

Important Dates

School Board Meeting 7pm
Monday 17 February 2025

Sacramental Information Evening
Wednesday 26 February 2025

Family Fun Day
Sunday 2 March 2025

P&F Meeting
Monday 3 March 2025

Shrove Tuesday
Tuesday 4 March 2025

Ash Wednesday
Wednesday 5 March 2025

SAPSASA Airport Districts Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 5 March 2025

13.02.25

From the Co Principals

Welcome to Week 3! It has been wonderful to see our students settling into school routines, building strong relationships with their peers, teachers, and ESOs, and engaging in positive learning experiences. We have especially enjoyed getting to know many of our new Star of the Sea students and their families. Thank you all for the warm welcome you have extended to us and for your ongoing support.

We truly appreciate your role in supporting your child's success by ensuring they arrive at school on time, dressed in the correct uniform, and prepared with healthy snacks and minimal waste lunches.

Important Reminders:

- **Student Supervision:** Our duty of care for students begins when a teacher is on duty at **8.20AM** and concludes at **3.25PM**.
- Please ensure that children are not at school before **8.20AM** unless they are attending OSHC, and that they are collected promptly by **3.25PM** unless they are attending OSHC.

If you would like to get in touch with us at any time, please email principal@star.catholic.edu.au This ensures all correspondence reaches both of us as Co-Principals.

As Co-Principals, we are both at school on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. On Wednesdays and Thursdays, we alternate our days off site, with one of us leading the school each day. This approach ensures strong, consistent leadership is always present to support our students, families, and staff.

WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT PARENT FORUM AND AGM

We are excited to invite all Star of the Sea parents to our **Welcome Wine and Cheese Night Parent Forum and AGM**. This will be a fantastic opportunity to connect, engage in meaningful discussions, and gain insights into what is planned for the year ahead. It will also be one of multiple forums where you can gather in a friendly and relaxed setting to contribute your ideas and help shape our Strategic Plan for 2025-2028.

WHEN: MONDAY MARCH 17 at 6:30PM IN THE STELLA MARIS BUILDING

Come and enjoy some delicious nibbles and wine while connecting with other families and staff in a social atmosphere.

RSVP: Please complete the [MS Forms](#) RSVP by **Wednesday 17 March 2025**. We look forward to seeing you there!

JOIN OUR SCHOOL BOARD – MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We are looking for passionate and engaged members of our school community to join the School Board in 2025! This is a fantastic opportunity to be involved in shaping the future of our school and supporting the education and wellbeing of our students.

Being a member of the School Board is a rewarding experience, offering:

- The chance to contribute to key decisions that impact our school
- A deeper understanding of how the school operates
- The opportunity to collaborate with staff and other community members
- A meaningful way to support students and families

What's involved?

The commitment is only two meetings per term, making it an achievable and fulfilling way to be involved.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Monday, March 17 where new members will be welcomed. If you are interested in nominating or would like to find out more, please contact principal@star.catholic.edu.au.

We encourage parents, caregivers, and community members to consider joining – your voice matters!

BOOK A CHAT

It has been wonderful to see so many families taking the opportunity to meet their child's class teacher. Our teachers have found these meetings incredibly valuable for building learner profiles and fostering strong partnerships to support each child's growth. At Star of the Sea, open communication is vital and always welcomed. Your child's class teacher should be your first point of contact via email if you have any concerns or celebrations to share.

We also appreciate the positive feedback from parents and staff regarding the use of MS Forms to book these chats. Thank you for providing such valuable information—it truly helps us set every child up for success.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

What a fantastic event our Years 3–6 Swimming Carnival turned out to be! Students who participated embraced the opportunity to compete with enthusiasm and school spirit. Congratulations to Fitzpatrick who were the overall winners of the day.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Kristen Victory for her dedication and countless hours spent organising this event. Our students truly appreciate the opportunities that she has created for them. We are also incredibly grateful to the many parent volunteers who supported the event—without you, days like this wouldn't be possible. We look forward to our next sporting highlight, Sports Day, later this term.



CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL & CHILD PROTECTION CURRICULUM

At Catholic Education South Australia (CESA), the safety and wellbeing of every child is our highest priority. We are committed to ensuring that every child feels safe, supported, and protected from all forms of abuse, including bullying, harassment, and neglect.

In line with CESA's commitment to child safety, our school is a mandated child-safe environment, guided by legal policies and procedures that all staff and volunteers must follow. We believe that every child has the right to learn and grow in an environment where they feel secure and valued.

As part of our child protection efforts, our school is required to teach the **Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum (KS:CPC)**. This curriculum helps students develop the knowledge and skills to recognise, respond to, and report unsafe situations. It is delivered in an age-appropriate way to support children's understanding of their rights to safety and respect.

The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) requires all Catholic schools to implement robust child safety policies and practices, including comprehensive child safety education. To learn more about current child protection policies and resources, please [click here](#) to visit the GESA website.

Parents and Friends Committee 2025

We are excited to introduce our new Parents & Friends (P&F) Team for 2025!

The members include: Jade Pounendis, Belinda Bird, Marina D’Cruz, Emma Russo, Jemma O’Leary, Anna Wilson, Krystal Rossetto, Cassandra Altamura, Candice Deutrom, Gabrielle Cowie and Daniella Nankervis.

They’ve been busy planning a range of fantastic events throughout the year, kicking off with our upcoming Family Fun Day. This special event will be held at Star of the Sea on our oval, from 11 AM to 2PM on Sunday 2 March. Join us for an afternoon filled with fun, including free games and activities for the kids, along with a complimentary sausage sizzle. It is the perfect chance to connect with our school community, enjoy quality family time, and meet the P&F Team. We’d love to see you there!

2025 TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Please find below our 2025 Staff List.

Teaching Staff	Class
Elyce Davidson	RD
Kelsey Thompson	RT
Tammy Wagner	RWC
Kirsty Crouch	RWC
Sarah Helmore	RH
Caterina Mazzarolo	1MF
Caterina Ferragamo	1MF
Morgan Taylor	1T
Daniella Pipicella	1PI
Vivian Iasiello	1PI
Mel Teelow	2TD
Nicci Dixon	2TD
Iliana Toumbas	2T
Meg Fuller	2F
Kelly Stevens	3S
Geordi Caridi	3C
Tamara Golic	3G
Mel Tokic	4TO
Maria Trimarchi	4TR
Ella Borlase	4B
Kopano Shepheard	5S
Anthony Pigliacelli	5PH
Abbey Hinge	5PH
Bianca Annese	5A
Sarah Merrett	6MC
Sam Carpenter (From Term 3)	6MC

Jess Watson	6W
Adam Francis	6F
Abby Griffiths (replacing Iliana until Week 5, Term 1)	2T
Specialists Teachers/Other Roles	Role
Kristen Victory	PE
Lisa Lata	Art
Tania Condelli	Italian Little Stars (From Term 2)
Kirsty Jewell	Music
Kaya Nicholls (From Term 2)	Music
Skye Llewellyn/Abbey Hinge	Science
Kim Martin	IT/STEM
Allison Sammut	Literacy Intervention
Katrina Frangiosa	Literacy Intervention
Administration, Canteen and OSHC Staff	Role
Karyn Burlow	Finance Manager
Michael Burgan	Maintenance Manager
Vivian Andrews	Administration Officer
Lisa Sghrippa	Administration Officer
Tarah Will	Administration Officer
Ben Stewart	IT Support
Miffy Young	OSHC Director
Elly Tsinivits	OSHC Assistant Director
Dee Taggert	Canteen Manager
Mel Turow	Canteen
Leanne Cenzato	WHS

We wish you a wonderful weekend ahead with your family.

