

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

29th November 2022

From the Principal

One of the difficulties in life is not allowing behaviours or actions to become normalised. When behaviours or actions become normalised, individuals or groups accept these things as normal, even if other people don't accept them as normal. And sometimes these behaviours can be very negative.

We only have to look at history, as well as looking at what is going on currently in the world, to see examples of what happens when "normalisation" can have devastating consequences.

Wars, and the behaviours that occur during wars, are great examples of this. In World War II it became "normal" to see and treat Jewish people as second-class citizens, and people thought it was okay to have them taken out of towns and cities around Europe. They may not have been fully aware of what was to happen to them, but they felt it was okay to treat someone differently because of their religion.

Even today in Russia there are leaders who think it is okay to bomb power stations and plunge people into darkness in the middle of winter. Most of us would consider this behaviour to be *abnormal*, but it still happens because those in charge have normalised the idea of treating human beings with contempt.

In our own country, the way Aboriginal Australians were treated for many years was normalised. People thought it was normal to take children away from their families, to make racist jokes, or to treat people differently simply because they have a different skin colour.

And, unfortunately, for many years Australia has been battling the normalisation of violence towards women by some males in the population. These males think it is okay to hit women, threaten women or coercively control them.

The difficulties of the normalisation of poor behaviours are that the person or people displaying the behaviours think the behaviour is okay and any challenging of the behaviours is ignored. Along with this, others who are close to the person displaying the behaviours also start to believe it is okay to do these things, and the cycle continues.

The main purposes of getting an education are so students can be taught what society thinks is appropriate behaviours, and so negative behaviours that are being displayed by individuals or groups of individuals can be challenged and called out for what they are.

In the Star of the Sea Catholic community we need to have the courage to call out the negative behaviours that are displayed by members of the community and by people in society in general. Only in this way will all of us grow to be the people God truly calls us to be.

Richard Chapman
Principal



Don't say to yourself,
'Everyone argues!' to
justify and normalise
your fighting, when
the most natural
thing is to love. -
Kamand Kojouri

*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*



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Star of the Sea Catholic College acknowledges the Leterremaiener people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.

Religious Education and Faith Development

Presentation Day Mass and the collection of grocery items for St Vincent de Paul hamper.

Heart
Spirituality
Attentiveness



Hospitality
Compassion



Stars of the Week - 24th November 2022

Kinder

Rafael Tilain

For the pride he takes in the completion of all tasks.

Prep

Victor Hugo

For doing an amazing job learning his tricky words.

Grade 1

Vanessa Linley

For showing care and consideration towards others.

Grade 2

Chantz Brown

For her focus and determination to succeed in all tasks that are presented to her.

Grade 3/4

Sophia Giles

For always working hard to the best of her ability.

Grade 5/6

Ashton Meessen

For having his fantastic efforts at utilizing Seesaw voice recorder to answer HASS questions.

Presentation Feast Day



What an awesome day in Devonport at the Primary Schools Triathlon Challenge..



Staff Movements

Mrs Hoffman is on leave for the next two weeks. Mrs Witt will be taking Kinder and SetUp in her absence. Mr Taylor will be at the Grade 5/6 Camp and meetings from Wednesday to Friday this week. Miss O'Toole will be on leave from tomorrow and will return next Thursday.

2023 Deputy Principal

Mrs Carmen Robotham will be our 2023 Deputy Principal whilst Mr Taylor is the Principal of St Finn Barrs. Mrs Robotham is currently the Head of Pastoral Care for the Middle School at St Patrick's College, Launceston. Mrs Robotham comes to us with about 25 years of educational leadership experience. Mrs Robotham visited the school last Wednesday for transition and we look forward to welcoming her officially in 2023.

Grade 5/6 Camp

Our Grade 5/6s headed off on camp today and will stay for 2 nights "down south," visiting Port Arthur and Richmond among other things. We wish them well and know they will have a great time. Thank you to Mrs Davis for organising the camp.

Year 10 Final Weeks

This week sees the Year 10 exams. We wish them well for these. Next week sees the Year 10s have their Service Day, Reflection Day and Big Day Out before finishing on Thursday.

