

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 14th April 2026

From the Principal

The Importance of Small Steps

Sometimes people think that success looks like big achievements that are obvious to many. When we think about what is celebrated in terms of success, we are conditioned to look towards big achievements that come after the culmination of a lot of work. Success though, is whatever each of us considers worthy to be considered as success. For some, the smallest of goals takes considerable effort and when achieved, this is a measure of that person's success.

Small goals, consistently met, build a pattern of success. Big moments are created in this way. Learning how to put together a series of small goals, creates the building blocks for larger achievements.

Focusing on small goals, also helps a person to build confidence. Each time a goal is realised, someone's confidence "bank" gets a deposit of positive feelings and builds a sense of belief that bigger challenges can be achieved. This means new goals can be set.

Earlier this year, Mrs Freeman approached me about entering some teams in the Primary Schools Regional Basketball Championships. She was unsure how the students would go, considering many of them had not played previously. I encouraged her to give students the opportunity to try their skills during some lunchtime training sessions and to enter teams in the Grade 3/4 tournament and the Grade 5/6 tournament. We did not know how our students would go, playing against other schools. We were not focused on wins, rather on some much smaller goals. Having our students play as a team, showing up and taking part was a big first step and our major goal.

The students had learnt the basic skills they needed to handle a basketball, so the goal was for them to have a turn of playing a game, putting those skills into practice. In the first games we watched, the goals were small. Have a turn, try to practice your skills, don't worry about the scoreboard. Once the students had achieved those initial goals, they began to focus on bigger goals that would contribute to their team having success. Goals such as running and bouncing the ball without getting called up for "travel" by the referees and staying on a player began to be realised. Soon our players set even bigger goals, sharing the ball around and scoring points for the team became the focus. By the time we reached the final games of the weekend, the teams were focused on supporting each player to score. They were not honed in on the need to win, rather for each person in their team to have success and attain their goals. They were committed to achieving the goals of the team.

By focusing on these small goals, every player experienced success. Through their consideration and support of helping others attain their goals, the teams were able to put together something more significant. The attainment of these goals led to the whole team experiencing success. Every team experienced success during the tournaments.

In the end, success wasn't about the final result, it was about the journey and experience along the way. By focusing on small, achievable goals, our students created a pathway that led to something greater.

Carmen Robotham
Acting Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*Big
achievements
don't happen all
at once, they
grow from small
beginnings -
Anonymous*

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



Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart

Spirituality



Attentiveness

Hospitality

Compassion

Prayer

Dear God,

*Help me to honour the small beginnings.
When I feel overwhelmed by the big picture,
remind me that every great journey
is built on simple, faithful steps.*

*Give me clarity to choose what matters today,
not everything at once, but just enough.
Grant me discipline to follow through,
even when motivation fades.*

*Teach me patience with my progress,
and kindness toward myself when I fall short.
Let me celebrate small victories,
knowing they are not small to You.*

*Guide my efforts, steady my mind,
and keep my heart grounded in purpose.
May each little goal I set
bring me closer to who I am meant to be.*

Amen



Anzac Day 2026

Students are invited to participate in the ANZAC Day service on Saturday April 25th. Please complete the Compass Event if students will be attending. Students are required to wear their school uniform, either Summer or Winter Uniform is allowed.



**ANZAC Day
April 25**

Staff Movements

Mrs Harmer will be on LSL for the final week of the term.

Mrs Halley will be on leave from Wednesday to Friday this week.

Mrs Stewart begins 12 months of leave at the end of Term One. We thank Mrs Stewart for her commitment to Star of the Sea throughout her time working in the Secondary school and wish her well as she embarks on a different educational experience for the next 12 months.

Mrs Honeychurch will return from her Maternity Leave early in Term Two. At this stage Mrs Honeychurch will work with some of the Secondary Classes and as a specialist teacher in the Primary School.

Student Free Day and End of Term

This Friday, April 17th will be a Student Free Day. On this day staff will attend a range of Professional Learning meetings.

TERM ONE ENDS THURSDAY April 16th

School Lunch Program

There are no hot lunches this week. The School Lunch Program will resume in Week 2 of Term 2.

If students have dietary requirements but you would still like them to participate in the Hot Lunch program, we can often accommodate this. Please inform the class teacher of any of these.

End of Term Assembly

The End of Term Assembly will be held on Wednesday April 15th at 10:00 am in the Church. Parents and family members are welcome to attend.

SetUp for Success

Our early learning program, SetUp, is back in 2026 and is on every Thursday 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. Mrs Ros Ashenden will run SetUp during Term 1.

GRIP Leadership Conference

On Friday April 10th our Grade 10 Student Leaders attended a Leadership Conference at the Tailrace Centre in Launceston. The day focused on aspects of leadership including decision making, planning, teamwork, public speaking and being a role model for the school community.

