

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 12th August 2025

From the Principal

It would seem that after all these years of human existence, and no matter how much we think we have progressed as a human race, one thing has remained the same - people just want to be noticed.

Scroll through the feed on your social media of choice and you'll find a common theme of people just trying to be noticed. Random people are doing random things in the hope that people will notice them and give them likes. Random people taking videos of their children and uploading them in the hope that they will be noticed.

We seem to have this great desire to be affirmed in what we are doing. We want people to agree with us so that we feel we are on the right track. If I do this dance, or make this comment, or tell this joke, or my cat does this, I'm hoping for lots of likes because that will tell me I'm okay.

When did we stop believing we were okay? When did we lose confidence in ourselves as human beings? And when did we start looking down upon people who are confident in themselves and label them as strange?

Because having confidence in ourselves does not mean we have to be mean or overpowering or bossy. It just means we know who we are and what we are about.

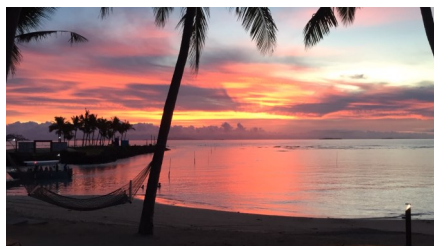
Myself and Mrs Robotham have been teaching the Year 9 Consent class, which sees us trying to engage the students in thinking about who they are and what they think is important in their lives. Why do we do this as part of Consent? Because if people know who they are and what they are about, then they can be confident in the decisions they make within relationships. If we are not confident in ourselves, the challenge of consent becomes much harder.

It is probably no great surprise that schools are being asked to teach students consent in an era of declining confidence. The struggle for schools and families will be trying to restore that confidence back into our children. When they are bombarded every day by images and videos that make them feel lesser than everyone else, it is no wonder our young people can be lacking in confidence. Even those who *appear confident* are often *struggling to really feel that way*.

It is also a good year for our Jubilee year theme - Pilgrims of Hope. With hope comes confidence. If we lose hope in the future or ourselves, we lose confidence along with it. So if we really want to bring back the confidence of our young people, we also have to bring back their hope.

As a Star of the Sea Catholic community we need to keep giving our young people messages of hope. We need to keep reassuring them that they have a say in their future and that they have control of their lives. Our Vision statement talks about us facing the future as *people of hope. We need to live this out every day to be the people God calls us to be.*

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*Nothing can be
done without hope
and confidence. -
Helen Keller*

*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

Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart
Spirituality



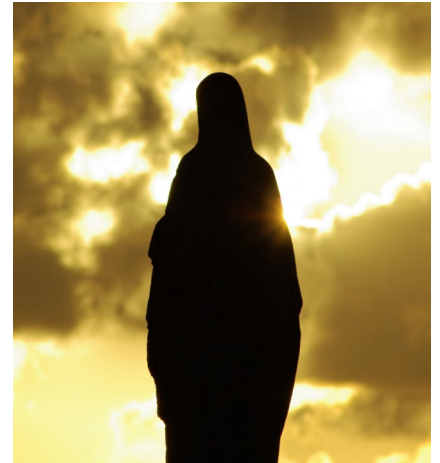
Attentiveness

Hospitality

Compassion

From the Gospel for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15th August)

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
and my spirit exults in God my saviour;
because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.
Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed,
for the Almighty has done great things for me.
Holy is his name,
and his mercy reaches from age to age for those
who fear him.
He has shown the power of his arm,
He has routed the proud of heart.
He has pulled down princes from their thrones
and exalted the lowly.
The hungry he has filled with good things, the
rich sent empty away.
He has come to the help of Israel his servant,
mindful of his mercy
- according to the promise he made to our
ancestors
- of his mercy to Abraham and to his
descendants for ever.*



Stars of the Week - 6th August 2025

Kinder

Ari Bezemer-Mahoney

For being such a resilient and brave student, and joining Kindergarten so well for term 3.

Prep

Lillian McKean

For a great start to the new term and helpfulness in the classroom.

Grade 1/2

Lucas Davis

For his excellent focus and strong work ethic across all areas of learning.

Grade 3

Bienvinido Bennett

For excellent focus and understanding in identifying equivalent fractions.

Grade 4/5

Mia Barker

For her excellent focus and strong work ethic.

Grade 5/6

Sebastian Winters

For settling into the Year 5/6 classroom and making wonderful academic progress. Keep up the great work!

Staff Movements

Mrs Briscoe is on leave on Thursday and at Professional Learning on Friday.
Mrs Romein, Mrs Halley, Mrs Davis and Mrs Nesbit are on Professional Learning on Friday.
Ms Gay is on leave until 26th August. Mrs Couttie will be taking her classes during this time.

