



# St Stephen's News

Issue 1 - Term 1 Wednesday, 4 February 2015

**Principal:** Mrs Ida Pinese  
**Deputy Principal Curriculum:** Ms Andrea Chiesa  
**Assistant Principal Administration:** Mr Lance Helms  
**Business Manager:** Mr Hady Flynn

## TERM DATES 2015

### Term One:

January 27 - April 2

### Term Two:

April 20 - June 26

### Term Three:

July 13 - September 18

### Term Four:

October 6 - November 20  
(Year 12)

October 6 - November 27  
(Year 7 - 11)

## NEXT P&F MEETING: 2015 AGM

Tuesday 10 February  
5.30 pm

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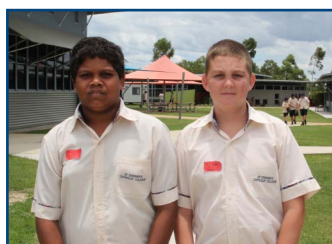
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## History in the Making

History was made last week when Year 7 made the move to high school for the first time in Queensland. St Stephen's Catholic College welcomed 189 Year 7 & 8 students as they embarked on their educational journey into secondary schooling.



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# NOTICES

## IMPORTANT DATES:



- 05 FEB** College Board Meeting
- 09 FEB** Opening Mass
- 10 FEB** P&F Annual General Meeting
- 11 FEB** ID Photos
- 16 FEB** Meet and Greet
- 18 FEB** Ash Wednesday
- 06 MAR** College Swimming Carnival
- 10 MAR** Open Night

## PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 2015  
5.30 - 6.30 PM  
ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
ADMINISTRATION BLOCK

ALL PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF ST STEPHEN'S ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT MEETING. BRING A FRIEND OR COME ALONG AND MAKE A NEW FRIEND!



The Principal and College Staff

would like to invite

**Parents and Friends**

to attend our

*Opening Mass  
and  
Induction of Student Leaders*

When: Monday, 9 February 2015  
Venue: St Stephen's Catholic College  
Time: Arrival by 9.00 am for a 9.10 am start

RSVP for catering purposes Thursday 5 February  
Paola Szustuck | 40862500

## SMOKE-FREE SCHOOL



**SMOKING IS BANNED AT THIS  
SCHOOL AND FOR 5 METRES BEYOND  
THE SCHOOL BOUNDARY**

### Well Women's Clinics

These clinics are available to Medicare eligible clients

#### Mareeba Hospital

Thursday 5th February | Ph: 4092 9311

Service includes Pap Smears, Sexual Health Screening, Breast Awareness, also info on Contraception, Continence, Menopause, Lifestyle Issues, Bowel Health, Domestic Violence, etc.

All services are provided by a specially trained Women's Health Nurse.



## FROM THE Principal

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

**"Dear young people, please, don't be observers of life, but get involved. Jesus did not remain an observer, but he immersed himself. Don't be observers, but immerse yourself in the reality of life, as Jesus did."**

— Pope Francis, July 27, 2013 Youth Prayer Vigil at Rio De Janerio

### WELCOME

It gives me great pleasure to welcome back returning students and to extend a warm welcome to those students who have joined our St Stephen's family in 2015. By being the first group of students to move to secondary education, the Year 7 students are making history. I wish all new students a rewarding, educational experience at our college. At our first assembly, students were encouraged to adopt a positive attitude to their studies, to strive to be the best they can be and to immerse themselves fully in the life of the college.

### YEAR 12 OUTCOMES

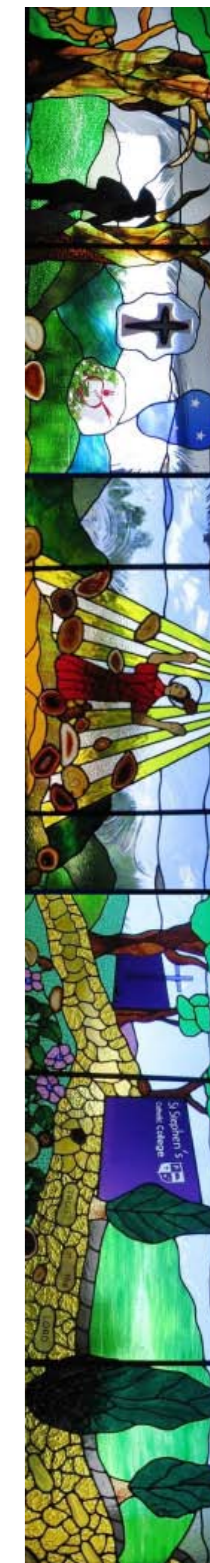
In past students we have excellent role models who embraced the St Stephen's culture of doing one's best. The 2014 cohort achieved excellent results, as outlined in the table below:

Summary of Results for 2014 cohort of 51 students		
OP Eligible	28	
1 to 5	5	18%
1 to 10	15	54%
1 to 15	26	93%
16	2	7%
QCIA	1	100%
QCE	47/50	94%
VET qualifications	45	88%
% with QCE, VET or SAT	50	98%



Sharika Fenton (OP2) Jack Petersen (OP2) and Caitlyn Long (OP5). Picture: Andrea Falvo - Tablelands Advertiser.