Go well,

Annette Diassinias and Kelly Manera
Co-Principals

[View this article online to read more](#)

Recent News

13.02.25

From the Assistant Principal/ Learning and Wellbeing Co Ordinator

Preparing for NAPLAN 2025

As we begin the new school year, our students in Years 3 and 5 are preparing for the upcoming NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) assessments. These assessments, scheduled for March, provide valuable insights into students' literacy and numeracy skills, helping to inform our teaching and learning practices at a whole-school and individual level.

NAPLAN results support teachers in identifying strengths and areas for improvement, allowing us to tailor instruction to meet the diverse learning needs of our students. Alongside other school-based assessment data, NAPLAN contributes to a well-rounded understanding of student progress and helps guide future curriculum planning.

We acknowledge that NAPLAN is just one measure of student achievement, and we encourage all students to approach the assessments with a positive mindset. Our focus is on growth and learning, and we support students in building their confidence and skills leading up to the tests.

Exemptions and Withdrawals

While participation in NAPLAN is encouraged, parents and caregivers who wish to apply for an exemption or withdraw their child from the assessments are welcome to contact the school leadership team. This process must be completed before the testing period, and we are happy to discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

The National Assessment Program (NAP) site has demonstration assessments available for students to become more aware of the assessment conditions prior to the administration period, <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>

If you would like further information regarding NAPLAN or the exemption and withdrawal process, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school office.



Supporting Student Learning Through a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

At our school, we are committed to providing all students with the support they need to succeed in their learning journey. We implement a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to ensure that every child receives the appropriate level of instruction and intervention based on their individual needs.

Tier 1: High-Quality Classroom Instruction

Our foundation for student learning begins with high-quality Tier 1 classroom teaching. In literacy, we use Playberry Laser, an explicit instruction approach that ensures all students engage with structured, systematic, and evidence-based literacy learning. This method supports the development of strong foundational skills in reading and writing for all students.

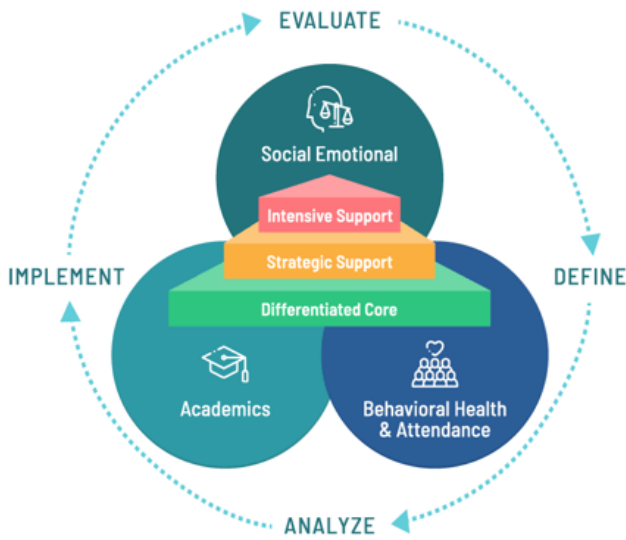
Tier 2 and Tier 3: Targeted Support and Intervention

For students who require additional support, we provide Tier 2 and Tier 3 intervention groups. These small-group sessions focus on tailored and explicit learning points designed to help students develop confidence and experience success. By providing structured and intensive support, we ensure that every child has the opportunity to progress at their own pace and reach their full potential.

All parents whose children participate in the intervention programs are consulted regarding their child's inclusion. Students do not remain in these groups permanently as these are formed on whole-school data sets and monitored closely for students to return to Tier 1 classroom instruction when adequately prepared.

This model will also be applied to student wellbeing programs throughout the year.

If you have any questions about how our MTSS framework supports student learning or if you would like to discuss your child's specific learning needs, please do not hesitate to contact Linda Clune, Literacy Intervention Key Teacher, or Nick Ryan, Assistant Principal Learning and Wellbeing.



