



# Newsletter Term 2 Week 5

## Important Dates

School Opening  
Friday 31 May 2024

Receptions  
Excursion  
Monday 3 June 2024

Whole School  
Assembly 2pm in  
Church  
Wednesday 5 June 2024

SAPSASA STATE  
CROSS COUNTRY  
CARNIVAL  
Thursday 6 June 2024

Kings Birthday  
Monday 10 June 2024

Term 3 Parent  
Information  
Meeting  
Tuesday 11 June 2024

Instrumental Night  
at St Michaels  
Wednesday 12 June 2024

Year 4 Assembly  
2.30pm  
Wednesday 12 June 2024

Fluffy Friday  
Friday 14 June 2024

## From the Principal

Dear Families

We are looking forward to Friday's celebration of our new building with tours starting from 2pm. The highlight of our celebration will be at the end of the day on the green courts, where we will have some entertainment, coffee cart, sausage sizzle and tattoos for any families who would like to join in the celebration, whether it be for 15 mins or one hour! Tours will continue every 15 mins after school. Hoping to see you there.



### **AGM**

We have held our AGM, which reviewed the 2023 year, and I am pleased to announce that you can read all the reports which are on our website. Thank you to everyone that contributed to the reports and to all the School Board members who graciously give of their time.

The new School Board will gather for their first meeting on Monday June 17th. We welcome new members Jessica Superina, Jessica Rutkiewicz and Alana Dichiera who will be joining continuing elected members Dave Slovinec, Nathan Foulis, Elizabeth Sarris, Amy Diggins and Kirsty McCulloch. Our two continuing nominated members are Emma Marsden and a staff representative to be announced soon. The other members are Ex-Officio, being the Parish Priest Father Manu and School Leadership Damian Weeks and Annette Diassinias. We thank retiring members Kopano Shephard, Brad Dunstan and Katerina Andrushenko for their service. Kopano served on the Board for two years, bringing the perspective of the staff to our discussions. Brad had been on the Board for four years and was part of the Maintenance Committee that has done such good work around our school, especially in regard to the oval. Katerina had been on the Board for two years and played an important role on our Finance Committee during this time. Thank you Kopano, Brad and Katerina for giving your time to help improve our school.

### **Personalised Plans for Learning (PPLs)**

If your child has one of these plans, we will email these to you next week. This document is a living, changing document that possibly will change as the year goes on.

The PPL has a section for a parent signature indicating that the document has been developed as a collaboration between the family and school. If you can sign the PPL electronically, please feel free to return a signed copy of the PPL via email to your child's teacher. If you cannot sign this electronically, there is a proforma that can be signed and returned to school.

### **Long Service Leave**

I will be taking term 3 off and will be visiting the USA during this time. Please find attached a letter from CESA announcing that Annette will be the Acting Principal and Kelly the Acting Deputy during this time.

To the community of Star of the Sea School, Henley Beach

Dear Community Members

I write to inform you that Damian Weeks will be taking Leave from 22 July 2024 until 13 October 2024 (Week 1, Term 3 – Week 10, Term 3).

I am pleased to announce that Annette Diassinis has been appointed as Acting Principal and Kelly Manera has been appointed as Acting Deputy Principal for this period.

Both Annette and Kelly are well known to the Star of the Sea School community and will bring demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm for ensuring excellence in teaching and learning to these roles.

Annette and Kelly are looking forward to working in partnership with the students, staff, families, and the parish community. I would like to express my gratitude to Annette and Kelly for taking on these leadership positions and wish them all the best as they prepare to lead Star of the Sea School.

Yours sincerely



Dr Neil McGoran  
Executive Director

cc: School Board  
Parish Priest  
School Performance Lead

Regards  
Damian Weeks

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

## Recent News

29.05.24

### From the Deputy Principal

Welcome to Week 6. If you can believe it, we are already halfway through Term 2.

#### RECONCILIATION WEEK

This week is Reconciliation Week. National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. Each year this is held from 27th May to the 3rd of June as these dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey – the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision which recognised that Aboriginal people have lived in Australia for 50,000+ years. In 2008, former Prime Minister Rudd's apology, did much to build understanding, bringing people together in unity for reconciliation, hope and healing.

The theme for 2024 is Now More Than Ever. This theme is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will—and must—continue.

There have been many moments in Australia's reconciliation journey that make us want to turn away. But when things are divisive, the worst thing we can do is disengage or disconnect.