While all students are to be commended for their efforts in achieving results commensurate with their application, I would like to congratulate Jack Petersen, Joshua Smith and Sharika Fenton, (all OP 2 scores), for their excellent outcomes. It is also pleasing to note that most students received their first preference on their QTAC applications with the above-mentioned students undertaking studies in Medicine and Engineering, respectively. Not only have the more academically-inclined students done well, but students who chose a vocational pathway are also to be praised for their efforts. Those who combined study with their traineeships and apprenticeships also demonstrated commitment, good time management and pride in their achievement. We are certainly proud of the 2014 cohort, as we have been of past seniors, and I thank our teachers and parents for the very important role they play in providing support to our students to achieve their personal best.



## NEW STAFF

At St Stephen's, we are blessed with quality teachers who are passionate about their subject areas, who are pastoral in their approach to student well-being, and who are determined to assist students to achieve their potential. In 2015, we welcome the following new teachers and support personnel whose expertise will enhance the quality of our staff:



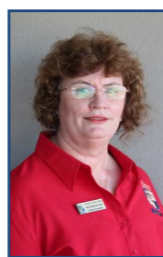
Curriculum Leader:  
The Arts & LOTE  
Mrs Françoise Nozaic



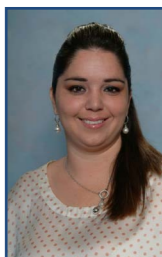
Pastoral Leader: Year 9  
Mr Keith Pelka



Pastoral Leader: Year 7  
Mrs Jayarani Salerno



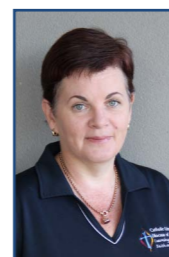
Guidance Counsellor:  
Mrs Michelle Hall



Careers Officer:  
Mrs Havva Murat



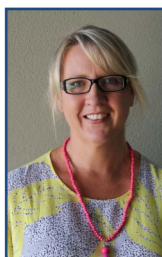
Grounds:  
Mr Paul Meaney



Tuckshop:  
Mrs Elizabeth Tognola



Teacher:  
Miss Catherine Peters



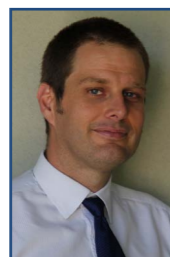
Teacher:  
Mrs Jodie Jackson



Teacher:  
Mr John Donovan



Teacher:  
Miss Leah Aplin



Teacher:  
Mr Norm Fenner



Teacher:  
Mrs Sonya Pritchard



Teacher:  
Mrs Samantha Malcolm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Opening Mass and Induction of Leaders on 9 February at 9 am.
- Meet and Greet Evening for years 7 and 8 and other families new to St Stephen's: 16 February. Information will be sent home about this evening in the coming days.
- Open Evening for families wishing to attend St Stephen's in 2016: 10 March.

I strongly urge you to take advantage of these opportunities to visit our college and meet our staff. We value parental input to assist us to achieve the best possible outcomes for our students.

## UPDATES

- During the summer break, our Business Manager, Mr Flynn supervised many projects designed to enhance the physical environment of our college and to provide more recreational activities for our students. I extend my sincere gratitude to Mr Flynn and our Facilities and Maintenance Manager, Mr Bozzo for the extensive work that was carried out.

- Our enrolments are approximately 550 students, with full capacity experienced in several year levels.

## CONCLUSION

We are excited about the challenges that await us this year, as we take on Year 7 and also increased enrolments. This growth necessitates changes to the way we operate, so that the smooth running of the school is assured. Our staff has reacted very favourably to the changes that have been implemented and I thank them sincerely for the very positive attitude and professionalism they bring to their roles.

