

# St Stephen's News

Issue 13 - Term 3 | Wednesday 31 August 2016

**Principal:** Mrs Ida Pinese

Deputy Principal Curriculum: Ms Andrea Chiesa

**Assistant Principal Religious Education:** Mrs Laura Gilbert **Assistant Principal Administration:** Ms Anja van Hooydonk

Business Manager: Mr Hadyn Flynn

College Leader - Pastoral Care: Mr Matthew Draper



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## Students Rise to the Challenge!









Last Sunday, students from St Stephen's Catholic College competed in the OPTIMINDS Challenge at James Cook University, Cairns, where they presented a prepared and an impromptu challenge. It was in the impromptu activity that the two teams' creativity came to the fore, resulting in an honours award. We congratulate the teams and thank their mentors, Mrs Schermer and Ms van Hooydonk.

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# **NOTICES**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**



#### **Board Meeting**

1 September

#### **Year 12 Block Exams**

5 September to 9 September

#### **Year 10 Work Experience**

12 September to 15 September

#### **Year 11 Leadership Day**

12 September

### St Stephen's Day

16 September 2016

## **TERM DATES 2016**

Term Three: July 11 - September 16

Term Four: October 4 - November 18 (Year 12)

October 4 - November 25 (Years 7 - 11)

#### SPORTS UNIFORMS FOR SALE

Colour Studio is no longer stocking uniforms and has a small amount of sport shirts on hand for \$18.00. Please contact Rena Ceola on 0417 073 145 for further details. Sales from the shirts will be donated to the fundraising efforts of Team Tracey. Sizes include small and size 10.

## **CHESS CLUB**

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)

Room: \$5

Monday and Tuesday Recess 2
Thursday morning before school
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



## **MATHEMATICS TUITION**

Students seeking help with their Mathematics may attend a tuition/homework class on Tuesday and Thursday lunch time in MCR. Mr Ellison will be in attendance on Tuesdays and Miss Sugars will be in attendance on Thursdays to assist students at both Junior and Senior levels with any difficulties they may be experiencing. All welcome!!

## **ENROL NOW FOR 2017**

All new students must have an enrolment interview; this includes those who already have siblings attending St Stephen's Catholic College.

Contact Mrs Denise Morrow to arrange an enrolment interview.

Phone: 4086 2523

## **ABSENTEE E-MAIL**

The college now has an absentee email address.

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

## **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 (principal@sscc.qld.edu.au) with any information and photos.

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

To ensure communication is received, please advise the college if you have changed your email address. Please email the office

office@sscc.gld.edu.au or phone 4086 2500.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St Stephen's

"The times we live in do not call for young couch potatoes, but for young people with shoes or, better, boots laced." (Pope Francis at World Youth Day, 2016)

The call to social justice and serving others, as advocated by Pope Francis, is an important element of the St Stephen's culture. It was refreshing to see a dedicated group of students energetically working hard to wash motor vehicles on 20 August, as they raised funds for the Relay for Life event in October. While most participants were senior students from the Social



Justice Committee, I commend those from the younger year levels who have also embraced the culture of helping those in need.

Our goal is not just academic excellence, but to educate the heart as well as the mind. The St Stephen's community has been tested over the past month to demonstrate compassion, resilience and empathy. It is a harsh reality for young people to experience the passing of one of their peers and to face the reality that sometimes bad things happen to good people. I thank all parents who have assisted our college by being of support to their children during this challenging time. As a community, this tragic event has made us realise the fragility of life and the importance of "not being couch potatoes, glued to our cell phones", but to make the most of our God-given gifts and talents.

The year 12 students, in particular, have been challenged to perform at their very best, despite the sadness they are feeling. I would like to commend the OP-eligible students for their composure and application during the rigorous QCS test in the past two days. Moving forward and settling into everyday routines is the best formula for all students to adopt.

Some who nostalgically remember when we were a small school of fewer than 300 students, often comment that one must accept changes to the culture when a school's population increases. I would like to emphasise that our expectations have not changed as we have grown. Students are still required to be attired in the correct uniform at all times; assignment deadlines must be met; respect for self and others is the foundation of our culture and continuous non-compliance is seen as defiance, attracting consequences. Our gratitude is extended to parents who are very supportive of our culture and who encourage their children to meet our expectations.

In the final weeks of this term, preparations are underway for the visit by our sister school in Japan from 8 to 16 September. Due to the generosity of our parent body, host families have been found for the thirty (30) students who are arriving shortly. We are looking forward to this intercultural experience and wish our visitors an enjoyable time.

