same room at the same time, although this year we were still 3 or 4 off having a full complement!

The theme of our day was *hospitality*, as this is one of our key themes of our Vision and Mission statement. Nano Nagle herself was known for her *hospitality of heart*, in that she was open to everyone she met. It was this hospitality of heart that enabled her to help both the young and the old, the sick and the lonely.

As part of our day the staff broke into groups of three and went out and visited people around the town. We had the opportunity to share some morning tea and learn about some people who, up to that point, were strangers to us. While the people we visited offered us hospitality through allowing us into their homes and their lives, we had to draw upon our *hospitality of heart* to be open to hearing their stories and engaging with them on a deeper level.

On returning back to school after their visits, all of our staff came back full of energy and enthusiasm. It seemed that the chance to make a new friend had given us new life. It is probably the reason that we all seem so enthusiastic at the beginning of the year when we meet our new classes and new teachers, but by halfway through the year we feel very weary! Meeting these people had changed strangers into friends. Whereas before we would probably pass them in the street without a hello, now we can approach them and engage in conversation.

I remember when my children were in their previous primary school before we moved to George Town, and every so often I had to pick them up from school. I would stand around awkwardly outside the classroom at the end of the school day with parents who I didn't know, not really able to engage in conversation but also reluctant to introduce myself. I reasoned that, because I didn't pick up my children often, there was not a lot of point getting to know other parents.

However when I look back now I realise that I didn't have *hospitality of heart*. I wasn't open to hearing the story of others, to see them as fellow human beings. Instead, I saw them as "the other."

If we truly are to be a Catholic community where we value hospitality, then it is not just a case of saying that all are welcome. We also must have *hospitality of heart*. We must be open to each other's stories. May we be able to teach our children to have *hospitality of heart*, but also role model it ourselves through the way we interact with each other.

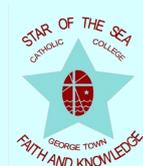
**Mr Richard Chapman**  
Principal



Hospitality means primarily the creation of a free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy.

- Henri Nouwen

*Attentiveness,  
Hospitality  
and  
Compassion.*



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*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

## Keep Australia Beautiful Week 16-22 August

*Be praised, my Lord,  
for Sister Earth, our Mother,  
who nourishes us and sustains us,  
bringing forth  
fruits and vegetables of many kinds  
and flowers of many colours.  
St Francis of Assisi*

We are privileged to live in such a beautiful part of the world and St Francis reminds us that; Our common home is like a beautiful sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.

Pope Francis challenges all of us to embark on a new path to help shape the future of our planet. We are in and not apart from nature and God has made us stewards of this world. So, we have a responsibility to care for all creation. We also honour God by appreciating and respecting all of creation. All of us at some time in our lives have marvelled at her beauty. Whether it was peering into the micro-world of rockpool or venturing out on a bush walk, God has created for us something truly beautiful.

This week we have the chance to put Pope Francis' challenge into action by joining the Keep Australia Beautiful I challenge. We all need to protect the amazing biodiversity of this beautiful and ancient land. Plastic that ends up on our land and in our waterways will take 500 years to breakdown and will harm the animals who ingest it. Did you know:

- 1 billion coffee cups are thrown away each year.
- 8 million metric tonnes of plastic enter the ocean each year.
- 1.5 million cotton buds are made every day and they make up 6% of ocean pollution.
- Australia only recycles 36% of plastic drink bottles.



### Take the 7-day plastic pledge.

This year 'Keep Australia Beautiful' is asking you to take the seven-day pledge to refuse single use plastic and prevent it from becoming litter.

- Choose what plastic item you are going to give up for a week and commit!
- Swap out your single-use plastic item with ecofriendly alternatives.
- Share how you are ditching plastic and tell your friends about it.

Heart  
Spirituality  
Attentiveness



Hospitality  
Compassion

## SetUp for Success

Our Early Learning program, **SetUp for Success** (simply known as *SetUp*) runs every Wednesday (School Terms) 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*



## 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 are 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 check 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.
- Please check in using the Check In Tas app if entering any buildings.

## Father's Day Breakfast

On Thursday 2nd September we will hold our traditional Father's Day Breakfast. Fathers and father-figures are welcome to join their children for breakfast that day in the Hall, beginning from 7:30am. Breakfast usually consists of bacon, sausages, eggs, beans and toast. Please return the form attached to the newsletter ASAP.

