

St Stephen's
Catholic College



Trust in the Lord

St Stephen's News

Issue 1 - Term 1 | Wednesday 03 February 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

A New Decade

The college community gathered on Monday to formally induct the seniors of 2016 into their leadership roles at the Opening Mass and Induction of Student Leaders ceremony.



College Captains: Vivek Kolala, Kate Wilcox, Rebecca Hermanus and Christopher Stack with Principal Mrs Ida Pinese.



Social Justice Committee: Caitlyn Wright, Fenella Hartley, Dannielle McCormack, Joel Cassaniti, Leah Ryle, Celina Spena, Talesha Ciranni, Skyla Daven and Sarah Mirarchi.



Pastoral House Leaders: Jacinta Carusi and Antonio Palumbo (Augustine), Arielle Durano and Micheal Troncone (Deacon), Ashlee Zugno and Thomas Gargan (McAuley), Monique Pezzelato and Brendan Falvo (Muluridji).



Student Representative Council Executive: Carl Cassaniti (Treasurer), Grace Officer (Secretary), Natalie Bambino (President) and Ashley Rains (Vice-President).

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NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Board Meeting

Thursday 4 February

Meet and Greet (Year 7 and new families)

Monday 8 February

Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Wednesday 10 February

Year 11 Community Day

Friday 12 February

Year 7 and 8 Immunisations

Monday 22 February

T20 Cricket Gala Day

Thursday 25 February

Inter-house Swimming Carnival

Friday 26 February

Mareeba Swimming Pool

Board Meeting

Thursday 3 March

Year 7 Camp

Monday 29 February – Friday 4 March
Camp Patterson

District Swimming Carnival

Monday 7 March

P&F Meeting

Tuesday 8 March
5.30 pm

Open Evening

Wednesday 9 March

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 contact the Marketing Officer: rblake@sscc.qld.edu.au with any information and photos.

TERM DATES 2016

Term One: January 27 - March 24 (Years 7 and 12)
January 28 - March 24 (All students)

Term Two: April 11 - June 24

Term Three: July 11 - September 16

Term Four: October 4 - November 18 (Year 12)
October 4 - November 25 (Years 7 - 11)

Tutoring for Years 10 - 12

MATHEMATICS | ENGLISH | SCIENCE

Wednesdays from 3-4 pm in the Library



STARTING IN WEEK 4

CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS?

To ensure communication is received, please advise the college if you have changed your email address. Email office@sscc.qld.edu.au or phone 4086 2500.

MEET AND GREET EVENING

Year 7 and new families

Date: Monday 8 February 2016

Time: 5.30 - 8.00 pm

Venue: St Stephen's Catholic College

RSVP: Thursday 4 February
Mrs Szerstuk on 4086 2557

BBQ provided by P&F Association

All Welcome!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on a lamp stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew: 5, 14:16)



WELCOME

To all who have joined our St Stephen's family this year, welcome to a nurturing environment which values the dignity of the individual and strives to form people who are morally autonomous with an awareness of God's presence. At our first assembly this year, students were encouraged to "let their light shine" in all aspects of college life, keeping in mind the many opportunities to practise acts of mercy in this jubilee year.

YEAR 12 RESULTS

The 2015 cohort certainly allowed their light to shine by achieving excellent results, as 100% of students were awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). In terms of OP scores, the college has once again obtained impressive results, with 26% of students achieving scores between 1 and 5 and 91% of the OP-eligible students gaining scores from 1 to 15.

While all students are to be commended for their efforts in achieving results commensurate with their application, the St Stephen's community would like to congratulate William Snell and Mark Wilcox for their excellent outcomes in achieving OP scores of 1 and 2 respectively. William Snell was the College Dux for 2015, receiving the subject prizes for five out of his six subjects. Most students were also awarded their first preference in their university course selections. Not only have the more academically-inclined students done well, but those who chose a vocational pathway are also to be praised for their efforts in combining study with their traineeships and apprenticeships. They have demonstrated commitment, effective time management and pride in their achievement. I would like to thank our teachers and parents for their strong support of these students in their final year of schooling.