Trust in the Lord

Mrs Ida Pinese - **Principal**  
[principal@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:principal@sscc.qld.edu.au)

## FROM THE Deputy Principal Curriculum



Welcome back. 2015 sees the implementation of the Flying Start Program, transitioning to ACARA Phase 2 in Year 7 and 8 and the revision of the senior subject area syllabi. As a result of these initiatives, new subjects on offer include: French, Italian, Media Art, Robotics, Civics and Citizenship and Science in Practice. Our VET offerings now include a Certificate II in Furniture Making. This year we also have the largest number of students undertaking school based apprenticeships and traineeships. In addition, senior students will be given the opportunity to participate in one day TAFE programs run at the college, such as Responsible Service of Alcohol and Responsible Service Gaming, with both of these qualifications contributing credit points towards the QCE. 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 and 8 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 6 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 6 February.

Included as a supplement in this newsletter, is the term one assignment calendar. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to place this supplement in a prominent place at home with due dates for assignments clearly highlighted. The calendar is also published on the college's website. 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.

Andrea Chiesa - **Deputy Principal (Curriculum)**  
[ACHiesa@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:ACHiesa@sscc.qld.edu.au)

## FROM THE Assistant Principal Administration



For some teenagers, fashion and popularity are higher priorities than health and safety and so our authority as parents and teachers needs to be exercised when selecting appropriate shoes. It is also important to note that the appropriate footwear does not need to be expensive. Ultimately, our policy regarding footwear is grounded in health and safety recommendations. Regardless, diligent following of an organisation's dress code (be it for professional or safety reasons) is still an important attitude our children will require in many of their possible future work places.

God bless

Lance Helms  
Assistant Principal (Administration/Pastoral)  
LHelms@sscc.qld.edu.au

It is with great pleasure that the college welcomes three new members to the Middle Leaders Pastoral team: Mrs Jayarani Salerno (Year 7), Mr Keith Pelka (Year 9), and Mr Carlo Veschetti (Year 11). Mr Chris Ellison (Year 8), Mrs Stacey Crockford (Year 10), and Mr Richard Baker (Year 12) will continue to enhance the college, utilising their years of experience in pastoral care.

In regard to student behaviour, the college recommends that parents and carers speak first to the classroom teacher directly. As there are always two sides to every story, the fastest approach to solving a problem in the classroom is to go to the source.

Should parents and carers feel that their concerns are not being addressed, they are then encouraged to speak to the Middle Leader Pastoral of their child's year level. Open communication is the quickest way to resolve issues, and we look forward to your assistance in these matters.

In the first few weeks of this academic year, we will be making a specific effort to ensure college policy regarding appropriate uniform is both clearly understood by students and upheld across the college. Middle Leaders Pastoral and Homeroom Teachers will be making a concerted effort to ensure that everyone is on the same page regarding college expectations. We will continue to be diligent throughout the year, and we look forward to parental support in this regard.

There have been enquiries about the college's expectations of appropriate footwear. Our general rules are:

- Academic uniform: black, leather, lace-ups with a defined heel of 2-3 centimetres.
- Sports uniform: "Runners" or "Cross-trainer" style sports shoe of any colour; the sole should be designed to be supportive of the heel-arch and also applicable to a variety of sports as opposed to some styles that are designed for one specific sport like Futsal.

## FROM THE Business Manager



Welcome back to all families for the 2015 school year. Diocesan policy is for school 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 can 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 your tuition fees. If there are two younger siblings at a Catholic school, then the discount increases to 30% on tuition fees. Therefore, it is important that the office is informed of any sibling information.

Families travelling on the Dimbulah, Kuranda, Mossman, Atherton and Tolga busses are charged a \$30 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 off total fees for families who pay their entire fees upfront at the beginning of the year. This option is again proving a popular selection for some families.

When you receive your fees and you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact my assistant, Pina Menniti, directly via email gmenniti@sscc.qld.edu.au or 40862500.

Kind Regards

Hadyrn Flynn - Business Manager  
HFlynn@sscc.qld.edu.au

## New Facilities



Seating area.



Covered handball court.



Mini-basketball courts.

## FROM THE Guidance Counsellor



I would like to thank Mrs Pinese, the staff, parents and students for making me feel so welcome at St Stephen's Catholic College. I am very excited to be the new full time school counsellor. I thought that I would provide you with a brief introduction in this newsletter.

My husband, Doug, was born in Mossman and we live in Port Douglas. Doug attended St Augustine's College in Cairns and he runs his own I.T. business. Our children attended St Augustine's Primary School, Mossman. I was a member of the school board for a number of years and the school counsellor for the past couple of years. Katelyn enjoyed her secondary schooling at St Monica's College in Cairns and she is now studying 3rd year Civil Engineering at UQ in Brisbane. Matthew is in Year 12 at St Augustine's College in Cairns and he is considering studying I.T. at J.C.U. next year. I have worked as a Guidance Officer in the Mossman cluster and Cairns schools and taught in secondary schools in Cairns, Townsville and Mossman. I have taught briefly in primary schools and I enjoyed working as the RATEP Teacher Co-ordinator in Mossman, assisting Indigenous adults to become teachers.