Throughout the day our leaders engaged with other school leaders, made new connections and had the opportunity to learn from the presenters, who themselves were school leaders when they were students. We look forward to our school leaders being able to put their recent experience into action throughout the remainder of the year.

SETUP
for
SUCCESS



Term 1 Primary Assembly Roster

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

Please note that this roster may change

WEEK 11 Term 1	Thursday 16th April	Mrs Robotham and Grade 6 Leaders	12.10pm
WEEK 1 Term 2	Thursday 7th May	Grade 3/4 (change of time this week only)	2.00pm
WEEK 2 Term 2	Thursday 14th May	Grade 1/2	12.10pm
WEEK 3 Term 2	Thursday 21st May	Prep	12.10pm
WEEK 4 Term 2	Thursday 28th May	Kinder	12.10pm

New School Socks

Our new school socks have arrived and are available for purchase. The new design is white with a maroon hoop around the top and will replace the existing maroon and grey socks, as these are phased out. Students may wear either the white socks or the maroon socks (girls) or grey socks (boys) for the remainder of the year. We encourage families to purchase the new socks as older pairs need replacing.

TPSSA Carnival

The TPSSA carnival was rescheduled due to poor weather conditions last week. The new date is this Thursday April 16th. Information has been communicated on Compass about this event for all students involved. If you have questions please contact Mrs Freeman.

Calm Down Kanga

On Monday April 13th we had a visit from *Happy Habits*, a Launceston based performance organisation that creates original work for young audiences. Our Kinder to Grade 3 students participated in the performance of *Calm Down Kanga*, which was an interactive show that focused on wellbeing strategies to support social and emotional learning. This interactive show involved students in play, dance and practicing wellbeing strategies. Our Lower Primary teachers also attended the performance and will continue this learning as they work with students to help them develop their social and emotional skills.

Winter Uniform

At Star of the Sea Catholic College students move into the formal academic winter uniform from the beginning of Term 2. We expect to see all students wearing their uniform neatly, correctly and with pride. If you require additional uniform items please make arrangements this week to order and collect these. If families need assistance with uniform items, please contact Mrs Condric in the office.

AMC Immersion Experience

On Monday April 13th students in Grades 9-10 were invited to an information session run by staff from the Australian Maritime College (AMC) about an upcoming 3 day Immersion Workshop which is being offered in June by the AMC, which is being supported and sponsored by TasPorts. The Immersion Workshop will provide students with practical hands on learning and an introduction to the AMC and what it offers future learners. This opportunity is free and travel to and from the AMC in Launceston will also be provided. If students in Grades 9-10 are interested in applying for this opportunity they need to complete the application which is available by using the QR code distributed at school and included here.



<https://forms.office.com/r/Cm449fbHSM>

Stars of the Week - 9th April 2026

Kinder	Bailey Goodridge	For liking school so much he's started to come every day he can!
Prep	Elijah Bailey	For working so very hard in class and being a wonderful friend to everyone in Prep.
Grade 1/2	Finley Wolf	For demonstrating excellent artistic skills. Your drawings are beautiful.
Grade 3/4	Hamish Bannon	For his focus and dedication towards developing his understanding and producing his best work.
Grade 4/5	Bienvinido Bennett	For demonstrating excellent focus and engagement in his learning.
Grade 6	Evie King	For consistently demonstrating an excellent attitude towards the completion of all her learning tasks to a high standard. Well done! Keep up the great work.

Primary Basketball Tournament

Over the weekend our Grade 3/4 students participated in the Primary Basketball Regional Tournament. Our students did a wonderful job representing the school and played their very best all weekend. Congratulations to both teams on a really successful tournament. Thank you to Mrs Freeman for all of your work in preparing our students for the recent competitions and for giving them the opportunity to participate. Thank you to everyone who came along to support our teams and also to Mr Andrew Freeman for refereeing all of our matches.



Wednesday 15th April	End of Term assembly in the Church 10am
Thursday 16th April	TPSSA Athletics Carnival Last day of Term 1 for students Primary Assembly 12:10 pm
Saturday 25th April	ANZAC Day
Monday 4th May	First day of Term 2 for students

Mother's Day

Mother's Day Events - Friday May 8th

The Mother's Day events will occur at the end of the first week of Term Two.

- The Mother's Day stall will be held in the morning on Friday May 8th.
- The Mother's Day Prayer Service will be held at 2:15 pm in the Church on Friday May 8th.
- The Mother's Day Afternoon Tea will be held in the Hall following the Prayer Service.

Please RSVP by returning the slip below or emailing sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au



Mother's Day Afternoon Tea RSVP

Name of Student/ Students:

Number of adults and students attending: _____

Dietary needs: GF DF Vegetarian Vegan Nut Free Other

(Please circle all that apply and provide more information for other)



Please return this form to the front office by Wednesday May 6th.