William Snell



Mark Wilcox

ASPIRING JOURNALISTS

In the final weeks of 2015, several year 10 students, under the guidance of our Gifted and Talented Middle Leader, Mrs Gilles, honed their writing skills to produce quality articles which won the Catholic Leader Newsroom Competition for term four. The college community congratulates the team of Sabine Conolly, Hayley Skinner, Jasmine Rizzetto, Maddison Leonforte, Ruby Kohler, Aaron Bryce and Ellie Hughes on their outstanding success. They, too, have let their light shine, as has last year's College Captain, Joshua Priestly, who won the Young Citizen's Award at the Mareeba Shire Council's Australia Day celebrations. Congratulations to Joshua and also to Tyler Ius (year 8) who received a highly commended in the Young Sportsman category.

NEW STAFF

At our college we are blessed with teachers who are passionate about their vocation in assisting our students to develop academically, spiritually, emotionally and socially. In 2016, we welcome the following educators to our St Stephen's family:

Leadership:

Ms Anja van Hooydonk: Assistant Principal, Administration

Mr Matthew Draper: College Leader, Pastoral Care

Middle Leader: Mr Shaun Hayes: Pastoral Leader: Year 9

Teachers: Miss Laita Nozaic
Mrs Nola Nunes
Mrs Tracey Eaton (on leave until semester two)

School Officer, Learning Support: Mrs Selina Dyer

COLLEGE LEADERS

At the opening mass on Monday, college leaders for 2016 were inducted. This year there are four College Captains, (Vivek Kolala, Christopher Stack, Rebecca Hermanus and Kate Wilcox), who will share this important leadership role. Along with the other leadership positions acknowledged in this edition, they will rise to the challenge of letting their light shine, as in the Gospel of Matthew, as well as performing acts of mercy to all those with whom they come into contact.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Meet and Greet Evening for year 7 parents and all those whose students are new to St Stephen's: Monday 8 February. Information has already been sent home about this event. I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to meet our staff so that together we can achieve the best possible outcomes for our students.
- Open Evening for families wishing to attend St Stephen's in 2017: March 9

CONCLUSION

I would like to sincerely thank all parents who have sent their students back to school with all the correct uniforms and stationery materials. We are looking forward to another great year, and value the important role all parents play in the education of their children, which is so beautifully expressed in the following poem.

UNITY

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 was a teacher; the tools being used, were books and music and art, one a parent with a guiding hand
and a gentle, loving heart.**

**Day after day the teacher toiled with touch that was deft and sure, while the parent laboured just as hard
and polished and smoothed it o'er.**

**When at last their task was done they were proud of what they had wrought, for the things they had
moulded into the child could neither be sold or bought.**

And both agreed they would have failed if they had worked alone:

For behind the parents stood the school, and behind the teacher, the home. (Anon)

With Trust in the Lord

Mrs Ida Pinese

Principal

principal@sscc.qld.edu.au



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM

Welcome back. 2016 sees the implementation of the Senior Pathways Program, transitioning to ACARA Phase 2 in year 9 and 10, and the beginning of a transition to a new senior assessment system to be introduced in Queensland with students commencing Year 11 in 2018. I would like to acknowledge the dedicated teaching staff who have spent many hours developing these programs in readiness for another school year.



Year 7 parents and other families new to the college are encouraged to attend our 'meet and greet' evening. The 'meet and greet' is an informal opportunity to become acquainted with the college's teaching staff. Parents are encouraged to use their student's timetable to make a list of their child's teachers. A copy of the timetable can be found in the Student Record Book (SRB). Information relating to curriculum, including homework expectations and assessment will be conveyed during the second part of the evening.

Students in Years 9 to 12 who wish to make changes to their subjects need to see me as soon as possible. In Years 9 and 10, changes can only be made to electives and, provided the class into which the student wishes to go is not at full capacity, notification by students will suffice. In Years 11 and 12 where subject changes can have implications for both OP scores and QCE eligibility, students need to make an appointment to see me, after which formal documentation will be completed to effect the change. The deadline for semester one changes is Friday 5 February.

