

Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 4th August 2026

From the Principal

Last Monday our staff took the opportunity to reflect upon the Presentation charism of the school as we looked at the past, present and future of the Presentation sisters and our school's role in their great endeavour of providing education. It was an appropriate time to reflect upon this, as last Christmas Eve saw the 250th anniversary of the formation of the Presentation sisters.

One of the things about the work of the Presentation sisters is that they have always answered a need. Many people may be unaware that there used to be Presentation schools in Lilydale, Karoola and Beaconsfield, but they closed down at various points in history when the needs of those towns had changed. In Beaconsfield, the school closed after the town's population dropped when the initial burst of gold mining had finished. Population shifts in Karoola and Lilydale also saw those schools begin, thrive, and then close when the demographics of the towns changed.

Even across the country in more recent times, some Presentation schools are thriving while others are closing down due to the needs of the population changing. While the closure of schools may be challenging to the community that has built up around the school, it says something more about the purpose of Catholic schools, and of Presentation schools in particular.

It is always important for Catholic schools to continuously reflect upon the reason for their existence. This does not mean we ask ourselves why the school started, but we ask ourselves why it is still going. Because Catholic schools should always meet the needs of the community they are in. The reason why Star of the Sea Catholic College began in 1957 is not the same reason it continues to operate today. But each generation of school leaders asked themselves at the time, "What does the George Town community need from Star of the Sea today?" and then acted upon that.

At Star of the Sea we continue to ask ourselves that question today - what does the George Town community need from us? The Blessing and Opening of our secondary redevelopments and amenities later this week is a symbol to the community that we have been attentive to the needs of the community and the needs of the school and have chosen to put money into that area. We wouldn't be spending money on the school if we felt we were not needed!

Star of the Sea turns 70 years old next year. Whether our school is around for another 70 years will depend upon if it is still needed in the George Town community. But for the moment, there is as big a need as ever for our existence and the education we provide.

Richard Chapman
Principal



*Attentiveness,
Hospitality
and
Compassion.*

An education in
the fullness of
humanity should
be the defining
feature of
Catholic
schools. - Pope
Francis

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 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.*

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.



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

Mrs McGillivray will be on leave Thursday and Friday.

Mr White will be on leave on Friday.

At this stage, **Mrs Sikkens** will return next Monday to resume teaching the Grade 3/4 class.

Blessing and Opening of Redevelopments

This 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.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews occur this week, with most being held on Thursday. Bookings can be made through our Compass app.

Fire Week

Next week is "Fire Week," which sees a member of the Tasmanian Fire Service coming to Star of the Sea for the week to teach the Primary students (prep to Grade 6) about fire safety. A letter has gone out on Compass about this.

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 contacted 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

Due to Mrs Brunacci being away on Friday and Naithen taking over the canteen for that day, school lunches will resume this week on slightly different days.

Wednesday - Grades 3-6 (no change)

Thursday - Prep to Grade 2

Grade 7/8 Winter Sport

6th August - No Winter sport this week due to blessing ceremony

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 2	Thursday 6th August	Grade 4/5	2.15 pm
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



On Thursday July 30th the SRC hosted our 2026 Christmas in July event. The event was held in the Secondary outdoor area, which was set up with a festive theme. Members of the SRC planned and ran a range of activities including food stalls, craft and decorating activities, Pass the Parcel, pin the nose on Rudolf, outdoor activities and a Christmas outfit fashion parade.

It was great to see so many students and families enjoying this mid winter event. It was a great way to get out and enjoy a winter evening under the Christmas lights. Thank you to everyone who came along, to the staff who assisted and supported the event and to the members of the SRC who worked on planning and running this event. It was a great success and a wonderful example of what our students can do when they work together as servant leaders.

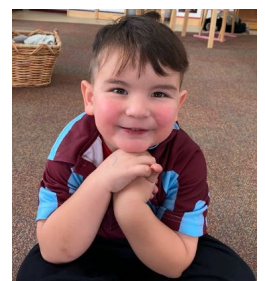


First Nations Cultural Artifacts Display - Primary Gallery

For the first few weeks of Term Three we are lucky to have the opportunity to display some cultural artifacts which are on loan from the Father John Wall Library. The display has been set up in the Primary Gallery and will remain for another week. Visitors are welcome to view the items but please do not touch the display. As part of the display there is a traditional canoe, two large Tasmanian spears and a small box containing two Tasmanian hunting tools. There is some information available near the display to explain some more information about these items.



Kinder photos



Year 9 Camp

This week our Year 9 students are enjoying their 2026 camp experience. Students departed on Monday morning, heading to Southern Tasmania for three days exploring the Greater Hobart Region and the Tasman Peninsula. On Monday the group stopped off in Campbell Town for a rest stop and morning tea before travelling to Hobart to check in to their accommodation.

In the afternoon they visited MONA (The Museum of Old and New Art) in Hobart. This modern museum was opened in 2011 and is a private art museum founded by David Walsh. It is known for its unconventional and thought-provoking exhibits. After exploring MONA, the group travelled to the Hyperdrive in Kingston, where they went indoor Go-Karting and tested out their driving skills. Dinner was enjoyed at the restaurant at the accommodation before everyone headed off to bed.

After sharing breakfast together this morning, we travelled to Eastlands to explore the shopping mall before travelling south toward the Tasman Peninsula. We stopped off at the Tessellated Pavement to explore the geological features of this area. The Tessellated Pavement is a geological formation that has been naturally formed by thousands of years of erosion that has created rock patterns that resemble large blocks of tiles.

The afternoon destination was the Port Arthur Historic Site, where a penal colony was set up in the 1800's for convicts. This site is now a World-Heritage site and during the visit the group learned about the history of the area and the life and hardship experienced by the convicts and settlers during the time it was occupied. The visit concluded with a visit to the Isle of the Dead. This tiny island is located just off the coast of the Port Arthur Historic Site and was the main burial ground and cemetery for the penal settlement.

On our return to Hobart this evening we will head into North Hobart for dinner and then we will return to our accommodation for a well-earned rest. On Wednesday we will head to the Salamanca area to explore the sandstone buildings or this historic area of Hobart, visit the grounds and area of Parliament House and the wharf area of Hobart.

Our trip home will include a lunch stop off at Campbell Town, where students will be able to explore and stretch their legs before the final part of the drive home to George Town.



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

Father's Day... Is only 2 months 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.



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

16KM RUN/WALK

TO RAISE MONEY

FOR THE
**CANCER COUNCIL
LAUNCESTON**

IN SUPPORT OF OUR LOVED
ONES FIGHTING CANCER.



16
4
S & S



START AT 11AM
ON THE 23RD OF AUGUST 2026

EVERY
STEP MAKES
A DIFFERENCE



Join **Rhianna** and **Izzy Crowden** along with a
team of amazing people to raise funds for the
Cancer Council Launceston. Starting at Lagoon Beach,
run to South George Town Primary and
return for a BBQ Fundraiser.

TOGETHER
WE CAN
MAKE AN
IMPACT!



16KM OF PURPOSE



COMMUNITY SPIRIT



HOPE. STRENGTH. CURE.

RUN. WALK. SUPPORT. TOGETHER WE WIN!



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