# Star of the Sea Catholic College Newsletter

*Tuesday 10th November 2026*

## From the Principal

If you keep up with international news you might be aware that, in America, some elections were held recently where the Democratic Party had a big win over President Donald Trump's Republican Party. For a while now, President Trump had been trying to tell Americans how great the country is going and how much better off everyone is with him as President. Clearly, the voters didn't agree.

One of President Trump's strategies seems to be one of projection. That is, he gives vague statements of how well things are going without any evidence of it. And when someone challenges it, he either calls them stupid or moves on to the next vague statement. By using terms like "everyone" or "all of them," he tries to convince voters that they are all on the same page.

It is something that schools do quite a bit, as well. I can say "Star of the Sea is a safe and comfortable school where everyone is really happy to be here." But what evidence do I have to say that? I could walk around the school and come to that conclusion, but if I actually asked the students, would they agree? We project these positive statements out to everyone with the hope that no one will question them and we won't have to find out things we don't want to know.

We also can project negative statements in schools. "That class is really difficult." "Everyone hates that Principal!" But if we were to question these statements and look for data to prove them, we might find they are not as accurate as we think they are.

We all do a bit of projecting at some time in our lives. If we think about the statements we make when talking to people, we say things to try and convince people about one thing or another. "Everybody loves that new restaurant." "Everybody's watching that TV show." "Nobody does that anymore - it's so out-of-date!" "Everyone will be going to the party - why aren't we?"

Of course the problem with projecting is that we start to fool ourselves. When we say these things out loud, we convince ourselves that what we are saying is actually true, and we don't have any evidence to back it up. We lose our curiosity. "A couple of people I have spoken to said they really enjoyed that new restaurant. I wonder what it is like?" "I've had three different people suggest that TV show to me. Maybe I'll give it a go." This way of speaking is not only more accurate, but exploring things deeper.

Star of the Sea has to be careful that we don't project things which are not actually true. Just because a couple of people are giving good feedback doesn't mean everybody agrees. We need to keep exploring, keep questioning, keep looking for evidence that we are on the right track, and that we are being the people God calls us to be.

**Richard Chapman**
**Principal**



***Attentiveness, Hospitality and Compassion.***

All generalisations are false, including this one. -
**Mark Twain**

**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
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sots.reception@catholic.tas.edu.au
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Star of the Sea Catholic College

SchoolTV

# Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart
Spirituality



Attentiveness
Hospitality
Compassion

## Psalm for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Happy are those who fear the Lord.**



O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

## *Star of the Sea Mass Times*

Mass times for this week:

***Sunday Mass*** - 5:00 pm Saturday

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.

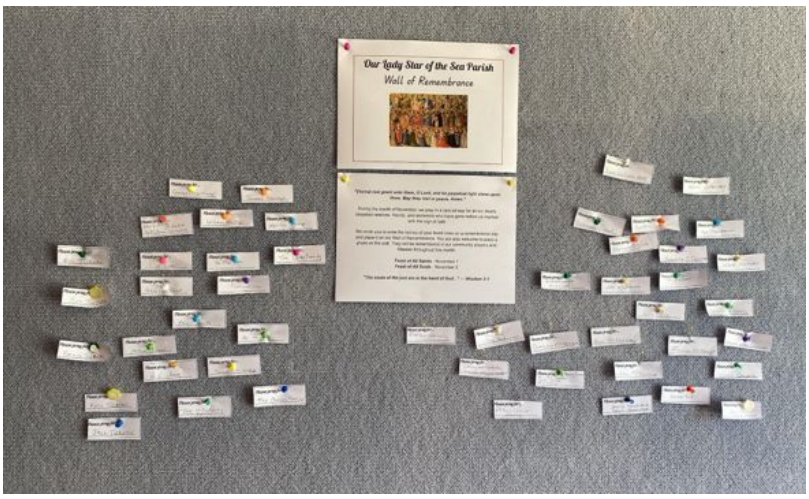
## Wall of Remembrance

In the Catholic Church, November is traditionally a time when we remember and pray for those who have died.