All students who were in Years 8 to 10 last year may ask for the return of their assignment work, (with the task sheet removed) if they wish. Tests are not returned as we often include similar questions in future assessment. Year 11 and 12 work is not returned as it is needed for quality assurance processes. Senior students are encouraged to approach their subject teachers if they wish to view their folio of work. All requests must be made via a request form at student services by Friday 5 February.

The assignment calendar can be accessed via the college website. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to place this supplement in a prominent place at home with due dates for assignments clearly highlighted. Effective planning is essential to identifying achievable goals, as a step by step sequence of tasks helps students to focus on moving forward.

I look forward to another fulfilling year of working with students in the area of curriculum and thank you in advance for your support in this endeavour.

Ms Andrea Chiesa
Deputy Principal Curriculum
achiesa@scc.qld.edu.au

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF



Ms Anja van
Hooydonk



Mr Matthew
Draper



Mr Shaun
Hayes



Miss Laita
Nozaic



Mrs Tracey
Eaton



Mrs Nola
Nunes



Mrs Selina
Dyer

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATION

I feel very privileged to have been appointed Assistant Principal Administration at St Stephen's Catholic College. For the past eight and half years, I have been working at St Mary's Catholic College in Woree where I was the Head of Mathematics for seven years. I am the Mathematics B panel chair in the Cairns district and have been a QCS marker for eight years. I have heard lots of praise about the college, and I am looking forward to making St Stephen's my new family, and learning and sharing knowledge with the staff and students.

My role at the college is the day to day running of the school, which includes organising the school photo schedule for 3 February. Also, I will be dealing with the administration of NAPLAN and QCS tests, and excursions.

I would like to inform all year 7 and 8 parents and carers that the first round of immunisations will be on Wednesday 22 February. Permission forms will be distributed to students in home form.

The first week of school has confirmed my belief that St Stephen's is a caring and supportive environment where students are happy and willing to achieve their best.

I look forward to working with parents, students and staff in 2016.

Ms Anja van Hooydonk
Assistant Principal Administration
avanhooydo@sscc.qld.edu.au



FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Welcome back to all families for the 2016 school year. Diocesan policy is for tuition fees to be sent out during week two of each term. Although we try our best to be 100% accurate, sometimes errors can appear in the first run of school fees for the year.

Items that may be inadvertently missed are sibling discounts and bus charges. If you have another child attending a Catholic School in the Diocese, you are entitled to a 15% discount on tuition fees. If there are two younger siblings at a Catholic school, then the discount increases to 30% of tuition fees. Therefore, it is important that the office is informed of any sibling information.

Families that travel on the Dimbulah, Kuranda, Mossman, Atherton and Tolga buses are charged a \$33 per week bus fare via their school fees. Therefore, we need to know the occupants of each bus. In 2011, the College Board approved a 5% discount on total fees for families who pay their entire fees up-front at the beginning of the year.

When you receive your fees if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Pina Menniti directly via email gmenniti@sscc.qld.edu.au or 40862508.

While the College is in holiday mode for staff and students, it provides a gap for much of our maintenance and construction work to occur. Over the Christmas break, we had the painters in to touch up all classrooms and were able to complete various building tasks on our revamped Trade Training Centre.

Construction work is due to commence on stage seven in February 2016. The works include an extension to our existing staffroom, tuckshop, library and administration building.

Mr Hadyn Flynn
Business Manager
hflynn@sscc.qld.edu.au





Year of Mercy

On December 8, 2015, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of St Peter's to mark the beginning of the Year of Mercy. Throughout 2016, the Catholic Church is called to highlight its mission to be a witness of mercy, and in turn, our school community will focus on this calling. Pope Francis challenges us to open the doors of our hearts and minds in order to live out God's mercy in our lives and to be compassionate and forgiving people. He asks us to be merciful to others as God is merciful to us.



Ash Wednesday is an opportunity for us to commit to this challenge as we gather as a college community to receive ashes on our forehead as an outward expression of our resolve to begin again, to journey more closely with God, to strive to live the Gospel, to be people of love, forgiveness and mercy.

What is Ash Wednesday?

