

# Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 11th November 2025

## From the Principal

For the last two terms I have been part of a team that has been delivering lessons about consent to the secondary students. It has been an interesting process, as when I was going through secondary school the issue of consent was never raised. I suspect that might be a similar experience to most of our parents and grandparents in our community.

The reason we are teaching consent is twofold. One reason is compliance! The Federal Government expects all schools to have some type of consent education. But the other reason is because of the recognition that the ground has shifted a lot in this area over the past decade. Through media and news reports we hear of many cases of quite well-known people who have ignored the need for consent and, in doing so, have got themselves into a lot of trouble.

Unfortunately, along with this, we also continue to hear of reports of women being killed by their partners or ex-partners, at an average of about one per week in Australia. This tells us that there is something going seriously wrong with people's approach to relationships.

Within the Year 9 class we have been discussing the idea that consent needs to be a clear and enthusiastic yes, people can't give consent if they don't have the cognitive ability to do so (under the influence of drugs or alcohol), and that consent can be withdrawn at any stage.

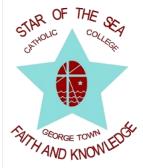
But we also look at the *why* of consent. And in particular, we have discussed that all people deserve dignity as human beings. That is, everyone is deserving of respect. When we don't ask people for consent, we ignore that dignity. Instead, we start to use people, and *using* them does not uphold their dignity.

We see this through people posting photos of friends and acquaintances on social media without their consent. People post photos with the hope of getting attention or getting likes. People start to be used for a chance for a pathway to popularity, rather than having their dignity upheld.

We also see a lack of dignity when relationships break up and one party posts intimate photos of a former partner with the hope of embarrassing them. Again, people begin to be used for purposes of revenge or for sympathy, rather than their dignity being upheld.

God calls us to be people who show respect to each other, and, because we are made in the image of God, we are all worthy of that respect. None of us has the ability to say whether or not someone deserves respect as no one sits above everyone else. In our Star of the Sea Catholic community we need to teach our children about the respect they need to give everyone else, and the respect they deserve themselves. And one of the ways we show that respect is through asking for consent.

**Richard Chapman**  
Principal



*Attentiveness,  
Hospitality  
and  
Compassion.*

*Human dignity is  
the same for all  
human beings;  
when I trample on  
the dignity of  
another, I am  
trampling on my  
own. - Pope Francis*

*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](mailto:sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au)

[www.starsea.tas.edu.au](http://www.starsea.tas.edu.au)



Star of the Sea Catholic College

## Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart

Spirituality



Attentiveness

Hospitality

Compassion

Psalm for 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp

with the sound of music.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

acclaim the King, the Lord.

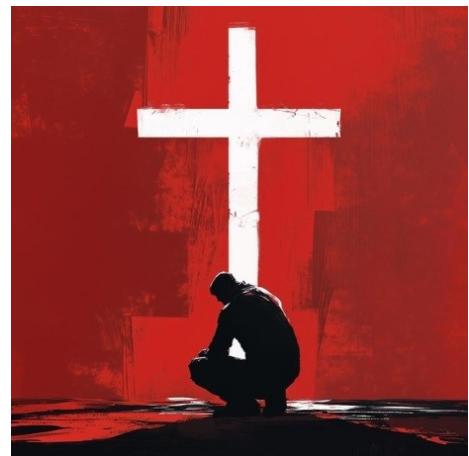
Let the sea and all within it, thunder;

the world, and all its peoples.

Let the rivers clap their hands

and the hills ring out their joy

at the presence of the Lord.



**Stars of the Week - 6th November 2025**

Kinder	<b>Nirvan Mahamada- . Arachchilage</b>	For so quickly becoming a happy and friendly student and settling into Kindergarten at Star of the Sea beautifully.
Prep	<b>Ruby O'Dine</b>	For working so well in Maths and InitiaLit. You are doing such a good job, well done.
Grade 1/2	<b>Savannah Lewis</b>	For making a great start at Star of the Sea.
Grade 3	<b>Joseph Pride</b>	For being polite and conscientious. He always works independently taking responsibility for his learning.
Grade 4/5	<b>Willow Wynne</b>	For her excellent work ethic and positive attitude to learning.
Grade 5/6	<b>Brooke Baillie</b> blue tongued lizard to an exceptionally high standard. It was a delight to read your creation. Keep up the great work!!	For writing an Information Report of the adaptations of a blue tongued lizard to an exceptionally high standard. It was a delight to read your creation. Keep up the great work!!