In the foyer of the church we have our Wall of Remembrance. People are invited to write the names of friends and family who have died and pin it to the wall.

We remember all of these people in our prayers at Mass on Sunday.

If you would like to contribute to the wall, the church is open this Saturday for Mass at 5pm. Alternatively, you are welcome to call into the office and we can take down the names and pin them up for you.

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## Staff Movements

Mrs Halley is on leave on Thursday and next Monday.
Mrs Robotham is at a meeting tomorrow and on Friday.
Mrs Sikkens is on leave on Monday.
Mr Laurence and Mrs Freeman are at professional learning next Monday and Tuesday.

## NHSSA Athletics Carnival

Our secondary students will compete in the NHSSA Athletics Carnival on Thursday. We wish them well and know they will compete to the best of their ability.

## Donations for Presentation Feast Day

For our Presentation Feast Day on Friday 20th November, students can wear casual clothes. But rather than bringing in a gold coin, we ask all students to bring in an item of non-perishable foodstuff that we can donate to Vinnies. It can be Christmas-themed if you want!

## 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.

***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). There are also spaces in Year 10, although most of the other secondary classes are full or close to.

The 2027 Year 7 class will have their second transition afternoon on Friday and their whole-day transition next Tuesday 17th November.

## School Lunches

School lunches will be switched this week due to Grade 5/6 camp.

**Wednesday -** Prep to Grade 2
**Friday -** Grades 3-6

## *Term 4 Primary Assembly Roster*

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

**Please note that this roster may change**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WEEK 4 | Thursday 12th November | 12.10 pm | Kinder & Grade 6 |
| WEEK 5 | Thursday 19th November | 12.10 pm | Grade 6 |
| WEEK 6 | Thursday 26th November | 12.10 pm | TBA |

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## From the Deputy Principal

### Star of the Sea Chess Tournament

On Monday 23rd November we will hold our Star of the Sea Chess Tournament. This will be held at school in the Hall. Students who have some experience in playing Chess are very welcome to enter the competition. Mrs Robotham will be collecting names of interested participants over the coming week. This event is only for Star of the Sea students and is a fantastic opportunity for any students interested in Chess to test out their skills.

### Presentation Day

On Friday November 20th we will gather as a school community to celebrate the Presentation Sisters as part of our Presentation Day events. In the morning we will gather in the Church for a service focused on the role the Presentation Sisters have played in the establishment of the school and the importance of the legacy of Nano Nano and the order she founded. Students are invited to wear casual clothes and are asked to bring a non-perishable grocery item to donate. There will be a range of food options available for lunch and more information about these options will be published next week. In the afternoon there will be a range of activities for students to participate in and these will occur in the Primary yard area and within some of the classrooms, as well as the gym. We look forward to seeing everyone participating in this fantastic school event.

### Remembrance Day

Tomorrow, November 11th is Remembrance Day. Remembrance Day is an important occasion in Australia when we pause to remember and honour the men and women who have served our country in times of war and conflict, particularly those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of others. It is a time to reflect on their courage, commitment and selflessness, and to recognise the freedoms and peace that we enjoy today because of their service. As a school community, we will come together Wednesday morning, to participate in a special gathering. During this time, we will reflect on the sacrifices made by those who have served in the First and Second World Wars and subsequent conflicts, acknowledge the bravery and dedication of our service men and women, and observe a moment of silence as a mark of our respect, gratitude and remembrance.

Students in Grades 9 and 10 will attend the community service, representing our school as part of the local community event. Our College Captains will lay a wreath at this event on behalf of the school. We ask all students to make a concerted effort to be dressed in their formal academic uniform in a neat and tidy manner.