This year, Ash Wednesday occurs on February 10, 40 days before the Easter season, marking the beginning of Lent. It is a time when we stop and assess how we're doing in our walk with God and others as well as identify spiritual areas in which we can grow and sinful areas that we need to avoid. Lent is a season of repentance; to repent means to turn away from sin and turn toward God. On Ash Wednesday, ashes are applied to our foreheads in the shape of the cross. We use ashes as an outward expression of our need to begin again – in our relationship with God and our relationships with others.

Why do we wear ashes?

For over twelve hundred years on the dies cinerum (day of ashes), faithful followers have approached the altar and received ashes upon their foreheads. These ashes come from the burnt palm fronds that were blessed on the Palm Sunday of the previous year. They are sprinkled with holy water, usually fragrant with incense and blessed using four prayers.

In Old Testament times, people used ashes as an outward sign of repentance. They would sit in ashes, roll around in them, sprinkle them upon their heads, or even mingle them with their food and drink.

Ashes are a sign of physical death ('ashes to ashes, dust to dust'). By receiving ashes and keeping them on, we publicly proclaim our desire to die to our selfish and sinful ways and live in Christ's image.

Ash Wednesday Liturgy

Our college community will gather for an Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 8.50 am on Wednesday 10 February. All are welcome.

Year of Mercy Challenge (Adapted from 'Eight Ways to Live a Merciful Life' by L Hanley Duquin)

Dare to really care.

How would your life change if you began to really care about other people (colleagues, family, friends, strangers)? What might we be prompted to do if we saw other people, particularly those who are lost or hurting, through the eyes of Jesus?

Mrs Laura Gilbert

Assistant Principal Religious Education

lgilbert1@scc.qld.edu.au

FROM THE COLLEGE LEADER PASTORAL CARE

As the College Leader Pastoral Care, I look forward to serving the school and the school community. I am very happy to have been appointed in this role and am eager to get to know students and parents of St Stephen's. I am honoured to be part of this great school.

My role at St Stephen's is to provide support to students in need of Pastoral Care, oversee the Student Representative Council and oversee the Pastoral House Leaders and Middle Leaders - Pastoral. Along with this important role in our school community, I am also privileged to be back teaching Health and Physical Education to years 7, 9 and 10.

For the last two years, I have served as both Primary and Secondary Deputy Principal at Ravenshoe State School P -12 in an acting capacity. Before these roles, I have acted in Head of Department roles and spent seven years at Dimbulah State School P – 10 as Health

and Physical Education teacher where I taught all grades from Prep through to year 10.

Having been in acting positions for some time it is with great joy that I am able to count St Stephen's as my new school in a permanent position. I look forward to all aspects of college life. I thank the school and the school community for the warm welcome I have received and I look forward to working with parents, students and staff in 2016.



Mr Matthew Draper
College Leader Pastoral Care
mdraper@sscc.qld.edu.au

GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR NEWS AND INFORMATION

As the school Guidance Counsellor, I am at school every day. This is my second year at St Stephen's Catholic College and I love my job. I am lucky enough to live in Port Douglas with my family so I enjoy driving through the rainforest and savannah on my way to work each day. I often think how lucky we are to live in the tropics compared to those who live in the cities and deal with waiting for public transport, pollution and cold weather.

The services that counsellors are able to provide for students and families in Catholic schools include such matters as:

- Providing information sessions for classes on current topics such as bullying issues, healthy relationships, goal setting and organization, self-esteem and resilience.
- Working with small groups on issues such as anger management, self-confidence, resilience and assertiveness, grief and loss, positive thinking and stress issues.
- Discussions with parents and staff regarding concerns about student performance, behaviour or emotional well-being.

- Counselling sessions for matters relating to a broad range of issues such as, family dynamics, friendship concerns, poor self-esteem, bullying concerns, behavioural concerns, grief and loss and general personal concerns.



Parents can access the Guidance Counsellor by making an appointment at the office or by sending an email to mhall3@sscc.qld.edu.au. My office is always open to parents should you wish to discuss matters relating to your children. Students can make an appointment to see me by coming to my office in the library or sending me an email.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the counselling services available at St Stephen's Catholic College, or if you have any concerns regarding the well-being of your son or daughter.

