

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 1st August 2023

From the Principal

Unfortunately in the world today we often feel pressured to make judgements and be on someone's side. No one likes someone who "sits on the fence," and we feel we have to agree with one group or another. The idea of taking one side or another, or of having either a wrong or right answer, is sometimes called dualism. But perhaps this isn't always the best way to go about our lives.

For those who follow cricket, they will know of the dismissal of English wicketkeeper Jonny Bairstow in a recent Ashes test. What followed afterwards in the media was almost a call to take sides. You either thought he should have been given out, or you thought that it wasn't in the spirit of cricket. There was no in-between.

Later this year we will be asked to vote either Yes or No in a referendum regarding an Aboriginal Voice to Parliament. Already we are being asked to take sides, without any recognition that the needs of Aboriginal Australians are much more complex than a simple Yes or No.

Social media often wants people to take sides as one person or another rants about a particular topic.

While dualistic thinking is good in some areas of our lives, thinking only in this way prevents us from reflecting on things deeply and living with mystery. Saying Yes or No in a referendum, while important, does not give us the opportunity to recognize the complex issues facing Aboriginal people in different parts of the country. Agreeing or disagreeing with a cricket dismissal does not allow us to fully enjoy the game as we are so wrapped up in one event. Jumping on board one side or another on social media does not allow us to reflect on the grey areas of arguments, and reminding ourselves that there is often more than one "right" answer.

Even in religion we are often subjected to dualism. We can be told that we have to believe something, and if we don't then we can't really be part of that religion. But it doesn't allow us to sit with the mystery of things like Jesus being human and divine; Mary being virgin and mother; God being Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And if we can't sit with the mystery, our beliefs become superficial.

In our Star of the Sea Catholic community we need to give our students the appreciation of the complexities and mysteries of the world, instead of them jumping on one side or another. In doing so, they can grow to have a greater appreciation of life and the world around them.

A number of ideas in this reflection are based upon Richard Rohr's book, The Naked Now.

Richard Chapman
Principal

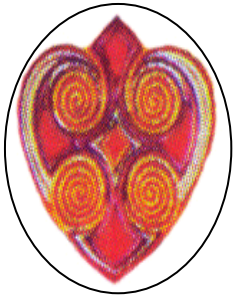


*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*Taking sides
cannot bring
peace and
balance. -
Ang San Suu Kyi*

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

Heart
Spirituality



Attentiveness
Hospitality
Compassion

Religious Education and Faith Development



This week, in Lisbon, Portugal, hundreds and thousands of young people and their leaders from all over the world are gathering to celebrate the biggest Catholic youth event of all:

World Youth Day

A group of young Tasmanians from around the state have also made their way to Portugal.

The theme of World Youth Day is, "Mary arose and went with haste." Mary answered God's call to play a special part in God's plan for the world. Just as Mary went on pilgrimage to visit her cousin Elizabeth, our young World Youth Day pilgrims are travelling to Lisbon. May this pilgrimage be an experience that will bring them closer to the Lord and may they enjoy many new friendships.

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.



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.

Congratulations Mrs Davis

Congratulations to Mrs Davis who recently completed a course through the Archdiocese of Hobart which gives her the training to become a catechist in the parish. This will enable her to help prepare families and children for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. She was recently presented with her certificate by Fr Bala at Sunday Mass.



Father's Day Stall

We will be having a Father's Day Stall on Thursday 31st August.

Gifts will be between \$1 and \$5.

All students will have an opportunity to attend the stall.

Donations for the stall will be gratefully accepted and appreciated

Donations can be left at the office or given directly to Mrs Tame.



Staff Movements

Mrs Robotham is at a conference and will be absent tomorrow.

Mr Chapman and Mrs Briscoe will be absent tomorrow, Thursday and Friday as they attend the Nagle Education Alliance of Australia conference.

Mrs Walters will be absent tomorrow.

Work Experience

Late last term our Year 10s spent a week doing Work Experience. We thank Mr Cook for organising this, and we especially thank the following businesses for taking students on

Tas Electrical

Ethical Bookkeeping

Kaizen Hair

Mowbray Heights Primary School

Statewide Independent Wholesalers

Body Connect Tasmania

THINK AU

Just Cats

Gordon Square Childhood Services

Frida's Paint & Sip

Tamar FM

Petrach's Book Shop

UTAS Library

Café 1069

Ambiance

Animal Medical Centre

Book Week - Early Notice

Monday 21st August will see our Book Week dress up day and parade. The theme this year is *Read, Grow, Inspire*. On this day we invite students to dress up as their favourite book character. Families might want to start thinking about costumes now!

Feast of the Assumption of Mary Mass

On Tuesday 15th August the whole school will gather for Mass in the church to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. The Mass will be at 11:40am. Families are most welcome to join us.

New Look for the Newsletter

After 7½ years, we thought we would try a new look for the newsletter, just to keep everyone on their toes! We are still playing around with the design a little, but if you have any feedback, please feel free to catch Mr Chapman and let him know.

Year 8 Enrolments

Our Year 8 class is currently full, in that we can accept no more enrolments into this year level. If parents would like to enrol their child into Year 8 for 2023, they can pass on their name and contact details to our front office and, if a place becomes available, we will make contact.

Enrolments for 2024

Enrolments for 2024 for all year levels (except Year 9 for 2024) 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.

For those who have already submitted enrolment forms, we will be making contact with you shortly to organise an interview time with the Principal/Deputy Principal.