## Year 5 / 6 Camp

This week our Grade 5 and 6 students are exploring some of the South East and Southern parts of Tasmania on their three day camp experience. Yesterday they headed off on their camp adventure, stopping off at Campbell Town and Oatlands. After a long drive they arrived at their accommodation at Dodges Ferry. They arrived at low tide and this provided a wonderful environment for exploring the rock pools. Later in the day the students participated in rock climbing and a crate stacking challenge where they were connected to a safety harness that enabled them to safely stack milk crates, one on top of the other, climbing higher and higher as they completed the challenge. We are looking forward to more updates about their adventures as their camp unfolds.









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.

SetUp for Success

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## Kinimathatakinta/George Town Youth Art Prize 2026

Recently 3 of our students participated in the 2026 Kinimathatakinta/ George Town Youth Art Prize with Paityn Tunks winning the 13-17 age group.

We congratulate her on this  wonderful achievement.

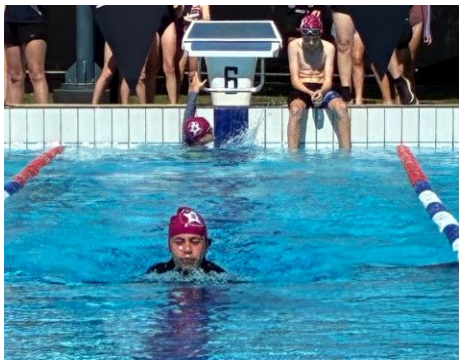
The Youth Art Prize provides a fantastic opportunity for young people to showcase their artistic talent, share their unique perspectives, and inspire our community through creativity.

You can check out all the artwork on display at the Jim Mooney Gallery, George Town. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this year's Youth Art Prize such a success.



## TPSSA Swimming Carnival













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## Interested in being part of the George Town Youth Impact Council for 2027?

The George Town Youth Impact Council is made up of individuals aged 12-25 that live or attend school in the George Town municipality and that have a heart to help shape a positive future for all young people in the community.
They are passionate about representing young people about issues, concerns and opportunities that can be generated at a local government level, whilst having a finger on the pulse of state and national influences.
New members receive free merch, participate in regular meetings, volunteer at youth-led and Council events, have the chance to attend forums, trips and camps, and create new opportunities for local youth.

Drop in to the Launchpad Youth Space on a Wednesday to find out more about the opportunity to be part of a youth-led team that makes a real impact! Ask questions, discover new programs, meet the team.
Open to new potential members every Wednesday in November

**Nov 11 - sit in on a meeting with current members open between 3.00-5.00pm**
**Nov 18 - open between 3.00-5.00pm**
**Nov 25 - open between 3.00-5.00pm**

Applications are currently open and can be found at https://georgetown.tas.gov.au/youth-impact-council

**Stars of the Week - 5th November 2026**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Kinder** | **Riley Bezemer-Mahoney** | For being such a reliable and trustworthy Kindergarten student in every situation. |
| **Prep** | **Nirvan Mahamda-Arachchilage** | For clever thinking and working hard with his extra learning. |
| **Grade 1/2** | **Zoe McKitrick** | For always being ready to learn. |
| **Grade 3/4** | **Eliana Dodge** | For consistent effort across all learning areas. |
| **Grade 4/5** | **Sofia Northey** | For her kindness and consideration in her relationships with other students. |
| **Grade 6** | **Madeline Paine** | For demonstrating resilience in overcoming difficult friendship situations. You have shown great maturity and leadership. Well done! |

# Calendar Term 4 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Term 4 - 2026*** | |
| ***Monday 9th - Wed 11th November*** | Grade 5/6 Camp |
| ***Wednesday 11th November*** | Remembrance Day |
| ***Thursday 12th November*** | NHSSA Div 2 Athletics Carnival |
| ***Friday 13th November*** | Year 7 2027 transition afternoon |
| ***Tuesday 17th November*** | Year 7 2027 transition day |
| ***Wednesday 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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