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](mailto: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 through Mrs Vicki Henderson at Student Services or by seeing me.

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.

Kind regards

Michelle Hall - **Guidance Counsellor**

## YEAR 7 NEWS



This year is significant for our Year 7 students as they begin their year in high school. This cohort has settled in extremely well and has handled this significant change with great perseverance and confidence.

Meeting new friends, coping with different teachers and moving around to different classrooms with the correct items has been a little daunting and at times a little challenging for some. However, in a few weeks, they will master their timetables, locks and lockers, know what to take to class and find their way around the school with great ease.

To help with the students transitioning from primary to secondary we will continue to have a strong emphasis on pastoral care for them, and parents are encouraged to make contact with their child's homeroom teacher when required.

**Y**oung  
**E**nthusiastic and  
**A**dventurous students  
**R**eady to achieve!  
**S**upporting  
**E**very  
**V**ivacious, cheerful and  
**E**ffervescent  
**N**ew student in our care

It has been wonderful to see such a great group of students at our school and I feel very fortunate to be part of their transition into high school. I look forward to getting to know all the Year 7 students as well as I can and being there to support them throughout the year.

Jayarani Salerno - **Middle Leader Pastoral (Year 7)**  
[JSalerno@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:JSalerno@sscc.qld.edu.au)

## A few comments from some of the Year 7 students after their first week....

**Harry** – It's been a really exciting and really fun week. I hope I get through the year.

**Samuel** – Awesome week!

**Thomas** – Really exciting!

**Joanna** – School was fun and exhausting!

**Jada** – Good week but at times little hard finding places.

**Mackenzie** – Exciting and exotic!



**Quotes from some of the Year 8 students...**  
 What do you think is the most exciting part about starting high school?

"More options – makes you feel more like an adult, although you still have to do what you're told" - **David**

"Rotating classes and learning different subjects"-  
**James**

"Getting to meet/make new friends" - **Megan**

**What are you most worried about in your first week of high school?**

"Getting lost" - **Serg**

"Getting to class on time and getting homework done" - **Jonah**

"Assignments and tests" - **Prudence**

"Remembering people's names" - **Arwen**



## YEAR 8 NEWS



Seventy-nine Year 8 students started at St Stephen's last week and so far they seem to have adapted to their new surrounds and routine. The students were introduced to their homeroom teachers who gave them their new timetables, student record books (SRBs), textbooks and lockers. The Year 8 homeroom teachers this year are Miss Simpson (Augustine), Ms Torres (Deacon), Miss Peters (McAuley) and Mr Groves (Muluridji).

As the Year 8 Pastoral Middle Leader, I am responsible for looking after the welfare of the Year 8 students as they make the transition into secondary school. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child, please feel free to contact me either by email [cellison1@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:cellison1@sscc.qld.edu.au) or phone (07) 40862500.

### Student Record Book

Each student receives a student record book (SRB) at the start of each year. This SRB serves as both a communication tool between the school and parents and also as an organisational tool to help students remember important dates, events and assessment. Please make sure you check and sign your child's SRB each week in the space provided.

### Key dates for Year 8s:

- Meet and Greet night – The Year 7/8 Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet night will be held on Monday 16 February.
- Year 8 Camp is scheduled at this stage for Week 6 of Term 2 and will be held at Camp Patterson. More information will be given about the camp later in the term.

Chris Ellison - **Middle Leader Pastoral (Year 8)**



## Need help managing stress or anxiety?

If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8 -17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home. For more information, or to register for the program, please visit [www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au](http://www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au).

# MEET AND GREET

**Years 7, 8 and new students**

**Date: Monday, 16 February 2014**

**Time: 5.30 - 8.00 pm**

**Venue: St Stephen's Catholic College**

**RSVP: Tuesday, February 10**

Paola Ph: 40862557

## Library

The library is now open to all students for borrowing. Please encourage your students

to read for pleasure. Studies have frequently found that reading for pleasure increases literacy skills, spelling, grammar, vocabulary and it helps develop empathy. The Institute of Education (2013) found reading for pleasure to be 'important for children's cognitive development between ages 10 and 16.' St Stephen's library is well stocked and the librarians are more than ready to recommend great books to read.

A new initiative this year in the library is the Wide Reading Program for Years 7 and 8. This program works in conjunction with the Whole School Literacy Plan. Year 7 and 8 students will be visiting the library once a fortnight to borrow and read books for pleasure. Please encourage your students to read every night for at least 5 minutes. You can help by encouraging students to read aloud, discuss their choices and parents can read the book too.

