Dear Parents,

Catholic Education Melbourne is committed to ensuring Catholic schools are performing to their optimum best and have developed a School Improvement Framework for all Catholic schools to follow, within a four year cycle.

A School Improvement Plan for Our Lady Star of the Sea school was developed, following our last external review, in 2013. This year we are engaging in an external school review which is conducted by an independent external school reviewer. Our school self-reflection report is written and given to the reviewer. The reviewer schedules a two-day visit to the school to conduct the external review. A timetable is negotiated and includes meetings with the principal, the Church authority, the leadership team, staff, parents and students on Day One and a panel consisting of our Leadership Team, parish priest and staff, parent and Catholic Education representatives meet with the reviewer on Day Two.

The reviewer critiques the performance data, evidence and any additional information gathered by the school relevant to their School Self-Reflection report, recommending refinements or further development to be considered in the formation of the ensuing School Improvement Plan (SIP). An external school review report is prepared and provides a basis for further dialogue and planning. As part of this process, the Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA) Minimum Standards verification is also completed by the external school reviewer.

On Thursday 2 March our external reviewer, Colleen Wilkin, will be visiting our school for the pre visit and to verify our compliance with the required Minimum Standards expected by the Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority (VRQA also receive our School Reflection Report). Colleen will return to Our Lady Star of the Sea school later in the month, Tuesday 21 March and Thursday 23 March to meet with the principal, Parish Priest, the leadership team, staff, parents and students and begin the process for development of our 2018-2021 School Improvement Plan.

The process of school review requires rigorous and thorough attention, honest reflection, gratitude in recognising our successes of the past four years and courage to take on the challenges presented for the next four years.

Rhonda J Boyd, Principal

STUDENT LEADERS

Congratulations the Term 1 Class Leaders: Ellie Harrison, Liam Duckett, Kane Morgan, Tate Cooper, Bridget Keating, Sam Leonard, Lucy Sampson, Riley Hynson, Matilda Whitaker.

PARKING IN ALLOCATED AREAS

With the growth of enrolments in all three schools in our educational precinct there is strong competition for car parking around the Aquatic Centre vicinity. Please be reminded that the land on the east of our school between Our Lady Star of the Sea school and Surfside Primary school is the property of Surfside and Bellarine Secondary College schools. It is a “No Parking” area for our parents and staff. Driving down the Bellarine Secondary School driveway to drop children off or to park in this area is definitely not safe or appropriate. Please note that the staff car park is not to be used for parent parking, pick up or drop off. It is definitely not a safe option due to the fact there is a heavy demand by pedestrian use.

Rhonda J Boyd, Principal

2017 TERM DATES

TERM 1 – Tuesday 31 January – Friday 31 March.
TERM 2 – Tuesday 18 April – Friday 30 June.
TERM 3 – Monday 17 July – Friday 22 September.
TERM 4 – Monday 9 October – Thursday 21 December.

FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER LAST DAY FOR STAFF.

Victorian Student Number (VSN)
The VSN for your child is located on the bottom of their Semester Reports. This number is required for application to secondary school.
2018 Prep Information
Parents of children for Prep 2018 are invited to lodge their application for enrolment before Friday 2 June.
Upon receipt of the application parents will be offered an interview with principal.

Open Time: Tuesday 23 May 9.30am to 11am
Information Session for Parents: 23 May 7pm to 7.45pm
Interviews with the Principal by appointment.

Application for Enrolment forms are available from our school office or may be downloaded on the website, through the Enrolment tab. For further information regarding the enrolment procedure please go to the Enrolment Information tab of the school website. www.staroceangrove.catholic.edu.au

Applications are accepted electronically, by mail or in person.

Families at Our Lady Star of the Sea school with siblings for Prep 2018 are asked to lodge their application for enrolment before Friday 21 April.

Prep 2018 Information

Take Home Readers
During 2016 parents volunteered to cover Take Home Readers at home. If you have taken any of these resources home in the past year can you please check that they have been returned to school and haven’t been put to the side at home.

Thank you, Kerryn Sells

Shrove Tuesday / Caritas Fundraising
Tuesday is Shrove or Pancake Tuesday. Traditionally in the Catholic Church, this was a time when families would use up all of their eggs and flour to begin 40 days of fasting for Easter. We celebrate this day at school with pancakes at recess. We ask for a gold coin donation to go towards Caritas, the Catholic organization that our school supports every Lent and Easter. Caritas is an international aid and development organisation of the Catholic Church in Australia. They:

• Deliver long-term development programs.
• Help people regardless of ethnicity, religion or political beliefs.
• Work with the poorest of the poor.
• Help people help themselves.

