## St Stephen's

Trust in the Lord

# St Stephen's News



**Principal:** Mrs Ida Pinese

**Deputy Principal:** Mr Simon Vaughan

Assistant Principal Religious Education: Miss Janai Sugars **Assistant Principal Administration:** Mr Rohan Priestly

Business Manager: Mr Hadyn Flynn

College Leader Pastoral Care: Mr Matthew Draper

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## Welcome to the 2018 Student Leaders



The College Captains with the Principal, Mrs Pinese (from left to right): Joshua Kievit, Gabriella Cuda, Elena Pilat and David Bin.



The Student Representative Council (from left to right): Josiah Draper (Treasurer), Keeley Mason (Secretary), Brianne So Choy (Vice-President) and Annalisse Troncone (President).



The Pastoral House Leaders (from left to right): Muluridji - Zoe Quintieri and Ella Ryan, McAuley: Jamie Malcolm and Travis Cummings, Deacon: Lauren Brown and Thomas Roesler and Augustine: Lia Schincariol and Thomas Hallam.



The Social Justice Committee (from left to right): Taylah Phelan (Treasurer), Lauren Davis (Secretary), Mackenzie Elms (Vice-President) and Paulina Bernhardi (President).

Lot 3, McIver Road, Mareeba PO Box 624 Mareeba Qld 4880

Office Hours: 7.45 am - 3.45 pm Monday - Friday

ABN: 42 498 340 094

**Telephone**: (07) 4086 2500 Fax: (07) 4092 4333 Email: office@sscc.qld.edu.au

Website: www.sscc.qld.edu.au



Wednesday 21 February Inter-House Swimming

Carnival

Monday 26 February

**School Photos** 

**Tuesday 27 February** 

Year 8 Geography Excursion

Wednesday 28 February

Year 10 Geography Excursion Year 7 Immunisations Open Evening - 5.30 pm

Wednesday 7 March

Year 11 and 12 SIP Excursion District Swimming Carnival

**Thursday 8 March** 

**QCS SR Task** 

Monday 19 March

Exam week commences

Monday 26 March to Wednesday 28 March

Year 12 Retreat

**Thursday 29 March** 

Inter-House Cross Country Easter Liturgy

Term one ends

Monday 16 April

Student Free Day

**Tuesday 17 April** 

Term two commences

# Students Requiring Medication

If your child requires medication to be taken during school hours, please contact Mrs Rhonda Smith to discuss the requirements of the College.

## **CHESS CLUB**

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)

Room: S5 - Every day during Recess 2. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



## **TERM DATES 2018**

Term 1 ends: Thursday 29 March

Term 2: 17 April to 29 June

Term 3: 16 July to 21 September

Term 4:8 October to 30 November

Year 12 - 16 November

**Student Free Days 2018** 

16 April and 22 October

#### **CELEBRATING SUCCESS!**

Please inform the college if your child has achieved success in an extra-curricular activity not directly related to school, so that the college community can celebrate these achievements.

Please email Mrs Pinese (<u>principal@sscc.qld.edu.au</u>) with any information and photos.

#### ABSENTEE E-MAIL

If your child is absent, please email absentee@sscc.qld.edu.au

## Maths Tutoring Available

#### **Tuesday and Thursday**

Recess 2 - MCR

(all students welcome)

#### Wednesday

3.00 pm - 4.00 pm - Library

Years 10 -12 only

#### **CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS?**

To ensure communication is received, please advise the college if you have changed your email address. Please email the office <a href="mailto:office@sscc.qld.edu.au">office@sscc.qld.edu.au</a> or phone 4086 2500.



