

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

4th April 2023

From the Principal

What makes schools successful? If you asked many different schools they would probably say many different things!

Some may say their school is successful because they have amazing academic results. While good results are good to have, it means that schools who serve students who have intellectual disabilities will never be successful!

Some may say their school is successful because they are full. But there are plenty of schools around Australia that are bursting at the seams, mainly because they are in areas with high population growth.

Some may say their school is successful because they win stuff. That is problematic, though, because it means we use students for the image of the school, instead of serving students.

Perhaps the true measure of success of a Catholic school is how kind the people in it are - staff and students. Along with this, perhaps we could say a measure of success is how well people feel they belong. How much they feel like the school they go to values them, and how much they feel they can be successful at that school.

Because if the Easter story reminds us of anything as Catholic schools, it reminds us of Jesus' desire for us to be fully human and fully alive. And it is only through the way we treat others with kindness can we hope to achieve that.

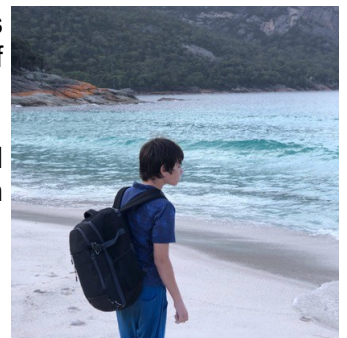
So how is Star of the Sea going? If we measure our success on kindness and a sense of belonging, are we successful?

Like most things in life, we never quite achieve things 100% of the time. Our students aren't always kind to each other, but they are also children who are learning how to be kind. Our staff are just like any other adults in society where tiredness and stress can lead us to say the wrong thing at the wrong time, and as functioning adults we need to always reflect on those times and make amends. Whilst we strive to be kind, none of us are perfect!

But we take heart when we hear of the school being a welcoming place, when relief staff come in and say how nice the students are and how the staff make them welcome. We take heart when students look after each other and make sure each other is okay. And we take heart when students and staff walk into the school each morning with a smile as they know it is a safe place where they feel they belong. (The smiles aren't always there at the end of the day, but that's what you get from a day of learning!)

If we are going to strive to be successful as a Catholic school, and keep the spirit of Jesus in our hearts, we must strive to be kind. Then we will be who called calls us to be.

**Richard Chapman,
Principal**

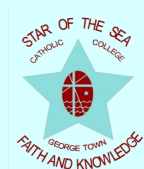


Be kind whenever possible.

It is always possible. -

The 14th Dalai Lama

*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*



PO Box 206
Corner Friend &
William Street
George Town 7253

Ph: 6382 1242

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



Easter is a time of renewal, new life and starting again with enthusiasm for a brighter future, and the resurrection of Jesus is the climax and the ongoing point of the story. God gave us his beloved Son to save us and show us the way to Him. We pray for God's blessings in this season of joy:

May God bless us with a determination to spread the miracle of Easter hope far and wide.

May God fill our hearts and homes with happiness.

May Christ bless us and fill us with life and transforming love.

May Christ inspire us to spread peace, love, and compassion to each other.

May Christ bless our world with his active presence in global decision-making so to create positive change within our troubled world.

May the Holy Spirit bless our community with the energy to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Amen



Holy Week 2023

Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church George Town

Holy (Maundy) Thursday - 6th April

Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Feet at 6:00pm.

Good Friday - Friday 7th April

Stations of the Cross at 9:30am
 Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 3:00pm

Holy Saturday - Saturday 8th April

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Individual Confession)
 available from 10:30am to 11:30am.
 *Easter Vigil at 6:30pm

Easter Sunday - Sunday 9th April

Mass at 11:00am





food donations

Shopping List.

BEVERAGES

- ✓ Coffee
- ✓ Long Life Milk
- ✓ Tea

PANTRY ITEMS

- ✓ Biscuits - savoury & sweet
- ✓ Cereals
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Pasta Sauces
- ✓ Porridge
- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Spreads: vegemite, jams, honey, etc
- ✓ Sugar

QUICK & EASY MEALS

- ✓ Cup of Soups
- ✓ Instant noodles, rice, pasta
- ✓ Packaged meals (non-perishable)

SNACKS

- ✓ Dried fruit
- ✓ Energy bars
- ✓ Muesli bars
- ✓ Nuts
- ✓ Shapes biscuits

TINNED GOODS

- ✓ Baked beans
- ✓ Fruit - all types
- ✓ Soups - all types
- ✓ Spaghetti
- ✓ Tuna
- ✓ Vegetables - all types

The next time you go shopping, please could you purchase a few extra items from Vinnie's Shopping List? A few extra items in your shopping trolley will go a long way to help alleviate hunger and assist a family or person in need.



