

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 21st November 2023

From the Principal

As we celebrate our Presentation Feast Day this week we are all called to reflect upon what we are called to do. Our vocation, our calling, is something that not all of us take up. For some of us it can be too scary. For others they think there is something more exciting out there. But all of us are called and, if we are to be fully alive, we need to accept that calling.

In the Tim Winton book, *Dirt Music*, one of the main characters is a trained nurse who, for various reasons, no longer practises as a nurse because her current partner earns a lot of money (in a shonky sort of way) so she can live an easy life. However, she is never fulfilled. Her easy life is just that - easy. It provides no challenge for her and she is no longer growing as a human being.

In the story she meets another man who, for one reason or another, causes her to suddenly start growing as a human being again. And as the story progresses there are a couple of times when she is called upon to use her nursing skills again, and it is at these times where she feels fully alive. Towards the end of the book, when she is once again called on to be a nurse, she says, "This is what I do."

All of us need to get to the point in our lives where we say to ourselves, "This is what I do." What we do may not make us famous, it may not bring us lots of money, it may be a grind each day, but it is what we are called to do to make the world a better place.

What Nano Nagle was called to do wasn't pretty. It involved dealing with some desperate people, but she didn't shy away from it. Nano Nagle not only provided education to the poor, but she also went out visiting the sick of an evening in some of the worst parts of Cork. She also opened almshouses for poor women. All of this was very hard work. It took up most of her waking hours, and she spent a lot of time in prayer in order to gain the spiritual energy for the work.

The Presentation Sisters that followed her had equally hard lives. Some went to frontier towns, and many who left Ireland were to never return or see their family again. And many were young! In their late teens or early twenties. But, like Nano, they followed their calling without hesitation, because it was through their calling that they were able to be fully human, fully alive.

In our Star of the Sea Catholic community, we need to be able to recognise and follow our calling. Where do our talents lie? When do we feel most challenged, but also most alive? What skills do I have that I can use for the good of the world? When we've worked this out, we will be on the road to becoming who God calls us to be.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*Your vocation in life is
where your greatest joy
meets the world's
greatest needs. -
Frederick Beuchner*

*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

Reminder

Christmas Hamper Items



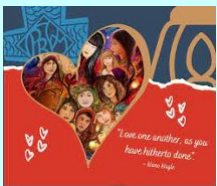
Heart
Spirituality
Attentiveness



Hospitality
Compassion

Friday 24th of November is College Feast Day. In the spirit of Nano Nagle and the Presentation Sisters we are continuing their work and spirit of compassion by bringing a non-perishable Christmas food item for the Christmas hampers which will be donated to needy families in our George Town community. Please place your food items in the Christmas box in the classroom. If you're not sure what to bring, check the list below.

Tinned Salmon	Tinned Corn	Tinned Beans	Christmas Bon Bons
Tinned Tuna	Tinned Tomatoes	Tinned Peas	Fruit Mince Pies
Tinned Ham	Tinned Fruit	Tinned Beetroot	Christmas Cakes
Milo	Jelly Crystals	Pasta Sauce	Christmas Pudding
Fruit Juice	Cranberry Sauce	Spaghetti	Long-life Custard
Sparkling Apple Juice	Gravy Mix	Deb Dried Potato	Tinned Shortbread
Soft Drink	Breakfast Cereal	Rice Crackers	Box of Chocolates
Water Cordial	Jam & Honey	Sweet Biscuits	Christmas Stockings
Coffee	Wrapping Paper	Savoury Biscuits	Bag of Lollies
Serviettes	Grocery Cards	Potato Chips	Popcorn



You are invited to our College Feast Day Mass on Friday 24th November at 9.40am. Join us in celebrating our Presentation story and Spirit.

