
Important Dates

P&F Meeting 7pm
Tuesday 7 February

**SOS Swimming
Carnival Yr3-6**
Wednesday 8 February

**School Tour 9.30am
and 4.30pm**
Monday 13 February

**Meet the Teacher
Week**
Monday 13 February

**Welcome Mass
1.45pm**
Thursday 16 February

**Cartnivale Parade
9.15am**
Friday 17 February

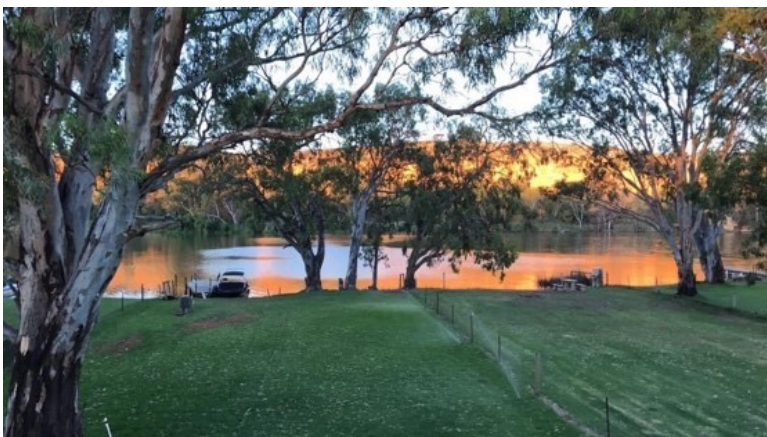
02.02.23

From the Principal

Dear Families,

We hope this newsletter finds you well as we kick off a new school year. We are excited to welcome both returning and new families to our school community.

It has been a different break for my family as our shack is an island, surrounded by water, fortunately it did not reach the bottom of building as it is on stilts. We lost access to our shack once the water crossed the road, soon after we broke up and have not been able to return since, except for one visit in our row boat!



This is what our property usually looks like.



This is what it looks like this morning!

I have been caravanning between Adelaide and Sydney. I took a tour of the Murray River from Murray Bridge to Mildura, it was an amazing sight. Hard to believe that there is so much water though. I then got off the highway and travelled through all the small country towns, which was well worth doing.

On Monday we welcomed 78 Reception children and their families, many of the children having their first day at school. We also have several new staff members who have joined us, Kelly Manera (Acting Deputy), Karyn Burlow (Finance Manager), Kirsty Jewell (Music), Sarah Helmore (Reception), Georgia Borlace (Year 1) and Demi Loustos (Year 4).

This year we have started with 518 children in our school.

We also welcome our new Parish Priest Father Manu Kumbidiyamackal. Father Manu joins us from the Para Hills/Modbury Parish where he has been for ten years. Our School Leadership Team met with Father Manu to discuss how our school and parish work together in partnership. Our first event will be our whole school Mass to celebrate the beginning of the year. You can find further information about this in the newsletter.



The staff returned for three days of professional learning last week and in this newsletter, you will find information about what was being worked on that week.

The building works are progressing well and are on-target. There will be a couple of weeks of inactivity as we gear up for the next stage and we appreciate that this has been well timed for the start of the school year!

You would already have noticed the physical changes that the building brings, such as entry and exits on Military Road and the front office being in the library. Parents can still access the school during school hours using the Military Road gate (use pool fence gate to gain access).

Less obvious is the change to the school day, where we are really running two schools on the one site this year. We have done this to maximise the play space at recess and lunch for our students, with the loss of green courts to the building project.

So, this year we have adjusted our bell times to the following:

RECEPTION TO YEAR 2		YEAR 3 TO YEAR 6	
8:45	Move to your classroom	8:45	Move to your classroom
10:35	Recess	11:05	Recess
10:55	Return to class	11:25	Return to class for

12:25	Lunch play			lessons
12:55	Return to class for eating lunch after which lessons begin		12:55	Eating lunch and 10 mins later go to play
			1:35	Return to class
3:05	End of the day		3:05	End of the day

RETIREMENTS

Helen Kolaczkos and Margaret Kluzek, our fantastic team in the library, have announced that they will be retiring this term. Both have been involved in our school for many years, Margaret always in the library but Helen having spent many years as a classroom teacher, before moving into the library. We wish both ladies all the best in their retirement.

As usual, schools are very busy places! Please take note of the School Calendar for this term as it has a number of School activities, some of them approaching quite quickly.