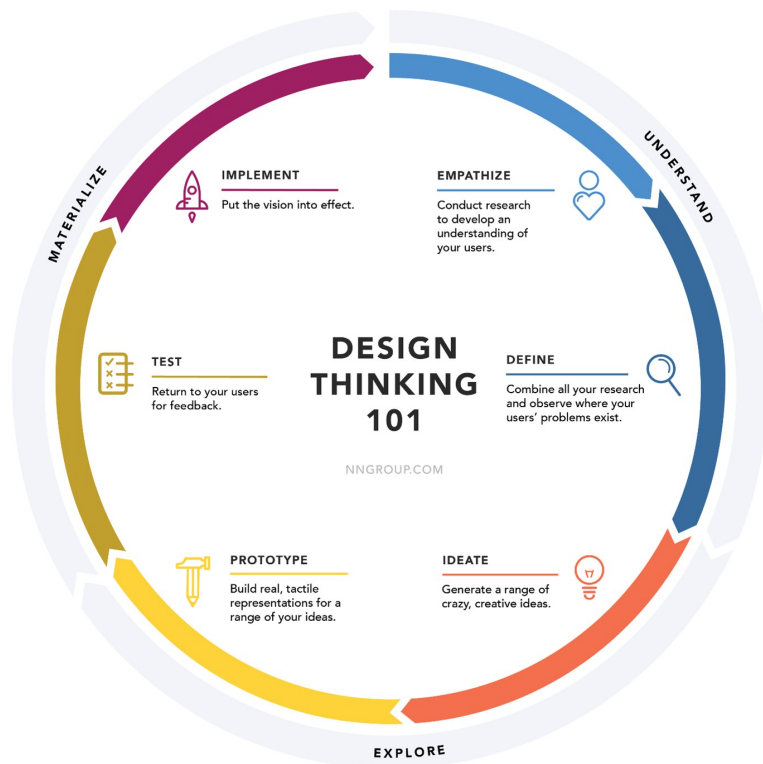
Providing opportunities for all students to experience success

We are excited to announce the launch of our newly developed Enrichment Program! This initiative is designed to extend students who have demonstrated competence in their year-level curriculum and provide them with opportunities to further enrich their learning.

Students in the program will engage in the Design Thinking Model, a problem-solving approach that encourages creativity, critical thinking, and innovation. Through hands-on, inquiry-based learning, students will explore real-world challenges, collaborate with peers, and develop solutions using a structured design process.

In addition to the in-class enrichment activities, students will have the opportunity to showcase their skills and competencies through various external programs and competitions. These experiences will allow students to extend their learning beyond the classroom and gain valuable insights into different fields of interest.

We look forward to seeing our students thrive in this enriching learning environment and celebrate their successes along the way. Students who have been selected for participation in this program in Semester 1 will receive a letter within the next few weeks seeking permission for participation in the program.



Kind regards
 Nick Ryan, Assistant Principal Learning and Wellbeing.

[View this article online to read more](#)

From the APRIM

Today we came together as a school community to celebrate our first Whole School Mass for 2025. Our theme was 'Walking Together in Hope'. It was a beautiful celebration and a wonderful way to begin our school year together.

Our student leaders, House Captains, Justice Leaders and SRC reps were all presented with their badges which were blessed by Father. Our staff were also commissioned into our community in recognition of the wonderful work they do every day.

Congratulations to all these students on their important leadership roles in our school.



Student Representative Council

What is the Student Representative Council (SRC)?

The Student Council is a student-based group designed to help promote school spirit, student voice and leadership among students.

Students participating in the Student Council maintain a high standard of personal conduct, which reflect our values and school motto.

Student council meetings will be facilitated by Dominique Laurendi and Nick Ryan.

Congratulations to the following students.

