Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

Tuesday 27th October 2026

From the Principal

It was announced recently that Pete Hegseth, the United States Secretary of War (famous for his "No fatties...no beardos, no weirdos" slogan when it comes to the US military) wanted to live stream the firing squad execution of former Army Major Nidal Hasan, who killed 13 people at a US army base in 2009. This announcement came only days after the attempt to execute Christa Pike in the US state of Tennessee went wrong and, after two failed attempts, she ended up in hospital before now being back in jail. Thankfully, President Trump has now announced this live stream won't happen.

The Catholic Church has a longstanding opposition to capital punishment. The Church would say that not only does it go against the dignity of the human being, it also prevents the opportunity for a person to be redeemed.

Whether you agree with that or not, there are also other problems when it comes to "live streaming" an execution. While Pete Hegseth may believe that by people seeing this it will act as a deterrent for others, the reality is that capital punishment has never been proven to be a deterrent, simply because average people will never consider murdering someone, while those who do murder aren't thinking logically about the consequences when they do.

Along with this, live-streaming an execution is less likely to act as a deterrent and more likely to become a spectacle. Just like people turned up to public hangings and burnings at the stake hundreds of years ago, people won't tune in to watch an execution because they want to be deterred. People will watch it out of curiosity, to see what happens when people die. It makes me wonder whether the same people would sit at the bedside of their grandparents while they came to the end of their life, or whether they would find that too difficult.

And then, of course, there is the issue of who sees this. Live-streaming something is not like the family gathering around a TV screen to watch something, where mum or dad can have young children leave the room if the content is not appropriate. When we live-stream something, anyone can see it and anyone can record it to upload it to other platforms where even more people can watch it. As soon as you live-stream something, you are opening it up to having our 8 year-old children watching it. Is that something we would like them to see?

Killing people is not supposed to be entertainment. We are not living in the world of *The Hunger Games* or anything like it. We are living in a world where we are trying to teach our children to become caring and kind individuals, so that we can have a caring and kind society. Making public spectacles of killing people won't encourage our children to be doctors, nurses, aged carers or other people who support our community. It's more likely to encourage them to be people who seek violence and revenge.

In our Star of the Sea Catholic community we must reject the idea of turning killing people into entertainment and instead keep reminding each other that every life has dignity, every life is acred, and every life deserves respect.



Richard Chapman
Principal

Attentiveness, Hospitality and Compassion.

Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. - *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Star of the Sea Catholic College acknowledges the Leterremairener people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.

PO Box 206
2-6 William St
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Star of the Sea Catholic College

SchoolTV

Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart
Spirituality



Attentiveness
Hospitality
Compassion

All Saints and All Souls

This coming week in the Catholic Church we celebrate the feasts of All Saints (November 1st) and All Souls' Day (November 2nd).
All Saints recognizes the saints of the Church who have made such a significant impact in the last 2000 years.
All Souls' Day is a day of prayer and remembrance for all the faithful departed.

A Prayer For The Dead

God our Father,
Your power brings us to birth,
Your providence guides our lives,
and by Your command, we return to dust.

Lord, those who die still live in Your presence,
their lives change but do not end.
I pray in hope for my family,
relatives and friends,
and for all the dead known to You alone.

In company with Christ,
Who died and now lives,
may they rejoice in Your kingdom,
where all our tears are wiped away.
Unite us together again in one family,
to sing Your praise forever and ever.

Amen.



Star of the Sea Mass Times

Mass times for this week:

***Saturday Vigil Mass* -** 5:00pm Saturday
Sunday Mass - 11:00am Sunday
All Souls' Day Mass - 12.00pm Monday 2nd November

at the George Town Catholic Church (Our Lady Star of the Sea) which is located in Goulburn Street, across the road from the Hall. We will have visiting priests until further notice. Mass times will change next week.

Staff Movements

Mrs Harmer is on professional learning tomorrow.
Mrs King is on leave tomorrow.
Miss Fox is on professional learning on Thursday.
Mrs Robotham is on leave next Tuesday.
Mrs Taylor and Mrs Ashenden are at a meeting next Tuesday.

Recreation Day Public Holiday

A reminder that next Monday 2nd November is a public holiday for Recreation Day. As such, the school and office will be closed for the day.