Jackie French (a prolific Australian author) was honoured this year as Senior Australian of the Year. She was also named the Australian Children's Laureate in 2014. The library has many of her books and all worth reading. Ms French has written over 140 books ranging from picture books through to adult books. One of her most notable achievements is that she has written all these books while living with dyslexia. Jackie French is an example that a positive attitude, gritty determination and resilience will help achieve your dreams.

Textbooks have been distributed to all students. Please be mindful that all textbooks must be returned at the end of the year, in a reasonable condition. Students must return the books borrowed in their name. Any book that is not returned will need to be paid for, so that replacement copies can be purchased for the following year.

Ted Talks Tuesday will once again be running in the library. During recess 2, every Tuesday, the library will be showing a variety of talks by experts from around the world. Some of the talks will relate to the curriculum while others will offer the opportunity



for students to expand their thinking on a variety of subjects from motivational talks to space travel.

Years 7 and 8 will have a chance to participate in the Readers Cup during term 2. This competition requires two teams of four (one from Year 7 and one from year 8) to read a total of six books each for the term. The teams then compete against other school teams for the honour of participating in the State Competition. I will be calling for volunteers later this term.

Simone Gillies      Teacher Librarian  
Suzanne Assenheim      Library Assistant

## Past Student Success

Graduate of 2014, Kayla Montager, received the Junior Sports Award for 2015. Kayla received the accolade at Mareeba Shire Council's Australia Day Ceremony.

Kayla has an outstanding commitment to excellence in athletics on a local, district, regional and national level. She is an excellent role model and has proved it is possible to achieve sporting success while residing in a remote setting.

Kayla has been the school athletics age champion 10 out of 12 years and district athletics age champion 4 out of 8 years. She broke the ten year girls 800 metres record at Mareeba District level and that record still stands. Kayla also represented Peninsula region at Queensland Secondary School State Athletics Championships, placing fourth in both the 200 m and 400 m and winning at silver medal in the 15/16 woman's relay team, in which she was the final runner.

She competed at the Oceania Games in Rarotonga, Cook Islands, representing regional Australia, and competed in the Open women's section, placing sixth in the 100 m finals, winning the bronze in the 200 m finals.

**Congratulations Kayla!**

*Kayla with College Principal, Mrs Ida Pinese.*



## Mathematics

Welcome to the Mathematics Department for 2015. I hope we will be able to keep you-up-to-date regarding student activities and other interesting news this year.



As a NUMERACY INITIATIVE this year, the Mathematics Department has enrolled all Junior School students (Years 7 – 10) with the IXL numeracy software which can be accessed from school and at home. Student login is at:

<http://au.ixl.com/signin/ststephens>

IXL's mathematics skills are aligned to the Australian Curriculum, providing comprehensive coverage of maths concepts and applications. With IXL's National Curriculum alignments, you can easily find unlimited practice problems specifically tailored to each learning objective.

Since IXL allows students to practise in all year levels, accelerated students can always skip ahead to find skills that suit their needs. Students who practise in a higher year level will not only encounter more advanced subject matter, but more sophisticated problem types as well—making IXL an ideal option for students who desire a challenge.

Whenever a student practises on IXL, the program automatically adapts to his or her individual skill level. This means that if a student is doing well with a particular concept, the problems will increase in difficulty so that the student remains engaged and excited about learning maths.

Parents also have access to curriculum reporting, so that working toward achievement goals can be both an in-school and at-home endeavour. I encourage parents to engage with their students in this excellent numeracy initiative.

Kind regards,

Andrew Jamieson  
**Curriculum Leader - Mathematics**  
[AJamieson@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:AJamieson@sscc.qld.edu.au)

## Rewarding Experience for Alex



Problem-solving, logarithms and coding - welcome to the world of a programmer. This was to become my world for ten exciting, intense days during the school holidays.

I attended the National Computer Science Summer School, held at the University of Sydney along with 100 other high school students from around Australia.

The first half of the week consisted of lectures and tutorials with university students who are studying or have finished studying Computer Science. Then, in our group of 15 we had approximately three days (plus an all-nighter) to produce a functional website, with a social media theme using python and other programming languages.

This summer school program is sponsored by large IT companies and as a result we visited some of these companies, including WiseTech Global and Atlassian. This was definitely the highlight of the trip because we went to the Google office. It was at that moment I decided that I would like to work at Google. Not only can you see the Sydney Harbour Bridge from your office window, but the hours are flexible and you have the capacity to change the world.