Thank you

STEM Club

Last Thursday Mrs Harmer's STEM Club met for the last time this term. They experimented on M&Ms, Skittles and Smarties to see how the food dye around the shells were affected by the amount of sugar. Here are some of their results:



TPSSA Athletics Carnival

Star of the Sea travelled to St Leonards on Friday to compete in the TPSSA Athletics Carnival. All students competed well and were great representatives of the school. A big thanks to Mr Wedlock for his organisation and to Mrs Davis and Mrs Scott for helping on the day. Also thanks to parents who came and supported the students.



Year 9/10 Hospitality /Cooking

Our Year 9 /10 Hospitality/Cooking class baked and decorated Easter cupcakes and muffins.



Last chance to get your Easter Raffle tickets

Tickets are \$1 each and will be sold by the Year 10s at lunchtimes in the Primary and Secondary Playgrounds. Tickets are also available from the college office. Students may take home a book of 10 tickets.



Proceeds will be split between student leader fundraising and Project Compassion.

The Raffle will be drawn at the End of Term Assembly on Thursday April 6th.

Staff Movements

Mrs Halley is away on leave until the end of term.
Mrs Harmer and Mrs Davis will be away on Thursday.

Term Holidays

Term 1 will end this Thursday 6th April.

Term 2 will start for students on **Wednesday 26th April**. Staff will be on site on Monday 24th April for a Spirituality Day, while Tuesday 25th April is a public holiday for Anzac Day.

Kinder Enrolments 2024

If you are interested in enrolling your child into Kinder next year, or know someone who is, we will be holding a Kinder 2024 Information Morning on Wednesday 10th May at 10:30am in the Kinder Room (straight after SetUp). Children are welcome to attend with their parents. Come along to find out about what Star of the Sea can offer. Children need to be turning 5 next year to attend Kinder.

End of Term Assembly

This Thursday 6th April we will hold our End of Term Assembly in the Church at 11:45am. Families and friends are welcome to attend.

ANZAC Day

Tuesday April 25th is Anzac Day and, as per usual, the school will be represented in the march. A note will go home on Compass this week with further details. We hope as many students as possible can attend.

Change in Uniform

Term 2 sees the start of students wearing winter uniform. This week is a good week to see if last year's uniform still fits! The Uniform Shop is open on Thursday between 2pm and 4pm.

NHSSA Athletics Carnival

Tomorrow (Wednesday) is the NHSSA Athletics Carnival. We wish our competitors all the best and know that they will represent the school well. Students not involved in the carnival will be combined into one or two classes.

Term 2 Calendar

Attached to this newsletter you will see the Term 2 Calendar. Although most dates are fixed, things can obviously change without notice (and usually out of our control). We will keep families informed of any changes.

COVID Tests

As we near the winter months we are already aware of students who have had COVID recently. This week we will be sending RATs home with the eldest in each family. These will hopefully be helpful to test children at home should they display symptoms. Whilst students and staff are allowed at school if they are COVID positive but have no symptoms, they shouldn't be at school if they are showing symptoms like a cough, runny nose or a fever.

Year 10 Immunisations

The Year 10 Immunisations which were booked for Wednesday 5th April have been rescheduled for Wednesday 24th May. Please note the Year 7 Immunisations are still scheduled for Wednesday 5th April.

Taylor's Coaches

Last Friday saw the last trip by Taylor's Coaches to our school. After around 30 years of service, Taylor's Coaches have sold their business. We thank them for all of their service over the journey, and we especially thank them for those times when we needed a bus in a hurry! We wish Jenny Taylor and her family well as they move into the next stage of their life. Buses R Us have taken over the bus run that Taylor's Coaches did.

Deputy Principal's Message

With the commencement of Easter, followed by the end of term holiday break it is timely to reflect on the many opportunities our students have had to celebrate their strengths and areas of growth. It also provides an opportunity for each person to consider areas for future improvement and growth. In the secondary school, we have been considering people's character strengths and ways we can foster greater development of these. In assemblies, staff and students have prepared information and positive examples of character strengths being used in everyday lives. Each student will have the opportunity to investigate their own character strengths and to develop greater understanding about the ways they can continue to build upon their strength of character.

The character strengths evident in Jesus are present in many of our students. The fruit of the Spirit is love, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23) Jesus was all of these things and a great deal more and provided a model of human character that we hope to foster in each person.

Our focus on human character strengths occurs in many areas of the school and I encourage you to engage in conversations with your children about the strengths you see in them, as this helps to highlight these virtues and affirm the goodness within each person. Although we have not introduced the same vocabulary with primary students at this stage, we certainly promote the same values and strengths through recognition and affirmation. The Shout Outs listed in the newsletter and displayed in the Primary Gallery highlight the many qualities and strengths of our primary students, as do the Star of the Week awards.