Now more than ever, the work continues. In treaty making, in truth-telling, in understanding our history, in education, and in tackling racism. We need connection. We need respect. We need action. And we need change.

May God's Spirit inspire us to be people of reconciliation, inclusion and hope in this great country.

In the spirit of Reconciliation, we acknowledge Australia's First Peoples as traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to

Elders past, present and emerging.

## **TECHNOLOGY ADDICTION AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

You may have recently seen on TV the Channel 7 Spotlight program on the growing challenge of tech addiction in children and Peter Malinauskas recent announcement regarding the proposed restriction of social media for younger children. This is certainly a growing concern for parents, educators and schools who frequently see the effects of excessive and inappropriate use of tech by children on their academic achievement, ability to engage in learning and social difficulties.

Leaders in schools deal with extraordinarily challenging situations for primary students which have all occurred outside of school and on devices; including students falling asleep in class due to frequent night gaming, cyberbullying, access to pornography, grooming by online predators through apps and games, aggressive behaviour and fixations on violence from online games. These are all very real, disturbing and have significant impacts on students' mental health and functioning. As a school we teach cyber safety to our students, but parental control is vitally important in ensuring our children are safe.

On the 19th of June, the Catholic School Parents of South Australia (CSPSA) are running a Cybersafe Families workshop with Todd Murfitt. The workshop will explore how we as families can work together with our children to be Cybersafe. Todd Murfitt has a unique perspective on the importance of technology and education, following nearly twenty years as an educator, with the past ten years being a primary principal in South Australia.

You can register via this [link](#)

5 tips to support healthy use:

- Build a family media plan that balances time with and without devices
- Create screen-free times and places in your home, such as meals and bedtime
- Monitor apps and ensure they are age appropriate and safe
- Have regular discussions as a family about online activities
- Make sure your child knows they can come to you about their experiences online, even if they feel embarrassed or worried

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/issues-and-advice/parental-controls>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/>



Catholic School Parents SA is pleased to present:

## Cybersafe Families

presented by *Todd Murfitt*

**Wednesday June 19 2024**

**6pm - 8pm** (in person or online)

**St Martin de Porres Catholic School  
1 Berrima Road, Sheidow Park**

This Parent Engagement Evening, hosted by Catholic School Parent SA, welcomes all parents and carers of children in Catholic schools.

The workshop will explore how we as families can work together with our children to be Cybersafe.

Todd Murfitt has a unique perspective on the importance of technology and education, following nearly twenty years as an educator, including ten years as a primary school principal.

This will be a poignant workshop for teachers, parents, and carers.

The event will have online and in person attendance options.

Register via the [CESA Registration Centre](#) or go to the [Events page](#) on the Catholic School Parents SA Website.

[cspsa.catholic.edu.au](https://cspsa.catholic.edu.au)

### SACPPA CONFERENCE

Last week Damian and I attended the Annual SA Catholic Primary Principals Association Conference. The theme of the conference was "Leading a High-Performance Culture Now and in the Future." The speakers we had for this conference were second to none with national and internationally renowned presenters. The structure of the program and the focus for the conference was two-fold. Through the Keynote presentations, it helped to build leadership capacity and understanding of what educational experts are saying about relevant and high-quality school focus points on fostering a high-performance school culture. The workshops were designed to provide space for dialogue and to hear about the practical application of these ideas and sources of information about a particular topic of interest to help enhance implementation in our school.

Listening to ultra-marathon runner and elite sportswoman, Jacqui Bell was a highlight for me. Her story inspired and motivated me with strategies on how to overcome adversity and nurture a high-performance mindset. She focused on "What is your why? What are your why nots? The importance of finding time for yourself and helping to see that those roadblocks are just things to run past, jump over or walk around.

We also had some fantastic learning opportunities with Paul Kidson, Glenn Savage and Adam Voigt. It was positive to see how strong our Star of the Sea culture is and the wonderful work of our Teachers, ESO's Leadership Team, OSHC, Administration and Maintenance Staff do in bringing this wonderful culture to fruition every day.

View this article online to read more

30.05.24

## From the Assistant Principal/ Learning and Wellbeing Co Ordinator

Dear Families,

Welcome to Week 5!

### Vote of thanks

Have you heard your child talk about an educational or administrative support officer working in our school? We are blessed to have a wonderful group of individuals who go above and beyond to support all elements of school life from learning, wellbeing, OSHC, front office, grounds, intervention, library, playgroup, Little Stars and the canteen. We recently acknowledged their contribution to our school during World Support Staff Appreciation Week. Their work, support and connection with our young people has a big impact for so many in our community. We extend our thanks and gratitude for their valuable contributions to Star of the Sea School.

