

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 6th May 2025

From the Principal

From tomorrow a group of cardinals will meet in secret in the Vatican to vote upon who will become the next Pope. The event, called a conclave, seems an odd process in the year 2025, but like any other way of choosing a leader, including the way we do so in our Australian democracy, has its positives and negatives.

Being the Pope is, of course, an impossible job. It is a job that can never really be completed in any way, and, because the people who do it basically do it until they die, we tend to get situations where old and frail men are supposed to meaningfully lead the 1 billion or so Catholics around the world towards the end of their lives.

However, popes certainly shape the way as to how the world sees the Church and how Catholics view themselves.

Over his 12 years as pope, Pope Francis said something about what the Catholic Church should be and what role we all have to play in that. He told us that the Catholic Church should go out to the margins. As pope he rarely visited global powers, but instead visited smaller countries where there were very few Catholics and quite often the Catholics that were there lived under persecution.

He told us that all are loved by God. It became a tradition for Pope Francis to celebrate Holy Thursday not in St Peter's Basilica, but in prisons or refugee centres in Rome, washing the feet of those in these places.

He taught us something about humility. There were often times when Pope Francis didn't give clear instructions about what to do in certain situations but instead called upon us to think deeply about these things ourselves. "Who am I to judge?" became one of his famous quotes.

The way that Pope Francis approached his role won him many admirers, but there were those within the Catholic Church who did not like his style. There were many Catholics who wanted certainty, which Pope Francis wasn't always prepared to give. There were those who preferred a Church where people were either in or out, which Pope Francis wasn't prepared to accept.

In a recent movie about a fictitious conclave (called *Conclave*), the cardinal running the conclave challenges the other cardinals in a sermon about doubt. He calls certainty a dangerous sin, because it is the enemy of unity and tolerance. He says that with certainty there can be no doubt and therefore no mystery and no need for faith. He prays that the next pope will be one who doubts.

We may think that tomorrow's conclave is an event which has no meaning to us in our community. But it will. The next pope, like all popes, will tell us something about what it means to be a Catholic school and in what way we should serve those in our community. With this in mind, we pray that it is the Holy Spirit, and not ego, that guides the conclave over the coming days.

Principal, Richard Chapman



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*Certainty is the
great enemy of
unity. Certainty is
the deadly enemy
of tolerance.*

*- from the movie
Conclave.*

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



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Star of the Sea Catholic College

Heart
Spirituality



Attentiveness
Hospitality
Compassion

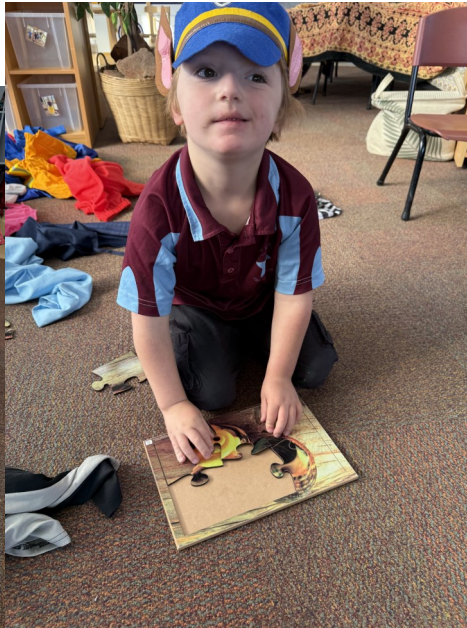
The Papal Conclave

- The Papal Conclave is the gathering of cardinals from around the world which will decide who the next Pope will be.
- The meetings take place in secret in the Sistine Chapel (a chapel within the Vatican) with the cardinals locked away until the process is finished (the word *conclave* literally means 'with key').
- Only cardinals under the age of 80 are allowed to attend and vote. Just over 130 will attend.
- A two-thirds majority is needed in these votes for someone to become pope. There are four rounds of balloting each day.
- As is tradition, at the end of each vote, the ballots are then burned with the smoke going out of a chimney at the Vatican. This is a way of telling the waiting world as to how the conclave is going. Black smoke means that the ballot has not resulted in a new pope. White smoke means it has resulted in a new pope, who will shortly be introduced to the world.
- The new pope doesn't have to be a cardinal (the only requirement is that they are a baptised male) but it is most likely that the next pope will come from the 130 or so cardinal electors.

*Lord, you are our eternal shepherd and guide.
In your mercy grant your Church
a shepherd who will walk in your ways
and whose watchful care will bring us your blessing.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



Kinder learning



Kinder 2026 - Information Morning

We will be holding a Kinder 2026, Information Morning on Wednesday 14th May at 10:30am in the Kinder room (straight after SetUp).

All families who have children turning 5 in 2026, are most welcome to attend and discover what Star of the Sea has to offer.

