

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

14th September 2021

From the Principal

The problem with being selective around who is allowed to enter a school is that it raises the issue of worthiness.

Every so often I get asked, or others are asked, who we “let in” to Star of the Sea Catholic College.

It’s an idea that I haven’t quite got my head around, yet. When I think of people being let in, or not let in, my mind turns back to the stereotype of bouncers at Melbourne nightclubs who would refuse people entry with the line, “Not with those shoes, mate.”

But Star of the Sea is not a nightclub and there is no one who plays the role of bouncer, deciding on a whim who can and can’t enter. We are a community, and the only real condition about whether someone is “let in” or not (assuming there is space) is their willingness to be part of the community.

I am well aware that there are some schools around Tasmania and Australia, even some Catholic schools, who are quite selective as to who they “let in” to their school and who they don’t. But of course the problem with being selective around who is allowed to enter is giving the message to children that they are only worthy of an education at that place if they know certain facts, or have a certain sporting ability, or come from a family that has a certain amount of money, or don’t have any learning disabilities. For those who get in, I am sure they feel good about themselves. But for those who aren’t allowed in then they get the impression that they are not worthy of a certain type of education.

Of course the idea that any child is not worthy of an education is ridiculous. All children deserve an education, and we even have it in law that they should continue that education until they are 18. As a society we have the responsibility to provide children with the education they deserve.

One of the great Catholic beliefs is that of the idea of grace, which, put simply, tells us that God loves us and there is nothing we can do to make God love us any more or any less. That is, we are all worthy. The old jokes about someone standing at the gates of heaven with a big book and only letting some people in are just that - jokes. Should we choose to accept it, God’s love? If we choose to accept it, it draws everyone in, not just those who have gone to church a certain amount of times or who have done a certain amount of good deeds.

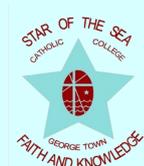
As a Catholic school, Star of the Sea Catholic College needs to reflect God’s love. Therefore we too need to be prepared to “let in” all who want to be part of the community, no matter what life story they bring with them. As soon as we start being selective about who comes to the school it means we no longer reflect God’s love, and we lose part of what it means to be a Catholic school. And while living in this community is not always easy, it is who we are called to be.

Mr Richard Chapman
Principal



The grace of God means something like: Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are because the party wouldn’t have been complete without you.
- Frederick Buechner

*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

God's Influencer

Today celebrates the feast of Blessed Carlo Acutis who was beatified on 10th October 2020 and is only one step away from sainthood. Born in 1991, he died from leukaemia in 2006 when he was just 15 years old. Carlo grew up in Italy and like many boys his age was avidly interested in computers, video games and the internet. Carlo certainly lived life to the full in his short life he became a teacher to his parents and peers, and he cared for the poor and homeless each night.

It turns out that as well as having an absolute devotion to God, Jesus, and the Eucharist he was also a total tech whiz. He used his extraordinary digital media skills to spread faith and to influence others for good. He programmed computers, edited films, created websites and publications. While he was doing all of this he was still at school and still finding time to help people in need. He is known as 'God's Influencer'.

His most famous quote is: "All people are born as originals, but many die as photocopies."



Carlo's life inspires us to be our authentic selves, to follow our dreams, to be aware of God's presences in our lives and to allow His presence to be the channel which propels us forward as 'influencers' who spread the good news of the Gospel through our love for all people and service to others.

Heart

Spirituality

Attentiveness



Hospitality

Compassion

Stars of the Week - 9th September 2021

Kinder	Bienvinido Bennett	For playing co-operatively with his classmates.
Prep/1	William Singline	For always listening carefully and for working so hard to understand subtraction
Grade 1/2	Oscar Smith	For being a mature and helpful leader in the Grade 1/2 class.
Grade 3/4	Maverick Watson	For consistent effort in all subject areas. Well done, Maverick.
Grade 5/6A	Lillian Hockey	For sharing your love of writing with the class
Grade 5/6B	Leo Linley	For helping explain difficult Maths questions to his classmates with success.

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 Vaccinations

The state Government has announced that bookings for COVID vaccinations are now open to 12 to 15 year olds. At this stage there are no plans to have vaccinations here at the College, so we would encourage parents and carers to book vaccinations by ringing the Tasmanian Public Health hotline (1800 671 738) or booking online. After September 13th bookings can be made at the George Town Medical Centre.

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.

Staff Movements

This week we farewell Christina Jahn who has been on teaching prac for the last four weeks. We thank her for her contribution to our community and we wish her well for her future studies.

Mr Cook, Mr Duncan and Miss Baker will be away from today until Friday on Year 10 Camp. They will mostly be covered by our regular teachers.

