

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 7th July 2026

From the Principal

One of our great fears in life is that we won't be *seen*. That is, we won't be noticed. Imagine going to a party by yourself and no one talking to you. When you go up to a group to try and get involved in a conversation, everyone in that group ignores you. It's like you don't exist. It would be a very difficult experience and an extremely deflating experience.

At Star of the Sea, because we are a smaller school, students are always seen. All students will usually go through each day with an adult saying their name, being asked a question in class, or simply being greeted. This is important, because it lets people know they are important, that they are noticed. It doesn't always happen in bigger schools, and the bigger the school the harder it is to guarantee that every student will be noticed every day.

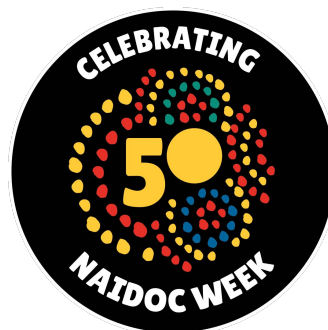
The other way we make sure students are seen and noticed is through student voice. This is a way of formally organising opportunities for students to say what is good and bad about school, plus things they would like to see happen around school, with the hope that we can act on these things to make the school an inviting place for everyone.

This week is NAIDOC Week, a week where we recognize and celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It's a really important time in Australia, because it is one of the few times throughout the year where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are seen and noticed. Unfortunately for a long time Aboriginal people have been the people turning up to the party with no one talking to them. Their needs and hopes for the future have been totally ignored.

Almost three years ago there was a chance for Aboriginal voices to be heard in Parliament on a formal basis. However, this referendum failed. In schools we look for ways for all student voices to be heard. Perhaps through the failure of the referendum we missed out on the opportunity for the voices of significant groups in Australia to be heard. Instead of grasping the opportunity to allow Aboriginal people to have a say in how certain laws will affect them, they are left in the position of not needing to be consulted about these. Perhaps we have missed out on a chance of Aboriginal people finally being *seen* in this country.

In our Star of the Sea Catholic community, it is important that all people are seen and their voices heard. But it is equally important that we are attentive to those individuals and groups in our community who may feel they are not *seen*. Only through listening to each other can we be the people God calls us to be.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

Being heard is so close to being loved that for the average person they are almost indistinguishable.

- David
Augsburger

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 for National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

Loving God,

During this NAIDOC Week, we celebrate and honour the rich cultures, histories, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We thank you for the gifts of wisdom and resilience you have bestowed upon them throughout generations.

May this week be a time of unity and understanding, where all people come together in respect and harmony. Help us to learn from each other's traditions and stories, and to walk in unity towards justice and reconciliation.

Bless our Indigenous brothers and sisters with strength and courage as they preserve their heritage and contribute to our community.

Grant us the grace to listen with open hearts, to act with compassion, and to strive for a future where all people are valued and respected.

We ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen.



Welcome

We welcome our new Utility Officer, **Mr Paul Tulk**, to the Star of the Sea Catholic community. Mr Tulk will work at the school five days a week. Please make him feel welcome if you see him around!

Staff Movements

Mrs Halley is on leave on Friday and for the first week of next term.

Mrs Nesbit is on leave for the the first week of next term.

Mrs Davis is now on leave with Mr White taking the Grade 6 class.

Term 3 Calendar

We have included our Term 3 calendar to this week's newsletter. Whilst there are unlikely to be any significant changes, if there are we will inform families as soon as possible.

Please note that Term 3 for students begins on **Tuesday 27th July**. Monday is a Staff Spirituality Day and, as such, the office will be closed.

End of Term Assembly

Our End of Term Assembly will be held next Friday 10th July at 10am in the Church. Family and friends of the College are most welcome to attend.

Primary Playground

For a number of years now we have been investigating updating our Primary playground. After some false starts, we are now in the position where we are moving forward with this. After consultation with the students, the plans are now being finalised with the hope that work on the first stage can commence later in the year.

Due to budget constraints, the upgrade will be done in stages over the course of 2-3 years.

School Lunches

School Lunches

School lunches are as normal this week.

Wednesday - Grades 3 to 6

Friday - Preps to Grade 2



This week's meal is Creamy Chicken Jacket Potato (unless Naithen decides to use up some of the extras we have in the fridge).

Reports

At this stage we hope to have the Mid Term reports available on Compass on Thursday.