## Harcourts Halloween Colouring Competition

Our Kinder class took part in the Harcourts Colouring Competition and the winner was Nirvan. He received a basket of goodies which was shared with his class and his family. Well done Nirvan.



## Ryka Ali

On Monday, a Torres Strait Island performer, Ryka Ali, came to Star of the Sea College with his sister Majeda-Mo', for a performance called, The Mythology of the Yidinji and Kuku Yalandji. Our students loved his performance, and the 10s particularly said they learnt a lot about culture.



## Welcome

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

## Staff Movements

Mr Chapman is at meetings from Wednesday onwards this week.

Mr Chapman, Mrs Robotham, Mrs Tame and Mrs Nesbit are due to attend a workshop next Monday and Tuesday.

Mr Braid, a UTas prac student, finished his prac last week and has worked here for relief this week. We thank Mr Braid for his time with the Grade 5/6 class and wish him well in his future career in education.

## Principal Meetings at Star of the Sea

This Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Star of the Sea will be hosting meetings involving all of the Catholic school principals in the state, along with leaders from Catholic Education Tasmania. These will mainly occur in the Hall and will have little effect on the day-to-day running of the school. However, parents might struggle to find a park in the morning and afternoon outside the Hall.

## Enrolments for 2026

Enrolments for 2026 for new students 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.** *Little Stars*, our Kinder transition program, has begun. Today was a full-day Orientation Day for students coming into Year 7 next year, both from Star of the Sea and other schools.

## School Lunches this Week

School lunches for this week are changed due to availability of the Hall:

**Wednesday-** Preps to 6s

## Primary Assembly Change of Time for this week only

Primary Assembly this Thursday, 13th November, will be at 2:15 pm due to another event earlier in the day. Grade 3 are leading assembly.

## Sporting Success

A big congratulations goes to Keegan Leslie (Year 8) who came 2nd at last Thursday's NHSSA golf competition held at the Launceston Golf Course.

Keegan and his teammate competed against a combination of Year 7-8 teams and Year 9-10 teams and performed very well.

## NHSSA Athletics Carnival

We wish our secondary school athletes well as they compete in the NHSSA Athletic Carnival on Thursday. We know they will represent the school well.

## Rotary Young Driver Awareness

This Friday will see our Year 10s participate in the Rotary Young Driver Awareness program, which is always an invaluable experience. We thank Rotary for continually providing the program to secondary students around the state.



Our Colour Fun Run is being held on Friday December 5th, which is just over 3 weeks away. 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. Our fundraising target this year is \$5000 and we are about 60% of the way toward that target.

**A reminder that prizes need to be ordered between November 14 and November 19. The prize portal will close on November 19th and prize will arrive before the end of the year.**

There is still time to sign up. Student profiles can be created by visiting the official website: <https://app.schoolfundraising.com.au> or by using the QR Code.

#### MONEY RAISED

Online

**\$3,255.00**

Our current fundraising total is:



Event Date

DEC  
**05**

Prize Open

NOV  
**14**

Prize Close

NOV  
**19**

## Remembrance Day

This morning we gathered to pay our respects to all who have served our country, as part of our Remembrance Day service. November 11th, marks the anniversary of the end of World War I.

As a nation we pause to remember the service and sacrifice of those who have served in the armed forces and all who have been impacted by war and conflict. We ask God to inspire us to work together to build a just world, one in which the dignity of each person is upheld and where peace prevails.



**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

### AWE

**Awe - we feel awe when we have a strong sense of wonder mixed with fear or respect. We can feel awe when we experience something vast that challenges our understanding of the world. It could be looking up at the night sky and seeing millions of stars, or it could be witnessing the birth of a child. People often talk about their experiences of God as a feeling of awe.**

### **Presentation Feast Day is Coming**

We will be holding our Presentation Feast Day next Friday 21st November. It promises to be another great day with lots of activities, including a pilgrimage in the morning to recognise the 2025 Jubilee Year theme, Pilgrims of Hope.

