

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 25th July 2023

From the Principal

When we were younger, and I think children still do it today, we were dared to do things. We would be dared, and double dared, and sometimes even triple dared to do one thing or another. And we would have to decide whether or not we wanted to do it. While it may have seemed scary doing whatever it was, we had to weigh that up with the reaction of our peers if we didn't do it. Would they call us a sissy? Would we have any friends left?

Of course, all of this was based around the idea of peer pressure. People of our own age pressure us into doing something and we feel we have to do it or else we will be on the outer.

When we got older, we saw how silly some of these things were and we stopped worrying about it. Or so I thought.

It would seem that social media has now taken over the peer pressure role and now, instead of being dared, we are challenged. And there are all sorts of ways in which we are challenged. We are challenged to perform certain dances, or challenged to eat certain things, or challenged to try to replicate something. Sometimes the challenges can be dangerous, sometimes silly, some times funny. Having a prayer app on my phone, I've been surprised recently to be invited to do a prayer challenge, as if we should only pray when someone dares us to!

And there are people who, being avid followers of social media, get right into these challenges. Every time a new challenge trend appears they make sure they are having a go at it, practising the dance or the lip sync or the move before they share it with the world.

The challenges prey on us in the same way that peer pressure did when we were younger. We don't want to be seen not doing the challenge, because that would see us on the outer. Just like we wanted to be seen in the right clothes or have the right hairstyle when we were younger, we also want to be seen being involved in the challenges. And when celebrities are involved we want to be involved in the challenge even more, as we feel that by doing so it will bring us closer to the famous people.

Of course all of this is a myth. As adults we don't really judge people as to whether they have got involved in a challenge or not. And those people who do judge us for that, well, they're not the sort of people we really want to hang around with, as it would seem they are still in their adolescent years. Not only this, we start to realize that a number of these challenges are started by various companies in order for people to buy a certain brand.

God is not interested in setting us challenges. The days are over of us thinking that God is putting us to the test and, if we fail, we won't get to heaven. Our adult understanding of God is that God wants us to be fully human, fully alive. God has desires for us, not challenges.

In our Star of the Sea Catholic community there is no doubt that some of our young people will be sucked into doing these challenges. It is part of growing up and isn't much different to when we were double-dared when we were young. But it is important for us to let our children know that doing or not doing a social media challenge does not make them any better or worse a person. They will always be loved by God.

And hey, if all else fails, we might be able to get together and start the "tidy your bedroom challenge." Now that would be something worthwhile.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*



*It is better to
walk alone
than with a
crowd going
in the wrong
direction. -
Herman Siu*

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

Calendar Term 3 2023

Thursday 3rd August	Country Gold selections (Grade 5/6)
Wednesday 9th August	Catholic Education Week Mass
Tuesday 15th August	Mass for the Feast of the Assumption
Wednesday 16th August	English Competition
Monday 21st August	Book Week Parade (<i>Read, Grow, Inspire</i>)
Tuesday 22nd August	Science Competition
Thursday 31st August	Father's Day Breakfast and Stall
	Maths Competition
Thursday 14th September	RUOK Day
Tuesday 19th September	RYDA (<i>Year 10</i>)
Thursday 28th September	Country Gold - Girls Footy Gala Day
Friday 29th September	Term 3 ends; End of Term Assembly

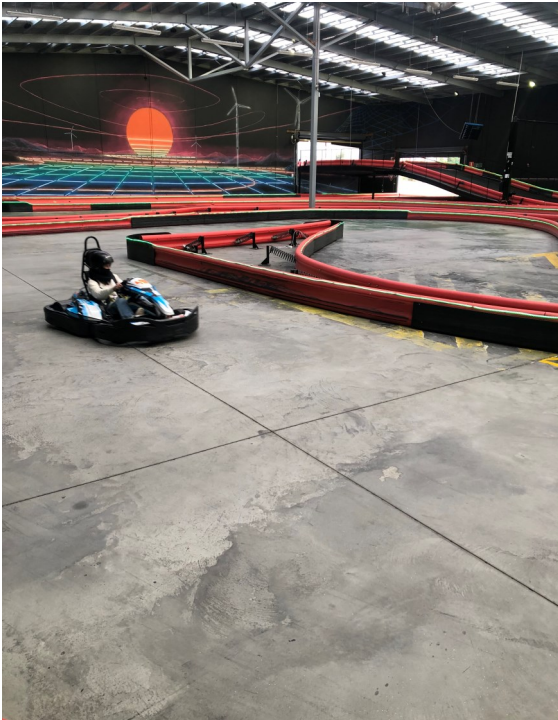
SetUp for Success

'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.



