NEWSLETTER 27 January 2017

Star of the Sea Primary School
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CLEVELAND WEEKEND MASS TIMES:  Saturday 5:30pm  Sunday 7:00am  Sunday 8:30am

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

A very warm welcome back to all students, parents and staff of Star of the Sea for this the 2017 school year. I look forward to meeting and working with you as I join the SOTS school community as Acting Principal for the period of Karen Bakon’s leave.

To those who are new to the SOTS community in 2017, I trust that your time with us will be enriching and rewarding, and that you will feel warmly welcomed into our school community, as I have since my arrival. The spirit of welcome that exists at SOTS is one of which to be very proud.

The children have settled well into their learning areas and have enjoyed renewing friendships and also making new connections with friends and teachers. This was supported by the commitment and care displayed by our team of professional, dedicated teachers, support and specialist staff during recent professional learning days. Our team worked to design quality learning and teaching programs and prepare each year group’s learning area to support precise and transformative learning for the year ahead for each student.

The new school year places possibilities, challenges and new learnings ahead of us. We will share in these together and by keeping our children at the heart of all that we do, we will challenge and inspire each one to discover their gifts and to strive to achieve their personal best.

During our first assembly earlier in the week, I reminded the children that they are each a valuable member of the SOTS community and that it is in the simplicity of the small things that they do each day, for self and for others, that helps us to see that Jesus not only dwells in us but in the people around us during the everyday. When we work together and share the light of Christ in all that we do, we enrich our Catholic values and our school will continue to go from strength to strength.

I am looking forward to the time ahead at Star of the Sea with enthusiasm for it will be filled with quality learning and teaching, new and ongoing friendships and many faith-filled experiences.

May we welcome each new day with confidence, faith and purpose, as we work together for the good of all and each individual in our SOTS community.

Thanks for reading

Kind regards

Veronica Tomerini-Smith
Acting Principal

Our theme for 2017 is “Be Bold!”
Our theme song for 2017 is “Pokemon Johto”

STUDENT PROTECTION CONTACTS

Veronica Tomerini-Smith-- Principal
Kylie Williamson----------APRE
Rachael Lovett--------Guidance Counsellor

Click on link below for Brisbane Catholic Education’s Student Protection Process

Brisbane Catholic Education Student Protection

2017 Term Dates
TERM 1
Jan 24 – March 31
TERM 2
April 18 – June 23
TERM 3
July 10 – Sept 15
TERM 4
Oct 3 – Dec 1 (12noon)
Prep

What a wonderful start to Prep we have had! We have already shown our teachers how ready we are for Prep! We are settling in to our routines and getting to know our classmates.

We have also met our fantastic Year 6 buddies who have shown us around the school and have played with us at lunch time.

We are very lucky to have such a lovely classroom but it has none of our work up on the walls yet! So, this week we have been very busy creating beautiful artworks to bring some life and colour to the walls.

We had fun making lots of Australian and summer craft for Australia Day and we have made some dragons and rice for Chinese New Year. We look forward to seeing these up on Monday.

Have a safe and restful weekend.
Year 1

What an amazing start we’ve had to Year One! We have settled in beautifully and are already showing our teachers how ready we are to learn this year.

With Australia Day being this week, we decided to focus on everything Australian and began our week by cooking some damper. It was delicious! You may have seen us kneading our own damper rolls on Twitter. Be sure to follow @SOTSYearOne for pictures of videos of what we’re up to during the day.

You might just see some of our fantastic art and craft in the coming days. We have so much enjoyed learning about the features of the Red-back Spider, Ulysses Butterfly and the Blue-Ringed Octopus.

We have also been learning about their habitats. We can’t wait for the year ahead, it’s going to be great! Make sure you check in every week to see what we’ve been up to.

Year 2

Welcome back!

The children came back with happy faces and are ready to learn. We are very proud of the hard work the children have displayed during the week. We have celebrated birthdays, Australia Day and have even started to learn our new theme song for the year; Pokemon Johto!

We heard all about the children’s holidays when we did journal writing. It sounds like you all had a lovely holiday.

To celebrate Australia Day, we did some fun activities! We wrote about how our families celebrate Australia, and even chewed out the shape of Australia in a biscuit! You can find these photos on Twitter!

We read the story of ‘Possum Magic’ by Mem Fox, and had to re-sequence the story - it was a bit tricky! On Friday, we made posters to welcome visitors to Australia, these are looking fabulous!
Here are some of the children’s favourite parts of Week 1...

Harry – Playing soccer on the oval
Nichola – Learning about Possum Magic!
Cooper – Meeting our new teachers
Zara – When Miss Willis taught us to play ‘beat detective’.
Naira and Sienna H – I loved doing the tricky ‘Australia’ word search!
Tom – I have loved being a Year 2 student and writing about the holidays.
Reuben – I have loved writing in our new writing books.