Mrs Michelle Hall
Guidance Counsellor

Welcome back and once again it is my pleasure to be the year 12 Pastoral Leader for 2016. It was very pleasing to see the year 12's arrive last Wednesday to start the final chapter of their high school life. Like all final chapters, the 12's have a great opportunity to write an ending of which they will be proud. As we proceed through 2016, I ask them not to be passengers but to engage actively in the process that is education so they can realise a path to their future goals.



As the seniors of St Stephen's Catholic College, this cohort will set the standards for the younger grades to follow. It was good to see students arriving correctly uniformed and embracing the culture of this school. This will be a busy year for the year 12's so they need to be organised with set plans and goals for success.

I would like to remind parents and carers that St Stephen's has a student driving policy that must be completed and signed for students to drive their vehicles to school.

We have a retreat planned for the year 12's in the first week back in term two. More information on this retreat will follow as we get closer to the time.

This year I welcome the following homeroom teachers to help guide this cohort: Mrs Schincariol and Mr Ellison with 12 Augustine, Miss Sugars with 12 Deacon, Ms Peters and Mrs Nozaic with 12 McAuley and Mrs Jackson with 12 Muluridji.

I look forward to having an enjoyable and rewarding experience with the year 12's of 2016 in this year of Mercy. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please email me at gveschetti@sscc.qld.edu.au

Mr Carlo Veschetti
Year 12 Pastoral Leader



At the end of 2015, a small group of year 10 students entered a competition run by The Catholic Leader newspaper. The students produced a four-page newspaper about the St Stephen's community. The many and varied roles the students undertook included journalist, editor, photographer, designer and advertising manager. The students conducted interviews and surveys, wrote articles and movie reviews and were responsible for the design layout. Their hard work paid off and in January, their newspaper was published in the Catholic Leader as the winner of this competition. I would like to congratulate Aaron Bryce, Sabine Conolly, Ellie Hughes, Ruby Kohler, Maddison Leonforte, Jasmine Rizzetto and Hayley Skinner on a wonderful production.



Term 1, 2016 is full of exciting ventures for the Gifted and Talented Enrichment area.

The Emerging Entrepreneurs Program starts Thursday; February 4. This is a nine week course which will help young adults nurture their ideas and turn these ideas into reality. Students will cover topics such as developing ideas, creating business plans, marketing models and creating a viable product.

The Australian Brain Bee Challenge (ABBC) is a competition for budding year 10 scientists to learn about the brain and its functions, learn about neuroscience research, find out about careers in neuroscience and to dispel misconceptions about neurological and mental illnesses. Round 1 of the competition will be held during Brain Awareness Week in March.

James Moloney, an Australian author, will also be visiting our school in March. Mr Moloney will hold three one-hour sessions with students interested in writing, reading and all things literary.

The Lions Youth of the Year speaking competition begins this term. The senior students interested in competing are already polishing their speeches and practising impromptu talks.

Mrs Simone Gillies
Middle Leader - Gifted and Talented



Without mathematics, there's nothing you can do. Everything around you is mathematics. Everything around you is numbers. - Shakuntala Devi

Students either love it or hate it, but there is no denying the importance that Mathematics has (or will have) in our lives. Mathematics is a subject which requires regular practice and revision, and it is important that students are spending time at home consolidating concepts and revising work. While teachers will be giving students regular mathematics homework, it is also essential that students are undertaking their own home study which could involve revising book work, completing further questions from the textbook, compiling a revision sheet or attending mathematics tutoring for extra help.

MATHEMATICS TUTORING: Mathematics tutoring will be offered during second recess on Tuesdays and Thursdays again this year in MCR. All students are welcome to attend. There will also be after school tutoring available in the library on Wednesdays from 3-4 pm, starting in Week 4, for years 10-12.

MATHEMATICS TEXTBOOKS 2016: In 2016, we are trialling a new system for the hiring of mathematics textbooks. Junior textbooks will be stored in classrooms instead of students hiring out individual textbooks.

Students will store an electronic (PDF) version of the textbook on their USB sticks and can access the text on computers or laptops at home. The purpose of this trial is to alleviate some of the weight from students' heavy backpacks, and also to reduce wear and tear on the textbooks. Students are still very welcome to hire an individual textbook and bring it to and from school if this is what they would prefer. Students can see Mrs Gillies in the resource centre if they would like to get their mathematics textbook.