Primary Winter Sport

The next round of Primary Winter Sport will be held this Friday 15th August

Country Gold Selection

A number of our Grade 5s and 6s attended the Country Gold selection trials last Thursday. Congratulations to the following students for successfully making the teams:

Hockey:

Oscar Smith
Annabelle Hallett
Ashton Ratcliffe
Clancy Hallett

Soccer Girls:

Matilda Jacobs

Soccer Boys:

Ryder Hawkins

Netball:

Evie King
Tommy Smith
Dyson Bromley

Academic Competitions

Over the next three weeks some of our students will have the opportunity to participate in the Academic Competitions for English, Science and Maths. It is a great opportunity for the students to be extended and we thank Mrs Tame for organising these.

Star of the Sea Church Times

Father Bala is currently on holidays and this means there is no Saturday evening Vigil Mass for the month of August. Mass will only occur on Sundays at 11:00am at the George Town Catholic Church (Our Lady Star of the Sea) which is located in Goulburn Street, across the road from the Hall.

Enrolments for 2026

Enrolments for 2026 for all year levels are now open **and we are currently conducting enrolment interviews for those who have handed their enrolment forms into the school.** Families wishing to enrol into Star of the Sea for 2026 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 soon so that we can organise transition days for Year 7 and our Little Stars program for Kinders.

School Lunches this Week

School lunches are as normal this week:

Wednesday - 3s to 5s

Next Monday - Preps and 1/2s

Book Week Parade

Next week we celebrate Book Week and an opportunity to bring many of the wonderful characters we love to life, as part of our Book Week Parade. Staff and students are invited to dress as a character from a book, on Tuesday August 19th. Our Book Week Parade will be held in the hall starting at 9:30 am.



Book Week Dress Up Day and Parade

TUESDAY AUGUST 19th

Come to school dressed as a character from a favourite book. This year's theme is Book an Adventure!

Prep Students Explore Early Coding with Coding Express Duplo!

This week, our Prep students had a fantastic time diving into the world of early coding using Coding Express Duplo!

With bright eyes and eager hands, the children explored how to give simple commands and create sequences by placing coloured action bricks on the track. These bricks taught the trains to stop, change direction, honk the horn, and more — all through hands-on play!

This activity not only introduced our students to the basics of computational thinking but also encouraged creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in a fun, age-appropriate way.

Take a look at the photos of our clever coders in action!



Calendar Term 3 - 2025	
Tuesday 19th August	Book Week Parade (<i>Book an Adventure</i>)
Thursday 4th September	Father's Day Breakfast and Stall
Tuesday 9th September	Year 9 Reflection Day
Wednesday 10th September	Year 8 Reflection Day 9/10 Winter Sport Grand Finals
Thursday 11th September -	Year 10 Reflection Day 7/8 Winter Sport Grand Finals, RUOK Day
Thursday 25th September	Country Gold
Friday 26th September	Term 3 Ends—End of Term Assembly

Congratulations to Mr Chapman on 25 Years of Service for Catholic Education

Last year, our Principal, Mr Chapman completed 25 years of service to Catholic Education. During the Catholic Education Week Awards Ceremony, which was also held on Wednesday August 6th at St. Thomas More's School, Mr Chapman was presented with a gift to acknowledge the longevity of his service. At our assembly last week, we also presented Mr Chapman with a small gift in appreciation of his service both to Catholic Education and also to Star of the Sea Catholic College. Prior to taking up the role of Principal at Star of the Sea Catholic College, Mr Chapman worked at St. Brendan-Shaw College in Devonport and also St. Patrick's College in Launceston. Mr Chapman has been with us at Star of the Sea as our Principal, since 2016. We thank Mr Chapman for everything he does for our school and for the contribution he has made to Catholic Education over the past 25 years.



Aboriginal Artist Visit

This week, Bianca Templar, an Aboriginal artist, will be working with our students. Bianca has previously worked with our Aboriginal students in the school and we look forward to seeing the work that the students create under Bianca's guidance.

Prize Donations for Trivia Night

Are you able to make a donation toward our Trivia Night Hamper Prizes? The winning table and runners up will receive a hamper full of prizes that can be distributed amongst the contestants from that table. We are looking for donations of items that can be included in our gift hampers such as boxes of chocolates or other gifts, vouchers for local businesses or health and beauty services. Other things that could be donated are Gift Cards for online shopping, Xbox or Play Station gift cards, pamper or self care items and gourmet food items. Items can be left at the front office or dropped off to Mrs Robotham's office over the next few weeks.

Catholic Education Week - August 3rd - 9th

During Catholic Education Week our staff and students participated in a range of events including the Catholic Education Week Mass which was held at St. Thomas More's School in Launceston. Our Year 6 staff and students joined other Northern Catholic schools for the Mass on Wednesday August 6th. Oscar Smith and Ashton Ratcliffe read the Prayers of the Faithful for the congregation and we thank them for representing our school at this event.

The Year 10 Student Leaders also attended this day and took responsibility for cooking and serving the 400 sausages for the staff and students who attended Mass. We thank the Student Leaders for their hospitality and service as part of this event.



Not Here In 2026?

If your child will not be attending Star of the Sea in 2026, please let the office know. This will allow us to know how many places we have available to welcome other students in 2026.

Gaga Ball

One of the big changes we have seen in our secondary play area is the addition of a Gaga Pit. A Gaga Pit is where Gaga Ball is played. Don't know what Gaga Ball is? We have attached some rules to this week's newsletter to get you up to speed!

