Vinnies School Sleepout

On Friday evening 9 August, students and staff demonstrated empathy for the homeless in our society by 'sleeping rough' in an outdoor setting and experiencing the food and shelter deprivations of the marginalized who do not enjoy the comforts of a home and warm meal each night. Above left: Lucy Perrett and Eva McLennan, above right: Shakia McDonald and left: Joe Mete.
Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

"There is nothing permanent, except change."
(Heraclitus)

In education, change is a constant. Consequently, our staff may feel inundated and experience change fatigue. We have three choices when implementing the many changes that have been placed upon us from external and internal sources—we can hope it will go away; we can use our energy to resist change or we can become involved in steering the change and influence the intended outcomes. Below, I have outlined some of the changes which staff and students will experience during the next few months.

From 2020, all schools in the Diocese of Cairns will undertake NAPLAN Online. In preparation for this event, St Stephen’s will conduct a School Readiness Test in the last week of this term with students in years seven and eight. The purpose of this action is to ensure that we have the capability to engage with NAPLAN Online for years seven and nine in 2020. Fortunately, all students will have their own laptops by this date which will make the testing easier to facilitate.

The current year twelve students are the last cohort to graduate under the system which allocated an overall position score. Not only will future graduating students receive an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) if they intend to enter university, but the system of determining a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) has also had profound changes which are being implemented with the current year eleven cohort. These changes were explained in detail at the year eleven information evening on 6 August. All parents of year eleven should have received the power point presentation from that evening. Year eleven subject teachers are well-informed of these changes and can assist parents and students, if needed. Alternatively, the Deputy Principal, Mr Vaughan is also available to explain the changes and he has had several robust conversations with students who are at risk of not achieving a QCE under the new system.

During the SET (Senior Education Training) plan meetings last week, year ten students and their parents were also informed of the implications of these changes. The staff who conducted these meetings with parents and their children are experienced. It is advisable to listen to their recommendations, as we want to set up students for success and not failure. There are many ways to achieve a goal, and it is important that the advice which our teachers provided is taken into consideration in the selection of year eleven subjects.

Feedback from parents, students and staff was collated during the Satisfaction Survey which randomly selected parents and students completed in early August. One of the concerns raised by parents was the absence of teachers at crucial periods such as assessment days. I respect the comments that were made about the importance of having one’s teacher available on the day of the test. However, with the changes to the senior system, many of our teachers are required to attend professional learning at scheduled times, so that they can effectively deliver the curriculum and develop assessment tasks. These dates are not set by the college and can occur at any time during the term. I thank you for your understanding while we are in transition to the new system—the biggest change since 1973.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As a result of the external testing which will occur early in term four of year twelve, the date of the senior formal will be changed. At the year eleven information evening, I flagged changes to two signature events in the life of the graduating students—a formal that would most probably occur in term two of year 12 (possible date: 20 June 2020) and the timing of the graduation ceremony. The latter will be determined at a Diocesan level and parents and students will be informed as soon as a decision is made.

In the past week, parents and staff of St Stephen’s were asked to complete a survey on the qualities that they would like to see in a new principal who takes over my role in 2020. I thank both parents and staff for completing this survey, as the comments made will inform the interviewing panel.

Our attitude and ability to learn are instrumental in the effective implementation of change. As educators we need to adopt a mindset that views change as a learning process. By modelling this positive attitude, we are also demonstrating to our students that change is constant and inevitable and that our schools reflect society in which there is an accelerated pace of life, rapidly changing technology and an abundance of choices.

With Trust in the Lord

Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal
Email: ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

On Friday 9 August, around 50 students and staff at St Stephen’s Catholic College participated in the Vinnies School Sleepout, aiming to act in solidarity and to raise awareness of the hardships of homelessness experienced by over 105,000 Australians each night. After an evening of games and activities aimed at getting a better understanding of the causes and addressing misconceptions of homelessness, students shared a simple meal of noodle soup and began setting up their sleeping areas with the available resources.

The students spent the night on the concrete outside a classroom and attempted to get some sleep on makeshift cardboard mattresses whilst enduring the conditions such as cold wind and noisy wildlife. All the participants were able to get a glimpse of the reality of sleeping rough in winter. Through the experience students were able to identify some of the hardships faced by people who are homeless. These included finding it difficult to get quality sleep while uncomfortable and cold, finding that sleeping on the concrete or other hard surfaces results in waking up with a sore neck, back and hips, and realizing how simple tasks such as completing homework or social interactions become very difficult when you are not well-rested.