MATHEMATICS EVENTS 2016

- World Pi Day – Monday 14 March
- Australian Mathematics Competition – Thursday 28 July
- ICAS Mathematics Competition – Tuesday 16 August
- Year 9 Mathematics Enrichment Camp - TBA
- QAMT Year 7/8 Mathematics Quiz - TBA

Mr Chris Ellison

Curriculum Leader - Mathematics

cellison1@sscc.qld.edu.au

KICKING GOALS

After placing second at the FNQ Futsal Titles, the SSCC U13 boys team were invited to compete at the Australasian Champion of Champions in November, 2015. It was a fantastic event held over three days at Oxley Futsal Stadium in Brisbane. This was the first year we competed in the futsal tournament and in true St Stephen's style, the boys played exceptionally well as a team, gaining rewarding results. The boys placed fourth overall with other teams commending them on their performance. The team consisted of Serg Battistin (Captain), Damian Avolio (Vice Captain), Liam Pozzebon, Eryk Legaspi, Logan Acha, Liam Haendel, Deane Alterio, Morrison Boden and Jack Garcia-Fraser.

Congratulations to Eryk Legaspi on being selected to receive one of the coveted All Star positions by the other teams in the tournament and officials. Eryk now has the chance to represent Australia in 2016.

Special mention must be made to Luch Avolio (Coach), Ilario Pozzebon, Peter Acha, Michael Haendel and Robert Alterio for their support.



REWARDING SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

Last year, Rebecca Hermanus was accepted into the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in Canberra.



The College Captain travelled to the Australian Capital in January and spent two weeks at the summer school.

Rebecca had the opportunity to engage with scientific research, to visit laboratories and attend lectures from leading scientists. She also made connections with like-minded science students from across the country and met some of Australia's leading industry professionals.

Rebecca said the forum motivated her for the year ahead and gave her more options for the future. "The forum was great, I learnt so much and it helped me prepare for Year 12," she said.

"It was more than just science. I gained public speaking and leadership skills too."

Rebecca said the experience was 'life changing' and felt very fortunate to have been able to attend the forum. "Thank you to the Mareeba Rotary Club and St Stephen's Catholic College for sponsoring my nomination," she said.

"Thank you also to Mrs Ison and the science teachers, Mrs Gillies, Mrs Pinese and my friends and family for their support."

NATURAL LEADER RECOGNISED

Former College Captain, Joshua Priestly has been recognized for his outstanding leadership and service to the community.



Joshua was named Mareeba's Young Citizen of the Year last week at the Mareeba Shire Council Australia Day awards.

Picture: TABLELANDS ADVERTISER.

In 2015, Joshua participated in the Great Wheelbarrow Race as a solo competitor, raising awareness and funds for Rosies, an outreach program helping those less fortunate on the streets of Mareeba. Josh also volunteers regularly with Rosies' food van.

Josh told the *Tablelands Advertiser* that his latest accolade capped off a memorable 2015. "The award is great, but it was a good, rewarding year," he said.

Last year Josh received the Australian Defence Force Leadership Award, Rotary All Rounder Award, and was recognised for his outstanding leadership by Senator Glenn Lazarus as part of the Queensland Young Leadership Recognition Program.

Next year, Josh plans to study a dual degree of Paramedic Science and Nursing at the Queensland University of Technology with hopes to one day work as a helicopter paramedic.

The St Stephen's community congratulates Josh on the well deserved award and wishes him all the best in his future endeavours.

ALLIED HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to past student Joy Musch who received an allied health scholarship. Joy has been accepted into the Australian Catholic University in Brisbane and will be studying a Bachelor of Physiotherapy. She hopes to one day be part of a medical missionary team to third world countries.



