

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

From the Principal

It is said that we live in a VUCA world at the moment, with VUCA meaning Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous. Changes are happening all of the time, and many of us don't like change.

Artificial Intelligence is one thing that is bringing about change. How we do our work and how we find out information is nothing like what it was 20 years ago. Some of us may remember going to the library and borrowing books when we wanted to get school assignments done. Now we have the situation where we can find out far more information at the touch of a button.

World events are bringing about change. With the current President of the United States being a bit more unpredictable than those in the past, there is a certain uneasiness about where the world is heading. Put on top of this the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza and we are witnesses to a lot of needless suffering in the world.

Change can occur in our own lives. Older children get jobs and move out of home, relationships break down, we change jobs or we lose jobs and we don't know if we can afford the necessities of life anymore.

Different people react in different ways to being in a VUCA world. At one end of the spectrum we hear of "sovereign citizens" who think laws don't apply to them, or "conspiracy theorists" who try to bring a meaning to something, even though the meaning they bring is a bit absurd. On the other end of the spectrum, people become overwhelmed and find it difficult to do anything, going into their shell.

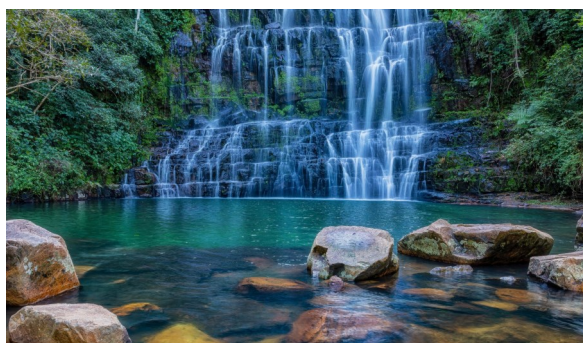
Perhaps we need to think of better ways to respond to the VUCA world.

One way is focusing on the things we can control. Many of us have no say in overseas conflicts, but we can control the day-to-day things like getting kids to school, going to work, or even mowing the lawns! We can also work on our agility. Rather than rejecting change, we can embrace it or find out more about it, like exploring how AI works, or deciding what to do with the spare room in our house now that one of our children has moved out.

And if our lives are one based upon faith, we of course look to God for certainty and clarity. Spiritual people often deal with uncertain times better than others because their focus is on God, rather than on the state of the world. They focus on serving others and reflecting on what is happening in their own lives.

If we are to support our children in this VUCA world, we will need to provide them with some of these skills. We need to encourage them to explore how things work and why things are as they are. We need to get them to explore the ambiguity, rather than them taking sides. And we need to provide them with that ability to continuously reflect on who God calls them to be.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*In the midst
of chaos,
there is also
opportunity.
- Sun Tzu*

*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

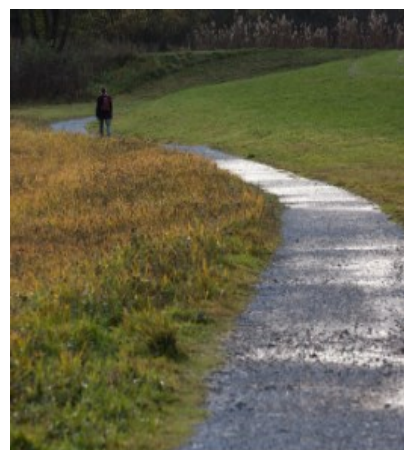
Compassion

Psalm for 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

Make us know the shortness of our life
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Lord, relent! Is your anger forever?
Show pity to your servants.

In the morning, fill us with your love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord be upon us:
give success to the work of our hands.



Stars of the Week - 28th August 2025

Kinder	Jasmine Bishop	For being such a supportive, patient and helpful classmate when she sees someone who could do with her help.
Prep	Temperance Targett	For working hard in InitialLit and Maths lessons, Keep up the great work!
Grade 1/2	Eleanor Hallett	For her positive attitude towards all learning areas.
Grade 3	Makenzie Victor	For her consistent effort and focus in Mathematics.
Grade 4/5	Clancy Hallett	For his excellent focus and ability to solve difficult mathematical problems.
Grade 5/6	Madeline Paine	For excellent efforts in reading fluency! Keep up the great work.

Staff Movements

Mrs McGillivray is on leave this week.

Mr Chapman and Mrs Robotham will be out most of Monday for a meeting.

Mrs King begins some Long Service Leave next week and will be away for the rest of the term.

Welcome

We welcome Mr Jacob Braid, a UTas Education student who will be doing his placement here at Star of the Sea for two weeks this term and four weeks next term. Mr Braid will be working with Mrs Davis in the 5/6 classroom.

Father's Day Breakfast

Our annual Father's Day Breakfast will be held this Thursday 4th September in the Hall. The breakfast will consist of sausages, eggs, bacon, baked beans and toast. We invite all fathers and father figures to come and have breakfast with their children. RSVP details are in this newsletter.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help cook the breakfast (from about 6am onwards), please contact the College office.

Father's Day Stall

Our Father's Day Stall will be held this Thursday for students to purchase a gift for their father or father-figure. Gifts ranging between \$1 and \$5 will be available.

Reflection Days

Our Reflection Days for Years 8, 9 and 10 will be held next week, with Leanne Pritchard from the Catholic Education Office leading the days. On these days, students are able to wear their PE uniform. The days are:

Tuesday 9th September - Year 9
Wednesday 10th September - Year 8
Thursday 11th September - Year 10

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.

Star of the Sea Church Times

Father Bala is due back from holidays this week so normal Mass times will resume. They are:

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:00pm Saturday
Sunday Mass - 11:00am Sunday

at the George Town Catholic Church (Our Lady Star of the Sea) which is located in Goulburn Street, across the road from the Hall.