#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

"Do not be couch potatoes who take to a sofa to escape to the world of video games; we came into the world to leave a mark." (Pope Francis, 2016)

At the induction of student leaders on 5 February, all year twelve students were urged to take on a leadership role and to be of service to others by following the example of Jesus and that of our patron saint, St Stephen. This leadership requires one to be humble, to be a good



listener, to show empathy and compassion, to inspire trust by being sincere and having integrity and to be self-aware, as well as being aware of the needs of others. While we judge ourselves by our intentions, others judge us by our behaviour. I thank all parents who attended our opening mass, induction of leaders and welcome of new students and staff. The students, even the very youngest year seven cohort, conducted themselves in an exemplary manner, upholding the culture of respect that we value at our college. The event was also an opportunity to bless the recently completed Music Block. Along with the development of a new recreational area for years seven and eight, these facilities enhance the educational experiences of our students.

In keeping with the service to others culture of St Stephen's, Project Compassion was launched at the Ash Wednesday liturgy yesterday. Caritas is the social justice arm of the Catholic Church and it is very important that students are aware of the disadvantages many of their peers face in other parts of the world where education is a privilege. In the past, our students' generosity in donating any spare money to others has been greatly appreciated and we look forward to their continued support in 2018.

At this stage, all students in year twelve who are OP-eligible have been interviewed by me regarding their Overall Position indications for 2018. While the information they received is only an estimate of their final score, it was a great opportunity to discuss future pathways at a tertiary level and to encourage them to set goals for this very important senior year. There were also discussions with students who are at risk of not achieving a Queensland Certificate of Education and I encourage all parents who were involved with this process to provide support at home for students to achieve their goals.

While there is a focus on supporting students to do their best at a senior level, measures are also in place for the implementation of the new Queensland Certificate of Education system with year eleven students in 2019. I thank parents of year ten students who were able to attend the information evening on 13 February where the main elements of this new system were outlined. As the year progresses, more facts will be conveyed via the newsletter or by direct communication.

Not only are the youngest members of our college to be congratulated for the manner in which they engaged with the opening mass and induction of leaders last week, but they are to be commended for settling into secondary schooling in an enthusiastic way. I hope that the "Meet and Greet" evening allowed parents to meet their child's teachers as well as other parents. I welcome feedback via email, so that we can improve our practices for next year.



#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The next event on the college calendar is the Inter-house Swimming Carnival on Wednesday, 21 February. This is a normal school day at which teamwork, determination and participation are qualities fostered by such an event. Our Mission Statement aims to develop the whole person and it is through such days that friendships are forged and students learn how to work together to achieve a common goal, while having fun. It is important that parents support the college's expectation that all students are to attend.

Our college is fortunate to have quality teachers who strive to assist all students to be the best they can be. Positive relationships between the school and the home are essential if this is to occur. These connections are fostered by good communication and I encourage parents to provide respectful feedback to their child's teacher if there is a problem. The "Unity" poem eloquently captures the importance of both teachers and parents working together.

With Trust in the Lord

#### Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal

principal@sscc.qld.edu.au



## unit

I dreamed I stood in a studio And watched two sculptors there. The clay they used was a young child's mind And they fashioned it with care.

One sculptor was a teacher the tools she used were books and music and art; One sculptor was a parent with a guiding hand and a gentle loving heart

And when at last their work was done They were proud of what they had wrought For the things they had worked into their child Could never be sold or bought

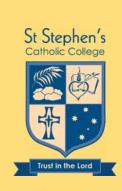
> And each agreed she would have failed if she had worked alone For behind the parent stood the school, and behind the teacher stood the home.

## Congratulations to the Parents and Friends Association 2018 Executive

**President: Mrs Leonie Jennings** Vice-President: Mrs Glenys Pilat

Secretary: Mrs Jillian Crane

Treasurer: Dr Margaret Purcell



#### FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

It has been an exciting start to the 2018 school year. By now, many subject changes have been finalised and students should be focused on their class work and putting procedures in place to reach their intended goals for this term. One strategy that will allow your students to achieve their potential is the use of the re-designed assessment calendars. These calendars were emailed out last week and can also be found on the college's website. The layout of these calendars is to be beneficial for all stakeholders in the learning process - students, staff and parents. Due to the design, students are encouraged to work backwards from the assessment due dates so they can prepare their draft submissions, revision activities and checkpoints for



their different items. I would encourage students to have a copy placed somewhere visible at home or in their SRB for easy reference. Another strategy is to have the calendar clearly visible on the fridge at home. This will mean families can engage with the preparation of assessment.