Part of the St Stephen's culture is that all students understand the importance of respecting and honouring commitments—regardless of whether they involve academic, sporting, cultural, or community events. On the last day of this term, the college community is celebrating St Stephen's day. This is a day when we celebrate what it means to be a student of St Stephen's Catholic College by participating in activities that will build relationships and enhance our culture. The student body, under the guidance of the Student Representative Council, has been working hard over the past few weeks to prepare for this important day. Information has been conveyed to parents and carers outlining the different activities that will be happening on this day (see page 5).

I strongly urge parents to support my expectation that all students are to be in attendance on Friday 16 September, unless official leave has been requested.

While permitting students to stay at home may be the easy option, by condoning their lack of commitment, parents are doing students a great disfavour as they will continue to do the same as adults, thus making it difficult for them to persevere with any activity long enough to turn their dreams into reality.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Just as it is important to commit to attending school on the last day of term, it is also **imperative that students return on the first day of term four—Tuesday 4 October—**unless official leave has been requested. The learning of students will be severely affected if they adopt a casual attitude to attendance as their results will not be a true reflection of their ability.

I would like to thank Mr Keith Howe for taking the year 11 and 12 English classes in terms one, two and three. It is not often that we are fortunate to engage a teacher with experience and passion for his area. We wish him all the best as he completes his contract to honour a previous commitment.

I thank you for your continued support of the changes that we often need to make and for your faith and trust in our college.

With Trust in the Lord,

Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal principal@sscc.qld.edu.au

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St Stephen's Catholic College is entering two (2) teams in this year's Tablelands Relay for Life to be held from Saturday 22 October to Sunday 23 October at Davies Park Mareeba. This event challenges students to raise funds for the Cancer Council and compete in an overnight team relay. St Stephen's Catholic College feels it is imperative to raise awareness and funds for this worthy organisation. To maximise our fundraising endeavours, we are asking for support from businesses and individuals in the form of sponsorship. There are three (3) options to choose from.



**Gold:** For \$500.00 or more, sponsors will get their company name and logo posted on the college's Facebook page and their company name and logo in the school newsletter for one (1) month preceding and following the event (or from the receipt of payment).

**Silver:** For \$250.00 - \$499.00, sponsors will get their company name posted on the college's Facebook page and their company name in the school newsletter for one (1) month preceding and following the event (or from the receipt of payment).

**Bronze:** For less than \$250.00, sponsors will get their company name in the school newsletter for one (1) month preceding and following the event (or from the receipt of payment).

Sponsorship can be made by direct bank deposit (see the details provided below) or by phone through the school office (07 4086 2500). An electronic copy of company logos can be emailed to lgilbert1@sscc.qld.edu.au with the subject "Relay for Life Logo." If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact me via the details above. All sponsorship donations would be greatly appreciated!

Mrs Laura Gilbert
Assistant Principal – Religious Education

#### **Direct Deposit Details**

Bank: National Australia Bank
BSB: 084 352
Account No: 0000 12931

ame: St Stephen's Catholic Colle

Name: St Stephen's Catholic College Detail: RFL Insert Company Name

## ST STEPHEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS - FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

On Friday 16 September, St Stephen's Catholic college will celebrate St Stephen's Day, which aims to promote the culture of our college, acknowledge the giftedness and sense of family present in our school community, whilst recognising the qualities of St Stephen who we aim to emulate. Students and staff are busily preparing for this occasion and wish to invite parents to join us for mass and our talent quest as per the program outlined below.

Program of Events		
Time Lessons 1 and 2	Activity	Location
8.55 am to 10.10 am	St Stephen's Day Mass	Undercover Area
10.10 am – 10.40 am	Recess 1/Morning Tea	
Lesson 3		
10.40 am – 11.50 am	Talent Quest	Undercover Area
Lesson 4 and Recess 2		
11.50 am – 1.25 pm	Fete	Undercover Area and surrounds
Lessons 5 and 6		
1.25 pm – 2.56 pm	Staff vs Senior Students Netball Game Team Challenge/Games for Junior Students	s on the Oval and Handball Court

## Memories from St Stephen's Day - 2015













www.sscc.qld.edu.au 5

## FROM THE SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

#### **Sexting Presentation**

This morning, we were lucky to have Acting Senior Constable Haylee Campbell speak with our year 7 and 8 students about sexting. Sexting is the sending and receiving of sexually explicit photos, images, text messages or emails. Haylee explained that it is illegal to send or receive naked or partially naked photos which are sexually provocative. This can also include photos from television shows or documentaries and a naked 'selfie' is also an offence. It is illegal to possess and share photos and ignorance of the law will not get you off charges. Even showing someone a photo on your phone, without sending it, is an offence.