Overall, it was a very rewarding experience and I learnt too much. I would like to thank Mr Caines, my ITS teacher, for recommending this opportunity to me.

Alexandria Struthers - Year 12

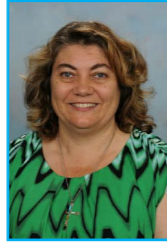
## MAREEBA NETBALL 2015 STATE AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dates: Saturday 6 June – Monday 8 June 2014  
Venue: Hinterland Netball Association – Gold Coast  
Divisions: 13 Yrs, 14 Yrs

**More Information:**  
Connie Martens - Ph: 0418 789 017



"Although we are in different boats, you in your boat and we in our canoe, we share the same river of life." This quote comes from Chief Oren Lyons – Native American "Faithkeeper of the Wolf Clan". While we may all be different in the way we learn however it is important that we share the education journey together. It is the diversity and individuality that makes life interesting.



The Learning Support/Special Needs Department has now changed to Student Diversity. I am Gail Musch, Curriculum Leader of this area and am the case manager of Students with Disabilities. We have a team of three Learning Support Officers who support students in the classrooms: Mrs Wendy Callaghan, Mrs Libby Bulst and Mrs Tina Hubner. We are located on the school map in ML1 and our door is always open. In the next few weeks we will be starting lunchtime help in MCR in recess two where students will be able to access help.

My role also encompasses students requiring targeted and intensive teaching (formerly learning difficulties) and Indigenous education. My vision is to see the students do their best and be able to do their best. Please see the helpful hints on organisation!

Parents and students can contact me at my email address - [gmusch@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:gmusch@sscc.qld.edu.au). Parents, if you wish to make an appointment, please phone 40862526. Up to date information is always welcome.

Gail Musch - Curriculum Leader (Student Diversity)

### HELPFUL HINTS ABOUT ORGANIZATION

A really important part of doing well at school is organisation. We are very happy to help with organisation of books and lockers at school. It is also important to be organised at home and so I hope that these websites can help you. There are apps for iPad and Android devices which will also be useful.

- <http://www.additudemag.com/adhd/article/829.html>
- <http://www.additudemag.com/adhd/article/10227.html>
- <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/learning-at-home/teaching-organizational-skills/8-simple-tools-to-help-your-teen-get-organized>
- <http://www.autismsupportnetwork.com/news/autism-homework-beyond>

### Apps for Organisation

[http://www.learningliftoff.com/5-back-school-iphone-android-apps-keep-students-organized/#.VM\\_gRmiUeSo](http://www.learningliftoff.com/5-back-school-iphone-android-apps-keep-students-organized/#.VM_gRmiUeSo)

### MATHS MIND STRETCHERS

from the Maths Department.

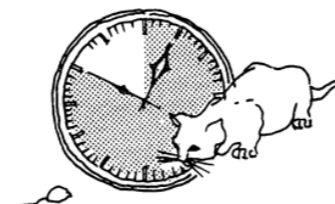
Puzzles have their own fascination and motivation for people of all ages and abilities. Try to solve these puzzles. The solutions will be given in the next newsletter. GOOD LUCK.

1) Shorty, Bluey, Big John, and Tubby were questioned about the disappearance of the teacher's whiteboard eraser. It is known that one of the four took the eraser, and that only one of them tells the truth. Shorty said, "I didn't take it". Bluey said, "Shorty is lying". Big John said, "Bluey is lying".

Who took it?

2) A numerical expression for 24 which uses the same numeral repeated is  $8 + 8 + 8$ . How else may 24 be written 3 times? Try writing 30 using the same number 3 times. Use six 9's to write an expression for 100. Find a numerical expression for 100 using only one numeral five times.

3) If 5 cats catch 5 mice in 5 minutes, how many cats are needed to catch 50 mice in 50 minutes?



### Get Started Initiative

Get Started is a program that aims to assist children and young people who can least afford to join a sport and recreation club.

'Get Started' Program Eligible children and young people (from age 5 to 18) are provided with a voucher up to the value of \$150 for the payment of membership and/or participation costs.

To be eligible for the program, the child's parent/guardian must hold a Centrelink Health Care Card or a Pensioner's Concession Card. To assist other children and young people identified as benefiting from the program whose parent/guardian does not have a Health Care or Pensioners Concession Card, a referral agent process has been incorporated into the program.

**Round 5 opens at 10 am 28 January 2015.**

Vouchers are allocated on the first come, first served basis. Further information on the program and the referral agent process is available on the Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing website.

<http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/funding/getinthegame/getstarted.html>

### School-based traineeship positions for Year 11 Indigenous students

A number of fantastic opportunities have become available for Indigenous school based trainees who are genuinely interested in commencing a 20 month traineeship with Queensland Health.