Although it is early in the term and assessment is a few weeks away, it is timely to revise the assessment policy and the process required for exams and assignments. For year eleven and twelve students, there are only two (2) reasons as to why students may be absent from an exam, the first is medical (supported by a medical certificate) and the second is bereavement. It is important that students in the senior phases of learning commit to their studies and this includes being present for exams. For students in years seven to ten, the above also applies. However the documentation can be a letter from home outlining the absence.

Assignments are used to assess the students' learning journey. It is imperative that students provide drafts and commit to continuously working on their assignments over the time period that is given. Teachers play an important role in this process for students, whereby they offer explicit feedback to students not only on areas of improvement, but also by advising the student along the way to ensure they are on the right path. If students are away on the submission date for assignments, it is still expected that either a hard copy or electronic copy is provided to the school by 3.00 pm. Absence on the day an assignment is due is not an excuse for non-submission. Students who do not provide anything on a due date by 3.00 pm, will have their work in progress prior to the due date marked and used as evidence for their level of achievement. They are still required to submit their assignment in order to receive credit towards completion of the course. If students are requiring special provision or an extension, the first step is to contact the respective teacher. If further assistance in this matter is required, contact the Middle Leader Curriculum and finally, myself. This process should be started as early as possible but as a minimum, two (2) days prior to the submission date.

I look forward to seeing the progress of the students at the college in their pathways over this term and the coming year. If you would like to discuss curriculum matters with me, please feel free to make contact with Mrs Rosie Rantucci to make an appointment.

Kind Regards

Mr Simon Vaughan

Deputy Principal

svaughan@sscc.gld.edu.au

St Stephen's Catholic College

Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 21 February 2018
from 9.00 am at the
Mareeba Swimming Pool

Refer to page 13 for more information.

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#### FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - ENGLISH

"Real comprehension has to do with thinking, learning, and expanding a reader's knowledge and horizons" (Zimmerman and Hutchins, 2003)

When students learn to read, it is critical that they can not only recall what they have read, but can interpret, infer and make connections with the text. This year, students in years seven, eight and nine English classes will have access to an interactive, personalised reading practice program based on the classic SRA Reading Laboratory aimed at developing reading comprehension skills. Many parents may be familiar with the previous version of this program as it is estimated that over 127 million children have used the product.



The program now features innovative 21st century digital and social skills, and it enables students to focus on activities aimed at their particular (reading) level and move forward at their own pace. We look forward to seeing our students engage with this program as they develop crucial reading skills which can be applied to all

learning areas.

Mrs Tamara Schincariol Middle Leader - English tschincari@sscc.qld.edu.au





Mrs Schincariol and Mrs Salerno with their year seven English classes in the Library.







#### FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - YEARS 9 AND 10

My gosh! Week 4 already: The school year is now well under way. As parents, we can often find ourselves frantically scheduling activities and demands, often leading to tense after-school battles with our teens. Beyond their reluctance to do homework and jobs at home, a teenager's constant quest to assert themselves and carve out a personal identity can make things difficult for the whole family. Unfortunately, getting swept up in a firestorm of do's and don'ts only increases the stress level at home. Rather than add to the pressure, you can help your teens learn to deal with routines and demands in a healthier way. Plenty of research says the teen years are tumultuous, but as adolescents test boundaries and become somewhat defiant, it also lays the groundwork for a sense of purpose and individuality. According to mindful.org here are 3 ways parents can help their teens to thrive:

- Be a better listener. Listen with the intention to learn. Let go of your desire to convince or impose your opinions onto your teen. Your conversation should provide space for them to express their ideas, explore new frontiers, form an identity, and remain open to constant change. If we can teach our teens to be curious and refrain from viewing experiences through a binary lens of black or white, good or bad, success or failure, they'll begin to explore everyday experiences more fully. This more open mindset allows them to experiment, falter, and change their minds when something is not going according to plan and enables them to hear and appreciate diverse perspectives. The ability to adapt well to all circumstances builds resilience.
- Empathize. Be a source of support. Life is full of painful moments—friends move away, university applications are turned down, parents separate, and sometimes the road gets bumpy. Whether they're experiencing excitement, anxiety, disappointment, or failure, let them know that you're always there. The more you're able to demonstrate a willingness to see life through their eyes, the closer you'll become. A strong and trusting relationship makes the admission of defeat, disappointment, and achievement easier and the emotions that course through these moments will begin to unite you rather than divide you.
- Talk honestly. Ask questions that get the whole family to share about who they are, what they

like, and how they interact with the world. Having their feelings validated gives teens the encouragement they need to feel accepted, admit defeat, and re-adjust. Often, the simple act of showing you care is enough to strengthen connections and



build meaningful conversations that last a lifetime.

Ash Wednesday - Beginning of Lent: With the beginning of Lent today, all students have been encouraged to consider what actions they might take to prepare for the great feast of Easter. Traditional preparation revolves around the practices of fasting, prayer and almsgiving. Activities at school outlined by Miss Sugars and Religion teachers will offer students the opportunity to prepare for Easter.

**Swimming Carnival:** Please encourage your child to be an active participant in the upcoming inter-house swimming carnival. It is a good opportunity to nurture that resilience and have fun doing it.

One-to-One Laptop Program: Year ten students are reminded that their laptops are for school/educational purposes only. Students found to be using their laptops contrary to expectations, will be dealt with in line with college behaviour policies. Parents with any concerns about the laptops should contact the college.

Parent Information Evening: Many thanks to those year ten parents and students who were able to make it to the information on Tuesday night. Valuable information relating to the new Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) was shared allowing parents and students to keep up to date with changes affecting year twelve students in 2020.

**Black School Shoes**: I ask all parents to please check the quality of their children's school shoes. Some students have been spoken to about the wear and tear of their formal, black shoes and have been asked to polish them.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress.

Mr Paul MacCallum
Middle Leader - Years 9 and 10
pmaccallum@sscc.qld.edu.au

#### FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - STUDENT DIVERSITY

At St Stephen's Catholic College, we value diversity and practise inclusivity.

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:7

Students with a disability have the right to access the curriculum on the same basis as their peers. On the same basis does not mean all students have to be educated in exactly the same way. Adjustments are made to ensure access to the curriculum. One of the reasons why we



have Personalised Learning Plans (which is the new term for IEP's) and the meeting to formulate them, is to help parents, students, teachers and other stakeholders discuss the best types of adjustments for each particular student's needs. These PLP meetings will be happening in terms one and three.

All staff are required to undertake training in the Disability Standards for Education to help us with every step of the education journey of a student with a disability in regard to enrolment, participation, curriculum, and transition to after school life. The Student Diversity Team at St Stephen's Catholic College has expanded this year and we welcome two new members: Ms Andrea Chiesa - Learning Support Teacher, who brings to the team much knowledge of curriculum and senior school special provisions and Mrs Elizabeth Roberts - Learning Support Officer, who brings lots of enthusiasm and knowledge from previous schools.

The existing Learning Support officers, Mrs Adil, Mrs Bulst, Mrs Dyer and Mrs Hubner have all returned and are keen to support students. This year **LUNCHTIME HELP** will be in the M&T room - recess two, every day. Students can access computers, printing and get help with organisation. Actual help for assignment content should be gained from the teacher of that subject please. Mrs Michelle Hall, Ms Andrea Chiesa and myself are case managers of Students with a Disability. Mrs Nola Nunnes is the coordinator of the Individual Curriculum Plans. We are blessed to have Mrs Musso as our school officer who is a whiz at administration and contacts parents on our behalf.

