

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 28th October 2025

From the Principal

In Celtic spirituality, there are such things as *thin times* and *thin places*. It goes with the belief that there is a veil that separates the earthly and the divine, and there are certain times and places where this veil is so thin that it is possible for a human to experience the divine.

For the Irish, one of these *thin times* was at the beginning of the northern hemisphere's winter - November 1st. At this time it was thought that the veil was so thin between the living and the dead that spirits would roam the earth, so bonfires were lit to keep them away. As Catholicism took hold in Ireland, this belief was merged with the Catholic celebration of All Hallows (All Saints) Day on November 1st and All Souls Day on November 2nd. It was thought that on the night before All Hallows Day (Hallow's evening, or Hallowe'en) was the time for spirits.

Of course, like a lot of things, Halloween has become commercialized and it is now a good opportunity for shops to make money selling lollies and pumpkins and for kids to dress up in their scary costumes.

Mexico has a similar celebration, called *the Day of the Dead*, around the same time of year, and in the Disney movie, *Coco*, it is around this time where the main character ends up in the spirit world. It is there that he learns the importance of remembering the dead. So how important is it for us to remember those who have died?

In the Catholic tradition, the Church is a community of both the living and the dead - we are all one, but perhaps just living on opposite sides of the veil. Every week in church we pray for those who have died that they will enter into heaven. We do it as an act of love to those who have died.

Even if it is not through prayer, remembering those who have gone before us is a way of celebrating their lives and keeping their memory alive, along with giving us a chance to think about our own mortality. We are not here forever, and realizing that helps us to live our lives wisely and lovingly.

This weekend gives us a chance to remember all of those who have died - those who we loved, those who we miss. It gives us a chance to honor their lives as well as thinking about how well we are using our own lives. So while the kids eat their chocolate in their costumes, maybe we as adults can pause to remember those whose lives have had a big impact on our own.



Richard Chapman
Principal

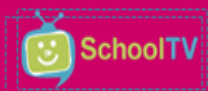


*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*So we fix our eyes
not on what is
seen, but on what
is unseen, since
what is seen is
temporary, but
what is unseen is
eternal.*

- 2 Corinthians 4:18

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



PO Box 206, Corner of Friend and William Street, George Town, 7253

Ph: 6382 1242 Email: sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au

www.starsea.tas.edu.au



Star of the Sea Catholic College

Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart

Spirituality



Attentiveness

Hospitality

Compassion

Thank you to everyone who wore crazy socks and donated a gold coin to Catholic Mission last Friday. We managed to raise \$114!

Psalm for All Souls' Day

*Though I walk in the valley of darkness,
I fear no evil, for you are with me.*

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.



All Saints and All Souls Days

As part of these celebrations and remembering of these two important days in the Catholic Church's calendar each year, we will be making some paper marigolds to remember those we loved who have passed. This tradition is taken from a Mexican tradition called Dia de Muertos where they make coloured altars and colourful decorations. This tradition has transcended to many places over the world. Students will be invited to make a colourful marigold to remember someone special in their lives who has passed. We will be making these during the week and will string these together to decorate our spaces and to remember throughout the month of November.

If you would like to make your own for your home or would like know about this tradition, search **Power of Art: Día de Muertos Marigolds - Educator Moment** on Youtube.

Stars of the Week - 23rd October 2025

Kinder **Melody Bullock**

For such a great start at Star of the Sea Kindergarten.

Prep **Grayson Matthews**

For such a great start to the new term. Gosh you are working so well.

Grade 1/2 **Rosemary Ogden**

For excellent efforts across all learning areas and being a caring class member.

Grades 3-6 at Athletics Carnival

Welcome

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

We also welcome back Emma Swanson, our CatholicCare counsellor, who returns after maternity leave. Emma will be at the school Mondays and Wednesdays, with Jasmine working on Fridays.

Staff Movements

Mrs Romein is away on Long Service Leave for the next two weeks. Mrs Couttie is taking the Grade 3 class.

Mrs Robotham will be at a meeting on Thursday.

Mrs McGillivray will be finishing her time as Student Support Coordinator at the end of this year. Mrs Harmer will take over the role in 2026. Mrs McGillivray and Mrs Harmer will work closely this term to ensure all information is passed on.

College Enrolments

Year 10s who are attending either Newstead or Launceston College next year will be enrolling on Thursday. Parents have been sent information via Compass.

TPSSA Swimming Carnival

The TPSSA Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday at Scottsdale. We wish our swimmers well and know that they will be good representatives for our school.

Primary Class Structure and Class Teacher for 2026

We have finalized our Primary class structure and teachers for 2026. They are as follows:

Kinder - **Mrs Taylor**
Prep - **Mrs Halley for 4 days; other teacher TBC**
Grade 1/2 - **Mrs McGillivray**
Grade 3/4 - **Mrs Romein**
Grade 4/5 - **Mrs Sikkens**
Grade 6 - **Mrs Davis**

Parents of current Grade 3 students will be informed later in the term about which class their child will be in in 2026. There will also be a short transition time for Primary students later in the term.

