

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 25th August 2026

From the Principal

For those who follow football, the big news in the last week was that of five Sydney Swans players being suspended by their club after allegations of sexual assault. Many people have had a say about this event, and about how the club and the AFL have handled it and will handle it. Many have tried to position themselves in a way which distances themselves from the players' behaviour as much as possible.

Luckily, I don't have to position myself in any way regarding this incident. But it does give us a chance to reflect upon the way we treat each other and the continuing way that women are mistreated in society.

The University of Melbourne recently released a survey that showed around a third of young males aged 13-17 believed that feminism had gone too far and, when jobs are scarce, men have more of a right to a job than women. It's worrying to see that sort of attitude so prevalent in Australian society. We are often quick to blame online influences that make boys think this way, but boys are equally picking it up from their adult male role models. If one third of young males think this way, it is likely about one third of adult males have the same opinion.

The problem when we see this data is that it means that one third of males have a ranking system when it comes to humanity. Whether they realise it or not, they believe that while everyone is human, some humans are more important than others. And when we think some humans are more important than others, it affects the way we treat each other. Rather than seeing people as our equals, we feel that we can abuse people, or use people. We feel that we can hurt them, either physically or psychologically, simply because we think that we are more important than them. We think we have power over others.

Unfortunately we see this play out every day in Australian society. Already this year around 37 Australian women have been killed due to domestic violence. We see it play out online with people abusing each other because they think they are better than the other, or more important than the other. We see people getting caught up in wanting to be right, and in doing so treating others with as much disrespect as they can muster.

We all play a role in overturning these attitudes. Schools play a role. Families play a role. Society plays a role. And it needs to start with each of us as individuals. Our children pay close attention to what we do and how we treat others, and will usually end up copying this. Each of us needs to look upon the other as our equal, as someone who is sharing the journey, rather than someone who we have to prove we are better than.

Are we prepared to see each other as children of God?
Are we prepared to see God in the people we meet? Can we be humble enough to not seek power over people, but instead to seek power *with* people?

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

*Violence
cannot be
stopped by
violence. It has
to be stopped
by wisdom.
Only wisdom
can stop
violence. - Ravi
Shanker*

*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 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.



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.



Staff Movements

Mr Chapman is away from Wednesday to Friday for Principal meetings.

Mrs Harmer is away from Wednesday to Friday for professional learning.

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.

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 next week.

We are still collecting 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.

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.

Little Monsters

On the 30th June 2026, the Seagulls to Chips youth visited the Kinder classes of each school in George Town. Together, the youth and the Kindergarten students used all of their imagination and creativity, and their questioning and answering skills to create their very own monster pictures. After that the youth took the drawings to some artists - Ben Winwood and Jay Freckleton - along with local emerging artist Emily Hickling. Their collaboration resulted in their monsters being brought from imagination into life and the end results are amazing! At Star of the Sea the Kinder students were so well behaved and positive throughout the whole process and we are very proud of them. There is now a very special colouring-in book in the community with the drawings from local Kindergarten children. How special!



Term 3 Primary Assembly Roster

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

Please note that this roster may change

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

Antarctic Mobile



Stars of the Week - 20th August 2026

Kinder	Emilia Taipaleti—Warren	For putting such a great effort into improving her coordination skills so that she can now hop, climb and jump so well!
Prep	Medea Quilty Maguire	For great listening and learning, and for quick and clever thinking when answering questions in class time.
Grade 1/2	Lillian McKean	For sharing her great thinking with the class and answering questions in a clear voice.
Grade 3/4	Noah McKitrick	For excellent effort in creating and then confidently sharing his "Teddy Tales" story in assembly.
Grade 4/5	Carter Upston	For his strong work ethic and growing maturity when undertaking new learning tasks.
Grade 6	Willow Tunks	For her courage stepping into a new role during Catholic Week Mass.

From the Deputy Principal

We're getting set for My Mind Check!



Did you know that mental health is one of the top three most important issues to young people in Australia today? That's why we're pleased to introduce **My Mind Check**, a new student mental health and wellbeing check-in tool for Australian schools, developed by youth mental health experts and funded by the Australian Government.

Students will be invited to participate in a check-in session at school, under supervision by school staff. They will use a computer or ipad to respond to age-appropriate questions about how they're feeling and they will be able to skip any questions they don't want to answer. Only certain school staff will have access to a student's check-in outcomes. For example your child's Class Teacher, the Student Support Coordinator or the Principal or Deputy Principal. The most appropriate person will follow up on any identified needs.

Why My Mind Check?

- It gives our students a voice about their mental health and wellbeing and helps to build their mental health literacy.
- It is evidence based; built for Australian schools from research and clinical studies by Macquarie University (Sydney).
- It guides schools and families to helpful information and resources for each mental health and wellbeing topic included in the check-in, making it easy for us to learn more and consider next steps.
- It meets strict Commonwealth privacy and security standards and is supported by independent security evaluation, which you can learn more about by visiting [Security and Privacy](#).

My Mind Check is not a clinical assessment of mental health. Instead, it gives us insights into the wellbeing of each student and of our collective school community.

There are no costs, and participation is voluntary.

Parents will need to provide consent via Compass before any student can participate.

Any questions about My Mind Check can be directed to Mrs Robotham who will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have.

Book Week



Welcome to Book Week 2026! As part of this week we will hold a Book Week Parade on Thursday morning. This is an opportunity for staff and students to dress as a character from a favourite book for the day and participate in the Book Parade which will be held in the Hall at 10:15 am. 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/>

8 Winter Sport

Results 20/08/2026

Netball:

SOTS Div 1 vs KMHSa - 25 - 8 loss. A fiercely contested game
With every goal truly earned by the SOTS team. Thank you to
Ruby C for umpiring
SOTS Div 3a vs PHSc - forfeit due to lack of numbers
SOTS Div 3b vs PHSb - 6-4 Win. A fabulous game played by
all players. There were nice clean passes between all Star
players. Thank you to Alyssa for umpiring.



Soccer:

SOTS vs PHS - loss

27/08/2026

Netball

The Hub - Mowbray
SOTS Div 1 vs PHSa
SOTS Div 3a vs CDHS
SOTS Div 3b vs PHSc

Soccer

SOTS Vs QHS
At QHS



Term 3 - 2026	
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



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