- Kitchen Operations – Cairns
- Business Administration – Mossman
- Business Administration – Herberton
- Oral Health Assistance – Innisfail
- Business Administration – Cairns
- Business Administration – Mareeba
- Oral Health Assistant – Atherton / Mareeba

**Applications closing soon.**

**Please see Mrs Goleby in the library to apply.**



Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test 2015

The UMAT test is used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level at the following universities:

- The University of New South Wales - Medicine, Optometry
- The University of Newcastle/University of New England - Joint Medical Program
- University of Western Sydney – Medicine
- Charles Darwin University - Clinical Sciences
- Bond University - Medicine
- The University of Queensland - Medicine (provisional entry), Dental Science
- The University of Adelaide - Medicine, Dental Surgery
- Flinders University - Clinical Sciences/Medicine, Vision Science
- University of Tasmania - Medicine
- La Trobe University - Health Sciences (Dentistry), Oral Health Science
- Monash University - Medicine
- The University of Western Australia - Medicine (assured entry), Dental Medicine (assured entry)

UMAT is designed to assess general attributes and abilities gained through prior experience and learning. UMAT will be used (by participating universities in Australia) in the selection process for applicants who are Australian citizens/ permanent residents or New Zealand citizens. Year 12 students intent on applying for any of the above programs should see Ms Murat in the Careers Office to obtain a UMAT information booklet as soon as possible. For the registration fee of \$240 (\$140 if health care or pensioner concession card holders) the student will receive 4 practice tests delivered online.

## STUDENT PROTECTION NEWS

Many changes have and are occurring in the Queensland child protection space. In response to the Queensland Child Protection Commission of inquiry led by the Honourable Tim Carmody QC, the Queensland government has committed to investing \$406 million over the next five years to implement the Stronger Families Reform Program which focuses on:

- reducing the number of children and young people in the child protection system
- revitalising frontline services
- refocusing on learning, improving and taking responsibility for a better child protection system.

### Summary of changes to date

• **Changes to legislation** - Three child protection reform Bills have been passed by Parliament forming the foundation on which the new child protection system will be built:

1. Family and Child Commission Act 2014,
2. Public Guardian Act 2014 and
3. Child Protection Reform Amendment Act 2014

• **Establishment of Regional Child and Family Committees** - Ten regional child and family committees comprising government and non-government human service providers have been established. These committees are responsible for mapping the needs of their local communities and encouraging innovative responses to improving the effectiveness of service delivery.

• **Establishment of the Office of Public Guardian and the Queensland Child and Family Commission** - These two organisations have replaced the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (CCYPCG) which ceased to operate on the 30 June 2014.

• **Transition of the administration of Blue Card Services** - The blue card system has transferred to the Public Safety Business Agency. The blue card website and phone, fax and postal addresses remain the same (<http://www.bluecard.qld.gov.au/>).

• **Announcement of the first seven community-based intake and referral services (Family and Child Connect)** - Staged implementation with Townsville, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba, Roma, Redlands and Beenleigh, Logan and the Gold Coast to commence in January 2015. FNQ will have services operational from January 2016.

### What impact do the Child Protection Reforms have on schools?

• **Mandatory reporting requirements for teachers.** Approved teachers under the Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005 employed at a school, are mandatory reporters and must report to Child Safety a 'reportable suspicion'. A reportable suspicion is a reasonable suspicion that a child has suffered, is suffering or is at unacceptable risk of suffering significant harm caused by physical or sexual abuse; and may not have a parent able and willing to protect the child from the harm. Reporting obligations are enforced through normal disciplinary processes arising from any failure to meet professional standards.

• **Clarification on the threshold for reporting to Child Safety.** The change provides a clearer guideline on what constitutes significant harm, and will reduce the number of families who are unnecessarily reported to Child Safety.

• **New information sharing provisions.** Currently, only the Department of Communities (Child Safety Services) can share relevant information with service providers to assess or respond to children and families needing support. Mandatory reporters are currently unable to refer concerns about a child or their family to early intervention service providers. The information sharing changes will allow prescribed entities, in addition to the department, to share relevant information about children and families to service providers to help prevent problems from escalating to a point that requires Child Safety intervention

• **Alternatives to reporting to Child Safety.** Community-based intake and referral services will be rolled out across Queensland to support families who are at risk of entering or re-entering the child protection system to get them back on track, before their problems escalate. Additionally, a greater mix of services tailored to support vulnerable children and families before their problems escalate to intervention by Child Safety.