Congratulations to the Parents and Friends Executive for 2016

President: Ann Aitken
Vice-president: Carolyn Tomerini
Secretary: Leonie Jennings
Treasurer: Jen McCarthy



NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 8 March

Faith and Fervor

As the 2015 school year ended, the jubilation of finishing Year 11 block exams wasn't the only thing the seven of us Year 11 students were eagerly anticipating. From 3-5 December 2015, Adelaide played host to over 3500 Catholic youth in the biennial Australian Catholic Youth Festival, which we were fortunate enough to attend along with Miss Sugars. Appropriately named the City of Churches, Adelaide was a perfect backdrop for the event providing a plethora of opportunities to practise our praying as we attempted to survive the rapid temperature fluctuations the city's climate had to offer.

Upon arriving at the Adelaide Convention Centre, we were immediately drawn to the energy and enthusiasm of the first plenary session which was filled with a multitude of singing and dancing, a personalised letter from the Pope and several memorable addresses by bishops and archbishops from across the nation. After the initial welcome, we were given free reign to choose our adventures, visiting an exhibition space that was filled with a variety of stalls, participating in games, prayer and reconciliation, or attending talks, rallies, music sessions, interviews and panel discussions. Sessions were run by a number of clergies and lay people from across the globe, notably including speakers such as the renowned Sister Hilda Scott and theologian Jason Evert and musicians such as X-Factor contestant Father Rob Galea, husband and wife duo Natasha and Gary Pinto and ministry leader Steve Angrisano.

With so much to choose from, perhaps the most difficult part of the festival was deciding which sessions to attend. We certainly weren't the only young people to be seen running through the hallways with our heads buried in programs, ferociously trying to decipher how we could fit in everything we wanted to see and do! Celebrating Mass during the final plenary with such a large group of like-minded people was awe-inspiring.

The experience of gathering with so many young people to learn and grow in faith together was something truly special. The idea that we, the youth, are an integral part of the Church and have the ability to influence its future, as well as that of the world around us, is an almost tangible idea that we have taken from this experience.

We would sincerely like to thank the school and Cairns Diocese for allowing us to partake in this fantastic adventure. In particular, we would like to express our gratitude to Miss Sugars for not only taking us to Adelaide but helping to enrich our time away as well (we couldn't have made it through without the daily coffee, jokes and San Churros).

We not only took home more free trinkets than we could carry, but we also brought a fervor to share what we have learned and experienced. We hope to help enhance our school and wider community's faith life this year and bring a little of what we have learnt to them.

By Natalie Bambino, Sarah Mirarchi, Grace Officer, Leah Ryle, Celina Spena, Kate Wilcox and Caitlyn Wright.

PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP

Former year 10 student, Ruby Kohler, was awarded a bursary at one of Australia's most prestigious Catholic Girls Schools in Sydney.



Ruby was one of the first recipients to receive the Sister Philomene Tiernan RSCJ Boarding Bursary at Kincoppal-Rose Bay School of Sacred Heart in Sydney.

Ruby said it was an honour to have received the award. "I just hope I can live up to the wonderful legacy of Sister Philomene," she said.

Sister Tiernan was an Irish nun and a school staff member who tragically lost her life in the downing of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 last year.

The St Stephen's Catholic College community congratulates Ruby and wishes her a successful and rewarding time in Sydney.

St Stephen's Catholic College

OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 9 March 2016
From 5.30 pm

ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

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

DATE: Friday, 26 February, 2016

LOCATION: Mareeba Swimming Pool

TIME: 9:00 am - 2:30 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 splash-n-dash 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 (9.00 am) and return students by 2.50 pm. This will allow students to catch their regular buses.

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 and remove coloured sunscreen before returning to school.

CANTEEN: The canteen at the pool will be open, selling snacks and drinks. The Wheelbarrow Race Committee will be holding a fundraiser BBQ lunch. Sausage sizzle will be \$2.00 and hamburgers \$4.00. 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,

Deanne Morrow

Middle Leader – Sport and Activities

CHESS CLUB

Chess Club will be starting on Tuesday 2nd February at 2nd recess in S8. This year, we are lucky to have Mr Mike Harnischfeger coaching our students in preparation for the Gardiner Interschool Chess Competitions. At this stage Chess Club will be available at 2nd recess on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. All students are welcome! Please see Mr Ellison if you are interested in joining the Chess Club or would like further details.