You can find out more about the character strengths we have been investigating by visiting: www.viacharacter.org. This website also provides further information to help us better understand each different character strength.

Easter is a wonderful time for us to reflect on the virtues of Christ and to focus on the ways we can be more like Jesus, showing love and kindness to others. I hope you have the opportunity to rest and rejuvenate during this time and I look forward to seeing you all at the start of Term 2.

C A L E N D E R TERM 2 2023	Monday 24th April	Staff Spirituality Day
	Tuesday 26th April	Anzac Day
	Wednesday 26th April	Term 2 begins for students
	Wednesday 3rd - Friday 5th May	Year 7 Camp
	Tuesday 9th May	Star of the Sea Cross Country (Colour Run)
	Wednesday 10th May	Kinder 2024 Information morning
	Tuesday 16th May	School Photos
	Wednesday 17th May	9/10 Winter Sport commences
	Thursday 18th May	7/8 Winter Sport commences
	Friday 19th May	National Walk to School Safely Day
	Wednesday 24th May	Year 7 & 10 Immunisations
	Tuesday 30th May	Inter-High Cross Country
	Wednesday 7th June	TPSSA Cross County Carnival
	Thursday 8th June	Real Talk visit (Secondary)
	Monday 12th June	King's Birthday (Public Holiday)
	Friday 30th June	TPSSA Winter Sport Round 1
	Sunday 2nd - Sunday 9th July	NAIDOC Week
Friday 7th July	End of Term Assembly Term 2 ends for students	

SetUp for Success

'SetUp for Success' is on every Wednesday during term time between 9:00am and 10:30am in the Kinder room and is for children from birth to 5 years of age. It is completely free and all are welcome. Mrs Selina Taylor will run 'SetUp' this year.



Star of the Sea Catholic College End of Term Assembly

Thursday 6th April

11:45am

In the Church

Families and friends are most welcome to attend as we recognise the tremendous efforts of the students in Term 1.

Mother's Day Stall

Mother's Day is fast approaching.

We will be having our Mother's Day Stall on May, 11th.

We would really appreciate your donations of appropriate gifts for mums.

Any donations can be left at the front office.

Thank you for your generosity.



CALENDAR, TERM 1, 2023

Wednesday 5th April	NHSSA Div. 3 Athletics Carnival
Thursday 6th April	Holy Thursday - End of Term Assembly - Term 1 ends
Monday 24th April	Staff Spirituality Day—student free day
Tuesday 25th April	Anzac Day
Wednesday 26th April	Term 2 begins for students

Stars of the Week - 30th March 2023

Kinder	Aylah Summers	For being a fantastic listener at mat times.
Prep	Rafael Tilain	For being interested and involved in all parts of a Prep day.
Grade 1	John Lethborg	For excellent concentration in reading and writing
Grade 2/3	Michael Laughren	For beautiful and thoughtful participation in our class prayer time
Grade 3/4	Ruby Davidson	For her dedication and work ethic across all subject areas. Keep up the great work!
Grade 5/6	Toby Jones	For showing great courage and strength of character when competing in the 100-metre sprint at the Athletics Carnival. Well done! You are a true inspiration to others.

George Town Book Fairies

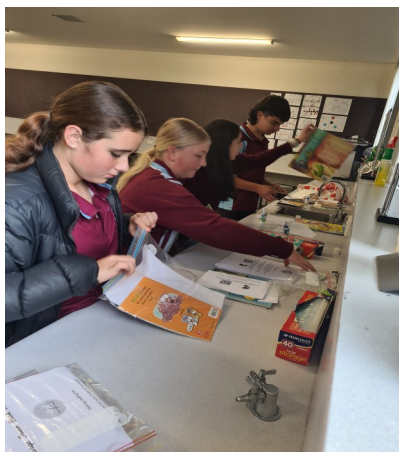


The George Town Book Fairies hope to start a new craze in George Town. The newly appointed fairies want to hide books in and around town for the local kids to find. Kids will find a book sealed in a plastic sleeve, take it home to read, write their name in the book, and then re-hide it or pass it on to a friend.

The books will be hidden in shop windows, parks, and streets, in and around George Town. The concept is simple and follows the global painted rocks craze, where kids hunt for painted rocks around their local neighbourhood. The Book Fairies will distribute new and gently used books to the kids of George Town via the hidden book craze, hoping to impact literacy rates directly. By increasing George Town kids' access to books, the fairies hope to inspire the love of reading, promote academic success, and expand life opportunities.



The Book Fairies have a Facebook page where kids or their parents/guardians can leave clues to where others can find the book that they have hidden. Please scan this QR code to go directly to the Facebook page.



Star of the Sea Fairy helpers preparing the books, 120 of which are hidden around the school

