

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 5th September 2023

From the Principal

The date for the referendum on “the Voice” has finally been announced (14th October), and because there are two sides emerging out of this proposal, we will probably have to endure a lot of nonsense over the next month and a half. We will have to listen to people tell us (rather than discuss with us) what side we should be voting, we will hear people on both sides trying to scare us, we will have to listen to people say things like “I know this Aboriginal bloke, and he’s voting...” as a way of convincing us to vote for one side or another, and it seems we will hear an awful lot of John Farnham’s “You’re the Voice.”

So how should we approach voting in this referendum, the first since 1999 when there was no social media?

The first step is to find out what the referendum is about. This may sound pretty obvious, but the truth is, many of us wouldn’t know. We might say it is about Aboriginals having a voice to Parliament, but beyond that we may not be sure.

The truth is, the referendum is about putting an extra 92 words into the Constitution. In a nutshell (but I recommend everyone reads a copy of the wording themselves) the change proposed is that there will be a body called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice, that this body can make representations (in other words, give advice) to Parliament on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and that Parliament can make laws regarding the make up, functions and powers of the body.

The next step is to ask ourselves why this change is being proposed.

The answer to that is included in the 92 words. It is “in recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia.”

The final step is to ask ourselves if this will improve the lives of those it is designed for. This is a trickier question to answer, because it will actually depend on each Parliament as to how successful they can make it, not on anything written in the Constitution. But in saying that, sometimes referendums are more symbolic in nature, so we can also ask ourselves if the symbolic nature of this referendum will help Australia move forward in its relationship with the First Peoples of Australia.

There are no easy answers. But in our Star of the Sea Catholic community we aim to be discerning and not just accept what is being shoved down our throats. Only people aged over 18 can vote in the referendum, which means we’re all big enough and old enough to investigate and make our own decisions. And that is what God would want us to do.

Richard Chapman
Principal

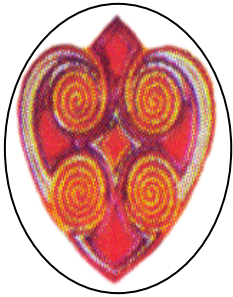


*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

**Voting is as much
an emotional act
as it is an
intellectual one. -
Moncia Crowley**

*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

The Season of Creation is a special time in the Church's calendar when Christians all over the world celebrate the wonder of creation and thank God for all his goodness. It is a time to reflect on our relationship with God, nature, and all people in all parts of the Earth community and to show our care. The Season of Creation begins on the 1st of September and ends on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on the 4th of October.

During the Season of Creation, Christian communities draw inspiration from the vision of a combined response to today's urgent challenges as expressed by the Pope in his letter, 'Laudato Si, Care for our Common Home.' As a Christian community we have a responsibility to care for all of God's creation. This includes people and the planet. We all can contribute to change through our choices and actions. The Pope tells us that all of us can co-operate and be an instrument of God for the care of creation.



This year's theme is, 'Let Justice and Peace Flow.' We know that there is a sense of urgency due to climate change and the rapid loss of biodiversity which is affecting the lives of people on every continent. As Christians, we are called to respond positively and work for a fairer world. Our own local community is a great place where everyone can get to know more about ecology and the role healthy ecosystems play. In our college our students are developing a native edible garden. and we will also be planting vegetables, and I believe the early childhood students are beginning composting. On both campuses, students are encouraged to recycle their waste.

There are so many things we can do if we work together to create change and harmony in this beautiful world God has gifted us.

Stars of the Week - 31st August 2023

Kinder	Lenny Hardinge	For fantastic listening during literacy lessons
Prep	Logan Hawkins	For her excellent behaviour and for being an outstanding role model as a prep student
Grade 1	Amelie Olivera	For her never-ending enthusiasm and creativity in all areas
Grade 2/3	William Singline	For making extra efforts in all of his work. Keep it up!
Grade 3/4	Savannah Grimsey-Gray	For her excellent participation in class discussions
Grade 5/6	Maverick Watson	For demonstrating an exceptionally high standard of presentation skills during literacy and Religious Education activities. Keep up the good work!