### How will these changes be communicated to staff?

Catholic Education Services will be communicating these changes to school staff in a variety of ways including:

- Briefing at Principal Clusters meetings
- Fact Sheets
- Mandatory Online Student Protection training
- Student protection briefings for school leaders at the beginning of 2015

### Important Note

The mandatory reporting obligations under the Education (General Provisions) Act have not changed. All staff are still required to report suspected sexual abuse and /or likely sexual abuse of a student to the police. Staff will also still be required to report reasonable suspicion that a child may be in need of protection to Child Safety Services, where the harm or risk of harm relates to any other type of abuse or neglect.

### Other News

2015 Safety Hero Design Competition - an opportunity for students to promote awareness about safety for themselves and others and have some of their designs used in professional resources for all Catholic Schools in the Cairns Diocese.



## St Stephen's Catholic College Staff Directory 2015

Leadership Team		
Principal	Mrs Ida Pinese	IPinese@sscc.qld.edu.au
Deputy Principal Curriculum	Ms Andrea Chiesa	AChiesa@sscc.qld.edu.au
Assistant Principal Administration	Mr Lance Helms	LHelms@sscc.qld.edu.au
Business Manager	Mr Hadyn Flynn	HFlynn@sscc.qld.edu.au
Middle Leaders Curriculum and Programs		
Religious Education	Mrs Laura Gilbert	LGilbert1@sscc.qld.edu.au
English	Mrs Tamara Schincariol	TSchincari@sscc.qld.edu.au
Technology	Ms Toni Stevens	tstevens@sscc.qld.edu.au
Student Diversity	Mrs Gail Musch	gmusch@sscc.qld.edu.au
Mathematics	Mr Andrew Jamieson	AJamieson@sscc.qld.edu.au
Science	Mrs Pepita Ison	PIson@sscc.qld.edu.au
Social Science & Business	Mr Dwayne Miller	dmiller2@sscc.qld.edu.au
HPE	Mr Steven Groves	SGroves@sscc.qld.edu.au
The Arts & LOTE	Mrs Françoise Nozaic	FNozaic@sscc.qld.edu.au
Gifted & Talented	Mrs Simone Gillies	SGillies@sscc.qld.edu.au
Activities / Sport	Miss Deanne Morrow	dmorrow1@sscc.qld.edu.au
Middle Leaders Pastoral		
Year 12 (Acting)	Mr Richard Baker	RBaker@sscc.qld.edu.au
Year 11	Mr Giancarlo Veschetti	GVeschetti@sscc.qld.edu.au
Year 10	Mrs Stacey Crockford	SCrockford@sscc.qld.edu.au
Year 9	Mr Keith Pelka	kpelka@sscc.qld.edu.au
Year 8	Mr Christopher Ellison	CEllison1@sscc.qld.edu.au
Year 7	Mrs Jayarani Salerno	JSalerno@sscc.qld.edu.au

A full list of staff can be found on the college's website



# Chewy's Menu

Term One 2015

## Sandwiches

Egg & lettuce	\$3.80
Salad	\$3.80
Chicken	\$3.50
Chicken & cheese	\$3.80
Chicken & salad	\$4.00
Ham	\$3.50
Ham & cheese	\$3.80
Ham & salad	\$4.00
Cheese	\$2.60
Beef & Chutney	\$3.80

## Wraps

Salad & cheese	\$3.80
Chicken & salad	\$4.00
Ham & salad	\$4.00
Tuna & salad	\$4.50



## Salads

Garden Salad (Includes: lettuce, beetroot, cheese, carrot, corn, asparagus & egg)	\$4.50
Pasta & Chicken Coleslaw	\$4.50
Udon Noodle	\$4.50
Vegetarian Noodles	\$4.50

## Extras

Chicken	\$0.50
Ham	\$0.50
Tuna	\$0.80

## Drinks

Water	\$3.50
Iced Tea	\$4.00
Flavored Water	\$4.00
Powerade	\$4.00
Fruit juice	\$3.80

## Extras

Toasting	\$0.20
Tomato	\$0.50
Onion	\$0.30
Pineapple	\$0.50
Asparagus	\$0.50

## Available daily

Lasagne	\$4.00
Garlic bread	\$2.00
Quiche	\$1.50
Enchilada (Vegetarian)	\$4.00
Enchilada (Beef or Chicken)	\$4.50



## Snacks

Garlic & Chicken Balls	\$2.50
Fruit cup	\$2.00
Apple slice	\$2.00
Jelly & custard	\$2.80
Vegemite buns	\$2.80
Frozen yoghurt	\$2.20
Muesli swirl	\$2.80
Cheese/bacon	\$2.80
Muffins	\$2.00