Star of the Sea Parish Christmas Raffle

Tickets \$1

- 1st Prize: Weber Portable Outdoor BBQ
 2nd Prize: Hamper & \$50 Kaizen Hair & Beauty Voucher
 3rd Prize: Tassie Scene Painting/unframed + \$50 Meal Voucher at Gray's Hotel
 4th Prize: Hamper + \$50 Gift Card (Woolworths)

Available for purchase at the College Office.
 Drawn on Sunday 17th December after 11:00AM Mass.

From the Deputy Principal

Presentation Day

Presentation Day will be celebrated this week on Friday November 24. Students are invited to wear casual clothes and should bring a hat. Sensible shoes are to be worn eg. sports shoes or closed lace up shoes. On this day, students are also asked to bring in a grocery item for a hamper. Items need to be non-perishable and able to be stored until they will be used by St. Vincent de Paul. Grocery items can be left with your child's class teacher throughout the week or on Friday.

Mass will be held in the morning at 9:40 am and this will be followed by regular timetabled classes prior to lunch. At 12:40 pm students will move to the primary area and will be able to purchase food at a cost of \$2.00 per item. Water will be available to purchase however students are encouraged to bring their water bottle which can be refilled if needed. Students are welcome to bring their own lunch if they would prefer. The canteen will be open but this will only be for secondary students. Primary students will be able to make a lunch order but will not be permitted to go to the canteen to purchase food. Food available in the primary area will include Subway, pizza and a barbeque.

At lunchtime and throughout the afternoon there will be a range of activities set up in the primary area including face painting, mini temporary tattoos, a big games station, badge making, basketball shot competition, circus skills workshops and pony rides. There will also be a quiet games area. Students wishing to participate in the pony rides will need to have the permission form completed via Compass.

We encourage all students to be sun safe and to bring a hat to wear on the day. Sunscreen will be available at various locations throughout the day.

Colour Run - December 12

The Star of the Sea Colour Run is fast approaching and our primary students and their families have been hard at work gathering donations. It is sure to be a fantastic event. If you have not yet registered please head to the website and complete the registration. Although fundraising can continue up until the day of the event, prizes need to be selected by December 1. All students who raise \$10.00 or more will be eligible for a prize. At this stage our collective fundraising efforts are looking promising. For more information about prizes available or to register head to <https://app.schoolfundraising.com.au/>



**Reminder - The Canteen will be closed on Wednesday 22nd November.
Please ensure your child brings recess and lunch with them on that day.**

Staff Movements

Mrs Condric will be away on Wednesday and Thursday for meetings.

George Town Christmas Parade

The George Town Christmas Parade will take place on Friday 8th December. The theme this year is *A Christmas Tree Extravaganza*. We are inviting all students to participate in our walking float and are asking them to dress up as a Christmas ornament (think baubles, angels, stars, etc). We will provide some small Christmas trees for students to carry. Permission slips and further details will be released on Compass closer to the date.

Transitions to Star of the Sea

As we start to prepare for next year we are holding transition days for new students to the College.

Kinder - we have already started our Little Stars program which Mrs Taylor is running every Wednesday afternoon.

Year 7 - Our full-day transition on Thursday 30th November. Smaller groups of students may also participate in extra transition times. Marty Ogle from *MJR* is visiting the school next Monday and we will also use this as an opportunity for Year 7 transition.

Primary school - at this stage we are looking to have a Transition morning, where students in Primary move into their classes for next year with their teacher, on Monday 11th December. We will provide more details when this is finalised.

Secondary Triathlon

Some of our secondary students will be competing in a triathlon competition this Thursday, and thanks goes to Mr Cook for organising this. While we usually compete in the Primary Triathlon competition, we won't be this year due to it clashing with our Presentation Feast Day.

College Captains

We are currently in the process of selecting College Captains for next year. Quite a large number of our Year 9 class were nominated, and those students who have decided to accept their nomination will speak at an assembly tomorrow (Wednesday) before voting takes place straight afterwards. We will announce the 2024 captains at our End of Year Assembly on December 13th.