THE LUFT RUN FUNDRAISER

Our Grade 9/10 Leadership Team are organizing a LUFT Run Fundraiser (Launceston Urban Fringe Trail) where we as a school will be completing the 94 km trail on 4th of November between 6:30 am-7 pm.

The LUFT run is usually split into 9-10 km segments, but we have adapted and changed this to make it more enjoyable so we can get as many people involved as possible. We will be running 4-5 km segments.

We are asking individuals from within our school community to volunteer to:

- ◆ complete one of the twenty-one segments,
- ◆ to assist our grade 10 coordinator, Oliver Cook, who will be completing the trail in its entirety.

This fundraiser aims to raise money for our secondary school outdoor redevelopment project.

If you are interested in participating in the run, please do not hesitate to reach out to the contacts listed below. EOI forms have been sent out on Compass and Facebook.

Contact: Oliver Cook - Teacher
Email: oliver.cook@catholic.tas.edu.au

Contact: Miya Webb - House Captain
Email: miya.webb@cathstu.tas.edu.au

Want to get into training for The LUFT Run Fundraiser?

One way of getting into training for the LUFT Run Fundraiser is to participate in George Town Parkrun. Parkrun is a free, timed 5km run that occurs every Saturday morning at 9:00am. It is for all abilities. It starts at the park opposite the Pier Hotel in Elizabeth Street. Children aged under 11 must participate with an adult. Mr Chapman will be there this week, so if you are unsure about turning up and knowing no one, you can speak with him. To register for Parkrun, go to parkrun.com.au.

Father's Day Breakfast

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Father's Day Breakfast last Thursday. There was a huge turn out with fathers and father-figures having the opportunity to share breakfast with the students. A special thank you to those who helped out in the kitchen - Mrs Laughren, Mrs Power, Mrs Chapman, Mrs Thomas, Mrs Robotham, and Karlee, Erin and Emma from Year 9.



Deputy Principal's message

On Thursday September 14th, Star of the Sea will join for a whole school morning tea as part of R U Ok? Day. Students are invited to wear yellow on the day as we join together to raise awareness for R U OK? Day and positive mental health.

R U OK? Day is being held nationally on September 14th and is a day where we aim to raise awareness about asking other people if they are indeed okay. It is important that we check in with others often, to ask about their lives and how they are doing with their own life experiences and challenges. R U Ok? Day encourages us to have meaningful conversations with others and reminds us of the importance of our connection with others and the impact our care and concern has for other people.

We are called to be compassionate people and our outreach and concern for others' is an important part of this compassion. When we genuinely listen to others and show an interest in their lives and their concerns we help other people to feel supported and connected.

Details for the morning tea are included below.

When: Thursday September 14

Time : 10:30 am

Location: Primary campus for all staff and students

What to bring: Students are required to bring their own morning tea to eat.

What else: In addition to bringing their own morning tea, students are invited to bring a sealed item to donate to the morning tea items that will also be shared on the day.

Items for sharing can be left with Mrs Robotham between now and September 14th. For health and storage reasons please make sure these are pre-packaged, sealed items.



1. Ask



2. Listen



**3. Encourage
action**



4. Check in



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.



Staff Movements

Mr Goodall is on leave tomorrow.

Mrs Robotham is away on Thursday.

Mrs Tame is on leave Thursday and Friday.

Deputy Principal for Star of the Sea

As announced yesterday, Mrs Robotham has been appointed as the Deputy Principal for Star of the Sea for 2024 onwards, after acting in the position for this year. We congratulate Mrs Robotham and we know she will continue to do a great job in the role.

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. Interviews for those who have given their enrolment form to the office have begun.

Primary Class Structure and Teachers

We are currently going through the process of deciding upon our Primary class structure and class teachers for 2024. We hope to be able to make announcements about these in the coming weeks.

Calendar Term 3 2023

Thursday 14th September	RUOK Day
Tuesday 19th September	RYDA (Year 10)
Thursday 28th September	Country Gold - Girls Footy Gala Day
Friday 29th September	Term 3 ends; End of Term Assembly