### Teaching and Learning

This year our intensive professional learning focus for our staff is the area of Mathematics and Numeracy. We have been guided by a CESA consultant, Carla Thomas, who meets fortnightly with the Leadership team and Leaders of Learning to deep dive into how numeracy is taught and assessed at our school. The key components of this professional learning include establishing a school Numeracy Agreement, using our student data to inform numeracy improvement strategies, planning and mapping curriculum and assessments aligned to Version 9 of the Australian curriculum, exploring and utilising key pedagogical practices and resources for teaching Mathematics effectively and using case management to inform intervention required. We look forward to continuing this work to ensure consistency across our school and achieve better outcomes for all our learners in Numeracy moving forward.

### School Events

There was quite the buzz in the air last Friday with two memorable events at Star of the Sea. The first was the slick McLaren car that transported Daniel in Year 3 to school as part of the SAFM Dream Ride competition. What an entrance and what a car! The smile on Daniel's face went from ear to ear and the sound of the engine as it left our school grounds was loud! We received feedback from the SAFM crew letting us know how wonderful and accommodating Daniel, our students and staff from Star of the Sea were to make this memorable event occur. It is always wonderful to hear positive feedback! The afternoon concluded with our whole school gathering on the courts to witness some very talented students perform for our annual Stars Got Talent event. The audience was treated to wonderful performances, ranging from singing, dancing, piano playing, theatre and gymnastics. The surprise of the afternoon was from one of our ESO's, Connor McLeod who blew everyone away with his stunning vocal performance!

### Wellbeing

I was reminded of the quote below when I was supporting a young person recently and thought it was a good reminder for all of us as parents who can sometimes feel frustrated by challenging behaviours.

*In most situations, your child does not want advice – what they want is relationship. Their emotional response is NOT saying 'fix this', it is saying 'see this.'*

Action for Happiness: Joyful June

June's focus on the Action for Happiness website centres on joy! Rephrasing our questions with our children after school about their day to focus on a positive could be a simple way of seeing joy in what may sometimes be a 'full' or 'overwhelming day'. Many of our classes have gratitude journals which support this notion of appreciating the blessing we have in our lives. I encourage you to look at June's joyful suggestions with your children to see if you can action some of them as a family.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
1	2	3 Re-frame a worry and try to find a helpful way to think about it	4 Take a photo of something that brings you joy and share it	5 Think of 3 things you're grateful for and write them down	6 Get out into green space and feel the joy that nature brings	7 Do something healthy which makes you feel good	8 Find joy in music: sing, play, dance, listen or share	9 Ask a friend what made them happy recently
10 Bring joy to others by doing something kind for them	11 Eat good food that makes you happy and really savour it	12 Write a gratitude letter to thank someone	13 Take a light-hearted approach. Choose to see the funny side	14 Share a happy memory with someone who means a lot to you	15 Look for something to be thankful for where you least expect it	16 Speak to others in a warm and friendly way		
17 Take time to notice things that you find beautiful	18 Look for something good in a difficult situation	19 Get outside and find the joy in being active	20 Rediscover and enjoy a fun childhood activity	21 Send a positive note to a friend who needs encouragement	22 Watch something funny and enjoy how it feels to laugh	23 Create a playlist of uplifting songs to listen to		
24 Bring to mind a favourite memory you feel grateful for	25 Show your appreciation to people who are helping others	26 Make time to do something playful, just for the fun of it	27 Be kind to you. Do something that brings you joy	28 Notice how positive emotions are contagious between people	29 Share a friendly smile with people you see today	30 Make a list of the joys in your life (and keep adding to it)		

<https://actionforhappiness.org/sites/default/files/Jun%202024.pdf>

Enjoy the weekend ahead!

Kelly Manera

Assistant Principal Learning and Wellbeing

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

## Deluxe Drop Off

Last Friday, Daniel from 3S entered a competition from SAFM, 'Choose your DREAM ride to school', and won. He chose to drive to School in a McLaren. Daniel received a standing ovation. The photos say it all. Congratulations Daniel. 🙌👍👍



# Stars Got Talent

On Friday, we held our annual Stars Got Talent finals. We had 11 amazing acts. Well done to our winners

1st place: Aria F and Erinn H

2nd Place: Sabrina T and Norah D, Evie T and Airlie M

3rd Place: Antoni D, Tao F, Oscar C and Marie L and Valentina F

We also had a special guest performance at our Stars Got Talent Final by Connor McLeod! 🎸🎵🎹



# National Simultaneous Storytime

On Wednesday, 22nd May, the Year 2 students participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime, an annual event that sparks the joy of reading in children of all ages! Our Year 2 students were thrilled to dive into "Bowerbird Blues" by award-winning author Aura Parker, who also read the book live via a streaming service as did other special authors.

