

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

8th March 2022

From the Principal

Whilst many are praying for peace in the Ukraine, and so we should, I think I will also start praying for humility among world leaders and even ourselves.

Now I don't know Vladimir Putin personally, but I wonder if there is a lack of humility there. I wonder if there is a sense of entitlement, or a sense of thinking he is right and others are wrong.

What is humility? When we are humble we have a modest or low estimate of our importance. In other words, we realise that we are not that important after all, and are comfortable with that. Those who are not humble are usually described as proud or arrogant.

And while humility comes naturally to some people, and others suddenly find humility after a particular event in their lives, others don't seem to be able to grow in their humility at all.

When we are humble we place high value on things that will benefit others, not ourselves. In other words, it brings us to the subject of war, and who war benefits. It certainly doesn't benefit the civilians living in the war zone. It doesn't benefit the armies who have to fight it. And it doesn't benefit the world economy which is there to benefit everyone.

The only people who seem to benefit from war are those who make money out of selling weapons, and those who use it as a way of strengthening their power over people. In other words, it benefits those who lack humility.

And while it is easy for us to be in Australia and say that Vladimir Putin lacks humility, we also need to look at ourselves and ask if we have humility. Do we recognize that no one is perfect, especially ourselves? Are we open to working on our limitations by being open to new ideas and new learning?

It is said that we can work on our humility by doing three things: embracing our humanness, practising mindfulness and self-compassion, and expressing gratitude. Three things that might be good for all of us to work on during Lent, no matter how humble we think we are!

In the Star of the Sea Catholic community we need to encourage our students to be humble, to recognize their humanness and be comfortable with it. I would hope that the leaders of the future are those that are humble and full of compassion, not those who do things to serve their own self-interest.

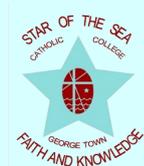
Mr Richard Chapman
Principal



Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less.

- C.S. Lewis

*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

Heart
Spirituality
Attentiveness



Hospitality
Compassion

Splashing out for Project Compassion

Every year, during Lent, the Church, through Project Compassion invites us to share some of our money with those in need. This year, with your help, we are going to make the world a better place through what we are calling "Project Duck." We want to raise money to help young people in the Solomon Islands get better education opportunities and to learn sustainable farming practices so that they can create a better future for themselves and their families.

In the Solomon Islands one way they help young people is by offering a rural training program. As part of their rural training, they are taught to farm ducks. With your support, we are going to raise money to buy those ducks.

We want the biggest team of ducks we can muster, so for Project Compassion this year, the winning house will be the House that buys the most ducks. So instead of the longest money line this year it will be the House with the most money.

This is how it will work. On the day, we want you to wear plain clothes and bring money in to help buy ducks. Every time your house raises \$10, they get to purchase a duck for their duck pen. There will be three duck pens and three house buckets. The house with the most ducks will win and they will get a free afternoon in the gym.

Project Duck for Project Compassion this year is on **Tuesday, 12th April**. So, start saving your money so that we can hatch a better future for the people of the Solomon Islands. May the best house win!



Hannah Kamel, Ella Erb and Freya Pickrill (House Captains)

Stars of the Week - 3rd March 2022

Kinder	Chanden Prismall Jackson	For being a kind and caring friend to his classmates.
Prep	Mia Syms	For being a fantastic listener.
Grade 1	Mia Barker	For being a kind and helpful student.
Grade 2	Daniel McConnell	For fabulous focus in all areas of literacy.
Grade 3/4	Rilee Brown	For being brave and sharing ideas at the SRC meeting.
Grade 5/6	Jai Jacobs	For amazing attitude towards his literacy cooking activity.

Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

Last week saw the beginning of Lent, the 40 days that lead up to Easter where we concentrate on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Our students celebrated the last day before Lent on Tuesday with pancakes supplied by Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Brown, Mrs Lee and Mrs Evans.

The next day our Grade 3-10s participated in a Zoom Ash Wednesday liturgy, while our Prep-2s had their liturgy outside.



Clean Up Australia Day

Last Friday was Clean Up Australia Day which saw our students clean up the school grounds as well as the York Cove foreshore and other parts of George Town. All students did a great job with, unfortunately, lots of rubbish collected. Nagle won 600 points for their House for collecting the most rubbish.



SetUp for Success

SetUp is back! SetUp for Success is our early learning program that is held every Wednesday morning during term time in the Kinder room, from 9am to 10:30am. It is run by our Kinder teacher, Mrs Trudy Hoffman.

