

St Stephen's
Catholic College



St Stephen's News

Issue 7 - Term 2 Wednesday, 13 May 2015

Principal: Mrs Ida Pinese - principal@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

Year 7 Camp



Last week, the Year 7 cohort spent three days at Camp Paterson where they enjoyed many team building and bonding activities. Camps and retreats are just some of the enrichment opportunities available at St Stephen's, which help students develop socially, academically, emotionally, spiritually and physically.



Lot 3, McIver Road, Mareeba
PO Box 624 Mareeba Qld 4880
Office Hours: 7.45am - 3.45pm Monday - Friday
ABN: 42 498 340 094

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

NOTICES

IMPORTANT DATES:



12-14 May	NAPLAN Test
14 May	Board Meeting
15-17 May	Great Wheelbarrow Race
18 May	Opening of new buildings
27 May	Visit by Year 6 students
25-28 May	Year 8 Camp
27-28 May	Rotary Field Day
05 June	Readers Cup
09 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday
15 - 18 June	Block Exams
25 - 26 June	Athletics Carnival

TERM DATES 2015

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)

The Social Justice Committee
invites you to

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

at
St Stephen's Catholic College

Thursday, May 28

Indigenous Liaison Officer / Youth Support
Coordinator

Meet & Greet Morning Tea

Monday 1 June at 10.45 am

RSVP Monday May 25 to Ms Ygosse or Mrs Hall
on 4086 2500

Medical Updates

We invite you to advise the school in writing if your child has a medical or mental health diagnosis and/or is on medication. We are keen to assist in supporting students to identify and minimize barriers that may affect your child to achieve their personal best.

Please advise Ms Andrea Chiesa (Deputy Principal Curriculum) or Mrs Michelle Hall (School Counsellor) even if your child is on medication for a short period of time. Thank you for your support.

Mathematics Tuition

Students seeking help with their Maths may attend a tuition/homework class on Tuesdays at lunch time in the MCR classroom.

Mr Ellison will be in attendance to assist students at both Junior and Senior levels with any difficulties they may be experiencing.

A roll of attendance will be kept for these sessions.



catholic youth retreat ministry

Youth Night

Friday, May 22 from 8 - 5 pm

Cairns Catholic Education Services Building
Cnr Lake and Minnie Sts Cairns

- Mingle with other high-school aged youth
- A scrumptious meal
- Music
- Games
- Discussion
- Prayer

FROM THE Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St Stephen's

"The world tells us to seek success, power and money. God tells us to seek humility, service and love." (Pope Francis)

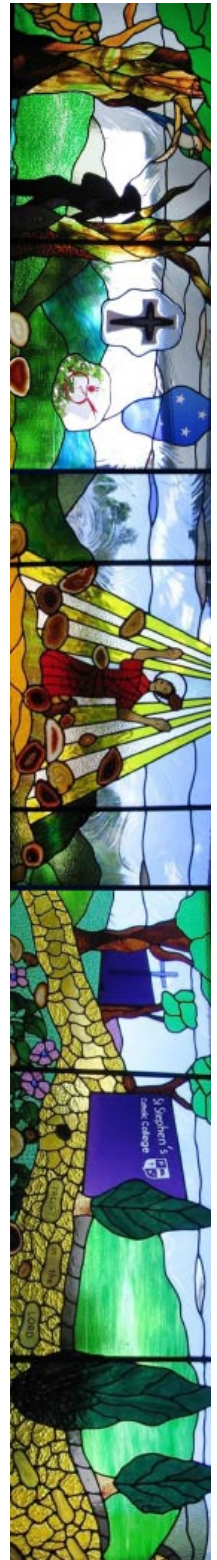
The namesake of our college, St Stephen, was one of seven deacons selected by the apostles to assist with the charitable work of the early church. The word "deacon" is derived from the Greek word, diakonos, which is an ancient Greek word meaning "servant". Therefore it is fitting that we strongly encourage a culture of service among our student body.

During the past few weeks, a group of dedicated students has been actively involved in fund-raising and training for an event that tests not only their physical fitness, but also their resilience, team work, perseverance and commitment to serve. In order to raise money for Caritas, they have organised numerous fund-raising activities, collected market stall fees and obtained sponsorship from local business firms and families. This accelerated activity has taken place at the same time as endurance training for the Great Wheelbarrow Race which runs from the 15 to 17 May. The runners, their band of helpers and our generous sponsors and parents, are to be commended for the service they are providing by fund-raising to help those in need, just as the deacons chosen by the apostles several centuries ago performed charitable works. We wish the St Stephen's team and our College Captain, Joshua Priestly who is doing a solo run raising money for Rosies, a safe journey to Chillagoe.