If you take a photo, you can be charged with three (3) different offences: making child exploitation material (known as child pornography); possessing child exploitation material, even if it has been sent to you, and distributing child pornography. Young people under seventeen (17) years of age can be jailed for a maximum of seven (7) years and anyone over seventeen (17), can be jailed for up to fourteen (14) years. In Queensland, you can be charged as an adult from seventeen (17) years of age. When you are over the age of ten (10), you can be criminally charged with an offence. Police records are never deleted even if you are charged as a minor. However, the police records are not given to a magistrate if you are in court as an adult and you have been charged previously as a minor.

The students were informed that any information, even deleted information, can be retrieved on phones and computers by the police. Snapchat and Facebook User Agreements state that the owners of these sites can access the data and give it to police for investigations. Child Exploitation (sexting) is a sex crime and you could find yourself on the Child Protection Offenders Register. This can affect where you are allowed to live, whether you can travel overseas and your contact with children. It can also make it hard to get a job, as most employers seek a 'Blue Card' to work with children.

Haylee spoke to the students about how quickly an image can be shared across the Internet. We have seen how many 'likes' a photo or message can get when someone holds up a sign on the Internet requesting a wide sharing coverage. The Police Child Protection Investigation Unit has seen many child pornography websites which have been set up around Australia and this was recently on the news. We have no control over a photo once it has been taken.

Haylee's main message to the students was that they should not put themselves in any situation where they have no control over where their data ends up. Once you press the 'Send' button, you lose control. Young people should not become a victim if they look after themselves and choose behaviours where they are in total control. Friendships and romances can change and some people may choose to retaliate by sharing private photographs and messages. You need to think about your own actions at all times.

Everyone should report and delete any naked images from their devices. Haylee requested that the students take responsibility to stop the circulation of images. It is important to think about how you would feel if a photo of you was being distributed to others. Haylee encouraged the students to speak with an adult such as parents, teachers, Guidance Counsellor, Crime Stoppers and the Police. Students asked a range of questions at the end of the session and they have been encouraged to let us know if they have further queries.

**Mrs Michelle Hall Guidance Officer** 

#### FROM THE TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

In term three, our department has been busy, busy, busy!

The INTAD Department is busily collating student work to enter it into the "Business Liaison Association" competitions, which could see our students recognised publicly for all their hard work this year, not to mention the prizes that are up



for grabs. Categories in these competitions include graphical work, design work and also practical work.

Our year 8's have been very successful in expanding their understanding of robotics to include programming in RobotC. Our robotics lunch time group have entered several competitions this year, with the help of one of our parents, Mr Michael Bryce.

Wishing you a relaxing spring holiday.

# Ms Toni Stevens Middle Leader Curriculum



**Robotics Club** 



**Year 8 Robotics Class** 

#### FROM THE YEAR 11 MIDDLE LEADER

I can't believe it's week 8 already! Where has this term gone? We began the term with our reward lunch which acknowledged student success in areas of academic achievement and a consistent work ethic. Aaron Bryce has done the year 11 cohort proud by being accepted into the National Youth Science Forum next year. Aaron will be travelling to



Canberra in January to participate in the twelve (12) day residential program exploring the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths. We congratulate Aaron and wish him the very best.

At this point in the term, students should be focused on their assessment across all subject areas. As exams are being held and assignments will be due over the next few weeks, I strongly advise all students to concentrate on their study, remain dedicated to their goals, and to keep the lines of communication open with their parents and teachers. Adolescence can be a difficult time, with so many pressures coming from an increasing number of avenues, but there is an abundance of support available at the college and I would encourage parents and students to make use of the support provided.

In week 10 of this term, our year 11 students will be participating in a leadership program at school. During this time, opportunities of college leadership positions will be discussed. This year has been the time for your children to step up and demonstrate their initiative and potential as leaders, and many year 11's have risen to the challenge. Others, unfortunately, have not demonstrated the maturity we would expect of this age, and we've seen some elements of defiance emerging amongst a few students of recently. I spoke at our last year level meeting about the reality of the world of work and how we all must abide by rules no matter what our vocation in life. I sincerely hope all of our young people adjust to this environment soon, as before we know it, they will be graduating from school and facing a reality check as they enter the workforce or pursue further studies.

I wish all of our students luck with their upcoming assessment, and I wish you all a relaxing and refreshing break.

Mrs Stacey Crockford Year 11 Pastoral Leader

## **CAREERS NEWS**

#### University of Queensland (UQ) Academic Scholarship Program

The university-wide academic scholarships available at UQ for Year 12 students are:

- UQ Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships (awarded to applicants achieving at the very top of the OP 1 band or equivalent) valued at \$12,000.00 per year for up to five (5) years.
- UQ Excellence Scholarships (awarded to OP 1 applicants who demonstrate outstanding academic leadership and/or community service achievements during their senior secondary studies) valued at \$6,000.00 for up to four (4) years.
- UQ Merit Scholarships (awarded to OP 1 3 applicants who demonstrate significant academic, leadership and/or community service) valued at \$6,000.00 for the first year of study.