You can visit the Caritas website on http://www.caritas.org.au/ to learn more about the communities Caritas assists and the tremendous benefit our small change can make towards others.

“Aspire not to have more but to be more.” - Archbishop Oscar Romero

Volunteers Needed
Volunteers are needed to cook the pancakes from 10am on Tuesday 28 February. If you are available to assist could you please email newsletter@staroceangrove.catholic.edu.au or contact the school office.

Thank you, Miss Lib and Miss Marianne, Religious Education Leaders

HUB NEWS

Our Lady Star of the Sea School, John Dory Drive Ocean Grove. Phone # 5255 4308
Our school office is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4pm. Email: newsletter@staroceangrove.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.staroceangrove.catholic.edu.au

What’s inside our body?

We investigated lungs and breathing

Character Strength
Our focus for this week is Love of Learning. Acknowledge the times you see your child using this strength at home this week.

Question card
New Prep families will bring home a card with a series of questions that we use at school as part of our Restorative Practices program. Have a read and be familiar with the type of questioning used to resolve challenging situations throughout the school. You may choose to use this approach at home with your children.

Volunteers
The Green Hub are welcoming volunteers to begin from this week. Your help will be appreciated in a number of ways. Please ensure your Volunteer paperwork is completed and has been returned to the office and fill in the Term 1 timetable which is posted on the noticeboard inside the automatic doors.

Save the date
Prep Parents Social Night has been scheduled for Thursday 30 March at The Mex. More details to follow.

Kerryn Sells, Student Wellbeing Leader
Blue Hub

Reconciliation Retreat Day

The students in Blue Hub have begun their preparations for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As part of this preparation, we will be gathering for a Retreat Day on Tuesday 7 March where the children will further their knowledge and understanding of what the celebration means for them. The children will be preparing for the Parent Information Night, sharing a chip lunch together and joining in some reflective workshops. We will be walking to the Ocean Grove Football Club for the day and the children will be provided with their lunch. Students will still be participating in swimming lessons on this day.

Scooters

It has been great to see so many children being active by riding their bikes and scooters to school. We ask that all scooters are placed in the bike racks for the school day and not brought in the classrooms as it is a safety hazard. We hope to continue seeing children being active!

Swimming

Just a reminder that the Year 3 swimming program began today. Please remember that the children need to bring goggles, towel, hair brush, swimming cap (if required) and a change of underwear. We are still requiring some parent helpers if you are available. Email your child’s classroom teacher if you are able to assist.

Kidblog Instructions

Last week, you will have received an email containing a link to joining your child’s Kidblog. Follow the instructions here to then join your child’s blog, view and comment on it. We will be asking you to comment on the blogs every three weeks as part of home learning, to enhance the partnership between home and school.

Home Learning

It has been wonderful to see the creative ways that children have been completing their home learning and sharing it with their teachers. Just a reminder that home learning is uploaded on a Monday via Showbie and is to be returned the following Monday. Home Learning can be completed in the book provided or uploaded to Showbie with a photo, voice recording or video. Home Learning consists of two spelling and two times table activities and four nights of reading. The children’s spelling words come home each Monday on their camera roll. If your child is away, they can choose spelling words from the list provided on the Blue Hub notice board.

Yellow Hub

Congratulations to all the parents and carers who are now ‘Showbie experts’ following last week’s homework task. Great job. We all had great fun last week with our introduction to our unit of learning on ‘What’s matter? What matters? Together we are stronger.’ We made ice cream and lollipops, challenged ourselves and each other with ice melting competitions, investigated the properties of a range of materials and enjoyed team and relationship building games.

Michael thinking about his personal writing goal as he writes.

STUDENT ACTION GROUPS

Greenthumbs

Worm Farms

We are ready to collect worm juice from our worm farms. If you have any clean label free jars with lids could you please send your donations to Joshua or Lottie in the Purple Hub. They have a marked tub in the hub where your donations can be placed. When we have a good stock of worm juice you can purchase a jar for $1 at Assembly. Joshua and Lottie, Greenthumbs Leaders

Travelsmart

The Travelsmart group is responsible for promoting active travel in our school. One responsibility of the group is to do a fortnightly survey of active travellers in our school and award the Golden Sneaker award. We also promote special days and events such as Walk2School, Walktober and Ride2School day.

Joel Stephens, Jack Hammond and Jo Sunderland, Travelsmart leaders.

Kids Safety Club

The Kids Safety Club assists to keep our school safe by identifying hazards in our school and playground and helping to organise how these problems can be repaired and rectified.

ITALIAN

Well done to the students taking up the challenge of trying to speak more in Italian whilst at school. The next focus word is: Grazie – thank you.