We look forward to a successful and productive school year and are eager to work together to provide the best education for our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Regards

Damian Weeks

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Recent News

02.02.23

From the Acting Deputy Principal

A warm welcome to you all as we commence our new school year! I trust you had an enjoyable holiday break spending time with your family and friends. I was fortunate enough to spend some quality time with my three children and husband up in Queensland enjoying sunshine, activities and indoor skydiving.... which I highly recommend for any thrill seekers. Funnily enough my 'highly spirited' three-year-old took centre stage and went into the wind tunnel twice much to the delight of all the onlookers outside.

It is wonderful to be back and part of the Star of the Sea School community. There has been a few changes during my three-year absence, primarily the new building works, however as I reflect on my return, I am reminded of the strong sense of community, teaching and learning rigour and inclusive values that continue to remain front and centre – all of which are integral to my educational and leadership ideals.

I look forward to the term ahead, especially getting to know the students and families I have not yet met and reconnecting with the familiar faces. Please come up and say hello if you see me around the school grounds.



This week our learners have been eased into the school year with a focus in all classrooms centring around relationships and wellbeing. This school wide focus aims to create positive and safe learning environments for all our students and strengthen relationships with peers and the teachers. Additionally, students and teachers co-construct expectations and desired behaviours for the year ahead and

unpack our school values and motto. Our intention is that this two-week focus builds the foundation for a successful year of learning and belonging here at Star of the Sea School for 2023.

Wishing you a wonderful term ahead!

Go well

Kelly Manera

Acting Deputy Principal

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02.02.23

Staff Professional Learning

Our Teachers returned to school for three days of professional learning last week. We were able to focus on several areas.

SEQTA

SEQTA is a student management system which has primarily been used in many High Schools. If you have a child in High School, you may be familiar with some of the features and benefits of using this platform. Catholic Primary Schools in SA have now begun using SEQTA and will begin to use this platform to report student progress to parents. Here at Star of the Sea, our teachers have spent the past year exploring how to use SEQTA to plan and program lessons and units of work. At the beginning of this year our teachers engaged in many hours of professional development to ensure they are proficient in using this management system. This year, all end of semester reports will be generated via SEQTA. This means our reporting format and process will look different to how it has been in the past. We are currently working with CESA on this process and hopefully we will have more information on how our reports will look as the semester progresses.

CLARITY

One of the main foci for the week was on the Clarity Framework, our system wide initiative and one its main components - Student Agency. This means providing opportunities for students to be active participants in their education and the tools necessary to reflect on their own learning. They are involved in decision making, self assessment, self reflection and goal setting,

As part of our work in Week 0, the staff explored different ways in which each year level will incorporate goal setting into their learning space to help their students become active participants in their own learning. The aim for this term is that:

each child will set their own personal, Literacy and Numeracy goals.

goals to be recorded and visible to students

time will be given for students to reflect on their goals before setting new ones

How each year level establishes and records their goals will be different but we are very much looking forward to watching our students become more independent, self reflective, enthusiastic learners.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

The Australian Curriculum is a comprehensive national curriculum framework that outlines the learning and development outcomes for students in primary and secondary schools across Australia. The curriculum covers subjects including English, mathematics, science, history, geography, and the arts, as well as personal and social development, health and physical education, and design and technology. The curriculum is designed to be inclusive and responsive to the needs and interests of all students, and it is regularly reviewed and updated to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. Last year version 9 was published and we spent time looking at the changes and the effect that this will have on what we are teaching this year.

VOICE CARE FOR TEACHERS

We were very fortunate to have a session run by Speech Therapist Elizabeth Sarris (a parent in our school) on Practical strategies for minimising voice strain. It goes without saying that Teachers use their voice "a lot" and it was good to have a professional in the area share their knowledge with us. Thanks Liz!

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Congratulations to our Year 6 House Captains who were presented with their badges.

Red Team	Blue Team	Green Team	Gold Team
Zoe	Emilio	Zara	Dylan
Tynan	Ava	Frankie	Saoirse
Anthony	Harry	Xavier	Sienna
Sophie	Isabella	Sabrina	Stirling



02.02.23

Meet our New 2023 Receptions



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Acting Religious Education Co-Ordinators Term 1

At the end of last year, we said farewell to Mrs Stella Foley our school APRIM as she began her retirement. Stella played a large part in our school community and will be sorely missed. In 2023 however, we are pleased to announce Dominique Laurendi and Sheena Pattinson as our 2 Acting Religious Education Coordinator (REC) for Term 1. Dominique and Sheena have taught at STAR for many years now and are both part of the Leaders of Learning Team. Together, they bring a wealth of knowledge to the role, especially after

teaching in the Catholic Education system for over 20 years each.