Term 4 Calendar

We remind everyone to keep an eye on the Term 4 calendar. Upcoming events for this week include the Grade 5/6 camp happening next Monday to Wednesday and the K-2 Athletics Carnival next Tuesday.

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. Our ***Little Stars*** transition program for our 2027 Kinder students has begun.
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.
2027 enrolments - because we will have different class structures next year, spaces are available in most Primary classes for 2027. Families are welcome to call into the office for an enrolment form or download one from our website (starsea.tas.edu.au).

Transition Afternoon

Tomorrow (Wednesday 28th October) will see our first Year 7 2027 transition afternoon. Students from both Star of the Sea and other schools will come together in the afternoon to start to find out more about Year 7 in 2027.

School Lunches

School lunches will be as normal this week.
Wednesday - Grades 3-6
Friday - Prep to Grade 2

Staff Sickness

Unfortunately a number of our staff have come down with sickness and will need to be off school for a couple of days. We will do our best to keep the school running as normal, but yesterday we had to cancel all Year 10 classes. We will keep parents and carers informed of any other significant changes.

Term 4 Primary Assembly Roster

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

Please note that this roster may change

Week 2	Thursday 29th October	2.10 pm	Grade 1/2
Week 3	Thursday 5th November	2.10 pm	Prep
Week 4	Thursday 12th November	2.10 pm	Kinder & Grade 6
Week 5	Thursday 19th November	2.10 pm	Grade 6

Our early learning program, SetUp, is on every Wednesday 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 is running SetUp in Term 4.



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From the Deputy Principal



Star of the Sea Colour Fun Run – Friday 30 October

We are getting excited for our Colour Fun Run this Friday. Make sure students have their white tshirt ready for the day, it is going to get covered in rainbow coloured powder so it does not need to be new! The event will be held in the afternoon. Specific times for classes will be published later this week.

If you have not yet made a profile page there is still time to visit the website and sign up. Visit https://myprofilepage.com.au/ for more information. The prize portal will open on October 30th and will be open for one week. Prizes will arrive later this term.

A few things to remember:

- Students are encouraged to wear a white tshirt.
- Wear other sports clothes and shoes suitable for getting colourful
- Share your profile page with family and friends to support your fundraising.
- Our highest class fundraisers will receive a Star of the Sea Colour Run Star tshirt to wear on the day.
- The highest overall fundraiser gets to wear the Gold Fundraising Champion cape

Thank you for your fundraising efforts so far!

Star of the Sea Chess Competition - November 23rd

We will be running an in school Chess Tournament on Monday November 23rd. This event is for any student who can play chess. We particularly encourage students who have been a part of the Chess Club this year to enter this competition. It will only be for students who attend the school and is being held at the school. Andrew McKerihan will be supporting this event. Students who would like to learn how to play Chess are welcome to attend the Chess Club sessions which are held in the Primary gallery on Mondays at lunchtime.

World Teachers Day

On Friday 30 October we are inviting everyone to Shine a light on Australia's teachers who inspire, support, and empower our children and young people every single day.

From lightbulb moments to helping someone find their way, teachers make a difference in ways big and small. This World Teachers' Day, we're putting that impact in the spotlight. We'd love you to reflect on a moment when a teacher made a difference in your life and help Shine a light on the amazing work they do.



3-10 Athletics Day

Last Thursday, Star of the Sea was fortunate enough to host another successful athletics carnival thanks to the terrific participation from all students and with some help from some sunny weather. We can congratulate all students who participated and performed exceptionally well. Our TPSSA and NHSSA teams have never looked stronger and will certainly challenge other schools over the coming carnivals.

We also take this time to thank all staff who allowed for this day to run so smoothly and for all the families who were in attendance. Your support and cheers were greatly appreciated.

Individual results, school record holders, house points and athletics champions are still to be determined from the remaining events now being completed during PE.

