

Most Frequently Asked Questions

What are/When are Assemblies held?

Assemblies are held in the Church Wednesdays at 2.00 pm on even weeks of each term. Any change to this routine is advertised in the school newsletter. Everyone is welcome to attend - mums, dads, grandparents, even toddlers.

At most assemblies usually a Year Level/Class will sing, dance, do plays, show art work etc. Class awards are presented and the Principal talks to the students/parents about upcoming events and issues he may think necessary.

At the first assembly after your child starts school a WELCOME certificate is presented to them.

Children love to see parents/friends attend this very special first event.

Why is my Class called RG or 2C or 2DM?

The first Letter/Numbers tells you which year Level your child is in.

The second is the letters representing the Teacher(s) Surname (or in some instances initials)

ie RG—Reception Ms Gilgen, or 3C—Year 3 Mrs Clark, or 2DM—Year 2 Ms Dixon & Mrs McCormick

Where can I park?

When parking around the school please adhere to all road rules and signs, for your own safety and for our children. There are many parks available on nearby streets. There is no parking allowed on school grounds for safety reasons. Be aware that parking inspectors regularly patrol the area.

The area behind the church is also available for parking during school hours. Please enter from Marlborough Street, and exit via Seaview Road.

Please ensure that you and your child always cross the roads at the designated School Crossings.

In the Mornings we have Road Safety Monitors at Military Rd & Marlborough St Crossings.

In the Afternoons we have monitors at the Military & Seaview Rd Crossings.

If you do not wish to park everyday and need a quicker drop off/pick up system please read the following information regarding our Drop Off & Pick Up Zones.

What is/ How does the Drop Zone Work?

We have TWO Drop Off/Pick Up Zones.

The first is in front of the School on Military Road which is recommended for families whose eldest child is in Reception to Year 5.

The second is at the top of the school on Seaview Road and is recommended for families whose eldest child is in Year 6. These areas are strictly NO STANDING between 8—9.30 am and 2.30—4.00 pm Monday to Friday.

MORNINGS: These zones are suitable for parents who wish to just drop their child off in the morning without parking & walking the children into school. These are “no standing” areas during drop off times, which means you simply drive into the allocated space safely & your child/children get out. You may assist with bags but you are not to move further than a few metres from your car. You must then drive off immediately.

AFTERNOONS:

Once again these areas are “no standing” zones during pick up times, which means that if your child is not waiting for you at the gate you must go around the block and try again - ie. no parking and waiting for them in these drop zones.

During peak periods you **must not** block through traffic on Military or Seaview Roads, as this is an offence.

On Seaview Road you must also not stop and wait on any yellow line or the Bus Stop area, if waiting to enter the pickup zones—go around the block and try again.

Please be warned that fines are regularly issued for any of these offences on a regular basis by Council Officers inspecting the area.

How/When can we do Tuckshop Orders?

The Canteen at Star of the Sea School is run by Deanne Taggart (Canteen Manager) with the assistance of our voluntary community members that wish to help. If you are interested in volunteering in the canteen, please advise the front office staff to register. Without our volunteers the canteen would not be available to the children of the school.

The Canteen operates each school day. A price list is available on the Star of the Sea’s website and the QKR App.

Ordering your children’s lunch is done through the QKR App. This reduces the need for your child to carry large amounts of cash to school, so no more worrying about lost lunch money. Cut-off time for QKR is 9.15am daily. Orders can be placed days in advance for your convenience.

Children can also purchase other snacks from the canteen over the counter, see our menu for details.

What is the Office Box?

In each classroom there is a plastic box that is used for collection of notices, return slips, student notes etc.

How do I enter the school grounds during the day?

The School is “locked in” from 9.00 am to 2.50 pm. This means that all entrances except for the Military Road gate, are locked between these hours. All visitors to the school (including parents) can then only enter via Military Road and through the School Office, where you will be asked to sign in for the reason you are visiting. This is for everyone's safety and is not meant to discourage you from visiting or volunteering within the school.

When do I get my child’s books?

Books and stationery lists will be ordered online through the school’s preferred supplier. Books will be delivered to your home address during January. A letter will be provided to inform you of requirements for covering and naming stationery.

Is my child allowed to go to the toilet during class times?

In the younger classes this is allowed, but in the older classes the children are encouraged to go during break times. No child will ever be refused the right to go to the toilet. Younger children will go with another child accompanying them.

How early can I drop my child off to school? Is there teacher supervision?

There are teachers on duty in the Main Yard Area from 8.20am, with no students allowed at school before this time.

Students must wait in this area until the first bell at 8.45am, when they then move to their classrooms.

After school all children must be collected by 3.25pm.

Before & After School Care is on our grounds and any student not collected by 3.25pm will be taken to After School Care. Children who arrive at school before 8.20am will be directed to Before School Care. You will be invoiced for the full charge of the session.

Do you have After School Care?

Before & After School Care program is managed by the school and conducted on our premises.

Before School Care runs from 7.15am and breakfast is provided.

After School Care runs from 3.05pm to 6pm.

Vacation Care is also offered, with a variety of exciting holidays activities.

More information about this facility is available from the School Front Office, along with fee details and enrolment forms.

Government rebates are available for all families.

What part of the school grounds is what?