Year 3

A warm (AKA- sweltering hot) welcome to the start of the 2017 school year! It was lovely to see so many keen and enthusiastic children race through the door on Tuesday morning. Each one has begun the year keen and ready to start the new year. Thank you parents for helping them be positive and organised.

This week we focused on a well-known story from Dr Seuss; Oh the Places You’ll Go.

This great quote from the story fits nicely into our classroom culture. Each one of us has a choice to make. A choice to help a classmate. A choice to clean up something that wasn’t ours. A choice to bounce back after being knocked down. A choice to try out best and give new things a go.

It is only the person with the brains in their head and the shoes in their feet that can make the choice to have respect for Self, Others and the Environment. But we don’t have to do it alone. We have so many people who are there to help and support us. Oh, the places we are going to go this year!

To help us find our path, we have been creating paper Mache’ hot air balloons. What started as an idea to have fun and get our hands dirty, has turned out to be a task of perseverance. On our baskets for our balloons, we have written our goals for 2017. We hope to have these ready to show our parents on Tuesday night at the parent information evening.
Year 4
What a great start to the year we’ve had in Year 4! It may have been a short week, but it has certainly been busy. We’ve learnt about the 5R’s, made some yummy damper and designed our own Coat of Arms.

Oh yeah, don’t forget to ask us about our classroom cash – we love earning our own money!! We look forward to seeing you all at our Parent Information session next Wednesday night.

Year 5/6
What an amazing start to the year! We are so impressed with each and every student for the great impression they have made over the last few days.

In Maths we have started with revision of Place Value, along with looking at some challenging Addition and Subtraction sums. We are showing great pride with our bookwork and neatness, especially in Maths.

Our Seniors have been ultra impressive looking after their Prep Buddies in the first week. They have enjoyed the responsibility so far of being seniors and have set themselves up for an outstanding year.

The Grade 5’s had their first taste of Fortress this week. They were only narrowly beaten by the Grade 6’s, though showed tremendous teamwork and spirit.

Parent Information Sessions
At the commencement of each school year, Parent Information Sessions are held to provide information relevant for the year ahead for each year group.

This is an opportunity for teachers to outline learning and teaching programs, routines and expectations for their year group. These sessions also invite parents to ask general questions about the organisation of the year group. Parents who have specific questions or information for their child’s teacher can arrange a time to speak to the teacher individually.

All parents are warmly invited to attend the relevant sessions which are outlined below:

Monday 30 Jan 5pm .......... Prep  
Monday 30 Jan 6pm .......... Year 2  

Tuesday 31 Jan 5pm .......... Year 3  
Tuesday 31 Jan 6pm .......... Year 1  

Wednesday 1 Feb 5pm .......... Years 5 & 6  
Wednesday 1 Feb 6pm .......... Year 4

We look forward to you joining us.
LOTE at SOTS: Japanese

We are pleased to announce that Star of the Sea is able to continue Japanese as our LOTE in 2017 as we have recently secured a teacher of Japanese.

The inclusion of LOTE in our school program is in alignment with the Brisbane Catholic Education mandate that a language other than English must be taught in years 5 & 6. Students in these year levels will participate in Japanese sessions each Monday with Mrs Kylie Giggins.

Kylie is an experienced Japanese teacher and she has worked within other BCE schools. We welcome Kylie to our SOTS school community.

Star of the Sea Staff for 2017

We would like to inform you of the staffing at Star of the Sea for 2017 as outlined below:

PRINCIPAL  Mrs Veronica Tomerini-Smith
APRE  Ms Kylie Williamson

TEACHERS
PREP  Mrs Laura Rogers & Mrs Sarah Gibbs
YEAR ONE  Mrs Sally Kirby, Mrs Erin Hardy (Mon-Wed) & Mrs Danielle Bennett (Thurs-Fri)
YEAR TWO  Ms Bridie Willis & Ms Priscilla Bustamante
YEAR THREE  Mrs Tanya Porter
YEAR FOUR  Mrs Nicole Cantwell (Mon-Wed) & Mrs Kelly Gough (Thur-Fri)
YEAR FIVE/SIX  Mr Jason Waters, Mrs Louise McLucas & Mrs Nicole Clough