As part of the day, students are invited to wear casual clothes and bring along something to go in the Vinnies Christmas Hampers. Here is a list of what is possible to bring along:

*Tinned Ham (450g)  
Tin Instant Gravy mix  
Christmas Pudding or Cake  
Tinned Vegetables  
Pack fruit mince pies  
Custard (Long-life) (1L)  
Packet sweet treats (such as sweet biscuits)  
Packet Savoury treats (such as savoury biscuits)  
Chocolates  
Tinned Fruit*

## **BECOME A MEMBER OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Society members are passionate about helping those in need in their local community, living a mission based on Gospel values and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

Members work together in groups known as 'Conferences', providing an opportunity to meet together to reflect on their work.

The St Vincent de Paul Society warmly welcomes those who wish to enrich their spirituality by carrying out works of charity that relieves suffering and promotes human dignity.

Our local Conferences are in need of members to help support their Emergency Relief program – providing material assistance and a caring presence to community members.

Like to know more? Contact **Mission and Membership Manager, Melissa White 0419 008 204** or [melissa.white@vinniestas.org.au](mailto:melissa.white@vinniestas.org.au)



St Vincent de Paul Society  
TASMANIA  
*good works*

## Calendar Term 4 2025

<b>Thursday 13th &amp; Friday 14th November</b>	Principal meetings at Star of the Sea
<b>Friday 14th November</b>	RYDA (Year 10s)
<b>Thursday 20th November</b>	NHSSA Div 3 Athletics Carnival
<b>Friday 21st November</b>	Presentation Feast Day and Pilgrimage
<b>Monday 1st December</b>	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Exam week begins
<b>Friday 5th December</b>	Colour Run
<b>Monday 8th December</b>	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Service Day
<b>Tuesday 9th December</b>	Primary Transition morning; Year 10 Big Day Out
<b>Wednesday 10th December</b>	Last day for Year 10s; Year 10 Final Prayer and Awards
<b>Thursday 11th December</b>	Primary Nativity Play
<b>Friday 12th December</b>	Year 10 Leavers Dinner, George Town Christmas Parade
<b>Monday 15th December</b>	Advent Prayer
<b>Tuesday 16th December</b>	Last day for students; End of Year Assembly
<b>Wednesday 17th December</b>	Last day for staff

### Term 3/4 Primary Assembly Roster

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

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

## 2026 Catholic Education Tasmania Gazetted School Calendar

### **Term One:**

Teaching Staff Resume:	Monday 2 February 2026
Students Resume:	Friday 6 February 2026
Term 1 Concludes (Students):	Thursday 16 April 2026
Term 1 Concludes (Teaching Staff):	Friday 17 April 2026
Term 1 Student Non-Attendance Time:	Monday 20 April 2026 – Friday 1 May 2026
Easter:	Good Friday = 3 April 2026, Easter Monday = 6 April 2026, Easter Tuesday = 7 April 2026

### **Term Two:**

Staff and Students Resume:	Monday 4 May 2026
Student Free Day:	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Term 2 Concludes:	Friday 10 July 2026
Term 2 Student Non-Attendance Time:	Monday 13 July 2026 – Monday 27 July 2026

### **Term Three:**

Teaching Staff Resume:	Monday 27 July 2026
Students Resume:	Tuesday 28 July 2026
Term 3 Concludes:	Friday 2 October 2026
Term 3 Student Non-Attendance Time:	Monday 5 October 2026 – Friday 16 October 2026

### **Term Four:**

Staff and Students Resume:	Monday 19 October 2026
Student Free Day:	Friday 23 October 2026
Year 10 Students Conclude:	Friday 11 December 2026
Students Conclude:	Thursday 17 December 2026
Teaching Staff Conclude:	Friday 18 December 2026

Some of these dates may be subject to change. We will advise of any changes in our weekly newsletter.