Term 2 Primary Assembly Roster

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

Please note that this roster may change

WEEK 10	Thursday 9th July	Kinder	12.10pm
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From the Deputy Principal



NAIDOC WEEK

50 YEARS DEADLY

5-12 JULY 2026

This week at Star of the Sea we are celebrating NAIDOC Week by hosting a range of activities throughout the week. NAIDOC Week celebrates and recognises the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth.

(<https://www.naidoc.org.au>)

On Monday we launched the week with our NAIDOC Week Breakfast. Our First Nations students gathered in the Hall for an Acknowledgement of Country and to share breakfast together. This was a great opportunity for students of different ages to spend time together, building friendships and connections.



Today students received a NAIDOC Week wrist strap which depicts the Aboriginal Flag. We encourage students to wear these throughout the week as a reminder of our NAIDOC Week. This item, worn by everyone, helps to show solidarity and connection to our First Nations students.

On Thursday, Aboriginal artist Bianca Templar will be working with classes. Bianca will lead some cultural experiences and students will contribute to a weaving project which we hope will then be combined to make a more significant piece of art work as an installation in the school. Bianca has been working with our First Nations students throughout the year as part of the Muylatina Program.

The Primary assembly on Thursday will be hosted by Kinder and will also include a focus on NAIDOC Week with the sharing of some First Nations music.

On Friday we will host our End of Term NAIDOC Week assembly. This will be held in the Church and will commence at 10:00 am. Parents are warmly invited to attend.

Winter Uniform Reminders

At Star of the Sea we expect all students to wear the uniform neatly and correctly. As the weather has become cooler we have noticed a number of students wearing items that are not a part of the uniform. This is a reminder that casual clothes such as hoodies, sports jumpers, coloured trackpants and jackets are not a part of the College uniform. All students are expected to wear the formal College uniform. The only days that sports uniform should be worn is on days when students specifically have sport or HPE. On all other days the formal academic uniform is to be worn. Where there are circumstances that mean a student is not able to be in the correct uniform, a note is to be provided to the Class Teacher. If you require additional uniform items please visit the College Uniform Shop, or place an order via the FlexiSchools app. Payment options are available in the app. If you need additional support with providing the appropriate uniform items for your child please contact Mrs Condric.

Mobile Antarctic Classroom Experience - Antarctic Climate Session

Today our students in Years 3-7 took part in the Mobile Antarctic Classroom, an interactive learning experience delivered by the Mawson's Huts Foundation. Students completed the Antarctic Climate session, exploring what Antarctica is like, how scientists measure climate in extreme environments, and why the frozen continent plays such an important role in global weather systems.

The hands-on activities, demonstrations and real scientific equipment kept students highly engaged, helping them understand how ice, temperature records and environmental observations reveal changes in Earth's climate. It was a memorable and exciting incursion that supported our science curriculum and sparked plenty of curiosity about Antarctica and climate science.



Grade 7/8 Winter Sport

Thursday 2nd July

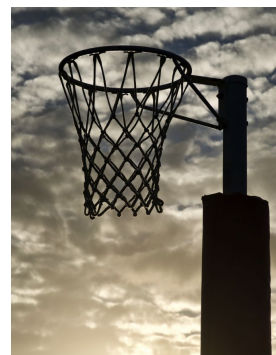
Soccer - Cancelled due to weather

Netball -

The **Division 1** team played another close and competitive game, narrowly losing **18–15** to Queechy High School.

Our **Division 3 SOTS A** netball team battled hard despite several key players being absent or injured, going down **7–2** to Brooks High School.

The other **Division 3** netball team **SOTS B** battled hard against Kings Meadows, going down **14–3**.



9th July

Soccer - at Kings Meadows

Netball - at The Hub - Mowbray

Enrolments

Kinder 2027 - We have now officially opened enrolments for Kinder 2027. We encourage all forms to be handed into the College office by the end of Term 2.

Year 7 2027 - If you know of someone who is wishing to enrol their child in Year 7 for next year (from another school), please encourage them to have their enrolment form into the office by the end of this term (July 10th). We may have limited spaces for enrolments next year so enrolments will not be done on a first come first served basis.

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.