The enthusiasm demonstrated by our students at the Inter-house Cross Country was duplicated at the District titles last Friday where our St Stephen's team gave it their all in a challenging course at Ravenshoe to narrowly miss out on winning by six points. Congratulations are also extended to the U/12 runners who competed at Dimbulah and achieved first place in both the girls' and the boys' races. These results were attained through self-belief, teamwork and the St Stephen's culture of always giving everything one's best. All team members and the staff who assisted are to be congratulated for these great results. If we can develop GRIT ("perseverance and passion for long-term goals."), as well as empathy for others and a desire to be of service in our students, we are turning out young men and women who are testament to the gospel values.

Another date claimer was the year 7 camp at Camp Paterson last week where students were engaged in having fun, while learning important life skills of getting along with others, rising to challenges and practising tolerance and patience. These students are thriving at high school, making new friends and engaging well with the diverse array of subjects being studied.

Our year 7 and 9 students are undertaking NAPLAN tests this week and we wish them well. While this test is only one indication of a student's academic progress, it is important that students strive to do their best. I thank teachers for the preparation that has been undertaken to assist students to be well-prepared.



In terms of student outcomes, we received the following information last week from Dr Judy Smeed from Queensland University of Technology:

Since 2005, we have been analysing the Queensland published data in relation to senior schooling.

Over this time, we have developed several indices which, we believe, are underpinned by socially just principles and an ethic of care, justice and critique. One such index is the “Blue Group”. It recognises schools that achieve the following criteria:

- *Three consecutive years where over 90% of the OP eligible cohort achieve 1-15*
- *The percentage of OP eligible students does not show a declining trend over the past 3 years*

I am pleased to advise you that your school is one of 17 schools in Queensland which achieved “Blue Group” status. Congratulations and best wishes for your continued success

This achievement is the result of constant monitoring of our senior students’ progress to ensure that they have the opportunity to perform at their best.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter article, schools are dynamic places where change is a part of school life. The ability to adapt to change is an important skill for our students to acquire in a rapidly changing world. As a result of Mr Jamieson’s resignation, the acting Mathematics Middle Leader for 2015 will be Mr Ellison, previously the year 8 Pastoral Leader. This position has now been taken by Mr Greene. Our best wishes go with Mr Jamieson in his future endeavours. The college also has appointed Mrs Gertrude Ygosse as the Indigenous Liaison Officer/Youth Support Officer.

On a final note, enrolments for Years 7 in 2016 are progressing well. Demand has been very high and I urge parents of current students enrolled at Stephen’s to make enrolment interviews for any siblings entering Years 7 in 2016, as soon as possible, as places are filling very fast.

Trust in the Lord

Mrs Ida Pinese
Principal

FROM THE Guidance Counsellor



Tips for Developing Organisational Skills in Children

Developing good organisational skills is a key ingredient for success in school and in life. I hope you find these tips useful.

Use checklists

Help your child get into the habit of using a “to-do” list. Checklists can be used to list assignments and household chores and to remind children to bring appropriate materials to class. They should use their Student Record Book (school diary) to record homework & assignments. Crossing completed items off the list helps develop a sense of accomplishment.

Organize homework assignments

Before beginning a homework session, encourage your child to number assignments in the order in which they are to be done. Students should start with one that’s not too long or difficult but avoid saving the longest or hardest assignments for last.

Set a designated study space

Students should study in the same place every night where supplies and materials are close at hand. This space doesn’t have to be a bedroom, but it should be a quiet place with few distractions.

Set a designated study time

Children should know that a certain time every day is reserved for studying and doing homework. The best time is usually not right after school, as most children benefit from time to unwind first. Parents should include their child in making this decision. Even if your child does not have homework, the reserved time should be used to review the day’s lessons, read for pleasure or work on an upcoming project.

Source: Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities.

Michelle Hall | **Guidance Counsellor**

YEAR 7 CAMP

The year 7 camp was a fantastic success with the behaviour and efforts of all students being exceptional. A huge thank you to Scott, Lyn and Neville from Camp Patterson for providing a well-structured and engaging camp for all students. Also a huge thank you to Mrs Jackson, Miss Aplin, Mrs Ison, Miss Sugars, Mr Priestly, Mr Greene, Mr Miller and Ms Stevens for giving up so much of their time to manage, support and participate in the camp.



“Camp was awesome with a lot of great facilities and activities. The people at Camp Patterson were really friendly.