Thank you to the teachers who generously gave their time and energy to assist with the organising and running of the sleepout. It was an eye-opening, yet worthwhile experience for all involved.

Miss Janai Sugars
Assistant Principal Religious Education
Email: jsugars2@cns.catholic.edu.au

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

College Captains, Deborah Hermanus and Kyrah Johnston, along with bugler, Andrew Close, attended the Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration on Sunday 18 August, to honour those who served in the Vietnam War.
GIRLS NIGHT IN

On Friday 16 August, St Stephen’s Catholic College hosted a Girls’ Night In. The girls spent the afternoon and evening raising awareness and funds for the Cancer Council. The aim of the activity was to build relationships between the junior and senior students while raising funds for women’s cancer research, prevention and support services. Activities included a “trashion” show (making clothes out of newspaper), beauty activities, eating pizza, a bake-off, dancing and watching a movie.


Bottom row: Alyssa Crane and Mia Scomazzon. Amy Jones and Megan Coetzer.

MAREEBA LIONESS CLUB - PINK RIBBON DAY

Each year, a Spring Garden Party is held by the Mareeba Lioness Club to raise money for the Queensland Cancer Council. On Saturday 17 August, year eleven Hospitality Students provided assistance to serve afternoon tea. Thank you to Mrs Bernardi and the students who participated in this worthy cause. Pictured are Daniel Cross and Zoe Hopgood.

HARNISCHFEGER CUP - SEMESTER ONE

Iago Roche-Maxwell has won the Harnischfeger Cup for the third consecutive time.

Iago beat Caleb Shorey 3-2 in a closely fought final to take out the bi-annual event.

This competition has been a good preparation for the team who will head down to Cairns on Thursday 22 August to defend their FNQ Inter-School Chess title. The first two teams will progress to the State finals in Brisbane in October.
FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER STUDENT DIVERSITY

Social media has become part of our everyday lives. As a parent, I use social media. As a teacher, I use social media. As a learner, I use social media. Rarely do I use it for the socialising part of it - I hear it can be handy for that too! Most recently my social media use has been for study tips, given that it is that time of term again. I challenge any teenager to do the same and let me know what they find!

Our Student Diversity team supports learners at all stages of their learning journey. Our goal is to encourage independence in all students, as we provide methods and routines for students to take ownership of their learning, helping them to learn what works for them. One of the most important things for learning, other than a growth mindset, is having good learning habits. My social media study tips search found the following, easy-to-the-eye recommendations that may be useful. Please share any that work for you – especially if you are a teen rising to my abovementioned challenge.

Mrs Trudy Pretorius
Middle Leader Student Diversity
Email: tpretorius@cns.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER MATHEMATICS

Year 9 - Mathematics Camp
Six (6) students from St Stephen's Catholic College attended the year nine Tablelands Mathematics Enrichment Camp which was held at Tinaroo Environmental Education Centre (Black Gully) earlier this term. During the three-day camp, students engaged in hands on maths activities with other students from the Tablelands region, testing not only their mathematical skills, but also their fear of heights on the high ropes course and giant swing. Thank you to Mr Rellis and Mrs Pretorius for supervising these students during the camp.

From left to right: Tiahna Maloberti, Sage Stevens, Alananah Falvo, Mr Rellis, Harry Wilson, Sam Jackson and Joshua Snell.

Years 7 and 8 QAMT (Queensland Association of Mathematics Teachers)
St Stephen’s Catholic College, for the second consecutive year, has won round one of the year seven and eight QAMT Mathematics Quiz. The team which consisted of Milan Maloberti (year eight), Kian Saedenia (year eight) and Riley Lennon (year seven) competed against the brightest mathematics students from around the Tablelands region at the event which was held at Atherton State High School on Thursday 1 August. The team will now progress to round two of the competition which will be held in Cairns on Thursday 29 August. The team will be defending their FNQ title from last year and hoping to once again make it through to the state finals in Brisbane. Thank you to Mr Herrald for training and supervising the students at this competition. Good luck to the boys in Round Two!

From left to right: Riley Lennon, Milan Maloberti and Kian Saedenia.

Australian Mathematics Competition
Twenty-eight students competed in the Australian Mathematics Competition which was held on Thursday 1 August. Students will receive the results of this competition later this year. The ICAS Mathematics competition will be held on Thursday 19 September. Please contact Mr Ellison as soon as possible if you are interested in competing in this competition. On the next page are some examples of questions taking from the senior years’ paper.

Mathematics Tutoring
Tutoring is still available every Tuesday and Thursday at second recess in MCR and on Wednesday afternoons from 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm in the library for years ten to twelve only.