Advent Prayer

For the next two Mondays we will gather as a school for 10 minutes for Advent Prayer in the Primary Gallery, starting at about 9am. Parents and carers are welcome to join us to prepare for Christmas.

SetUp and Little Stars Christmas Party

A reminder to all of our SetUp and Little Stars families that the Christmas party is being held in the Kinder room on the 14th of December at 11:30am. Please bring a small plate of food to share.

George Town Christmas Parade

The George Town Christmas Parade will be held on Friday 9th December. An invitation for students to be a part of Star of the Sea's float will be sent via Compass.

Primary Transition Morning

Our Primary Transition Morning will be held on Monday 12th December. On this day, students in the Primary classes will have the opportunity to move into the classes they will be in next year with the teacher who will be teaching them. Mrs Halley will join us for the day to take the Grade 2/3 class for 2023.

Federal Government Funding

Some of our community may have seen the article in the *Examiner* newspaper on Friday which stated that Star of the Sea has been the recipient of \$628,193 of Federal Government funding for capital works. This funding, along with funding from other sources, will allow us to continue upgrading our secondary campus along with upgrading the "black" basketball court in the Primary area to make it usable all the year around.

2023 College Captains

The process for choosing the 2023 College Captains continues, but speeches have been held over to this Friday due to the high number of candidates.

Observed Fire Drill

Last week we advertised that we would be having an observed Fire Evacuation last Wednesday. This did not occur, and we will inform families of the new date, which may not be until next year.

Enrolments

Enrolments for 2023 for all year levels are now open. We are currently conducting our enrolment interviews and transition days are occurring as well.

If you are hoping to enrol your child into Star of the Sea in 2023, we would ask that forms are in ASAP. Enrolment forms can be picked up at the office or from our website (www.starsea.tas.edu.au).

Congratulations to Mia Webb and Keegan Jacobs who received awards in the Tasmanian Science Talent Search. Mia was first and Keegan was runner up in the Intermediate Poster Section. Mia's poster was on the chemical structure of glass and Keegan poster was on the clarity the use of glass in spectacles gives. Well done to both students. Pictures overleaf.

Pavement Arrangement Forms

Forms were sent home to families a few weeks ago. These forms will need to be returned to the College Office by Friday 9th December, otherwise it is assumed you will be paying your fees, in full, at the start of the 2023 school year. Please note that if both parents have signed the enrolment form, they both need to sign the payment form. If you have any queries, or need another form, please contact the College Office.

COVID Update and Advice

On Friday 25 November Public Health lifted the COVID-19 risk level from low to moderate.

Recently Public Health provided Catholic Education Tasmania with the following advice:

- The level of illness experienced due to infection by one of the new sub variants of Omicron is no more severe than that for the BA5 variant (the term 2 & 3 dominant variant).
- Children are at a very low risk of being impacted by COVID infection.
- The predicted peak for the current increase in cases is expected to occur in the Christmas holidays.
- We encourage students to stay home if unwell and take a RAT.
- Persons who are COVID positive but asymptomatic can attend schools.

Compass Events

There have been some changes in the way we operate regarding consent for excursions and events at the College. With the Compass system, all consent and payments will now be conducted on the online platform.

This will save copious amounts of paper, admin time and hopefully streamline and make things easier for families.

There will be three types of events to consent for:

1. **Compulsory events/excursions that don't require a payment.**
2. **Compulsory events/excursions that do require a payment.**
3. **Opt-in events/excursions that require a payment.**

To give consent/pay you will need to open Compass and click on "Events." The particular event for your child should be listed.

With options 1 & 2, the Compass event will direct you to "Give Consent" or "Give Consent and Pay".

With option 3, your child will be "Invited" to attend. You will need to accept this invitation. It will then direct you to "Consent & Pay".

SetUp for Success

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 will be run by Mrs Bronwyn Witt in Mrs Hoffman's absence.

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



Setup/Pre Kinder Christmas party.

It is being held in the Kinder room on the 14th December at 11:30AM. Please bring a small plate of food to share.