Lastly the National Disability Insurance Scheme or NDIS will be rolled out in our region by July 2018. As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach, investing in people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life. The NDIS supports people with disability to build skills and capability so they can participate in the community and employment.

Good advice I received; Please ask for a face-to-face interview to formulate the NDIS plan rather than just a phone interview, and make sure you construct a list of hopes and possible opportunities for post school options in the plan.

Mrs Gail Musch Middle Leader - Student Diversity gmusch@sscc.gld.edu.au





Pictured above from left to right: Ms Andrea Chiesa and Mrs Elizabeth Roberts

#### FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - STUDENT DIVERSITY



#### Why is the NDIS important?

#### Why do we need the NDIS?

People with disability have the same right as other Australians to determine their best interests and to have choice and control over their lives.

The NDIS recognises that everyone's needs and goals are different.

The NDIS provides people with individualised support and the flexibility to manage their supports to help them achieve their goals and enjoy an ordinary life.

The NDIS replaces a disability system that was unfair and inefficient with a new, national system that is world-leading, equitable and sustainable.

This provides certainty and consistency for people with disability, their families and carers.

Australians will now have peace of mind that if their child or loved one is born with or acquires a significant disability that is likely to be with them for life they will get the support they need, when they need it.

#### Why an insurance scheme?

The NDIS is social insurance, not welfare. As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach to



support, investing in people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life.

ndis.gov.au



For more information about the NDIS please contact:

Website - <u>www.ndis.gov.au</u>
Telephone - 1800 800 110
Facebook/NDISAus
Twitter@NDIS

#### FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - TECHNOLOGY

Hello and welcome to 2018, I hope you have had a restful break and are looking forward to an exciting year. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the staff in the Technology department.

Ms Toni Smith - Year 9 Graphics, Year 10 Technology and Design, Year 11 Certificate II in Furniture Making Pathways and Year 12 Certificate II in Furniture Making Pathways.

Mr Keith Pelka - Year 7 Graphics, Year 8 Technology and Design, Year 9 Technology and Design, Year 10 Graphics, Year 11 Graphics, Year 11 Engineering Technology, Year 12 Graphics and Year 12 Engineering Technology.

Mr Paul McLennan - Year 8 Graphics, Year 9 Technology and Design, Year 10 Technology and Design, Year 11 Certificate I in Engineering and Year 12 Certificate I in Engineering.

Mr Frank Caines - Year 7 Robotics, Year 8 Robotics, Year 8 Technology, Year 10 Information and Communication Technology, Year 11 Information Technology Systems and Year 12 Information Technology Systems.

Mrs Simone Gillies - Year 7 Digital Technology.

Mr Kieran Morley - Year 9 Information and Communication Technology.











Technology staff from left to right: Mr Pelka, Mr McLennan, Mr Caines, Mrs Gillies and Mr Morley.

As can be seen, there are a lot of fun and exciting subjects being delivered by our very experienced and professional staff. Along with these subjects comes some very specialist software and equipment. To cater to the students who may find these new programs a little tricky, or for those who simply love to play with the new technology, our staff run a few different lunch time activities.

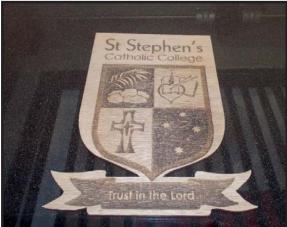
On Tuesdays, the systems room is open during second recess for those students who would like access to the software / equipment used in Graphics.

On Thursdays during second recess, we run a Robotics Club, where students build robots and compete in external competitions. These sessions are also a great opportunity to access teacher help in any of our Technology subjects.