Mr Christopher Ellison
Middle Leader Mathematics
Email: cellison1@cns.catholic.edu.au
FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER MATHEMATICS

The value of $2^6 + 10^9$ is

(A) 1  (B) 2  (C) 3  (D) 10  (E) 11

(Worth 3 marks)

A circular steel gateway surrounding a rectangular gate is designed as shown. The total height of the gateway is divided into 10 equal intervals by equally spaced horizontal bars. The rectangular gate is what fraction of the area of the entire circular gateway?

(A) $\frac{48}{25\pi}$  (B) $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\pi}$  (C) $\frac{2}{\pi}$  (D) $\frac{8\sqrt{2}}{25\pi}$  (E) $\frac{8}{5\pi}$

(Worth 4 marks)

Town has a solid shape that has four triangular faces. Three of these faces are at right angles to each other, while the fourth face has side lengths 11, 20 and 21. What is the volume of the solid shape?

(A) $\frac{48}{25\pi}$  (B) $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\pi}$  (C) $\frac{2}{\pi}$  (D) $\frac{8\sqrt{2}}{25\pi}$  (E) $\frac{8}{5\pi}$

(Worth 8 marks – must be a whole number answer between 0 and 999)

AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

We have had some excellent results in the recently sat Australian Geography Competition. In fact, the best results for distinctions and high distinctions to date. Congratulations to all students who participated in this competition.

Back row: Tonia-Marie Rantucci, Sophie Schrale, Sophie Raciti, Mr Dwayne Miller, Ella Ryle, Joshua Snell, Jayden Mehmet and Ethan Cummings.

Front row: Amelia Morris, Willow Cole and Libra Aying.

VET AND CAREER NEWS

Week five saw the completion of the SET Planning process for year ten students. Congratulations to the many students who had thought carefully about their senior pathways and beyond. It was an exciting time and a pleasure to discuss the future plans of our students.

Casual job hunting?

A news.com.au article shows that the July-August period is the time to get your applications in order for end-of-year casual roles. SEEK data shows that July traditionally is the first month of a four-month spike in the number of job advertisements placed in the hospitality, tourism and retail sectors, as employers look to shore up their Christmas and Summer casual workforces. September is the month when most job ads are placed in these industries. Now is the time to have your resume ready to submit, a cover letter prepared, and even start looking for job ads.

Wanting a career in animal care?

The Australian Apprenticeships Pathways website has several resources you will find useful in finding apprenticeships relevant to caring for animals. These include:

- Animal Care and Management Job Pathways – provides an easy-to-read chart of potential career pathways available in this area, and the required qualifications.
- The Animal Care and Management Practice Aptitude Quiz – this quiz will give you an idea of the learning standards required of people doing an Australian Apprenticeships entry level qualification in the Animal Care and Management industry.

Scholarships offered by organisations and Australian Government departments

USQ have put together a list of scholarships offered by other organisations and Australian Government departments that you may be eligible and interested in applying for. Click here to find a list of these scholarships and if you have any questions contact the organisation offering the scholarship directly.

James Cook University Cairns - Open Day

James Cook University Cairns open day will be hosted at the Cairns campus from 10.00 am – 2.00 pm on Sunday 25 August 2019. Register your attendance on the JCU open day website and to download the program.

Mrs Carol Hoult
Middle Leader - VET and Vocational Learning
Email: choult@cns.catholic.edu.au
VET AND CAREER NEWS

Cody Harrigan attended work experience at Mareeba Toyota.

Above: Kendra McCarthy at Central Veterinary Surgery.

Year twelve students Parmjot Mally, Rhyanna Yow-Yeh, Dean McDonald and Brendan Wright attended a camp for the Certificate II in Resources and Infrastructure Work Preparation.

Left: Joshua De Marzi and Tom Adams at the Try-a-Trade Day.

Below left: Kade Bickford, Jace Turner, Isaac Strickland, Joshua De Marzi, Wesley Yow-Yeh, Cody Harrigan and Tom Adams.

ST STEPHEN’S DAY - 2019

St Stephen’s Day

Friday 20 September
from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm

Mass
Cultural Performance
Mini Fete
Netball Match (Year 12 versus Staff)
Tug-of-War (Junior School)
TRINITY BAY WRITERS FESTIVAL

On Thursday 8 and Friday 9 August, the five of us; Alannah Falvo, Tiahna Maloberti, Grace Pillar, Cate Greenwood and Kali Freeman travelled down to Cairns to participate in the 2019 Trinity Bay Writers Festival.

