

# Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 26th March 2024

## From the Principal

We are now well and truly into autumn and the nights are getting a little cooler and the days are getting a little shorter. The seasons in Tasmania seem to change suddenly. One minute you are putting sunscreen on to go outside, and the next minute you are putting a beanie on!

Change is an inevitable part of life. Just as the seasons change, so do other things in our lives. Our children grow up, our parents get old, politicians come and go, disasters happen, wars are fought.

We notice these changes but often they are not big enough or sudden enough for us to be greatly affected by them (perhaps the COVID outbreak in 2020 is an exception). We generally just go on living our lives, dealing with the tough things as they arise.

So it is difficult to imagine what a huge change it was in the lives of the disciples when Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday! Every idea that they had held up until then about life and God was suddenly thrown into disarray when this teacher they had followed around until he was crucified suddenly reappeared 3 days later. Not in the form of a ghost, but one who they could touch and share a meal with. Suddenly, everything Jesus had taught took on a new meaning.

2000 years later, it is hard for even the most fervent Christian to imagine this change. The idea of Jesus rising from the dead on Easter Sunday is something that many of us have grown up with. It is an idea that constantly tests our faith - "surely that's just a made-up story, isn't it?" we ask ourselves. But then we see acts of kindness, or we see the beauty of creation, or we truly feel God's presence when we gather in a community of faith, and our faith is strengthened once more.

The early Christians had no doubt that Jesus had risen. Their faith in the event was so strong that they were even prepared to die for their belief. For them they had discovered that even in the darkest of times, there was always hope.

As we journey forward in our Star of the Sea Catholic community, we, too, must remember that there is always hope in the dark times. No matter how bad things seem, Jesus is there to journey with us through it. Our faith will always be tested - that's just part of human existence. Many saints have had their faith tested and travelled through the "dark night of the soul." But no matter what, Jesus' resurrection conquers all - all our fears, all our disappointments, all the times we thought we weren't good enough. Jesus reminds us - we are good enough.

May this Easter be a time when the light of Christ shines into your hearts and your lives, and the hearts and lives of your family.

**Richard Chapman, Principal**



*Attentiveness,  
Hospitality  
and  
Compassion.*

*"Faith in the  
Resurrection of Jesus  
says that there is a  
future for every  
human being."*

*- Pope Benedict XVI*

*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

### Holy Week

This year, we shared with you the story of three inspiring women from across the globe, who overcame challenges to complete their education, access water and find secure employment. With the support of compassionate people like you, they are now forging a path to a better future for their families and their communities.

**Ronita** from the Philippines has now graduated high school and secured a job at a call centre. This job was only possible because of a certificate she gained from completing her studies.

**Leaia** and her family now have a water tank at their home in Samoa. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.

**Memory** completed her vocational training course in carpentry and joinery. After completing a work contract at one of the largest electrical companies in Malawi, Memory now plans to return to her village and provide carpentry services to people in her community.

It's through the generosity of people like you that we can continue to support people like Ronita, Leaia and Memory.



Heart

Spirituality

Attentiveness



Hospitality

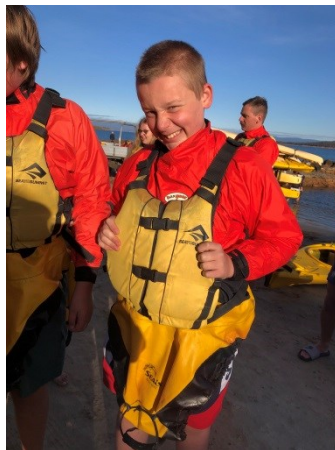
Compassion

### Stars of the Week - 21st March 2024

<b>Kinder</b>	Eason Kettle	For always following the rules and being respectful to all at Kinder.
<b>Prep</b>	Ella Hugo	For being a great helper around the classroom and trying hard with all her work.
<b>Grade 1/2</b>	Elsie Sherriff	For her excellent participation during class discussions and her overall work ethic. Keep up the great work!
<b>Grade 2/3</b>	Danica Sweet	For great engagement in our Literacy InitaLit tasks. Well done Danica.
<b>Grade 4</b>	Lindsie Barrett	For consistent effort in her academic work and her willingness to assist others.
<b>Grade 5/6</b>	Chelsie Jenkins	For speaking well during her "NSW Floods" class presentation. Keep up the great work!



## Year 7 & 8 Camp





## From the Deputy Principal

### Grade 8 Camp

Last week our Grade 8 students attended camp on the East Coast of Tasmania. Over the three days of camp students participated in a range of activities. The first day of travel took the group via the Fingal Valley, through St Mary's and over Elephant Pass.

