

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 18th August 2026

From the Principal

Social Justice Sunday in the Catholic Church is August 30th this year, and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference have released their annual *Social Justice Statement* to coincide with it. We may wonder what that has to do with us! But each year the statements give us a chance to reflect upon justice in our own communities and what we are called to be.

This year's statement has the title *Living the Gospel in Times of Social Division*. It is written in a time when we seem to be less socially cohesive as we once were, with "heightened community tension and a growing normalisation of abusive behaviour, incendiary language and violence." It is also written with the Bondi Beach attack in mind and the aftershocks still felt by that.

When we have less social cohesion, it is easy for us to retreat. We start to treat people with suspicion. When we meet people whose views are different to ours, we tend to treat them as opponents, rather than people. In the long run, though, this is not healthy for any of us.

Perhaps a better way of going about it is by following a path which is offered by the Gospel. This is where we "meet division not with hostility but with mercy; not with the logic of 'us and them' but with the costly love that heals and transforms."

The statement offers us a way forward in four areas.

We are called to remain close to Christ through prayer and the sacraments. If we want to be people of love and mercy, one of the best ways of doing this is by following the example of Jesus.

We are called to practice a "culture of encounter." That is, we listen before we react, we try to understand the fears and hopes of each other.

We are called to exercise restraint in what we say - especially online - rejecting gossip and slander. We want to be known as people who speak the truth and not delight in humiliation.

And we are called to act with justice and compassion, standing with those who are targeted because of their faith or background.

Whilst it sometimes seems that politicians are deliberately trying to weaken our social cohesion, in the Star of the Sea Catholic community we are called to reject this, and instead work with each other to build the type of community we want our children to live in.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*No peace
without justice.
No justice
without
forgiveness.
- St John Paul II*

**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

Social Justice Statement Prayer

You created every person in your image and call us to live as one human family.

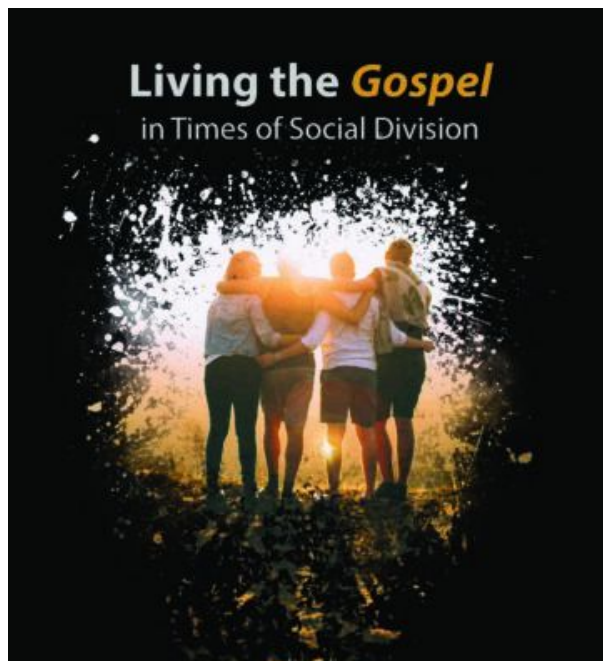
In a world marked by division, fear and misunderstanding, fill our hearts with the self-giving love of Christ. Teach us to see one another not as strangers or opponents, but as sisters and brothers, worthy of dignity, respect and compassion.

Give us the courage to build bridges where there is distrust, to seek encounter where there is separation, and to work for justice with humility and mercy. Help us to listen with open hearts, speak with kindness, and walk together in the way of peace.

May your Holy Spirit guide us to welcome the stranger, stand beside those on the margins, reject all forms of hatred and racism, and become instruments of reconciliation in our communities.

Through the example of Saint Maximilian Kolbe and all the saints, strengthen us to live the Gospel through sacrifice, generosity and love, so that your light may shine through us and bring hope to our nation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.



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 Ollie (Prep) and Hallee (4) and their families to the Star of the Sea Catholic community. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Staff Movements

Mrs Nesbit will be at a meeting on Thursday.

At this stage **Mrs Davis** will be returning to Grade 6 next Tuesday. We thank **Mr White** for taking Grade 6 while she has been on leave.

Father's Day Breakfast Helpers Wanted

We will be holding our Father's Day Breakfast on Thursday 3rd September. If you would like to help out on the day, please contact the office. The help required is cooking the breakfast (sausages and bacon, scrambled eggs, baked beans, toast), serving the breakfast and helping to set up and clean up. The morning typically starts around 6am and clean up finishes around 9:30am. We are looking for helpers for any or all of that time.

Book Week Parade

Book Week is next week and our Book Week Parade will be held next Thursday 27th August. On the day, students are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character.

School Lunches

School lunches will be as normal this week.

Wednesday - Grades 3-6

Friday - Prep to Grade 2



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.

Father's Day... Is only a couple of weeks away.

So we are starting to collect Father's Day presents now for our stall.

If you are a skilled person who could make a few donations

Or a dedicated shopper with an extra few dollars,

Or you have a few extra unused things around the house.....

We would love a gift from you and your family.

All donations gratefully accepted.



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 are currently being interviewed.

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.



The 10 minutes before and after school can be quite busy and congested, but it doesn't need to be unsafe. Please do your part in keeping everyone safe.

Pedestrian crossings



Be mindful that we are sharing the road with young walkers. Always stop for crossing guards. Always use designated crossings and set an example for young ones.

Do not park over yellow lines



Yellow lines on the side of the road are not a place to stop or park. Keeping these areas clear helps maintain safe visibility for students, families and drivers and supports a safer drop-off and pick-up environment for everyone.