SetUp is aimed at children aged 0 to 5 years, and it is a welcoming environment where parents and carers learn with their children.

With SetUp starting tomorrow, please remember that adults need to wear masks, and please don't attend if you or your child are sick.



Staff Movements

Mrs Frankcombe is back from leave and is in the office again this week.

Mr Taylor will be away for the week.

Duck Day

Tuesday 12th April will be the College's *Duck Day*. This will be our fundraising day for Caritas' Project Compassion where students are asked to wear casual clothes, bring along some money with Houses competing against each other to purchase the most ducks! The idea comes from the College leaders, with a Caritas project in the Solomon Islands seeing people trained to farm ducks.

Literate Learners for Life

This year, Catholic Education Tasmania has launched its literacy strategy for the next four years, called *Literate Learners for Life*.

For over a decade, NAPLAN reading and writing data for Years 7 and 9 has been trending down in Tasmania, and we are seeing more and more students coming to our schools with low vocabulary and underdeveloped speech. To respond to this, Catholic Education Tasmania is embarking on a strategy that will help *every student, every subject, every year* in literacy.

We will do this over the next few years by introducing consistent phonics and literacy programs in the Early Years and evidence-based reading interventions for all year levels.

Our teachers have already been involved in professional development, and parents and carers of students in our lower primary will soon receive information regarding how things may look a little different over the coming years.

This is an exciting and important initiative by Catholic Education Tasmania, and while we won't see immediate results, we are confident that it will improve the literacy of every student over the coming years.

COVID Update

We will cut back on our information regarding COVID measures until things change. In the meantime, here is a short reminder:

- Masks are still required for secondary students and all adults at Star of the Sea. This also applies to parents and carers who enter the buildings.
- 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 families require more RATs (Rapid Antigen Tests), please contact the College office.
- If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the College office.

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be given to students on Friday to take home. The purpose of these reports are to simply give parents and carers an indication as to how their child has started the year in each of their classes. Some teachers may have requested that parents or carers make contact. If this is the case, please contact the College office to arrange a time. Meetings could either be face-to-face or over the phone.

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.”

TERM 1 - 2022

CALENDAR

Monday 14th March	Eight Hours Day public holiday
Wednesday 16th - Friday 18th March	Year 8 Camp
Wednesday 23rd March	Star of the Sea Swimming Carnival (Grades 3-10)
Tuesday 5th April	NHSSA Div 3 Swimming Carnival (TBC)
Friday 8th April	TPSSA Athletics Carnival (TBC)
Tuesday 12th April	Project Duck - Caritas fundraiser (see page 2 for details)
Thursday 14th April	Holy Thursday; Term 1 ends; End of Term Assembly

Shout Out Term 1, Week 4, 2022

Chanden Prismall Jackson	Great listening while Mrs Hoffman is reading a story
Rafael Tilain	Fantastic sorting of the playdough table
Jaxon Hillard	Being a good friend
Luis Lee	Being a good friend
Carter Upston	Great listening at assembly
Zayden Kerr	Respectful attitude during assembly
Maliah Cunningham	Listening to instructions
Zoe Provis	Packing up the sandpit toys
Lucas Ratcliffe	Listening respectfully during assembly
J'Kobi Carnie	Helping his friends clean up the messy playdough table
Alby Hawkins	Listening well in assembly
J'Kobi Carnie	Helping Miss Justine set up equipment
Rafael Tilain	Being safe in the classroom
Ruby Davidson	Excellent mapping work
Mason Giles	Working so well in the classroom
Archie Davidson	Listening well at mat times
Elsie Sherriff	Lovely art work
Sofia Lockhart	Super counting skills
Rafael Tilain	Fantastic counting skills
J'Kobi Carnie	Listening to the task and doing lovely work
Logan Hawkins	Clever counting to 10
Mason Giles	Cleaning up the messy playdough table
J'Kobi Carnie	Packing up quickly and quietly
Logan Hawkins	Cleaning up the messy playdough table
Logan Hawkins	Using her manners
Eliana Dodge	Clever counting to 12
Tommy Smith	Picking up rubbish without being asked
Hamish Bannon	Packing up the trucks and bikes
Lucas Ratcliffe	Using great manners

You are a Star



This weeks Shout Out winners are:

Eliana Dodge for clever counting to 12 - *Choice from the Prize Box.*

Jaxon Hillard for great effort in writing the letter T - *Game for the class.*

Well done!

PBS Focus is Respect:

We are respectful when we pick up our rubbish .