A visit to East Coast Natureworld, near Bicheno provided an opportunity to see Tasmanian Devils up close, the devils showed their true nature of being powerful creatures. Did you know the Tasmanian Devil has the strongest jaw crushing capabilities of any animal in the world for its body size, stronger even than a crocodile, according to the staff of Natureworld. Students also had a close encounter with a bossy emu who terrorised Mr Cook and wrestled with students' hands who were holding food. During a visit to the bird enclosure, birds perched happily on students' arms, sharing the almonds being offered to them. Hand feeding some of these gorgeous birds was a highlight for many students.

Our travels continued into Bicheno and we visited the blow hole and climbed to the top of Governor's Lookout, taking in the view over Bicheno. Next it was time to collect a few items from the local IGA supermarket and then set up our tents and camping sites. Jarod, Kobe, Ruby and Alyssa capably prepared the evening meal which everyone shared.

On Thursday, we were up early to head to Coles Bay. The first activity was sea kayaking. Pairing up, everyone shared a double kayak and paddled across the bay from Muir's Beach to Honeymoon Bay. Our group quickly mastered the stability and paddling needed to stay inside the kayak and moved smoothly across the water, working as a team. It was great to see the collaborative way students mastered this task. A brief stop over at the beach enabled everyone to take a well-earned rest before we headed back across the water to our starting destination. A quick refuel and drink break gave everyone time to change into dry clothes ready for the afternoon hike across the Hazards to Wine Glass Bay.

The afternoon walk to Wine Glass Bay was a challenging activity, however, despite the energy and commitment needed, everyone accomplished the walk in a reasonable amount of time, making it up to the saddle to take in the sweeping views of Wine Glass Bay and the mountains beyond. The descent to the beach was quicker and everyone had the chance to relax on the beach before attempting the climb back up. A few students checked the temperature of the water but found it to be freezing and much colder than the water they spent the morning kayaking in earlier in the day. The return climb took some effort and the bus trip back to Bicheno was much quieter, with a lot of people taking a quick nap to recharge their energy.

On Thursday evening we shared a meal together at the Longboat Tavern. This provided a great opportunity for students to reflect on their camp experience so far and enjoy a meal before heading off to the final activity for the day which was the Penguin Tour. At this time of the year, there are not many penguins active in the area. This is because it is between breeding seasons. However, we did get to see a group of penguins come in from the water and make their way up the rocks to their nests. The penguins came within a few metres of our group and we also got to see where their burrows were. It was late when we headed back to camp and as everyone was exhausted we all headed to our tents hoping for a great night of sleep.

Friday was our final day at camp so the day began with breakfast and packing up the camp site. Everyone did a great job getting this done quickly which meant we had some extra time to visit Redbill Beach before our morning activities at Bicheno Primary School. Prior to camp, groups of students planned activities to do with the Bicheno Primary School students and once we arrived everyone got organised and ready to run their activities. The primary students loved the games and got involved enthusiastically. We stayed at the school over the recess break and hung out with the younger students while we ate morning tea.

At 11:15 am it was time to begin the journey home. This time we travelled via the Lake Leake Highway and our lunch stop was in Campbell Town. Everyone took the opportunity to explore the park area, grab something to eat and stretch their legs before we jumped back on the bus to travel back to school.

Staff and students had a great time while on camp. Thank you to Mr Cook for all of the organisation that went into planning and preparing the camp experience. A huge thank you also to the students who attended, as you were outstanding ambassadors for our school and for our community.



## Welcome

We welcome Talia (Year 10) and her family to the Star of the Sea Catholic community. We hope they enjoy their time here.

## Staff Movements

Mrs Stewart is on leave from tomorrow and will return Monday 8th April.

## Easter Break and Term 1 Holidays

- The last day of school for this week is Thursday 28th March.
- School then returns on Wednesday 3rd April.
- The last day of Term 1 for students is Thursday 11th April. Staff finish on Friday 12th April.

## Progress Reports

Our Progress Reports are due to be released on Compass in the coming days. The purpose of Progress Reports is to give families an indication as to how their child has started school in 2024. There are no A-E marks on these reports.

## No Newsletter Next Week

Due to the short week, there will be no newsletter next week. The next newsletter will go out on Tuesday 9th April and will be the last newsletter for the term.

## TPSSA and NHSSA Events

The NHSSA Division 3 Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday 3rd April.

The TPSSA Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 5th April.

We wish all competitors the best of luck for these events.

## Holy Week Prayer and Induction of College Leaders

Our Holy Week prayer and Induction of College Leaders will be held this Thursday 28th March at 10am in the church. Family and friends are most welcome to join us.

## Holy Week Services

Attached to this newsletter are the times for the Holy Week services for Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic parish. All are welcome to attend. You may see some familiar faces playing music on Holy Thursday and at the Easter Vigil.