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

For families who would like further transition for their children, they are most welcome to attend Set Up every Wednesday morning, in the Kinder Room from 9:00am-10:30am



Welcome

We welcome Ella (Year 7), Samuel (Grade 4), Rosemary (Grade 2) and Thomas (Kinder) and their families to the Star of the Sea Catholic community. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Staff movements

Mrs Robotham will be at a meeting on Friday

Primary HPE and Prep Staffing

Mr Lawrence will be taking Primary HPE this term as well as some other classes. Mr Lawrence will also be working with the Prep class on Fridays while Mrs Halley attends to other responsibilities.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term. Breakfast club is open from 8:30 am - 8:45 am. All students are welcome to come along.

School Lunches

Hot lunches will be available this week as per normal.

Wednesday - Grades 3-6

Friday - Prep - Grade 2.

Early Notice - School Photos

Our school photos are scheduled for Tuesday 17th June. On this day all students are expected to wear full winter uniform. For consistency, students are required to wear either a blazer or jumper. Kinder students wear PE uniform as usual. Students not wearing the full uniform may not be able to have their photo taken. Ordering and payment is online only. Once ordered, parents will receive an email confirming their order, so all orders and payments are traceable.

Do not send money for photos to the school office, it will not be accepted.

Family Photo orders must be done by 4:30pm on Monday 16th June, the night before Photo Day, so we can organise a list of Family Photos that need to be taken. **Any Family Photos that have not been ordered and paid for before the cut-off will not be taken. Unfortunately, we cannot make any exceptions on the day.**

AN ACCESS KEY WILL BE SENT HOME TO PARENTS VIA COMPASS NEARER THE DATE.

Request for Unused or Broken Toys for Year 9/10 Surrealism Art Project

We are excited to announce an upcoming art project for our Year 9 and 10 students that will allow them to explore the fascinating world of Surrealism while promoting sustainability! As part of this project, we are seeking donations of any unused or broken toys that can be upcycled into unique art pieces.

If you have toys at home that are no longer being used or are broken, we would greatly appreciate your contributions. This project not only helps reduce waste but also provides our students with the opportunity to learn about recycling and creativity in the context of Surrealist art.

Please drop off any donations at the school office by end of week two. Thank you for your support in making this project a success!

Denise King, Design and Technology Teacher

SetUp for Success

It 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.



From the Deputy Principal

Mother's Day Prayer Service

Today we celebrated mother's and the role they play in all of our lives with a Mother's Day Prayer Service. Thank you to Mrs Davis and her class for leading such a beautiful service. Thank you also to everyone who came along to share in this today.

Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Show

The Braveheart's team will be at Star of the Sea on Thursday May 8th to present the Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure Show to students in Kinder - Grade 3. This presentation teaches young children essential personal safety skills using age-appropriate language, song and dance. Class teachers will continue to convey these important messages to children regularly as part of their learning programs. We also share information about personal safety in assemblies regularly with messages that are age appropriate for primary children.

Mother's Day Stall

The Mother's Day Stall is being held on Thursday May 8th. On this day students will be able to purchase a gift from the Mother's Day stall to give to their mother or another significant person in their life.

Students are encouraged to bring in some money to purchase something at the stall. Gifts \$1—\$5



Walk Safely to School Day

Next week we will hold our Walk Safely to School Day on Thursday May 15th. All students are invited to join us at Windmill Park (Pirate Park) at 7:30 am for breakfast, followed by our walk to school along the foreshore walkway. Students are welcome to wear their sports uniform or regular uniform on this day.



WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

Calendar Term 2 - 2025

Thursday 8th May	Mother's Day Stall Bravehearts visit
To Be Announced	Star of the Sea Cross Country
Wednesday 14th May	Kinder 2026 Information morning
Friday 16th May	National Walk to School Safely Day
Wednesday 28th May	TPSSA Cross Country Carnival
Thursday 29th May	NHSSA Cross Country
Tuesday 3rd June	Real Talk visit (Secondary
Tuesday 3rd June til Thursday 5th June	Year 10 Camp
Friday 6th June	Student Free Day
Monday 9th June	King's Birthday Public holiday
Tuesday 17th June	School Photos
Thursday 19th June	Grade 6 Presentation Charism Day
Friday 27th June	TPSSA Winter Sport Round 1
Monday 1st July	Year 10 Work Experience Week - <i>to be confirmed</i>
Sunday 6th July til Sunday 13th July	NAIDOC Week
Friday 4th July	End of Term Assembly. Term 2 ends for students

Term Two Primary Assembly Roster

The following classes will be leading assemblies over the coming weeks:

WEEK 2	Thursday May 8	12:10 pm	Prep
WEEK 3	Thursday May 15	12:10 pm	Kinder
WEEK 4	Thursday May 22	12:10 pm	Grade 5/6
WEEK 5	Thursday May 29	12:10 pm	Grade 4/5
WEEK 6	Thursday June 5	12:10 pm	Grade 3

Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances this roster may change