Confirmation and First Eucharist

This Sunday 19th September will see three of our students (Jennifer, Charlotte and Billy) receive the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. This will take place in the church at 11am, with the Archbishop presiding. All are welcome to attend to support our students. It will be followed by a shared lunch in the Hall. Please bring a plate.

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).

Transition

Today saw our first transition morning for all of the students who will be at Star of the Sea in Year 7 next year.

Our Kinder transition, Little Stars, will begin on the first week of next term. It will run on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30pm to 3pm.

Year 10 Camp

Our Year 10s left on camp today as they do a tour of the West Coast and Hobart. We wish them well and thank all of the staff supporting it.

Presentation Charism Day

Last Thursday we welcomed 20 Grade 6 students from St Finn Barr's and Sacred Heart who shared a day with 11 of our Grade 6 students around Nano Nagle and the Presentation sisters. The students learnt more about the life of Nano Nagle and had a chance to reflect upon what she means to them today. It was a great day for the students to make new friends and learn more about the founders of our school.



End of Term Assembly

Parents and carers are welcome to our End of Term Assembly which will be held next Friday 24th September at 11:45am in the Church. There will no primary assembly next Thursday.

Country Gold

This Thursday and Friday will see some of our Grade 5 and 6 students competing for the TPSSA in Country Gold. We wish Axle and Billy (football), Isabelle, Lucy and Lilli (hockey) and Charlotte and Shiloh (netball) all the best over the two days. Keegan (Year 9) will also be supporting as a hockey umpire, while Mr Edwards is coaching the soccer team.

Uniform

From this week students are welcome to wear the summer uniform. Hats for the primary students will be compulsory in Term 4. The Uniform Shop is open on Thursdays between 2pm and 4pm.

Term 4 Calendar

We have included a tentative Term 4 Calendar in this newsletter. As usual, dates are subject to change but we expect most of the dates given here will not shift.

NHSSA Winter Sport

We congratulate our Year 7/8 2nds Netball Team who capped off a terrific season with a Grand Final win over Kings Meadows High School.



Shout Out - Term 3, Week 8, 2021

Alby Hawkins	Packing up quickly.
Carter Upston	Great 5 star listening.
Evie King	Excellent behaviour during assembly.
Maddi Sturzaker	Always listening to her teachers and doing as she asked.
Mia Barker	Picking up quickly and quietly.
Evie Evans	Working well in a group during literacy.
Isaac Leslie	Being a supportive friend.
Hazel-Mae Provis	For using initiative during difficult math questions.
Sophia Giles	For using initiative during difficult math questions.
Darcie Power	Packing up quickly and quietly.
Lachlan Smith	Always doing as he is asked by all teachers.
Luis Lee	Working quietly.
Michael Laughren	Wonderful in literacy.
Chad Jenkins	Learning to write his numbers to 5.
Finley Upston	Persevering with his literacy job.
Vanessa Linley	Always being a quiet worker.
Marli Leslie	Writing her numbers to 5.
Matilda trotter	Sharing your knowledge with other students.
Wyatt Parkes	Working hard to get all of his jobs finished.
Finley Upston	Fabulous writing.
Dyson Bromley	Always working quietly.
Shiloh Leslie	Focusing well in all tasks.
Rilee Brown	Working really well in a group.
Henry Lindfors	Leadership with Assembly preparation.
Yueni Tan	Her super neat handwriting.
Dyson Bromley	Packing up quickly and quietly.
Malakai Hyland	Great weekend writing.
Bronte Heppel	Always being a hard worker.

You are a Star

Shout Out winners are:

Demetrius Quilty-Maguire for excellent behaviour during assembly, chose an outdoor game for the class.

Yueni Tan for great maths work, chose an \$5 Newsagent Voucher.

PBS Focus: We are respectful when we follow instructions given by staff without arguing.

Term 3

Tuesday 14th - Friday 17th September - Year 10 Camp

Thursday 16th and Friday 17th September - Country Gold

Thursday 23rd September - Girls Football Gala Day

Friday 24th September - Term 3 ends

Term 4

Monday 11th October Term 4 begins

Tuesday 12th October - Bell Bay Aluminium Tree Planting

Wednesday 13th October - Little Stars begins

Tuesday 19th October - Year 7 2022 Transition morning

Monday 1st November - Recreation Day Holiday

Tuesday 9th November - Year 7 2022 Orientation Day

Wednesday 10th November - TPSSA Swimming Carnival

Thursday 11th November - Remembrance Day

Thursday 9th December - Last Day for Year 10s; Year 10 Presentation Evening

Monday 13th December - Year 10 Leaver's Dinner

Thursday 16th December - Last day for students; End of Year Assembly

Friday 17th December - Last day for staff

Our students hamming it up for Miss Gay's Drama Classes



*You are invited to our
End of Term Assembly
on Friday 24th September in the church
at 11.45am.
Parents and families are welcome to attend.*