SetUp for Success

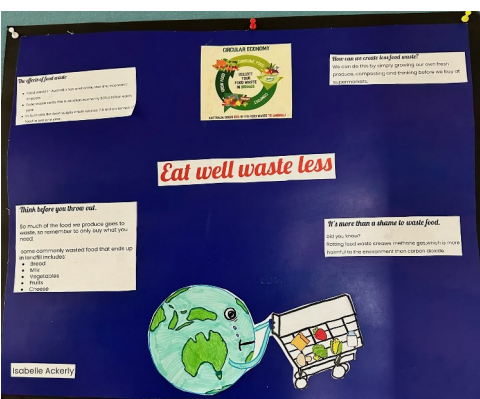
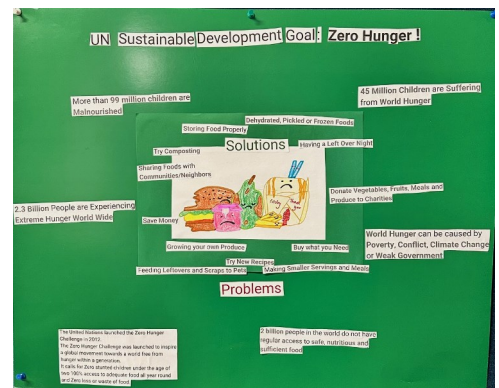
'SetUp for Success' is on every Wednesday during term time between 9:00am and 10:30am in the Kinder room and is for children from birth to 5 years of age.

It is completely free and all are welcome.



Soroptimist International of George Town Year 10 Bursary

Soroptimist International of George Town provide a Bursary each year to a Year 10 student. The students were asked to produce a poster about the effects of food waste. Below are the 6 posters produced by our students, Miya Webb, Tempress Tunks, Kailey Johnson, Isabelle Ackerly, Hayley Ford and Ashley Byard.



STEM

Science Technology Engineering Mathematics

STEM is recommencing this week
 STEM is open to years 5 to 7 students of all the George Town Schools
 New members are welcome including upcoming year 5 students
 STEM is in the science room of Star of the Sea from 3.00 to 4.30 on Thursdays
 There will be STEM club on the following days this year
 23 November
 30th November
 7th December (final session)

Reminder - The Canteen will be closed on Wednesday 22nd November. Please ensure your child brings recess and lunch with them on that day.

Stars of the Week 16th November 2023

Kinder	Raymond Simpson	For doing a fantastic job of listening for beginning sounds in words.
Prep	Chanden Prismal-Jackson	Excellent progress in reading.
Gr 1	Archie Bennett	For an excellent attitude and improvement in reading.
Gr 2/3	Charlotte Judd	For showing much greater resilience when things don't always go to plan, and for being a great Assembly leader.
Gr 3/4	Ashton Ratcliffe	For his consistent effort across all subject areas. Keep up the great work!
Gr 5/6	Connor Judd	For his continual efforts at improving his knowledge and understanding of mathematics. Keep up the great work!

Presentation Day - Friday 24th November

On Friday November 24th the school community will join together to celebrate Presentation Day. Students are invited to wear plain clothes and are asked to bring in a grocery item suitable for our hamper drive. Mrs Briscoe has provided details about what types of items can be brought in.

On the day, students will attend Mass in the morning. At lunchtime all students will be able to purchase food from the school for a cost of \$2.00 per item. There will also be free activities planned for the afternoon.



TERM 4—2024

Friday 24th November	<i>Presentation Feast Day</i>
Monday 27th November	<i>Year 10 Exam week begins</i>
Thursday 7th December	<i>Last Day for Year 10s; Year 10 Presentation Evening</i>
Friday 8th December	<i>George Town Christmas Parade</i>
Monday 11th December	<i>Year 10 Leavers Dinner</i>
Tuesday 12th December	<i>Secondary Big Day Out; Primary Nativity Play - Primary Colour Run</i>
Wednesday 13th December	<i>Last day for students; End of Year Assembly</i>
Thursday 14th December	<i>Last day for staff</i>