All three scholarships can be applied for on the one application. Applications close on 31 October 2016. Specific information about these scholarships and the application process can be found at: https://scholarships.uq.edu.au/program/uq-academic-scholarship-program

#### University of Queensland (UQ) Science International Scholarships

Scholarships are available for outstanding international students in undergraduate or postgraduate coursework programs in science at UQ. Applications close on 1 December 2016 for Semester One 2017 entry. Refer to the following link for details:

http://www.science.uq.edu.au/index.html?page=236149

University of Queensland (UQ) Sporting Scholarships

The following UQ sporting scholarships are now open and will close on 31 October 2016. The scholarships support elite athletes to be successful in their sport and in their study.

- **UQ Sports Achievement Scholarship**
- Clem Jones Sporting Scholarship
- UQ Sport Scholarship Ambassador Program

Visit the following link for details of these scholarships:

https://www.uqsport.com.au/content/uq-sporting-scholarships

#### Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

These scholarships are now open. They include:

- Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships (Academic) applications close on 18 November 2016 (110 scholarships worth \$30,000.00 each and 37 scholarships worth \$10,000.00 each).
- Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships (Creative Industries) no application process required as recipients are chosen from the pool of Creative Industries course applications (twelve (12) scholarships worth \$10,000.00 each).
- Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships (Elite Visual and Performing Arts) no application process required as recipients are chosen from the pool of Creative Industries course applications in Dance Performance, Visual Arts, Acting and Music (8 scholarships worth \$30,000.00 each).
- Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships (Elite Athlete) applications close on 18 November 2016 (eight (8) scholarships worth \$30,000.00 and twelve (12) scholarships worth \$10,000.00).

To find out more, visit https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/undergraduate-scholarships

Mrs Havva Murat-Maksuti **Careers Officer** 

#### **ELEV8XCM NEWS**

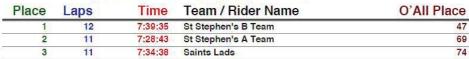
The ELEV8XCM is an annual cross country mountain bike race of eight (8) hour's durationthat is held in the mountainous terrain of Atherton. Essentially, competitors race around a twelve (12) kilometre course as many times as possible in eight (8) hours. Some competitors enter as individuals and do it all on their own, while others form teams of two (2), three (3) or four (4). This year, over 350 competitors entered with 151 various teams. In total, twenty-two (22) St Stephen's students spent months training for the ELEV8XCM, six (6) of whom trained and competed as part of the St Stephen's school teams. "Team A" consisted of Travis Cummings, Raelyn Seymour and Finley Green. Matthew Crane, Kaleb Nielsen and James Carlsson comprised "Team B." It was pleasing to hear a competitor at the event say that the students



"were a credit to the school and themselves with great teamwork and sportsmanship displayed by all." The hard training in the lead up, and persistence on the day, paid off for both teams, as they achieved first and second in the schools' category.

**Mr Steven Groves** Middle Leader Curriculum - HPE Atherton 8 Hour **Final Results** 

## Interschool Challenge Team



ELEV8XCM2016





## 2016 JUNIOR STATE GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS





Congratulations to Callum McCarthy and Olivia Bannink, who have qualified for the 2016 Junior State Gymnastics Championships being held in Brisbane during the school holidays.

Good luck!

## MAREEBA MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

The St Stephen's Catholic College choir performed at the Mareeba Multicultural Festival held on Saturday, under the direction of Miss Sugars. They produced great harmony with strong voices.











## COMMUNITY NEWS











## Tableland Junior Rugby Union Sign On Afternoon

Davies Park, Mareeba

Tuesday 6th September 5:15pm

Recruiting

U13's

U15's

U17's

Everyone is welcome, you don't need to have played before

Any queries please call Deborah 0409 331 083

## ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE SONG

## Trust in the Lord

We're the young from ancient lands. Unite us with hope. As we face our challenges, you're calling us to grow. Set our hearts aflame, Lord, with passion for your cross. Stephen, who we're named for, pray for us as we sing,

"Here we stand to serve the many in the faith we're called towards. We search for truth, justice and mercy and we trust in the Lord." Trust in the Lord! Trust in the Lord! Trust in the Lord!

Move us with your spirit, Lord, fill our with our hearts with love. Give us minds for learning, Lord, and wisdom for the world. As our patron faced his end he gave our Lord his trust. Stephen, the first martyr, pray for us as we sing,

"Here we stand to serve the many in the faith we're called towards. We search for truth, justice and mercy and we trust in the Lord." Trust in the Lord! Trust in the Lord! Trust in the Lord!

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