Thank You from St Finn Barr's Primary School

On the Friday of Week 1 of this term, about 10 of our Year 10 students headed into Launceston to support the St Finn Barr's Athletics Carnival. All did a great job. Mr Damien Taylor, the Principal, sent this message: *"I just wanted to let you know that the St Finn Barr's community is extremely thankful for providing students to support our Athletics Carnival last week. They provided pivotal support during the day, not only from an organisational perspective, but also from an emotional one by cheering and encouraging all of our students."*

School Lunches this Week

School lunches are as normal this week:

Wednesday- 3s to 6s

Friday - Preps to Grade 2



Star of the Sea Church Times

Mass times for this week:

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.

World Teachers Day 2025

Australia will celebrate the teaching profession on World Teachers' Day on Friday 31 October 2025.

Let's celebrate Australia's teachers for their skilled work in educating, inspiring and supporting our young people.

Hats off to teachers this World Teachers' Day!

Make sure to tell teachers what they mean to you.

This is your chance to join Australia in celebrating teachers.

Get cards, selfie frames, gift tags and more at www.worldteachersday.edu.au.



Grandparents Day

We had a great turn out for our Grandparents prayer and afternoon tea last Tuesday. Thank you to everyone who came along, thank you to Mrs Sikkens and the Grade 4/5 class for leading the prayer, and thank you to Mrs McGillivray and Mrs Robotham who prepared the afternoon tea.



Calendar Term 4 2025

Tuesday 28th October	K-2 Athletics Carnival
Thursday 30th October	TPSSA Swimming Carnival
Friday 31st October	World Teachers Day
Monday 3rd November	Recreation Day Holiday
Monday 10th November	Ryka Ali performance
Tuesday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Thursday 13th November - Friday 14th November	Principal meetings at Star of the Sea
Friday 14th November	RYDA (Year 10s)
Thursday 20th November	NHSSA Div 3 Athletics Carnival
Friday 21st November	Presentation Feast Day and Pilgrimage
Monday 1st December	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Exam week begins
Friday 5th December	Colour Run
Monday 8th December	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Service Day
Tuesday 9th December	Primary Transition morning; Year 10 Big Day Out
Wednesday 10th December	Last day for Year 10s; Year 10 Final Prayer and Awards
Thursday 11th December	Primary Nativity Play
Friday 12th December	Year 10 Leavers Dinner; George Town Christmas Parade
Monday 15th December	Advent Prayer
Tuesday 16th December	Last day for students; End of Year Assembly
Wednesday 17th December	Last day for staff



From the Deputy Principal

Athletics Carnival

Last week we held our Athletics Carnivals for students in Grades 3-10. Day 1 was held at the St. Leonard's Athletics Centre and Day 2 was held at school. There were some great achievements over the two days. Well done to everyone who participated.

Today we have had our Kinder to Grade 2 Carnival. There was a lot of excitement leading up to this event with our younger students excited for their opportunity to try out their athletics skills.

Thank you to Mrs Freeman and Mr Laurence for organising these events and to all staff for their assistance on the days.

Colour Run

Have you registered for our School Colour Fun Run? All students in the College are encouraged to participate and join in the fundraising and Colour Run activities.

Student profiles can be created by visiting the official website:

<https://app.schoolfundraising.com.au> or by using the QR Code.

Well done to everyone who has already registered and started to fundraise. Check out our tally so far.

Important dates:

Event Date	Prize Open	Prize Close
DEC 05	NOV 14	NOV 19



MONEY RAISED

Online
\$970.00

Gross Money Raised
\$970.00

Your School Goal

19%

\$5,000



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.



Emotion of the week

Disgust

We feel disgust when we strongly disapprove or want to avoid something that we find unpleasant or offensive. We can feel disgust towards things (like something we see or smell) or people. BUT, we need to be careful that we don't turn our emotion into a weapon against people we disagree with or the marginalized. Then we dehumanize them.



Term 4 Primary Assembly Roster

The following classes will be leading assemblies over the coming weeks. **Please note that this roster may change**

WEEK 3	Thursday 30th October	12.10pm	Grade 5/6
WEEK 4	Thursday 6th November	12.10pm	Grade 4/5
WEEK 5	Thursday 13th November	12.10pm	Grade 3
WEEK 6	Thursday 20th November	12.10pm	Grade 1/2
WEEK 7	Thursday 27th November	12.10pm	Prep
WEEK 8	Thursday 4th December	12.10pm	Kinder
WEEK 9	Thursday 11th December	12.10pm	Primary Nativity



College Athletics Carnival Results

1st - Nagle (1595)
2nd - Regina (1482)
3rd - Presentation (1341)

Year Level Champions

Grade 3 - Chad and Madalyn
Grade 4 - William and Willow
Grade 5 - Thomas Sm, Evie and Melaney (tied)
Grade 6 - Oscar and Phoebe
Year 7 - Joel and Rhiannon
Year 8 - Syd and Paityn
Year 9 - Xavier and Ruby
Year 10 - Macklin and Shiloh