RT	Xavier & Daisy	RD	Anesu & Mila	RH	Amina & Archie	RWC	Olivia & Renan
1T	Ava & Max	1PI	Oliver & Georgia	1MF	Nikolas & Ayla		
2T	Jacob & Penelope	2TD	Remi & Isla	2F	Alexander & Georgina		
3C	Hayley & Maximus	3G	Lucas & Emma	3S	Bridie & Hamish		
4TO	Zac & Zoe	4B	Thomas & Maia	4TR	Stefan & Teodora		
5A	Matilda & Eddie	5P	Bodhi & Tea	5S	Ruby & Harrison		
6F	Jasmine & Benjamin	6W	Lucca & Sienna	6M	Aurelia & Jesse		

Justice Leaders

This year we had a large number of students apply to be a Justice Leader. I was overwhelmed with the amazing passion and dedication these students have shown towards Social Justice and wanting to make our school a better place for all.

I am very excited to work with these wonderful students this year.

Aurelia	Pippa	Zara	Dillon
Leo	Jasmine	Aisha	Taj
Alice	Sienna	Zoe	Zara
Jess	Alyssa	Jed	Millie
Claire	Maia	Emma	



With Gratitude,
Dominique Laurendi APRIM

[View this article online to read more](#)

Parents and Friends Committee



FREE

Bring a picnic rug, drinks and food.
Let's have a fun day together!

THE PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE
PRESENTS

ENTRY ONLY VIA MAIN GATES
ON MILITARY ROAD

FAMILY FUN DAY



SUNDAY

**2ND MARCH
11am - 2pm**

- SAUSAGE SIZZLE • FACE PAINTING
- PUSH CARTS • HULA HOOP MAKING
- BALLOON TWISTER • GIANT YARD GAMES

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
ICE CREAM - COFFEE - FAIRY FLOSS

LOCATION - SCHOOL OVAL AND MDC COURTS

Join Us for Our Family Fun Day!

We're excited to invite you to our **Family Fun Day** on **Sunday 2 March**! It's the perfect opportunity for kids to enjoy a fun-filled day while

parents and grandparents mingle and connect.

Bring along a rug, your favorite non-alcoholic drinks, and relax under the sunshine as you soak up the vibrant community atmosphere on our oval. A delicious sausage sizzle will be available to keep everyone fueled for the fun!

Don't forget to complete the [RSVP form](#) so we can cater for everyone—we'd love to see as many families there as possible!

Jade Pounendis & Belinda Bird
P&F Committee President & Treasurer



Have you heard of Children's University?

Since 2016, our school has proudly supported this innovative program that provides exciting learning opportunities outside of the classroom. The Children's University program encourages children and families to engage in educational activities beyond what we offer at school.

Children in Years 2 to 6 at Star of the Sea are eligible to join the program.

In partnership with the University of Adelaide, Children's University aims to inspire students and foster a love of learning. Participants receive a 'Passport to Learning' that tracks their educational journey. Upon completing the required learning hours, children are honoured with certificates at a graduation ceremony held at the University of Adelaide.

The annual fee to be involved is \$38.50 (inc gst) per member. Registrations will close in Week 9 of Term 1.

A passport to record activities is included in a member's first year only, with any replacement passport incurring a fee of \$7.70. New participants go straight to cart in QKR, so that you are not charged for an additional passports.

You can find out more at <https://www.star.catholic.edu.au/community/childrens-university>

As well as payment through our school's QKR app, you also need to complete a registration and consent form directly with Children's University online. The link is [2025 CU Membership Registration form](#)

Both steps need to be completed for registration.

1. Payment via school QKR app
2. Registration via Children's University web page

With gratitude,

Kim Martin

Volunteering at Star

We warmly welcome and value the involvement of families in our school community. Volunteering is a wonderful way to support our students and contribute to the vibrant life of our school.

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, simply follow these four steps:

1. **Complete a Volunteer Induction Form**
2. **Hold a Valid Working with Children Check (WWCC)**

3. **Complete the Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse, and Neglect – Education and Care (RRHAN-EC) Training**
4. **Attend Our Volunteer Induction Session**

(A brief, 30-minute session offered every 1–2 terms for new volunteers.)