Grazie, Maria Sestito, Italian Teacher

SPORTS NEWS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27</td>
<td>Friday 10 March Year 3 Swimming Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 3</td>
<td>March Girls Football Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6</td>
<td>March Athletics Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15</td>
<td>March Bellarine Swimming Championships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 20</td>
<td>March Year 4 Swimming Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 24</td>
<td>March Cross Country</td>
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Athletics Day at Landy Field

Monday 6 March at Landy Field South Geelong. Please email your child’s classroom teacher to indicate whether or not your child will be returning to school by bus on this day. Students returning by bus will be dismissed from school at 3.30pm.

Tabloid Sports will be held in Term 4 this year.

Cross Country trials will be happening in Week 8 - Friday 24 March. Years 3-6 students will partake in a course around Shell Road Oval. Parent volunteers will be required on the day. 9/10 year olds will run 2km. 11/12 year olds will run 3 km.

800 metre run for Year 4 students

This Friday at 2.30pm the Year 4 students will participate in the 800 metre run, as a part of the upcoming Athletics Day program. The students will complete the run around Shell Oval.

Team Vic Trials

If you would like to nominate your Year 6 child for the ‘Team Vic Trials’ log on to www.ssv.vic.edu.au and nominate your child. This is a new process initiated in 2016. There is a small fee to be paid by parents when signing up. Please see Miss Tahnee if you are unsure of your child’s eligibility.

Tahnee Allen, Sports Leader

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Our Lady Star of the Sea has registered for this event on Sunday March 5 2017, 12.30-1.30pm. The site address is Begola Wetlands, Emperor Drive, Ocean Grove. Students need to be accompanied and supervised by an adult and wear appropriate sturdy footwear and gardening gloves. To indicate your attendance at this community event go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use Parent Code 6rw5k. If you have any questions email healy@staroceangrove.catholic.edu.au

Alison Healy, Sustainability Leader

Monday 27 February, Term 1 Week 1
**Parent's and Friends Association News**

**Dates to Remember**
- Friday 17 March at 7pm: Parent’s Social Night
- Friday 31 March: Easter Raffle Drawn

**Working Bee**
The proposed dates for Working Bees for 2017:
- Term 1 Sunday 5 March 10am Prep, Years 1-2
- Term 2 Sunday 21 April 10am Years 3-6
- Term 3 Sunday 20 August 10am Prep, Years 1-2
- Term 4 Sunday 22 October 10am Years 3-6

The Working Bee scheduled for this Sunday 5 March is an open invitation to all, especially parents with children in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2. Bring tools and gardening equipment. Tasks will include cleaning the cubby house, decking and general cleaning and weeding.

**Canteen**
**Wednesday, Thursday and Friday** for lunch orders. During Term 1 on Fridays, Juices will be for sale for $1. [Click here](mailto:newsletter@staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au) to access the Canteen Menu.

Canteen Roster To volunteer to be on the canteen roster please reply to newsletter@staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au or text Kerry on 0414 926 144. Please indicate your preference of day, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. Thank you for your support. Kerry Street, Canteen Manager

**Our Lady of the Sea Uniform Supplier**
All uniform items can be purchased at Bellarine Uniforms, 162 Moorabool Street, Geelong
Ph: 5221919

**School Recycle Uniform Sales**
Items of uniform can be donated to the school to be sold through the Recycle Uniform Shop, open every second Friday.

**Mowing Roster**
Would you like to join the Mowing Group? Volunteers are required for the Mowing Roster for 2017. All equipment is provided. Email your name and contact number to newsletter@staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au to volunteer.

**Holy Trinity Parish News**
**Tel:** (03) 5258 1673
**Email:** htcottie@bigpond.com

A Day of Mindfulness by the Sea
[Click here](mailto:newsletter@sacredheartofjesus.com.au) to access information about this day of meditation and quiet activities being held at Santa Casa, Queenscliff.

**Anniversary DVD**
A Memorial DVD of the parish 150th Anniversary celebrations is available. Contact Von on 52584681.

**Children’s Liturgy – First Sunday of the month during the 9am Mass. Next Children’s Liturgy is Sunday 5 March.**


**Lost**
Lost pink art smock Target brand size 10. Last seen in Purple Hut last year. The smock has student’s name on it: Isabella Sbrissa. Please return to Isabella in 5/6 AK.

**Back to School Asthma Campaign**
Every year there is a sharp rise in the number of asthma attacks for children when they return to school after the summer break. This results in increased Emergency Department visits and hospitalisations. Asthma Australia has provided Parents and Carers with a checklist to help families be prepared and to try to reduce these health impacts and their flow-on educational effects. You can help too. [Read More](mailto:newsletter@sacredheartofjesus.com.au)

**Reminders**
**Lost Property**
Please ensure that all of your child’s all items are clearly named so as misplaced items can be returned to rightful owners. All unnamed property will be donated to our Recycle Uniform shop, Green Thumbs or St Vinnies. Each class has an orange container for children to leave their property during play and lunch time; lunch boxes, drink bottles, windcheaters and the like. There will be no further lost property bins situated at the office.