Bus safety



Always slow when bus lights flash. Allow extra time for students to board or exit, and wait until they are safely on the path before driving on.

Share the road



Be patient of other vehicles and stay alert in school zones, young people may take an unpredictable path as they are still learning. Drive slow and obey road safety signs.



Term 3 Primary Assembly Roster

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

Please note that this roster may change

WEEK 4	Thursday 20th August	Grade 1/2	12.10pm
WEEK 5	Thursday 27th August	Prep	12.10pm
WEEK 6	Thursday 3rd September	Kinder	12.10pm
WEEK 7	Thursday 10th September	Grade 6	12.10pm

Stars of the Week - 13th August 2026

Kinder	Asher Gunawardena	For organising a soccer kicking game and playing it on the oval so cooperatively with his friend.
Prep	Elijah Bailey	For being a wonderful class member - friendly, helpful and hard working.
Grade 1/2	Alison Pride	For improvements to her word recognition and decoding skills.
Grade 3/4	Archie Bennett	For his sustained focus and always working to the best of his ability. Well done Archie!
Grade 4/5	Oliver Bennett	For consistent hard work and helpfulness throughout the terms.
Grade 6	Evie King	For being incredibly helpful and diligent in her reading comprehension.

***** Some parents have reported that they didn't receive a text when their child received an award. We have found that some messages are going into the spam folder on mobile phones *****

From the Deputy Principal

Religious Literacy Assessment

Each year students in Catholic schools across Tasmania and throughout other states in Australia participate in a Religious Literacy Assessment. The Religious Literacy Assessment is a standardised educational evaluation used in the Catholic school system to measure how well students understand their religious education curriculum. It evaluates a student's knowledge of religious traditions, concepts and moral application. At Star of the Sea students in Year 4 and Year 8 will participate in a practice assessment this week and in the formal statewide assessment period during Week 6. If there are any questions about this upcoming assessment please direct these to Mrs Robotham

Consent and Respectful Relationships Education

At Star of the Sea we have been offering Consent and Respectful Relationships Education to help students learn about the concept of consent and how we establish, develop and maintain respectful relationships. Primary students will also be introduced to this curriculum later in the term. To support the introduction of this with Primary classes, the Year 8 class have created some posters suited to younger students to introduce the concept of consent. The posters are based on what they have learnt and what they think would be good for younger students to know.

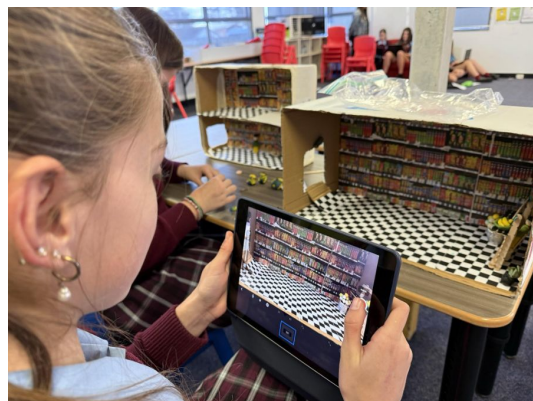


Book Week will be celebrated next week at Star of the Sea. As part of this week we will hold a Book Week Parade on Thursday August 27th. Staff and students are invited to dress as a character from a favourite book for the day and participate in the Book Week Parade. The theme for 2026 is a Symphony of Stories. You can find out more about Book Week by visiting the Children's Book Council of Australia website: <https://cbca.org.au/childrens-book-week/>

Year 8 Drama Animation Projects

In Drama students have been learning about the different phases of producing an animated movie. In Term Two groups worked on the pre-production phase. This involves a lot of planning and the development of a narrative and characters. During this phase groups made important decisions about what their animations would be about, which people in the group would take on which specific roles and what materials were needed to create the miniature sets and animation studios. Scripts and storyboards were created to support the projects and a lot of time went into the creation of the sets and characters.

This term, production teams have learnt more about the production phase, which is where the making of the films occurs. Patience and strong cooperation skills have been needed to complete the painstaking task of taking hundreds of photos. These were edited into a stop-motion program to generate the animated part of the film. After this, production moved into the post-production phase which includes adding sound effects, voice overs or music. Most projects are nearly finished. You can see some of the work that has been happening in the photos of these projects while they have been being created.



8 Winter Sport

Results 13/08/2026

Netball:

The Hub - Mowbray

SOTS Div 1 vs KMHSb - won

SOTS Div 3a vs PHSc - forfeit due to lack of numbers

SOTS Div 3b vs PHSb - played a fabulous game but lost

Soccer:

SOTS vs RHS @ Riverside HS 10-1 loss



20/08/2026

Netball

The Hub - Mowbray

SOTS Div 1 vs KMHSa

SOTS Div 3a vs BHSa

SOTS Div 3b vs CDHS

Soccer

SOTS Vs PHS

At Prospect High School



Term 3 - 2026	
Monday 24th August	Year 10 Reflection Day
Tuesday 25th August	Year 8 Reflection Day
Wednesday 26th August	Year 9 Reflection Day
Thursday 27th 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

Grade 3 / 4

The Grade 3 / 4 class have been busy sewing their own teddy bears and creating their own teddy stories to match their teddy.

It was a bit tricky learning how to sew but we did it
And they look amazing.



Father's Day Breakfast

Thursday 3rd September
7.30am to 8.30am



Fathers and father-figures are welcome to come to school and enjoy bacon, sausages, eggs, beans and toast with the students

For catering purposes please RSVP by Thursday 27th August.

_____ will attend the Father's Day breakfast with my child/ren

We will be there about (please circle) **7.30am 7.45am 8.00am 8.15am**

Can you please cater for the following dietary requirement/s