Your time and support make a real difference, and we look forward to welcoming you as part of our volunteer team!



STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR SCHOOL – DOWNLOAD THE AUDIRI APP!

Audiri is our whole school communication platform, helping us keep you updated with important reminders and information. If you have not already, please download the app to stay connected with all that's happening in our school community.

If you need any help with installing or setting up the app, our friendly front office staff are more than happy to assist you or click on the [link](#) for more information. We'd hate for you to miss out on any important updates!

[Read More](#)

Library Help

We are looking for parent volunteers to help cover books for our library. This is a simple and easy task, and the best part is—you can do it from the comfort of your own home!

If you're able to assist, please reach out to our Library team at librarystaff@star.catholic.edu.au

Your support will help keep our library resources in great condition for all students to enjoy. Thank you!

All you need is LOVE ♥️🤔



A Valentine's Prayer for Family

Heavenly Father, hear our prayer,
For love and kindness everywhere.
May we be loved and feel love true,
And know the love that comes from You.

Just as You love us endlessly,
May we love others selflessly.
With open hearts and hands to share,
Let kindness bloom in how we care.

Bless our family, strong and bright,
Fill our home with joy and light.
And as we go through all our days,
May love be seen in all our ways.

Amen.

2025 Catholic Education Awards



NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Celebrate someone outstanding who
makes a difference in Catholic Education!

awards.cesa.catholic.edu.au

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Catholic Education Awards, which will be presented during Catholic Education Week in May. These awards celebrate excellence within our Catholic education community. Nominations close on **March 17, 2025**.

For more information or to submit a nomination, please visit: <https://awards.cesa.catholic.edu.au/>

SMOSH West Lakes Junior Football Club

We pride ourselves on being a family-based inclusive community where everyone is welcome.

If you are between the ages of 7 and 18 and you are interested in playing footy, we would love to have you at our Club!

Contact us at 0487 530 142 or registrarsmoshwljuniors.com.au

Registrations are now open!
Please register by 14 February
so that you don't miss out!

Ask us about payment plans or using your SA Sports Voucher





Marine
Discovery
Centre

Seaweeek Community

Open Day



SEAWEEK
AUSTRALIA

Saturday 1 March 10am - 12pm



Join us at the Marine Discovery Centre to celebrate our oceans in Seaweeek 2025! A morning of ocean discoveries, hands-on activities and fish feeding presentations.

Guided beachcombing with marine scientists from 11:30am - 12pm



Free beachcombing poster to take home

Tickets \$15 per child (parents & children under 3 free of charge)
Tickets: <https://shorturl.at/g2MrM>

Marine Discovery Centre
Corner of Seaview Road and Marlborough Street, Henley Beach
T: (08) 8115 7402
E: info@marinediscoverycentre.com.au

A community event sponsored by >

Community Bank · West Beach

We opened a bank to grow a community

 **Bendigo Bank**



MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM



Marine
Discovery
Centre

Thursday 17 April 10am - 12pm



Slow down these school holidays and immerse yourself in the calming underwater world at the Marine Discovery Centre.



Swim with whale sharks using our virtual reality headsets

Learn how to make origami sea creatures

Join us on a beach walk on Henley Beach

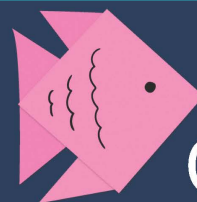


Tickets \$15 per child (parents & children under 3 free of charge)
Tickets: <https://shorturl.at/9utWp>

Bupa Marine
Scientist
Program



This
month's
focus is:



Ocean
Origami

Marine Discovery Centre
Corner of Seaview Road and
Marlborough Street, Henley Beach

T: (08) 8115 7402
E: info@marinediscoverycentre.com.au