Ms Toni Smith Middle Leader - Technology tsmith6@sscc.qld.edu.au

#### FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - TECHNOLOGY







#### **NEW AND EXCITING EQUIPMENT**

Above and below are photos of our brand-new STEM focused Robotics room, which has been set up as a creative workspace. There are also photos of our new Laser cutter and magnetic pan brake. The sky is now the limit for our students, with access to the latest technologies that match our exciting new projects.





www.sscc.qld.edu.au 11

#### STUDENT SUCCESS - KEELEY MASON

Keeley Mason (year twelve) has been accepted into the New York Academy of Sciences "1000 Girls, 1000 Futures" program. She applied after her recent participation in the National Youth Science Forum, and received the news recently that she was successful. The program is a global initiative, and pairs girls with a female scientist.

1000 Girls, 1000 Futures is a ground-breaking initiative designed to engage young women interested in science, technology, engineering, and math, and advance their pursuit of STEM careers through mentoring and 21st-century skills development.

Congratulations Keeley!





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#### Get this school off to the best start possible!

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You'll even notice the difference at home. Plus, it's free in Queensland. You can do it online, in large seminar or small group sessions, or one-on-one.

Find out more at www.triplep-parenting.net







## St Stephen's Catholic College Swimming Carnival

**INVITATION:** To parents and friends to attend the annual St Stephen's Catholic College Swimming Carnival.

DATE: Wednesday, 21sth February 2018

LOCATION: Mareeba Swimming Pool

TIME: 9:00 am - 3 pm

PARTICIPATION: This event is a wonderful opportunity for students to interact with others in their pastoral house and build positive relationships and house spirit. In the past, students have thoroughly enjoyed the day. All students are expected to attend the carnival and to participate in the Pastoral House event for participation points for their pastoral house. Students unable to swim on the day must have a note from a parent / guardian and provide it to their home form teacher on Friday morning. All students who will be absent must have a valid reason which is conveyed to the Principal prior to the carnival (we understand that on some occasions there may be extenuating circumstances which prevent your child's participation).

**TRAVEL:** Buses will transport students to the Mareeba Swimming Pool after home form in the morning and return in time to allow students to catch their regular buses in the afternoon.

**DRESS:** Students will wear their sports uniform. If they are competing in an event, they are to wear their swimmers underneath their uniform to school. Coloured sunscreens in house colours are permitted at the pool but are not to be worn to school. There is to be no coloured hair. Sports joggers must be worn to school that day. Students may change into thongs at the pool. They are required to wear their school hat and their sports uniform shirt between events. Students are required to change back into their sports uniform, remove coloured sunscreen, and put on their joggers before returning to school. School bags are to be left at home and replaced by your own bags for ease of identification at the pool.

**CANTEEN:** The canteen at the pool will be open selling snacks and drinks. There will be a BBQ lunch available (sausages: \$2.00 and hamburgers: \$5.00). **This BBQ needs to be pre-ordered and paid for at the school tuckshop by the 20<sup>th</sup> of February**. Students are advised to bring their own drink bottle as there are no drinking tap facilities at the pool.

We look forward to you joining us for this great day of swimming and inter-house competition.

Yours in sport

Kieran Morley

Middle Leader - Sports and Activities





### **COMMUNITY NOTICES**







**MAREEBA WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH 2018** 



#### ACTIVITIES

- International Exchange Trips.
- Powered and Glider Flying.
- Firearm Safety Training.
- Courses at Defence Bases.
- Competitions at National Events. Rifle Shooting.
- Radio Commun Fieldcraft.
- Drill & Ceremonial. **Navigation Training**
- Survival Training. Model Rocketry.
- Team Building. Abseilling.
- High Ropes. Canoeing. Air Shows.

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106 SQUADRON (TABLELANDS)

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Unit facility located at 2A Abbott Street, Mareeba



# OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 28 February 2018 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm

## Students entering Year 7 in 2019 and beyond!

- Display of specialist areas
- Information about the college culture, curriculum and expectations
- **Enrolment Handbook**
- Self-guided tour of facilities
- Scholarship information



College Captains for 2018, from left: David Bin, Joshua Kievit, Elena Pilat and Gabriella Cuda

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