Sheena will carry out the role of REC on Mondays and Tuesdays and Dominique on Thursday and Friday. We are very excited to have Dominique and Sheena leading our faith formation this term and are looking forward to the Masses and Liturgical events they are preparing. The first of these will be our Whole School Welcome Mass which will be held at 1:45pm on Thursday 16 February, Week 3. All parents are warmly invited to attend if they are available.

Parents Using the Parish Carpark

We are fortunate to be able to use the Parish carpark in the mornings and afternoons. In the morning there is a Parish Mass at 9:15am so...school parking is available only to 9am.

From tomorrow morning we members of our School Leadership Team will be monitoring this situation.

When using the carpark please observe the following:

- 10kph speed limit
- Enter via Marlborough St
- Exit via Seaview Rd

Thank you for your co operation

Covid19 update 2023

COVID-19 continues to affect the community and we all have a part to play in keeping our school community safe and minimising the disruption to learning that can occur when illness circulates at school.

- Students who are unwell should stay home if they have cold or flu-like symptoms and get tested for COVID-19.
 - If students have COVID-19, please advise the school as soon as possible, and stay at home until all acute symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, cough and fever) have cleared.
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Residential Collection Notice

The Australian Government Department of Education (the department) would like to notify you that we have requested for your child's school to provide residential address and other information.

Please see attached for more information.

Cartnevale



Dear Families,

On Friday the 17 February (Week 3) we will be hosting a celebration of Carnevale and Art coming together, known as CARTNEVALE. Towards the end of last year, our students made creative masks to wear for the parade and completed an art piece for this festive occasion.

We warmly welcome families to attend our inaugural CARTNEVALE beginning at 9.15am on the oval. Student's artwork from last year will be displayed in the Stella Maris Room and can be viewed at the end of the parade. Coffee will also be available in the morning for purchase.

Students are invited to participate in an Italian themed art competition. Gelati will also be on offer with orders to occur prior to the day. Details of both the competition and gelati will follow.

We are very excited about this event and look forward to seeing many families join us for the celebration.

Kind Regards,

Lisa Lata (Art Teacher) and Tania Condelli (Italian Teacher)

Notifying the school of an absentee

A reminder that all absentees must be reported to the school.

The 2 options to notify an absence:

Call 8115 7400 and press 1

Email us at absent@star.catholic.edu.au with the subject being ABSENT and provide us with the name of your child, their class and the reason for the absence.

If you email the teacher your child's absence, please also let the Front Office know by using the same email address absent@star.catholic.edu.au

Thank you for your support

School Safety Program



The City of Charles Sturt has implemented a comprehensive traffic management and parking scheme in the streets surrounding your child's school to help make it a safe place.

[Click here to read the safety tips.](#)

2025 Reception Enrolment

Enrolment Information Needed

To assist us with future planning, please ensure you have enrolled younger siblings. We are currently enrolling for 2025.

If you are not sure, please contact Ms Vivian Andrews at the Front Office or email: vdepalma@star.catholic.edu.au

Thank you.

Meet the Teacher



In week three we will be offering an opportunity to meet your child's teacher. Tomorrow you will receive an email with all the instructions on how to book a time. The aim of these chats is for parents to share relevant information about their child and for the teacher to listen, sort of in reverse to the Parent/Teacher interviews later in the year. For those families who have a child with a Personalised Plan for Learning (PPL) we would like to hear your opinions on the document, what was successful, what you found challenging and your thoughts on the next steps.



Thanks to some wonderful volunteers the pre-loved Uniform Shop has a Term 1 standard opening time of Wednesday mornings 850am-920am.

Unfortunately, at this time we are unable to operate click and collect service, so please head into the shop to see what we have.

We are always taking donations so please either drop the into the preloved uniform shop on Wednesday mornings or into the office during operating hours.

Just a reminder, all the money raised from the sales of preloved uniforms go straight back into the school, supporting our APRIM to support students and parents with friendship and relationship building resources.

Thanks so much for your support.



Sports Day Thursday 13 April, Henley Oval.

Healing Mass



Healing Mass Thursday 9 February Rosary 7pm Mass 7.30pm including the Sacrament of Anointing, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Sacrament of Reconciliation, individual blessings with the Blessed Sacrament in the Monstrance, Prayer Ministry with Candlelit music in the Spirit of Taize, Tea/coffee light supper. At Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church 420 Seaview Road Henley Beach. All welcome Enquiries Pauline 0403002240

Thank you God bless Pauline Cotton 0403002240 Co-ordinator Living Waters Prayer Group