

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 28th July 2026

From the Principal

Whether or not you were surprised by it, the announcement of the closure of the Liberty Bell Bay manganese smelter certainly sent some shock waves through the community. The closure has meant that around 250 people suddenly became unemployed overnight. But along with this there are the flow-on effects to other businesses that supported the smelter - the port, engineering companies, suppliers of raw materials.

For some of the 250 employees, they may have seen the writing on the wall and were prepared to step into another job if the sale of the smelter fell through. For others it now may be a mad scramble to seek other employment as soon as possible. While for some this may be available close to home, others may consider moving out of the community to seek other opportunities.

This event will create great uncertainty for many families. When parents have stable employment it brings stability to the family as a whole. Things can be predictable within the family environment. Adults aren't anxious about things, and therefore their children live a more settled life.

On the flip side, when children see their parents anxious about things, whether work related or not, they pick up on the signals and start to worry themselves. Children look to their parents for guidance as to how they should feel, and worry in parents can lead to worry in children.

So what do we do in these times of uncertainty, when everything that brings normality to our lives is suddenly taken away from us?

From a Catholic perspective, the most important thing is to have hope. Hope always looks towards the future, it doesn't dwell in the past. While there might be a level of anger or frustration with what has happened, and these feelings are normal, re-living the past and hoping for a different outcome is not helpful in any way. Instead, we have to continually look towards the future and be open to the great things that it might hold for us.

Change is painful. It makes us feel uncomfortable, it can stress us, it can keep us awake at night. But once we have gone through the dark times we come out the other side stronger than ever.

No matter what happens over the next few weeks, we remember that God is with us through these times. God doesn't abandon us but walks with us in the pain, leading us to be the people he has always called us to be.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

Change is hard
at first, messy in
the middle and
gorgeous at the
end. — Robin
Sharma

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

Psalm for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*The hand of the Lord feeds us:
he answers all our needs.*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.

He is close to all who call him,
call on him from their hearts.



Star of the Sea Mass Times

Mass times for this week:

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:00 pm Saturday

Sunday Mass - 11:00 am 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.



Welcome

We welcome Poppy (2), Joesiah (Prep), Amy (Year 8) and their families to our Star of the Sea Catholic community. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Staff Movements

Mrs Nesbit is on leave this week.

Mrs Halley is on leave this week.

Mrs Davis continues her long service leave with Mr White taking the class.

Mrs Sikkens is recovering well and hopes to be back in Week 3 (August 10th). Mrs Couttie will continue to take the class until then.

Closure of Liberty Bell Bay

Many would be aware of the closure of Liberty Bell Bay, which will affect the employment of about 250 people across the region. We keep them and their families in our thoughts and prayers. A letter was sent via Compass during the holidays, letting families know that Star of the Sea will support families with fees, etc if need be while they navigate this tricky time.

Blessing and Opening of Redevelopments

Next Thursday 6th August will see the Blessing and Opening of our redevelopments in the secondary area. The Archbishop and Ms Jess Teesdale MP will be in attendance for this occasion.

Year 9 Camp

Our Year 9s will have their camp next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday when they travel to Hobart. It is sure to be a good time, and they may even see some snow on Mount Wellington! Mr Laurence and Mrs Robotham will be the teachers in charge.

Term 3 Primary Assembly Roster

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

Please note that this roster may change

Please note change of time for 6th August

WEEK 1	Thursday 30th July	Grade 6	12.10pm
WEEK 2	Thursday 6th August	Grade 4/5	2.10pm
WEEK 3	Thursday 13th August	Grade 3/4	12.10pm
WEEK 4	Thursday 20th August	Grade 1/2	12.10pm
WEEK 5	Thursday 27th August	Prep	12.10pm

From the Deputy Principal



This Thursday the SRC and Year 10 Student Leaders will be hosting a Christmas in July event. All students from Kinder to Year 10 are welcome to attend and join in the Christmas themed activities. There is no cost for students to attend the event but there will be some food and drinks available to purchase.

The event will be held Thursday evening between 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm. Activities will be set up in the outdoor area of the Secondary campus. There will be a range of Christmas activities for students to participate in, including the Best Christmas Themed Outfit Fashion Show. Our 2025 Christmas in July event was a lot of fun so we hope to see lots of students come along and enjoy a fun evening together.

So dig out your brightest Christmas outfit, your worst Christmas jumper and your Christmas cheer and join us on July 30th for Christmas in July between 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm.