At the Writers Festival, we had the opportunity to participate in multiple workshops with many prestigious Australian authors and a local illustrator. Stand-up comedian and author Oliver Phommavanh shared with us his wisdom on how to develop detailed character profiles, whilst Nikki McWatters took us back in time and taught us how to use minute historical details to develop captivating historical narratives.

As well as this, we learnt how to capture our readers’ attention instantly with Karen Foxlee using gripping hooking sentences and tantalizing cliff hangers. We even had the unforgettable experience of learning new drawing techniques whilst creating a storybook character using watercolour with Hayley Gillespie.

The event was inspirational, and we look forward to incorporating many of the skills we obtained into our writing in the future. We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Gillies for taking us down and allowing us to attend this eye-opening and memorable event. We look forward to future opportunities.

Written by Tiahna Maloberti and Alannah Falvo

Above left: Author Nikki McWatters with Tiahna Maloberti and Alannah Falvo.

Above right: Cate Greenwood, Alannah Falvo and Tiahna Maloberti with Illustrator, Hayley Gillespie.

Left: Kali Freeman, Cate Greenwood, Alannah Falvo, Tiahna Maloberti and Grace Pillar.

2019 FNQ SCHOOL FUTSAL TITLES

Students from St Stephen’s Catholic College recently competed at the FNQ School Futsal Titles at the Redlynch Central Sports Stadium. Congratulations to the girls under 18 team for winning their age group. The boys under 16 team and boys under 13 teams were runners up in their age groups.

Top left: Boys under 16 team.
Top right: Girls under 18 team.
Middle left: Girls under 16 and 18 teams.
Below right: Boys under 13 team.
Below left: Boys under 14 team.
A big thank you to everyone from the recent Japanese visitors from Sano City in Japan. They really enjoyed the classes they entered (especially the cooking class with year nine and Mrs Bernardi!) and the students they met. Thank you to all the buddies and host families who made their time in Australia great.

A special visitor was Mrs Kaneko, the daughter of Mr Urata the Director of our Sister School in Japan. She accompanied Mrs Igawa, the NOAH school owner on this trip. They met with Mrs Pinese.

Everyone had fun and much learning happened for all students during this important cultural exchange.

Mrs Gail Musch  
International Relations Committee  
Email: gmusch@cns.catholic.edu.au
PAST STUDENT: JESSYK ERNST

Jessyk Ernst enlisted in the Royal Australian Army the day after his 20th birthday on 16 January 2018. Upon the successful completion of eighteen (18) months intense military training at the Royal Military College at Duntroon Canberra, Jessyk received his commission as Army Lieutenant on 25 June 2019. He has been appointed to the Royal Australian Engineer (RAE) and has taken up his first posting as Troop Commander at the School of Military Engineers (SME) Holsworthy in Sydney. Jessyk’s family are very proud of his achievements.

St Stephen’s Catholic College community congratulates Jessyk on his achievements.

STUDENT SUCCESS: NICHOLAS WILKS

Year twelve student, Nicholas Wilks, recently built a dining room table which he entered in the Atherton Show under the Home Craftsman’s Section and was awarded second place.

He also made the small table in front of the large table, which has melted crayon through it.

FNQ FOOTBALL

Three (3) students from St Stephen’s Catholic College, were recently named in the Far North Queensland side to take on the North Queensland team in Townsville over the weekend. Featured above, from left to right are: Liam Pozzebon, Deane Alterio and Milan Quintieri. Great achievement boys!

Thank you to Mrs Alterio for sharing these photos.

ONLINE SAFETY MASTERCLASS FOR PARENTS

Online Safety Masterclass for Parents
Kellie Britnell from the Office of the eSafety Commissioner will be running a free Masterclass for parents and carers interested in understanding more about keeping children and young people safe online. The session will be held on September 5, 2019 from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. It will be live streamed for parents who wish to attend from Cairns. If interested parents/carers need to RSVP by August 31 at trybooking.com/bebw.

Details in relation to the live streaming will be forwarded to those who register.
CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS QUEENSLAND

AN INVITATION TO ATTEND A

GENERAL MEETING

ON SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

AT ST THERESE’S SCHOOL
35-167 ROBERT ROAD
BENTLEY PARK

9.45AM FOR A 10AM START

NOON - TOUR OF THE SCHOOL
12.30PM - LUNCH & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

ALL WELCOME

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED
• PACE update
• A discussion about fundraising vs levies and what each school does

Kindly RSVP by Wednesday 21 AUGUST
to Mary-Anne Stokes
maryanne@drillingaround.com