## Competitions

Over the next few weeks some of our students will compete in Maths, Science and English competitions. These are a great opportunity and we thank Mrs Tame who organises these each year.

## 2022 Enrolments

We are now accepting enrolments for Kinder and Year 7 for 2022. If you would like your child to attend Star of the Sea in 2022, or know of someone who would like their child to attend, enrolment forms are available at our office and through our website ([www.starsea.tas.edu.au](http://www.starsea.tas.edu.au)).

## Book Week

Book Week is fast approaching and, as per usual, we will have a dress-up day and parade. This will be held next **Tuesday 24th August**. The parade will be held in the gym from 9:30am with parents and carers welcome to attend (you will need to check in using the Check In Tas app). Students from Kinder to Year 10 are welcome to dress up as their favourite book character. So get your thinking caps on! This year's Book Week theme is *Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds*.

## MYP Corp Surveys

Later this year our school will go through a Validation process. This is essentially a time when a panel of educators from outside the school collect data, have conversations with the school community, and report back to the school on how we are going and suggest areas of development.

As part of this process, staff, students and parents and carers will be surveyed to gain feedback on how they think Star of the Sea is going. A note went out on Compass last term regarding this, and no doubt emails started appearing in parents' and carers' inboxes. Whilst the survey is not compulsory (you will have to UNSUBSCRIBE if you want to stop receiving the emails) it would be great if as many families as possible filled in the survey to give us a good idea as to how we are going and areas of improvement. The survey closes next Monday 23rd August.



Thank you to the team from Bravehearts who visited the Early Years classes today and talked out being safe.



## Shout Outs Term 3 - Week 4

Evie King	Using her manners during recess break
Maliah Cunningham	Packing up quickly and quietly
Kirra-Lyla Harris	Packing up quickly and quietly
Bienvinido Bennett	Being a great dancer in Drama
Jackson Summers	Great acting during Drama
Declan Anelzark	Helping others
Rilee Brown	Amazing listening during assembly
Mia Syms	Her good manners
Archie Parker	Excellent attitude to learning
Tommy Smith	Packing up quickly and quietly
Lachlan Smith	Being respectful during assembly
Hazel-Mae Provis	Being the first sitting and ready to learn.

You are a Star

**PBS Focus: We are safe if we are "hands off" when playing with each other in the yard.**



### This weeks Shout Out winners are

Enoch Daire | Great counting skills - A game for the Class

Maliah Cunningham | Great Maths work - Has not chosen prize yet

### Term 3

**Tuesday 24th August** - Book Week Parade  
**Wednesday 25th August** - Science Competition  
**Wednesday 1st September** - 5/6 Black Box Virtual Tour  
**Thursday 2nd September** - Maths Competition. - Father's Day Breakfast  
**Thursday 16th and Friday 17th September** - Country Gold  
**Thursday 23rd September** - Girls Football Gala Day  
**Friday 24th September** - Term 3 ends

**Stars of the Week - 12th August 2021**

Kinder	Victor Hugo	For very clever puzzle solving skills.
Prep/1	Michael Laughren	For a very successful start at Star of the Sea!
Grade 1/2	Ryder Hawkins	For excellent participation in Assembly.
Grade 3/4	Bradley Maney	For demonstrating excellent ability and focus across all mathematical concepts. Well done Bradley!
Grade 5/6A	Jessie Anlezark	For her consistent effort across all subject areas. Keep up the great work!
Grade 5/6B	Joshua Chapman	For always being focused on improving his knowledge and skill across all learning areas.

**NHSSA Wednesday & Thursday Sport Roster for this week.**

**Wednesday:** Soccer @ NTCA      Netball @ Hobblers Bridge      Hockey BYE team based training at Star

**Thursday:** Soccer @ Birch Avenue      Netball @ TBC      Hockey @ St Leonards

**Weather cancellations will be posted on Compass and our Facebook page**

**Father's Day Breakfast**

**Thursday 2nd September,**

**7:30am to 8:30am.**



**Fathers and father-figures are welcome to come to school and enjoy bacon, sausages, eggs, beans and toast. with the students, as well as a chance for a play before work!**

**For catering purposes please RSVP by Tuesday 31st August.**

\_\_\_\_\_ 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.--

\_\_\_\_\_