What: Christmas in July

When: Thursday July 30th

Where: Secondary Campus Outdoor Area

Time: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm



Term 3 Award Winners

Cross Country

Year 3	Logan Hawkins, Rafael Tilain
Year 4	Chad Jenkins, Madalyn Goodridge
Year 5	William Singline, Mia Barker
Year 6	Evie King, Thomas Singline
Year 7	Kayleb Jones, Rhianna Crowden
Year 8	Joel Berger, Avaya Hooper
Year 9	Te Koha Weeks, Imogene Jones
Year 10	Zavier Cooper, Lillian Mather



Application to Learning (Primary)

Kinder	Lucas Zanchetta
Prep	Daisy Simpson
Grade 1	Eileithya Quilty-Maguire
Grade 2	Lucas Davis
Grade 3	Rafael Tilian
Grade 4	Isabel Walker
Grade 5	Vanessa Linley
Grade 6	Rilee Brown



Merit Awards (Secondary)

Year 7

Chayce Shipton	Improvement in behaviour
Georgia Curtis	Consistent Effort
Vance Ramacciato	Consistent Effort
Clodagh Donaldson	Consistent Effort

Year 8

Joel Berger	Effort and Achievement
Mikayla Hundermark	Effort and Achievement
Bria Jarman	Consistent Effort
Ella-Rae Norman	Consistent Effort

Year 9

Syd Schreuder	Effort and Achievement
Aaron Gilmore	Improvement in Art
Paityn Tunks	Focus and Writing Skills
Grace McKittrick	Consistent Effort

Year 10

Indiana Cartwright	Effort in Child Studies
Kaiden Hewitt	Consistent Effort and Application
Lillian Mather	Consistent Effort
Ruby Clarke	Effort and Achievement



Grade 7/8 Winter Sport

Thursday 9th July

Soccer - 1 all

Netball - Div 1 18 Riverside def 14 SOTS

A very strongly contested game. With all SOTS player putting in 110%

Div 3 SOTS A - forfeit

SOTS B 3 Def by Brooks HS 14

With new skills starting to shine through.



30th July

No Winter sport this week

Enrolments

Kinder 2027 - Enrolments for Kinder 2027 are still open. We encourage all forms to be handed into the College office as soon as possible.

Year 7 2027 - Our enrolments for Year 7 2027 **have now closed**. Families of students from other schools who have submitted an enrolment form will be contacted soon to be invited to an interview.

Spaces left in 2026 - Many of our classes are close to full, so we are currently accepting enrolments on a case-by-case basis. Our Grade 1/2 class is officially full and has a waiting list.

School Lunches

School lunches will resume next week and run on the usual days. This term we will not be receiving food from *Loaves and Fishes*, but instead Mr Naithen McGillivray will cook the meals from scratch.

NAIDOC Week

At the end of Term Two we celebrated NAIDOC Week by hosting a range of events and activities. Our First Nations students joined together for a NAIDOC Week breakfast to launch the week and all students had the opportunity to participate in a range of NAIDOC themed activities throughout the final week of term. We have included some photos of some of the things students were involved in throughout NAIDOC Week 2026.



Term 3 - 2026	
Monday 3rd - Wednesday 5th August	Year 9 Camp
Thursday 6th August	Blessing and Opening of Redevelopments; Country Gold selections (5/6)
Monday 10th August	Fire Week for Primary
Wednesday 12th August	Catholic Education Week Mass
Monday 24th August	Year 10 Reflection Day
Tuesday 25th August	Year 8 Reflection Day
Wednesday 26th August	Year 9 Reflection Day
Friday 28th August	Book Week Parade (<i>Symphony of Stories</i>)
Thursday 3rd September	Father's Day Breakfast and Stall
Thursday 10th September	7/8 Winter Sport Grand Finals; RUOK Day
Thursday 1st October	Country Gold
Friday 2nd October	Term 3 ends; End of Term Assembly

Stars of the Week - 2nd July 2026

Kinder	Noah Richardson	For being brave enough to try new things every day at school.
Prep	Ari Bezemer-Mahoney	For his beautiful participation and sharing in our RE lessons.
Grade 1/2	Lenny Singline	For becoming a super star at sounding out words when writing.
Grade 3/4	Mason Giles	For his excellent focus during Science and Maths and his consistent contribution towards class discussion.
Grade 4/5	Chase Davis	For excellent focus and engagement in all academic areas.
Grade 6	Tristan Ackerly	For his enthusiastic and focused participation during our Parliamentary Debates in Year 6. You are a wonderful role model to the other students!



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 3.

Setup for SUCCESS

PO Box 206
2-6 William St
George Town, 7253
sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au
www.starsea.tas.edu.au



Star of the Sea Catholic College



SchoolTV