By Thomas Flynn



“Camp was really fun with new experiences and we made lots of new friends. Next year’s year 7’s should be really excited about this great camp. My favourite parts were swimming and doing activities with the teachers. **By Abriana Hinchcliffe**

“My experience at camp was fantastic! I enjoyed spending time with friends and it was also challenging. The highlights of the camp were the water wipeout, the excess lolly eating and working in teams to complete challenges such as the obstacle course. **By Daniel La Spina**

“Camp was cool. I liked all the activities, especially the water activities. I liked Charlie the dog, I found new friends and I found some yabbies. Our team worked together and we co-operated. I would love to go back next year! **By Patrick Thiele**

Jayarani Salerno | **Middle Leader Pastoral (Year 7)**
JSalerno@sscc.qld.edu.au

“Camp was amazing. There were heaps of fun activities and the staff were lots of fun. The food was delicious and all up it was awesome. **By Catriona Boyd**

“It was a great learning experience that encouraged teamwork and invoked new friendships that may not have occurred otherwise. **By Emily Perrett**

“Camp was fun and it gave us an opportunity to make friends and improve our teamwork skills. **By Jack Burnside**

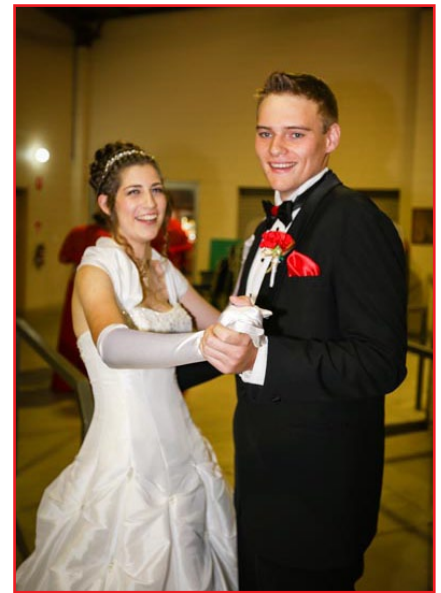
GET INVOLVED St Stephen’s offers many extra curricular activities and tuition groups for all students. Contact the teacher / coordinator to get involved.

CLUB	WHEN	WHERE	TEACHER/COORDINATOR
Robotics	Thursday 2nd recess	SYS Room	Mr McCabe & Mr Caines
Maths Tutoring	Tuesday 2nd recess	MCR	Mr Ellison
Lunchtime Help	Everyday 2nd recess	MCR	Mrs Musch
Cricket Training-Junior Students	Thursday 2nd recess		Mr Pelka & Mr McLennan
Social Justice Committee –School Captains & Committee Members	Friday fortnightly		Mr Ellison
Chess Club	Monday 2nd Recess	M8	Mr Ellison, Mr Donovan, Mrs Hall
Ukele Club	Monday 2nd Recess	NT1	Ms Sugars
Anime Club	Wednesday 2nd Recess		Mr Priestly
Reader’s Cup – Year 7 & 8	Thursday 2nd Recess	Library	Mrs Gillies
TED Club (Gifted & Talented program)	Tuesday	Library	Mrs Gillies

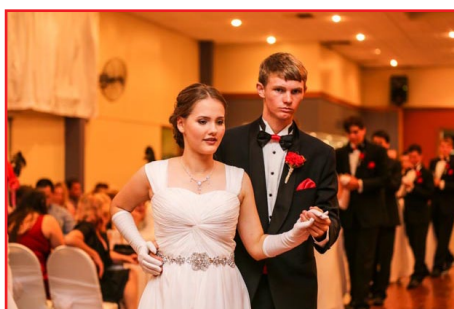
ST THOMAS' MAREEBA Debutante Ball 2015



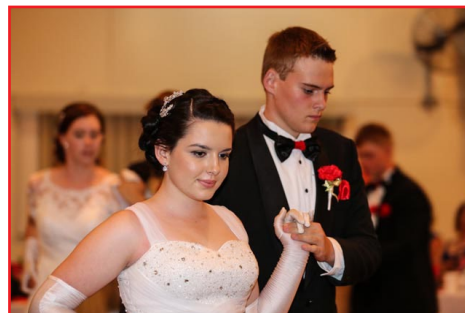
On Saturday May 2, nine girls from St Stephen's were introduced to society at the annual St Thomas' Parish Debutante Ball.



Emily Hallam and her partner Ben McAulay.