## Holy Thursday - Washing of the Feet

This Thursday 28th March is Holy Thursday and the Holy Thursday service will be held in the church beginning at 6pm. Star of the Sea is providing as many students as possible to have their feet washed (a total of 12 people are required). We already have about 7, so if you would like your child to be involved in this, please leave a message for Mr Chapman at the office and he will contact you to provide details.

Attached to this newsletter are the times for the Holy Week services for Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic parish. All are welcome to attend. You may see some familiar faces playing music on Holy Thursday and at the Easter Vigil.

## Primary Assembly

Parents please note that there will be no Primary Assembly this week. Please see calendar on back page for Primary Assembly dates for the rest of the Term

## Mother's Day Stall

Mothers Day is fast approaching and is in the second week of Term 2. If you have anything you would like to donate to our Mother's Day Stall, please feel free to drop it off at the office.

For those new to the school, the Mother's Day Stall is run on the Thursday before Mothers Day at the school. Students are invited to bring along some money and purchase something for their mother or special female-figure in their life. The items for sale usually cost between 50 cents and \$5. Donations can be a gift you once received, haven't used, and think it might make a nice gift for someone's mother!

## GFG Foundation Student Program

A reminder that the GFG Foundation Student Program, which runs in Term 2 for Years 7 and 8 (one afternoon a week) and Terms 2 and 3 for Years 9 and 10 (one afternoon a week), is now taking applications. It is a great program and we would encourage all secondary students to consider getting involved. Application forms can be found via [www.csiro.au/en/education/Programs/GFG-Foundation-students](http://www.csiro.au/en/education/Programs/GFG-Foundation-students).

## Save the Date! Kinder 2025 Information Morning!

We will be holding our Kinder 2025 Information Morning on **Wednesday 15th May** at 10:30am in the Kinder room (straight after SetUp). All families who have children who will be turning 5 in 2025 are most welcome to come and discover what Star of the Sea has to offer.

Star of the Sea holds its Kinder transition in Term 4. This is called Little Stars. It is for all children and their families who will be attending Kinder the following year at Star of the Sea.

For families who would like further transition for their children, they are most welcome to attend SetUp every Wednesday morning in the Kinder room from 9am to 10:30am.

## House Shield Update

Now that we have completed our Swimming Carnival, the current standings for the House Shield are:

**In 1st place, Presentation with 348 points.**

**In 2nd place, Nagle with 231 points.**

**In 3rd place, Regina with 135 points.**

The next big point-giving moment will be connected to our End of Term Assembly. Students who receive an academic certificate will collect 10 points for their House.

## Easter Raffle 2024 **LAST CHANCE FOR TICKETS**

We are selling tickets now for the raffle which will be drawn on Holy Thursday (March 28th).

Tickets can be purchased at the office by parents or you can request a book to be sent home by contacting Mrs Tame or the office.

Secondary students can buy tickets at the canteen. There will be senior students selling tickets in the primary playground at lunch times.

Thanks for your support.



## SetUp for Success

Our early learning program, SetUp, 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. Our Kinder teacher, Mrs Selina Taylor, will run SetUp this year.



Term 1 - 2024	
Thursday 28th March	Induction of College Leaders Holy Thursday prayer: beginning of Easter break No Primary Assembly
Wednesday 3rd April	Return to school from Easter break NHSSA Swimming Carnival
Thursday 4th April	2.10pm Primary Assembly
Friday 5th April	TPSSA Athletics Carnival
Thursday 11th April	End of Term Assembly; last day of Term 1 for Students No Primary Assembly

GEORGE TOWN- LILYDALE- KAROOLA  
OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH  
HOLY WEEK 2024

**24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH PALM SUNDAY - HOLY MASSES**

LILYDALE- HOLY MASS AT 9.00 AM  
GEORGE TOWN- HOLY MASS AT 11.00 AM  
(THERE WILL BE NO VIGIL MASS ON SATURDAY)

**28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024- MAUNDY THURSDAY**

THE LORD'S SUPPER & WASHING OF THE FEET  
IN GEORGE TOWN AT 6.00 PM

**29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024- GOOD FRIDAY**

GEORGE TOWN - 9.30 AM STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
KAROOLA- AT NOON COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION  
GEORGE TOWN- AT 3.00 PM COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

**30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024 -EASTER CELEBRATION**

10.30 AM TO 11.30 AM SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION)  
**GEORGE TOWN - EASTER VIGIL 6.30 PM**

EASTER SUNDAY- HOLY MASS IN KAROOLA AT 9.00 AM  
EASTER SUNDAY- HOLY MASS IN GEORGE TOWN AT 11.00 AM



FATHER BALASUNDARAM ANTONYRAJ CPPS  
PRECIOUS BLOOD MISSIONARIES