Support Teacher - Inclusive Education  Ms Kylie Williamson
Guidance Counsellor  Ms Rachael Lovett
Primary Learning Leader  Mrs Danielle Bennett
PE Teacher, Sport Coordinator, ICLT Coordinator & Data Coach  Mr Dave Bermingham
Classroom Music Teacher  Mrs Erin Hardy
Instrumental Teachers  Mr David & Mrs Kathleen Smith
LOTE Teacher – Japanese Yr 5/6  Mrs Kylie Giggins
WHSO  Mrs Jody Lennox
School & Enrolments Secretary  Mrs Jenny Sharp
Finance Secretary  Mrs Michelle Kay
School Secretary (Wed)  Mrs Lisa Sticher
School Officers  
Mrs Kathy Clark  Ms Cheryl Hart
Mrs Annabelle Hazelton  Mrs Terry Larsen
Mrs Lisa Sticher
Groundsman  Mr Chris Larsen
Welcome back to another wonderful year at Sots! I look forward to sharing lots of things about our RE Program with you throughout the year. 2017 is Year A in the Church calendar and we focus on the gospel of Matthew.

We are currently in ordinary time and the colour for this season is green. Our prayer spaces reflect this season. We also focus on ‘Jesus’ in term one and our whole school meditation uses Jesus mantras, symbols and music.

There will be some changes to our Parish Sacramental Program as directed by the Archdiocese of Brisbane. This will impact on what we do both this year and in 2018. If you would like any further information, please contact the Parish Office.

2017

Term 2 - Yr 3 Confirmation

Term 3 - Yr 4 First Communion
Only for those students who made their Confirmation in 2016 or earlier
Not those students who made their Confirmation in 2017

2018

Term 1 – Yr 4 Reconciliation

Term 2 - Yr 4 - First Communion - during the Easter Season
Focus on reconciliation during Lent

Term 3 - Yr 3 – Confirmation

We will be celebrating our Opening Mass on Thursday 9th February at 9.15 and Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 1st April at 9.15. We look forward to seeing you there!

Message from Snug Harbour.

Hello everyone 😊. Welcome back to school and to all of our new families – Welcome! I have enjoyed being back at school and particularly spending time with the prep students as they embarked on the first few days of their schooling career. I too, am a new Prep mum this year and have been packing lunches and putting name labels on brand new school uniforms that are three times the size of my child!

The first day was an incredibly exciting one for me. I had lunch packed the night before, the uniform all ironed and hanging ready to go and one little girl who was a mix of excitement, ambivalence, nerves and disappointment as she realised that 5 days of prep (as opposed to 3 days of kindy) meant that “I will see my parents less” (bless) 😊. Still, with her best buddy by her side (from Kindy), she bravely marched in the prep room and replaced her attachment
mother figure with her best buddy to comfort her and keep her feeling safe and secure through the day.

If it weren’t for the best buddy – I think the day may have turned out to be quite a bit differently. My daughter is not fond of change (who is?) and is quite the introvert, so things would otherwise have been far more overwhelming without the familiarity of her best buddy. Prep is a huge step and I’m in awe of all of the preppies in the world this week who, tears or no tears, stuck it out in the classroom! Well done preppies of the world!

I also noticed that our beautiful prep teachers read one of my favourite books to our prep children called “The Kissing Hand” – a beautiful story of a little Raccoon who wasn’t keen on going to school and leaving his mum. His mother (quite the thinker), simply pressed a kiss to the palm of her little racoon’s hand that would last an eternity.

All the little racoon had to do when he missed his mum was to press his palm to his cheek and he’d get a magical kiss from his mum. And with a wonderful twist, the little racoon did the same for his mother, because we all know (secretly) that we miss them just as much as they miss us some days.

It is a beautiful story about attachment – the special and unique bond that we have with our children that lasts the test of time and that can sustain us as we explore our world. If you don’t have the book – it’s well worth adding to your collection.

Good luck to all, particularly those new prep families over the coming weeks. May God and the angels watch over your little ones as they settle in to the next phase of their lives.

Rachael Lovett.
Guidance Counsellor.

Speech and Drama

What an exciting year we are going to have in the drama department with 2017 seeing us produce another school musical. Drama lessons with Mrs Larsen will start on Thursday the 9th February in the Parish Hall.

Please note the change in start time to 7:45am to allow for our earlier school start.

I appreciate that some of our Straddie children might arrive a little later than that time and that’s fine. An enrolment form is attached and these will also be available in the school office from Monday. I can be contacted by email at tlarsen@bne.catholic.edu.au

Terry Larsen / Speech and Drama Teacher
Redlands Young Actors Group

The Redlands Young Actors Group is a drama group for youngsters who would like to explore the world of drama in a friendly and supportive environment.

The group meets once a month on a **Saturday afternoon** for three hours, from 1pm to 4pm, in the Cleveland Star of the Sea Catholic Church Parish hall. One of the teachers is Mrs Terry Larsen who is the Star of the Sea extra-curricular Speech and Drama teacher. Our first session is **on this Saturday, 28th January, 2017**.