Oval Area - on Military Rd

Main Yard - the area around the Main office, including the hard court surface

Seaview Road Yard - the hard court/Nature Play area on Seaview Road near Marine Discovery Centre

Top Courtyard - paved area at top of main stairs.

What and Who is the Star Outreach Group?

The **Star Outreach** Group (previously known the School Outreach Support Group) assists the school community to welcome new families to the school and to help those families in need. We aim to promote care and concern for one another, whilst supporting a positive and friendly atmosphere in our school community. Everyone is most welcome to come along to meetings, coffee mornings, or to offer support by supplying meals etc. Our meetings are advertised in the school newsletter or leave your contact details at the front office for someone from the committee to contact you.

How can I get involved in my child’s school?

The school realises that so many parents work these days and we are all busy people, but the school provides so many opportunities for our children and they rely on a enormous volume of volunteer support.

If any one wishes to get more involved in the school and its community there are lots of areas that you can help out in. It all depends on what your expertise is or what desires you may have—no experience is necessary but unfortunately due to guidelines & regulations from the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocese in the best interests and safety of all children, no one can volunteer within the school community unless a Police Check Clearance has been obtained. This is easily obtained if you have never done one before. Just ask for an application form from the Office.

The school always welcomes volunteers to help in the Tuckshop, Marine Discovery Centre, Uniform Shop, listening to reading in your classroom, helping with excursions, coaching sporting teams, or helpers with the LAP & All Stars programs. If you find that you still have time to spare, just ask you class teacher/s for any small jobs that they may have.

Another good way of getting involved and meeting more people is to come along to a Parents & Friends (P & F) Meeting or to one of the schools many social events—you are guaranteed to enjoy yourself.

These events are well advertised in the school newsletters.

Important Information

- * **Newsletters** - Published fortnightly electronically. A link to the website page will be emailed to you. Please ensure you supply your email address to the office. Reading the newsletter will keep you fully informed.
- * **Class Reps** - Each Class has one or two parents who liaise with the teacher to help with class masses, cleaning etc and to organise social events for the parents to get to know each other. Reps are asked to volunteer at the beginning of each year.
- * **Liturgical Celebrations**
 - * There is a close connection between Star of the Sea School and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish. **Sacrament Program:** Children can make their First Reconciliation in Year 3 and Confirmation and First Eucharist in Year 4 or above.
 - * **Whole School Masses:** Significant occasions are celebrated throughout the year, such as the Opening of the school year, Feast of the Sacred Heart, the Assumption of Mary and Graduation Mass. Family and friends are warmly invited to join us for these special occasions.
 - * **Class Liturgies and Masses:** The Liturgical year and class Religious Education themes are celebrated throughout the year with age appropriate celebrations. In the younger classes these are normally liturgies, whilst the older classes have the opportunity to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion.
 - * **Family Parish Masses:** Each Year level has one Mass held on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30am. Afterwards we celebrate together with Morning Tea hosted by our parents.
 - * **The school Newsletter and Skoolbag App** are informative sources regarding these events and teachers also distribute information and invitations to become involved.
- * **Star Outreach** is a pastoral care and hospitality group who provide meals and assistance to families in need and hosts new parents beginning of year get together. It's a friendly group who meet every couple of months.
- * **AGM of School Board and P&F— the AGM is** held during March each year. Nominations for Board and P& F are available each year.
- * **P & F Meetings** - Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. Come along and help make decisions regarding your school and find out what important things are happening.
- * **Fundraising**—We currently only hold one major fundraiser each year, where we ask for support from all families in the school. These funds go towards the major redevelopment projects that are planned or are happening within our school grounds and buildings.
- * **P & F Social Events** - Each term we try to hold a social event for the parents and the children. We have had things like Discos, Parents Weekends Away, Family Weekends Away, Car Rallies, Picnics, Formal Balls, Film Days and Ten Pin Bowling. Everyone is welcome to attend and any suggestions or ideas are always welcome.
- * **Lost Property** - All property that is left lying around the school, is put into the Lost Property Box located in the canteen area. At the end of each year, all uncollected items are either destroyed, sold or sent to St Vinnies.
PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING ARE LABELLED—some items are very expensive to replace.
- * **Pre Loved Uniform Shop** - We provide a service to the school community by selling good quality pre loved uniforms. If your children have outgrown their uniforms you can donate them to the school and the proceeds will go to the Star Outreach Group.
- * **Uniform Shop** - We sell all items of school clothing, except shoes. The Shop is open Tuesday Mornings from 8.45—10.15 am. Order forms are available from the Front Office if you cannot make it at this time. We can fit your child for size if you request, with all fittings are done in the presence of 2 adults if parents are not in attendance. Items purchased can be returned or exchanged within a two weeks.
- * **Music Tuition Available/School Band**—The school has a comprehensive music program available, where instruments can be hired from DB Instrumental, and tuition arranged. Most students are not ready to begin music lessons until around the Year 3 level. When a certain level of capability and skills are acquired students are then invited to join the School Band, who play at various functions throughout the year.
- * **Carols Night**—At the end of the school year, all students in Reception—Year 5, the School Bands and Choir are involved in a special twilight end of year celebration. A wonderful event not to be missed.

Information for New Parents and Students to Star of the Sea School



Star of the Sea
SCHOOL

Open Hearts ~ Open Minds

Most Frequently Asked Questions & Important Information



StarOutreach

This brochure was prepared for you by the Star Outreach Support Group