Tuesday 29th November	Grade 5/6 Camp	Friday 9th December	George Town Christmas Parade
Till Thursday 1st December		Monday 12th December	Year 10 Leavers Dinner
Thursday 8th December	Last day for Year 10 Year 10 Presentation evening	Tuesday 13th December	Secondary Big Day Out
<u>Term 4 - 2023</u>		Thursday 15th December	End of Year Assembly Last day for students
		Friday 16th December	Last day for staff

Expression of Interest – Drum Beat (January Program)

Two children’s counsellors from CatholicCare – Sophie and Emma – are running Drumbeat sessions over the summer holidays, which are designed to support emotional regulation and strengthen parent-child relationships.

Children must be between the ages of five and twelve, and one parent is required to attend the session per child. We will be running these sessions in the final two weeks of the January school holidays.

You are invited to attend either a one-off session on Tuesday 24th January, or a two-part session across Tuesday 31st January and Wednesday 1st February (times to be confirmed), at CatholicCare George Town (35 Goulburn St).

There is no cost to attend these groups.

If you are interested in attending, please fill out the form which you can collect from the College Office.

Please note: Expressions of interest for these groups must be returned the College Office by Thursday 15th December.

We will contact you before the end of the school year to confirm dates and times for January. We look forward to hearing from you – Sophie and Emma.



Funded by the Australian Government
Department of Social Services

2024 School Dates.

Term One:

Students Resume: Friday 3 February 2023

Term 1 Concludes: Thursday 6 April 2023

Term Two:

Students Resume: Wednesday 26 April 2023

Term 2 Concludes: Friday 7 July 2023

Term Three:

Students Resume: Monday 24 July 2023

Term 3 Concludes: Friday 29 September 2023

Term Four:

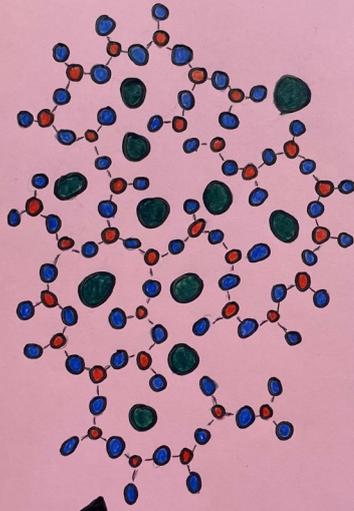
Students Resume: Monday 16 October 2023

Students Conclude: Thursday 14 December 2023

GLASS MORE

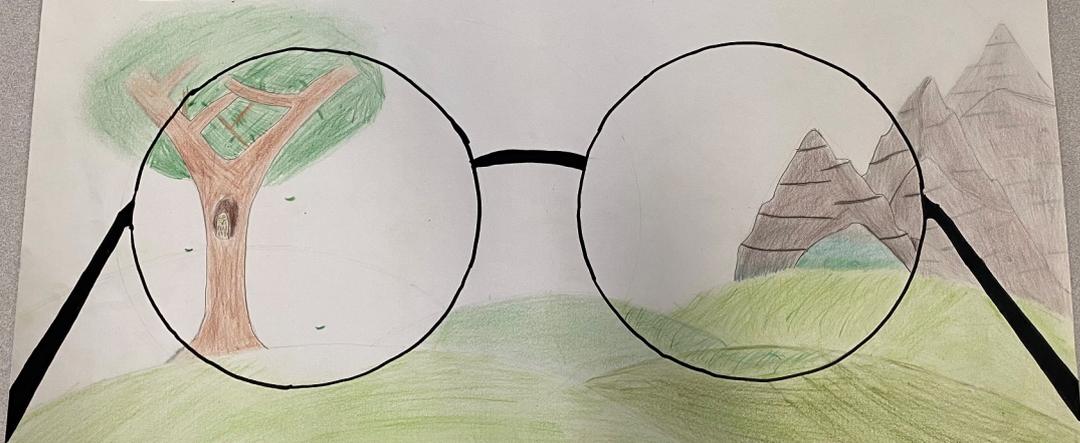
THAN
MEETS
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EYE

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SODA GLASS

GLASS: MAKING LIFE



CLEARER