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SPORT @ SOTS

Basketball

**AUSSIE HOOPS IS BACK**

Later this Term the Aussie Hoops basketball program will be kicking off. In Week 2 and 3 we have QLD Basketball coaches visiting during PE time to promote the Program. More information will be posted here in the coming weeks!

Sport Aerobics

Our 5 teams and Pairs/Singles teams have been named and all teams will begin training in Week 2. We would like to congratulate all the girls on their selection in the teams and we will them all the best and hope for another successful year of SOTS Sport Aerobics!

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<th>Junior Primary Large</th>
<th>Hip Hop</th>
<th>Pre-Choreographed</th>
<th>Primary Small</th>
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<th>Primary Pairs and Singles</th>
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<td>Piper Michell</td>
<td>Madeline Levey</td>
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| Training: Monday 7:30am - 8:30am | Training: Tuesday 7:30am - 8:30am | Training: Monday 7:30am - 8:30am | Training: Friday 3:15pm - 4:15pm | Training: Tuesday 7:30am - 8:30am | Training: Friday 3:15pm - 4:15pm |
Touch Academy

As we come to the end of a very successful Touch Football year in 2016, we have decided to further develop touch football players and our touch football program through the introduction of a Touch Football Academy here at Star of the Sea.

Players who are in the Academy will train together and will be given the opportunity to play together in a SOTS touch team on Friday nights as part of the Redlands competition. If players already have a team that they are part of on Friday nights, they do not need to play for SOTS, they are more than welcome to play for their existing team.

The team to play in the QLD Primary All-Schools Touch Competition at the end of the year, will be chosen from the Academy Guru and Academy Legend Squads.

We will have guest visits from Australian Touch Players and guest coaches from NSW, QLD & Australia Touch.

If your child plays Touch Football and didn’t receive a note today, please contact me immediately.

Swimming

Swimming Lessons will begin in week 4 down at the Cleveland Aquatic Centre. All students will have 2 lessons each week on Mondays and Wednesdays from Week 4 until Week 7, with our Inter-House Swimming carnival being on Friday of Week 7 the 10th March.

Week 4 - 13 Feb, 15 Feb
Week 5 - 20 Feb, 22 Feb
Week 6 - 27 Feb, 1 March
Week 7 - 6 March, 8 March

Year 6 Lesson – 9:30 – 10:10
Year 5 Lesson – 10:15 – 10:55
Year 4 Lesson – 11:00am – 11:40
Prep Lesson – 11:45 – 12:25
Year 1 Lesson - 12:30 – 1:10
Year 2 Lesson 1:15 – 1:55
Year 3 Lesson 2:00 - 2:40
Cricket

With school starting back so are QLD Cricket Programs. With the Brisbane Heat doing so well this season a lot more kids are excited about the game!!

On Thursday the 2\textsuperscript{nd} February, QLD Cricket will be visiting assembly to promote the two great junior cricket programs happening in our area.

After Assembly all students are welcome to join QLD Cricket Development Officers in the Adventure Playground for a........

Tour around the Brisbane Heat Ute where students will also receive MILO poppers!!

Star of the Sea School will be ineligible to refer students for the ‘Get Started’ vouchers due to changes detailed below:

Updates to the referral agent process
The department is changing the referral agent process to ensure that children and young people who can least afford the costs to participate are supported by Get Started Vouchers. To ensure that the vouchers are going to those families most in need, a new referral agent process will be implemented from Round 9.

The department now requires that eligible referral agents register with the department to be able to refer children and young people for a voucher. Further details regarding referral agent criteria and eligibility requirements are on our website, along with fact sheets for parents and referral agents. Simply Google ‘Get Started Vouchers’ or go to the information here \url{www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/getinthe-game/getstarted/refer/}. 
Cleveland Thornlands Cricket Club MILO T20 Blast

When: 4.30pm Friday 3rd February – 24th March

Henry Ziegenfusz Park, Fitzroy Street, Cleveland.

Contact: Lauren MacNair – 0439 745 252

Register at playcricket.com.au. Click on the “Where Can I Play” box, and type in Cleveland Thornlands Cricket Club.

Cleveland Thornlands Cricket Club MILO in2CRICKET Program

When: 5.00pm – 6.00pm Friday 3rd February – 24th March

Henry Ziegenfusz Park, Fitzroy Street, Cleveland.

Cost: $80 incl. clinics and MILO in2CRICKET Pack!

Who: Boys and Girls ages 5 - 8

Registration: visit Playcricket.com.au

Contact: Lauren MacNair – 0439 745 252