School Lunches this Week

School lunches are as normal this week:

Wednesday- 3s to 6s

Next Monday - Preps and 1/2s

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.

Thank you to the families and businesses who have already made donations, these have been greatly appreciated.

Trivia Night Friday September 5th



Flexischools

From Tuesday 14th October (first day of Term 4), Star of the Sea will be trialling the use of Flexischools for online ordering and cashless payments for our school canteen **for our Primary students**.

This means that Primary student parents will be able to order, and pay for items from our school without needing to pay cash or visit in person or write on a paper bag in the morning. To create an account with Flexischools so that you can order and make payments for our school, you can download the Flexischools app from the Apple or Google store and follow the prompts to create an account.

Account set-up and online ordering instructions are available from Flexischools at

<https://flexischools.com.au/parents>.

If you already have a Flexischools account for another family member, just select the Profile icon on the app and +Add New Student.

About Flexischools

Flexischools is Australia's number 1 school ordering solution and operates in more than 2000 schools across Australia. Flexischools helps parents and students to order and pay for school lunches, uniform shop items, and school community events online or via the Flexischools app.

Flexischools takes a market leading approach to information security, having received ISO 27001 certification for its information security management system, and has also successfully participated in the Safer Technologies 4 Schools (ST4S) process - a national standardised approach to evaluating digital products and services used by schools across Australia.

A promotional graphic for Flexischools. On the left, the Flexischools logo is at the top, followed by the text "We're using Flexischools to simplify school life." in large, bold, white font. Below this is a QR code and the text "Download the app today" with buttons for "Download on the App Store" and "GET IT ON Google Play". At the bottom, small text reads "Issued by InfoLoop ACN 114 506 771 AFSL 476568. Read FDS & TMD at www.flexischools.com.au/legal. Advice is general & doesn't consider your needs." On the right, a smartphone displays the Flexischools app interface, showing options like "Order food", "Events" (with a "School Disco" event listed), "Flexischools Demo Site", "News", and "Snap". The bottom navigation bar of the app shows "Home", "Notifications", "Orders", and a profile icon.

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.

Our Kinder teacher, Mrs Selina Taylor, is running SetUp this year.



Winter Sports Years 9 & 10

Week 6 results

- Yr 9/10 Netball 16-3 loss



Calendar Term 3 - 2025	
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
Wednesday 24th September	End of Term Assembly
Thursday 25th September	Country Gold
Friday 26th September	Term 3 Ends

Primary Chess Competition

On Monday, September 1st our Primary Chess Team travelled to Punchbowl Primary School for the Primary Interschools Chess Tournament. Our students had a fantastic day, winning a number of matches and posting points toward the team competition. Well done to everyone who attended, you were all fantastic ambassadors for our school.

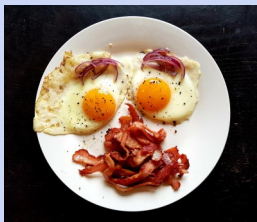
There will be further opportunities for students interested in playing Chess in the coming months. All students are welcome to join our Chess group which occurs every Monday at lunchtime in the Primary Gallery.



Emotion of the week

Humiliated

We feel humiliated when we feel we have been put down or ridiculed unjustly, and this has devalued us. It can be intensely painful.



Final Reminder Father's Day Breakfast



Thursday 4th September

7.30am to 8.30am

Fathers and father-figures are welcome to come to school and enjoy bacon, sausages, eggs, beans and toast with the students

_____ will attend the Father's Day breakfast with my child/ren

We will be there about (please circle) **7.30am** **7.45am** **8.00am** **8.15am**

Can you please cater for the following dietary requirement/s

Term 3 Primary Assembly Roster

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

WEEK 6	Thursday 4th September	12.10pm	5/6
WEEK 7	Thursday 11th September	12.10pm	4/5
WEEK 8	Thursday 18th September	12.10pm	3

Please note that this roster may change

Parent Information Evening - Free Webinar September 3rd at 7:30 pm Social Media, Screen Time, Brain Development and Parental Controls



A FREE WEBINAR Digital media literacy & safety

PART III

Supporting Primary & Secondary students

This webinar is **Part III of a series**.
In this session, topics include:

- New Social Media Regulations
- Digital Footprint and Reputation
- Screen Time and Brain Development
- Parental Controls



Online, Wednesday
3 September, 2025
7.30 - 8.30 pm



Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

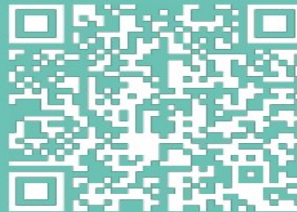
Renowned child and adolescent psychologist. Michael has years of experience working with young people and families and was Chair for the Cybersafety Committee.



Susan McLean

As Australia's foremost cybersafety expert and founder of Cyber Safety Solutions, Susan will offer proactive strategies to help keep young people safe.

**Don't miss out.
FREE event.
Scan to register.**



Star of the Sea Catholic College has partnered with School TV to provide parents with resources that inform our community about topics relevant to children, adolescents and families. On Wednesday September 3rd, a free webinar is available for parents which will focus on the new social media regulations, digital footprints and online reputation, screen time and brain development and parental controls. We will be offering this webinar free of charge to parents. **Parents are welcome to join us at school to view this webinar.** We will be sharing this webinar with our parent community on Wednesday September 3rd at 7:30 pm. If you would like to attend this event at school please contact the office to register your interest. Alternatively you can email carmen.robatham@catholic.tas.edu.au. Please advise how many adults will be attending.

Parents can also register to view this webinar at home. Please refer to the information on the event poster for registration details.