Star of the Sea Catholic College
Invites you to our
End of Term Assembly
on
Friday 10th July 2025
At 10:00am in the Church
Please join us



Term 2 - 2026	
Sunday 5th - Sunday 12th July	NAIDOC Week
Friday 10th July	End of Term Assembly; Term 2 ends for students
Monday 27th July	Staff Spirituality Day
Term 3 - 2026	
Tuesday 28th July	Term 3 begins for students
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 8 Reflection Day
Tuesday 25th August	Year 10 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

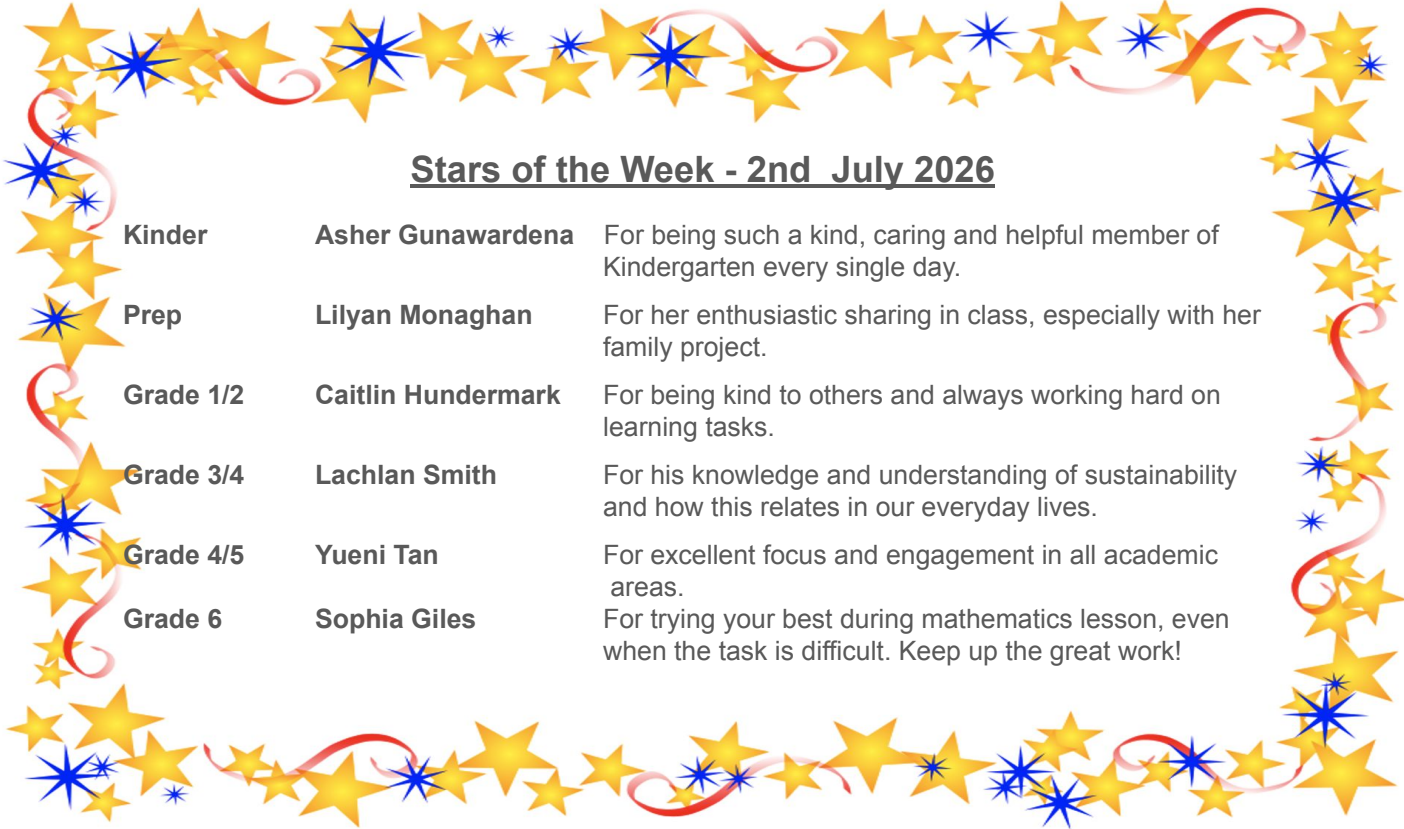
Star of the Sea Mass Times

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.



Stars of the Week - 2nd July 2026

Kinder	Asher Gunawardena	For being such a kind, caring and helpful member of Kindergarten every single day.
Prep	Lilyan Monaghan	For her enthusiastic sharing in class, especially with her family project.
Grade 1/2	Caitlin Hundermark	For being kind to others and always working hard on learning tasks.
Grade 3/4	Lachlan Smith	For his knowledge and understanding of sustainability and how this relates in our everyday lives.
Grade 4/5	Yueni Tan	For excellent focus and engagement in all academic areas.
Grade 6	Sophia Giles	For trying your best during mathematics lesson, even when the task is difficult. Keep up the great work!

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 2.



SETUP
for
SUCCESS