Year 9 Camp



PO Box 206, Corner of Friend and William Street, George Town, 7253

Ph: 63827242 Email: sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au

Year 9 Camp cont.



Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open on Thursday afternoons from 2-4pm for all your uniform requirements. Grade 10 jumpers can also be collected from the Uniform Shop.

If you have any spare shopping bags the Uniform Shop would appreciate them, and they can be left at the College Office.

Welcome

We welcome Tam (Year 8) and his family to the Star of the Sea community. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Staff Movements

Mrs Louise Sikkens is on leave this term. Grade 1 will be taught by Mrs Ros Ashenden.

Mrs Robotham will be out for Professional Learning from Monday to Wednesday next week.

Parent Teacher Afternoon

Our Parent-Teacher Afternoon will be held this Thursday 27th July between 3:15pm and 7:00pm.

It is a great opportunity for parents and carers to discuss with teachers the Mid Year reports which were released on Compass late last term.

If you would like to make an appointment to see a teacher, you can either:

- Ring the College Office during office hours (8:30am to 3:30pm);
- Email the office (sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au) to request an interview.

We would ask that all interviews are scheduled by the close of business on Wednesday 26th July so our teachers know what time they are required.

If you are unable to attend but would like to speak with a particular teacher, please contact the office to book a time and day.

Parent Engagement Group

Next Tuesday 1st August will see our first Parent Engagement Group (PEG) meeting held between 2:00pm and 3:00pm.

What is a PEG? A Parent Engagement Group is a group of parents and carers that meets on a regular basis to discuss aspects of the school, and in doing so allows parents and carers to become more engaged in the school.

What does a PEG meeting look like? PEG meetings usually begin with a prayer, a welcome and a chance for everyone to get to know each other, and then concentrate on a particular topic for the meeting. The first meeting will be an opportunity to ask more about our Student Management System, Compass. Before the meeting concludes a topic for the following meeting is decided by the group.

Do I have to attend each meeting? No, you are welcome to attend when you can.

How is it different from Parents and Friends? Whilst Parents and Friends was traditionally focused on fundraising, PEGs focus on being more engaged with the school and what is happening. It is there to support parents and carers, not to ask them to do things for the school.

Enrolments for 2024

Enrolments for 2024 for all year levels are now open. Families wishing to enrol into Star of the Sea for 2024 can call into the office for an enrolment form or download one from our website: starsea.tas.edu.au. We encourage all enrolments to be finalised by the end of this term so that we can organise transition days for Year 7 and our Little Stars program for Kinders.

Term 2 - 2023 Awards



Application to Learning Awards

Kinder	Ella Hugo	Prep	Elsie Sherriff
Grade 1	Kailan Wheeldon	Grade 2	Oliver Bennett
Grade 3	Evie King	Grade 4	Eathen Maney
Grade 5	Allira-Grayce Harris	Grade 6	Connor Judd

Merit Awards

Year 7

Zachary Jackson	Excellent commitment to MacqLit Programme
Ruby Clarke	Excellent commitment to studies
Alyssa Wayne	Excellent work ethic
Erika Clark	Application and effort in her studies

Year 9

Caeden McCutcheon	Application and effort
Emma Thomas	Positive work ethic
Drew Daniels	Excellent work ethic
Matilda Clarke	Application and effort

Swimming Champions

Year 3	Thomas Singline	Darcie Power
Year 4	Nate Walker	Ruby Davidson & Chelsie Jenkins
Year 6	Maverick Watson	Imogen Ackerly
Year 7	Kaiden Hewitt	Alyssa Wayne
Year 8	Harry Clarke	Lucinda Hockey
Year 9	Caeden McCutcheon	Erin Vanderzwan
Year 10	Nikiah Edwards	Luke Chapman
Cross Country		
Year 3	Thomas Smith	Evie King
Year 4	Oscar Smith	Zoe Gillies
Year 5	Sabian Hawes	Allira-Grayce Harris
Year 6	Keegan Leslie	Paityn Tunks
Year 7	Kobe Lewis	Alyssa Wayne
Year 8	Joshua Chapman	Hayley Daniels
Year 9	Caeden McCutcheon	Sianna Brunacci
Year 10	Izaak Holz	Miya Webb

Year 8

Darci Johnson	Improved work ethic
Hunter Paine	Excellent commitment to studies
Lucinda Hockey	Application and effort in her studies
Brianna Currie	Application and effort
Ruby Gower	Improved work ethic

Year 10

Nikiah Edwards	Excellent work ethic
Ashley Byard	Excellent work ethic
Hayley Ford	Contribution to the College
Lily Kelly	Improvement in work ethic