**Mowing Roster**
Thank you to parents who have volunteered for the Mowing Roster. Email newsletter@staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au if you wish to join this group.

**School Facebook Page**
If you wish to request that your child/children not appear in any posts on the school Facebook page please email secretary@staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au by today, Monday 27 February, advising of your preference to opt out. If you have any further questions relating to our new Facebook page, please contact the school office or Andrew Rayson arayson@staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au

**Community News**
**Developing Resilience in Girls**
Presented by Educator Sharon Witt, on Tuesday 28 February, 7-9pm at Clonard College, 225 Church Street, Herne Hill. To book your place email rick@criticalagendas.com.au and include your name and number of tickets required. Payment is on the night, cash only.

**Catholic Secondary Colleges Open Days**
**Sacred Heart College Open Day**
Tuesday 21 March 2017
Register at [www.shgeelong.catholic.edu.au](http://www.shgeelong.catholic.edu.au) Contact Judy Smith on 5222 0490 registrar@shgeelong.catholic.edu.au for further information. Closing date for Year 7 2018 enrolments is Friday 19 May 2017.

**St Joseph’s College Open Day**
Monday 20 March 2017
9am-12pm or 4-6.30pm. Register online at [www.sjc.vic.edu.au](http://www.sjc.vic.edu.au)

**St Ignatius Open Day**

Our Lady Star of the Sea School, John Dory Drive Ocean Grove. Phone # 5255 4308
Our school office is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4pm. Email: newsletter@staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au
Website: [www.staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au](http://www.staroceanegrove.catholic.edu.au)
NEWSLETTER

Monday 27 February, Term 1 Week 5

Sunday 26 March 2017 Click here for more information.
Clonard Open Day
Friday 17 March 2017 Click here for more information.

Festival of the Sea Sunday 19 March
The Barwon Heads Festival of the Sea is a celebration of our links to the sea through the diversity of our environment, history, arts, culture and lifestyle. The Festival of the Sea Duck race is fast approaching. Ducks have been released from their winter hideout and are back and ready for sale. You can adopt a duck for just $10.00 and watch it race on the river at approximately 4pm on Sunday 19 March. Ducks can be adopted at the school office from now until Thursday 16 March. Great prizes for the first 10 ducks over the line.

The final General Meeting prior to the Festival week is on next Monday, 27 February, 7pm at the Lobster Pot Education Centre.

Pamela Hoyne, Committee Member Festival of the Sea 2017.

Big Play Day
The City of Greater Geelong is proud to deliver Geelong’s BIG Play Day during National Playgroup Week 2017. Wednesday 29 March, 10am-1pm at the Geelong Botanic Gardens. This FREE community event will offer families and children the opportunity to enjoy a range of interactive activities and entertainment which includes the Mik Maks, face painting, drumming, cardboard cubbyland recycled play, music, storytelling and so much more. A child’s brain grows the fastest between birth and 3 years of age, so come and join us for this FUN filled PLAYDAY, build your community connections and support your child to play, learn and grow. Visit www.geelongaustralia.com.au for more information.

Sunsmart
There have been some highs and lows with the weather but the UV levels have been consistently high reaching 12 (extreme) with sun protection needed for most of the day. Have you seen the free SunSmart app and widget? They show daily sun protection times, when UV levels are three or higher, and weather. Please try to check the sun protection times each day so you can be sure you are being protected from UV when you need to be. Clothing helps act as a barrier to UV reaching the skin. For those parts of skin you can’t cover with clothing (e.g. face, neck, ears, lower arms and legs), please remember to use sunscreen. Sunscreen is like a back-up plan and should never be used on its own.

- Remember to apply a generous amount of SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen to all exposed skin.
- Check the use-by date and always store sunscreen below 30 degrees.
- A very small number of people (less than 1%) may have an allergic reaction to some ingredients in sunscreen so it is recommended when using a new sunscreen to test it on a small patch of skin.
- Sunscreens go through rigorous testing by the TGA to ensure they meet their SPF rating and provide the stated level of protection in a safe way. Research has shown sunscreens are an effective skin cancer prevention tool.

FURNITURE – LAST CHANCE
These great desks and tables would be an asset for your home to use for homework, hobbies, Lego in the tubs, art and craft activities. The furniture will be dismantled and discarded this weekend. Call the school office if you would like one, or more.