3-10 Athletics Day





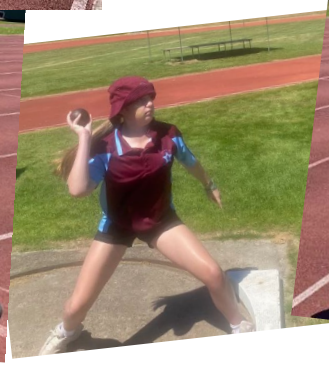











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Calendar Term 4 2026

Term 4 - 2026	
Wednesday 28th October	Year 7 2027 transition afternoon
Thursday 29th October	TPSSA swimming carnival at Scottsdale
Friday 30th October	World Teachers Day; Colour Run
Monday 2nd November	Recreation Day Public Holiday
Monday 9th - Wed 11th November	Grade 5/6 Camp
Tuesday 10th November	K-2 Athletics Carnival
Wednesday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Thursday 12th November	NHSSA Div 2 Athletics Carnival
Friday 13th November	Year 7 2027 transition afternoon
Wednesday 17th November	Year 7 2027 transition day
Thursday 18th November	Year 8 Art Exhibition
Friday 20th November	Presentation Feast Day
Monday 30th November	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Exam week begins
Tuesday 1st December	Magic Faraway Tree Performance
Monday 7th December	Advent Prayer; Year 10 Service Day and Big Day Out
Tuesday 8th December	Last day for Year 10s; Final Prayer and Awards
Wednesday 9th December	Primary Transition Morning
Thursday 10th December	Year 10 Leavers Dinner
Friday 11th December	Grade 6 Breakfast and Prayer; George Town Christmas Parade
Monday 14th December	Advent Prayer
Tuesday 15th December	Primary Nativity
Wednesday 16th December	Last day for students; End of Year Assembly
Thursday 17th December	Last day for staff

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SCHEDULE OF FEES 2027

Star of the sea Catholic College

Capital levy	$335.00	per family per year
Tuition fees and levies		
Kindergarten - Grade 6	$1850.00	per student per year
Grade 7- Grade 10	$2570.00	per student per year
Interest on overdue fees	10.00%	per annum where applicable
Camps		
Year 7	$185.00	per student
Year 8	$185.00	per student
Year 9	$325.00	per student
Year 10	$425.00	per student
Uniform costs		See website
Extra-curricular costs		invoiced separately

The minimum cost of enrolling one child in grade 1 for one year is $2185.00

- The 5% Early Payment Discount includes Capital Levy and Tuition Fees but excludes any camps or activities. This is only applicable to fees paid in full within 30 days from invoice i.e. by 28th of February.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Reasonable costs, levies or other charges as determined by the School from time to time for extra-curricular activities. Invoiced separately and payable in the amount and on the date set by the School's invoice.

PURCHASES
The School's advertised purchase price or, if no purchase price is advertised, the School's cost or price determined by it. Invoiced separately and payable in the amount and on the date set by the School's invoice.

EQUIPMENT OR OTHER SCHOOL PROPERTY
The actual procurement, repair or replacement cost incurred or to be incurred by the School. Invoiced separately and payable in the amount and on the date set by the School's invoice.

FAMILY DISCOUNT
A family discount can be claimed by families with multiple children at Tasmanian Catholic schools or colleges, in accordance with the Catholic Education Commission Tasmania School Fees Assistance Policy. The discount rate is:

3 children	10% discount on tuition fees for each child
4 children	20% discount on tuition fees for each child
5+ children	30% discount on tuition fees for each child

If claiming the family discount, please provide details of siblings at Tasmanian Catholic schools or colleges **other than** [school name]. Enrolment may be verified with the named school or college.

DEBTOR ID/DEBTOR ACCOUNT NAME	

☐ We wish to claim the family discount

Sibling Name	Grade	Catholic School/College

FEE ASSISTANCE
Fee assistance may be available for families experiencing financial difficulty.

Would you like someone from the school to contact you regarding fee assistance?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Invoice Terms
Invoices will be issued to you at the commencement of the new school year. **Full payment is due 30 days from the date of the invoice**, unless you have made alternative payment arrangements using a payment arrangement form.

If you have not previously entered into a payment arrangement and would like to do so, please request a payment arrangement form from [main office/other location].

Please note that any payment arrangement entered into is purely administrative. Notwithstanding the amount invoiced, in the event of default on payment arrangements the total amount outstanding will become immediately due. The school reserves its right to take steps to recover payment in full.