This enchanting story follows the Bowerbird's journey across sea, sky, and city as it gathers vibrant treasures to create a bower that ultimately attracts true love.





## Walk to School

Some of our students participated in "Walk to School" it was great to see so many students and parents. Some of the students walked to school along the beach, how blessed are we! Once they arrived to school they had a delicious hot chocolate.



## OSHC Service Please Note

For those families who use our OSHC service please note that from June 1, 2024 we will not be accepting email bookings for term time places. The APP will be the only way to book term time places. Vacation Care is the exception, which is not available on the APP at this time.



# Winter Dignity Drive

Please help us Support

**Catherine House and Hutt Street Centre**

**by donating the following items:**

**Reception Families:** Cotton tips/face cleanser/shower caps

**Year 1 Families:** Adult female socks/ spray on deodorant (not roll on please)

**Year 2 Families:** Face moisturiser /hairbrush / hair ties

**Year 3 Families:** Toothbrush / small toothpaste

**Year 4 Families:** Instant noodles / 2 minute noodles

**Year 5 Families:** Cups of soup or cans of soup / boxes of teabags

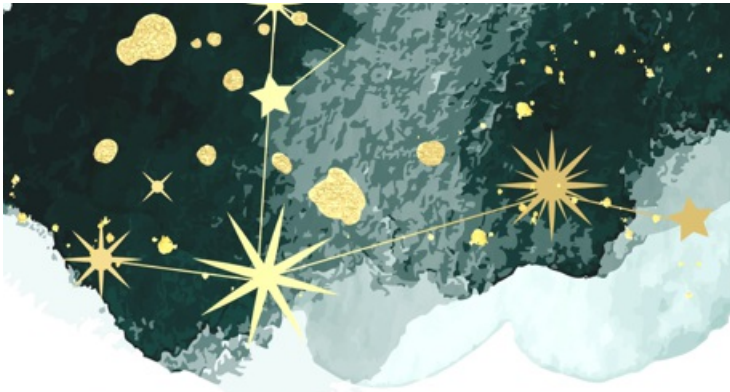
**Year 6 Families:** Packets of crackers or biscuits / instant coffee



**“Fluffy Friday”  
Friday 14th June**



**Wear a scarf/ beanie /pj’s /tracksuit /fluffy socks / slippers etc, to remind us of how grateful we are to have warm, comfy clothes to wear during these cold winter months.**



# Star Night Out

A night for our parents & friends of the  
Star community to enjoy themselves

Saturday | 22.06.24 | 7:30pm

FUEGO BY THE SEA  
9 BARCOO RD, WESTBEACH

TICKETS \$75.00 VIA QKR!  
3 HOUR DRINKS PACKAGE & GRAZING TABLE WITH HOT  
& COLD FOOD OPTIONS

\$15.00 LIMONCELLO & BLUE LAGOON COCKTAILS



## SOTS Recipe Book

WE ARE CREATING A RECIPE  
BOOK FROM THE FAMILIES AND  
STAFF OF SOTS, THAT CAN BE  
PASSED ON FOR GENERATIONS  
TO COME!

THROUGHOUT TERM 2 & 3 YOU CAN SEND  
IN YOUR RECIPES TO  
[VANDREWS@STAR.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU](mailto:VANDREWS@STAR.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU)

FORMAT FOR SUBMISSIONS:  
A WORD DOCUMENT ONLY (NO PDF/  
SCREENSHOTS)  
TEXT ONLY (NO IMAGES REQUIRED)

INCLUDE RECIPE TITLE AND FULL NAME

## CATEGORIES FOR SUBMISSIONS

SOUPS

SPREADS & DIPS

MAIN COUSES

LUNCHBOX IDEAS

RICE & VEGETABLES

MULTICULTURAL

DESSERTS

MUFFINS & SCONES

BISCUITS, SLICES

RAW CAKES

SMOOTHIES

KIDS PARTIES

DIY - SLIME, PLAY-DOH

DIETARY OPTIONS

**Recipe Books will be available to  
purchase in term 4 for \$10 each**