The first Interschool Chess Competition for 2016 will be held on Thursday 25 February at Trinity Anglican School, White Rock. In 2015, St Stephen's 1 team won the Queensland Regional State Final and finished runners up at the Cairns Regional Titles. Hopefully our teams can continue their impressive form.

WELCOME YEAR 7 STUDENTS

Last week, the St Stephen's community warmly welcomed 111 Year 7 students as they embarked on their educational journey into secondary schooling.



Tonia-Marie and Lauren



Gina and Alaina



Luke, Daniel and Daley



Nicholas, Dante and Isaac



Angel, Isabelle and Amyrosa



Ethan, Neil, Freddie and Zepp (Yr 9)



Toby, Julius, Cody and Joseph



**MAREEBA
2016 SIGN ON
NETBALL ASSOCIATION**

Saturday 6th February 2016 10:00 - 12:00
Mareeba State Primary School Courts

Offering skill programmes and competitions for
the following age groups

Net 5-7 years | Set 8-9 years
Go! - 10 years | UNDER 12's
UNDER 14's | UNDER 18's | LADIES

 Find us on Facebook
Mareeba Netball Association
0427 994 082 | 0418 789 017

www.mareeba.netball.asn.au

UNIFORM POLICY

The college formal and sports uniform is to be worn with pride by students of St Stephen's Catholic College. The uniform has been chosen by the college community to be practical, attractive and to enhance the dignity of each individual. This uniform is a sign that a student is a member of the St Stephen's community, and the appropriate wearing of the uniform demonstrates pride in our college, respect for self and respect for others.

JEWELLERY	
 YES	 NO
 Plain studs (<5mm)	 NO Hoops
 Studs (with one small birthstone)	 NO Huggies
 Sleepers	 NO Pearls
 Acceptable plain signet ring	 NOT Acceptable

SHOES	
 YES	 NO
 Leather Lace-up Heel approx. 1-2 cm	 Ballet-style shoes Limited coverage of foot
	 Has heel, but incorrect style
	 Flat bottom Insufficient support

Full uniform policy available on the college website.

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!

Mr Ellison
Curriculum Leader - Mathematics

YEAR 11 STUDENTS

Interested in a career in drilling, mining, quarrying, or civil construction?

This program prepares students with basic knowledge and skills for entry level jobs to commence successful career paths in the global resources and infrastructure industries.

Delivered in Term 1 & 2, 2016, both on and off campus.

When you successfully complete the program you will receive:

- Certificate 2 in Resources and Infrastructure Work Prep certificate,
- 4 QCE points
- and employability skills!

See Mrs Goleby in M Block TODAY for further information!



HORIZON SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURE

The Horizon Scholarship has been developed to support the next generation of agricultural leaders, who will take up the challenge of farming for the future. It is for young people who are passionate about agriculture, with a keen interest in the future of our industries and who are ready to expand their networks and learn new skills.

The Horizon Scholarship is an initiative of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation that, in partnership with industry sponsors, supports undergraduates studying agriculture at university by providing:

- A bursary of \$5,000 per year for the duration of their degree
- Professional development workshops and mentoring
- Annual industry work placements that give students first-hand exposure to modern agricultural practices
- Opportunities to network and gain knowledge at a range of industry events.

To be eligible for the Horizon Scholarship students must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident entering their first year at an Australian University (with a maximum two year gap between high school and tertiary study), studying a degree related to agriculture, such as:

- Agricultural Science
- Rural Science
- Livestock/Animal Science

- Veterinary Science
- Agribusiness
- Plant Science
- Agricultural Economics
- Resource Management
- Sustainability
- Food Security

Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of their commitment to a career in agriculture, as well as their leadership potential and high school academic record.

Are you a young person who is passionate about agriculture, with a keen interest in the future of our industry and looking for a career to expand your networks and learn new and ever evolving skills? Then, please don't hesitate to look up the website for the Horizon Scholarship: <http://www.rirdc.gov.au/research-programs/rural-people-issues/horizon-scholarship>

You will find all the information you need to know and the application form. Closing date for the scholarship is 5 pm AEST 19 February 2016.

Havva Murat-Maksuti
Careers Officer
hmuratmaks@sscc.qld.edu.au