Term 3 Primary Assembly Roster

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

WEEK 4	Thursday 14th August	12:10 pm	Grade 1/2
WEEK 5	Thursday 21st August	12.10pm	Prep
WEEK 6	Thursday 28th August	12.10pm	Kinder

Please note that this roster may change

Winter Sports Years 7, 8, 9 & 10

Week 3 results

- Yr 9/10 Netball 18-8 win
- Yr 9/10 Soccer 4-1 win
- 7/8 Soccer 5-2 loss
- 7/8 Netball 14-12 win
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Week 4 games

Wed 13th August Years 9/10

- Netball Vs NCS at Hobblers Bridge
- Soccer Vs Queechy HS at Queechy

Thu 14th August Years 7/8

- Soccer Vs Prospect HS at NTCA
- Netball Vs B HS at Hobblers Bridge



Emotion of the week

Curiosity

We feel curious when there is a gap in our knowledge about something that interests us, and we become invested in closing that gap through exploration and learning. (Brené Brown, Atlas of the Heart)

We may not know why dogs wag their tails so we feel we need to do some exploration about this to find out why. That's being curious.

Gaga BALL RULES FOR TEACHERS ^

- ✓ Any number of players can join, as long as everyone can fit in the pit and stand touching the wall at the beginning. Sometimes it may be necessary to limit the number of kids and ask them to line up outside, first-come, first-served.
- ✓ To start, a referee or any player tosses a ball into the middle. On the first and second bounces, everyone yells, "Ga!" On the third bounce, they yell, "Go!"
- ✓ Once the ball is in play, any player can hit or slap the ball with an open or closed hand. Everyone may move around the pit as they play.
- ✓ Players cannot hold, throw, or scoop the ball, only bounce or roll it off the ground or wall.
- ✓ A player can only hit the ball once, unless it first bounces off the wall or another player.
- ✓ If someone catches the ball before it bounces, the person who hit the ball is out and must leave the pit.
- ✓ When a player is hit by the ball on or below the knee, they're out. This includes getting hit by a ball after it bounces off a wall or another person, even if you bounced it yourself.
- ✓ If the ball hits above the knee, the player stays in.
- ✓ If a player hits the ball out of the pit, they're out of the game.
- ✓ Using the wall: Some rules allow players to use the wall to jump higher, while others state that if you do, you're out. Decide in advance which you prefer (it may depend on how sturdy your pit is).



Gaga BALL RULES

#1 RULE: JUST HAVE FUN!!

HOW TO PLAY

- 1 Stand in the pit touching the wall while the referee or any player tosses a ball into the middle.
- 2 On the first and second bounces, yell, "Ga!" On the third bounce, yell, "Go!"
- 3 Move around the pit and hit or slap the ball, trying to aim at or below another player's knee.

WAYS TO GET OUT

Touch the ball 2x before it touches the ground, wall, or another player.	Get hit by the ball ON or BELOW the knee.	Hit the ball OUT of the pit.
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HOW TO WIN

The last player left in the pit is the champion!

GAGA DIRECTLY TRANSLATES TO "HIT-HIT" OR "TOUCH-TOUCH" IN HEBREW!

DO'S

- ✓ Bounce or roll the ball off the ground or wall.
- ✓ Hit the ball only once before it bounces off the wall or another player.

DON'TS

- ✗ Hold, throw, or scoop the ball.
- ✗ Hit the ball out of the pit.
- ✗ Hit the ball more than **1x** in a row.

WE ARE TEACHERS



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



Trivia Night Friday September 5th

The Year 10 Student Leaders are in the process of planning this year's Trivia Night. Tickets will be available from the office soon. The proceeds from this event will go towards the outreach work the Year 10's do toward the end of the year when they purchase gifts for The Wishing Tree.

We hope you can join us for this great social event, a night of brain teasing fun, on the spot prizes and a chance to win one of our giant prize hampers. Tables of up to 10 can be accommodated.

Tickets can be purchased individually for \$15 per person or \$150 for a table of 10.



A vibrant blue poster for 'Star of the Sea Trivia Night'. At the top center is a yellow starburst graphic. To its right are three speech bubbles (two yellow, one pink) containing question marks. The text 'STAR OF THE SEA' is in white, flanked by two clusters of small yellow dots. Below this, 'TRIVIA NIGHT' is written in large, bold, white capital letters. To the left of the text is a cartoon illustration of a boy thinking, with a question mark above his head. To the right, the text 'WIN A GIANT GIFT HAMPER OR ONE OF THE ON THE SPOT PRIZES' is written in white. A white banner at the bottom contains the date and time: '5TH SEPTEMBER, 2025 | 5:30 - 8:00 PM'. At the very bottom, a pink rounded rectangle contains the text 'TICKETS \$15'. The background is decorated with white starbursts and small white dots.

STAR OF THE SEA

TRIVIA NIGHT

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ON THE
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PRIZES

5TH SEPTEMBER, 2025 | 5:30 - 8:00 PM

TICKETS \$15