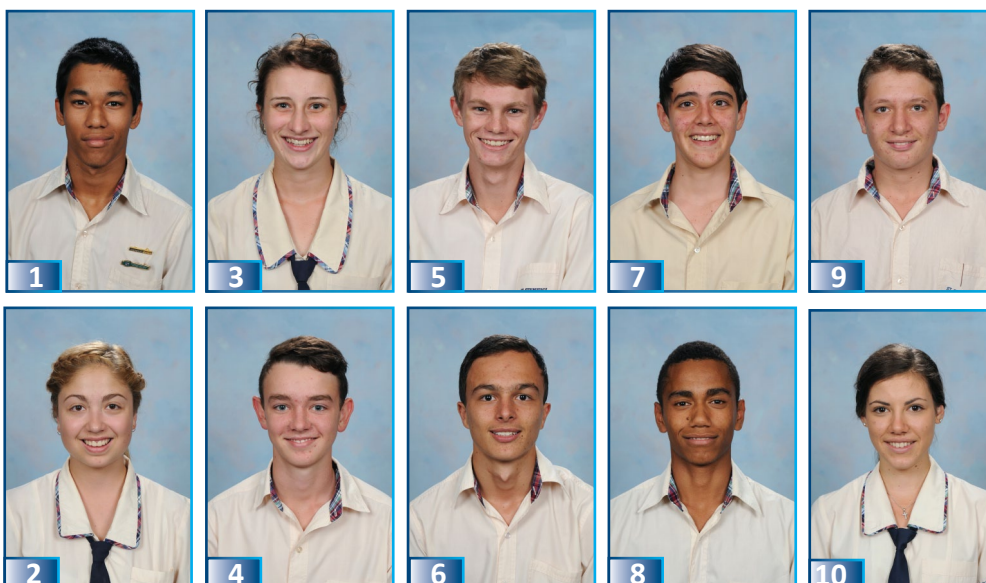
Mathilde Gargan and Michael Metcalf.



Lori Magro and her partner Zac McAulay.



Tahlia Avolio and Adrianna Soncin.



Wheelbarrow Race 2015 'Cool Runnings'

1. Jake Pendlebury
2. Kristy-Leigh Jerome
3. Mellory Aitken
4. Hayden Lee
5. Michael Metcalfe
6. Hunter Liebold
7. Rhys Pozzebon
8. Anthony Carpenter
9. Isaac Hohns
10. Nadia Tudini

Good luck!

Great Wheelbarrow Race 2015

This weekend, ten students from St Stephen's will push themselves to the limit as they compete in the Great Wheelbarrow Race. The St Stephen's community would like to wish 'Cool Runnings' all the best for the three day challenge from Mareeba to Chillagoe. College Captain Josh Priestly will compete in the Wheelbarrow Race as a solo competitor. Josh is running to raise money and awareness for Rosies in Mareeba. Good luck from all of the staff and students at St Stephen's!

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

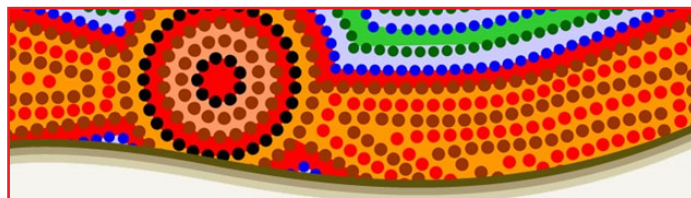
Quality Timbers Mareeba Pty Ltd
 Wilkinson's Blacksmiths Pty Ltd
 Memories in Mareeba
 Barramundi Gardens
 Atherton Health
 Tomerini Family

Ida Pinese
 R.A Blake (Dental) Pty Ltd
 Flightech Pty Ltd
 AAB Office Equipment



UPTOWN MUSIC TEACHING STUDIOS

Bringing Music into your life ...



Introducing our new Indigenous Liaison Officer

My name is Gertrude Ygosse. I am the new Indigenous Liaison Officer/ Youth Coordinator at St Stephen's Catholic College.



I was born in Mossman, and grew up around the Atherton Tablelands. I am a Kuku Yalanji and Guguu Yimidhirr woman with family ties in Mossman, Cooktown, Hopevale and Cairns. My family connections lie within the Davis and Harrigan families, and all other families within those circles of names.

I have two children and seven grandchildren. For most of my working life, I have worked with Aboriginal organisations in North Queensland, mostly in an administrative capacity. I have also worked in the art form of photography by photographing social events around the region, such as Sorry Days, NAIDOC Weeks, Laura Festivals and other gatherings around the region.

My day at St Stephen's is a Monday from 8.45 am to 2.15 pm.

Please feel free to contact me any time, or leave a message at reception. I look forward to meeting with all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and parents from this College, and as a reminder, perhaps it will be at the Morning Tea on the 1st June at 10.45 am.

Gertrude Ygosse
Indigenous Liaison Officer/Youth Co-ordinator



Technology



Welcome back to term two. I hope you enjoyed a relaxing break. Over the holidays we have had a few staffing changes I would like to welcome Peter McCabe to our IT department. Peter will be with us while Frank Caines is enjoying his well-deserved long service leave this term. I would also like to take the opportunity to farewell Clive Pennells, our INTAD (Industrial Technology and Design) Teacher Aide, who is leaving us to take up a teaching position.

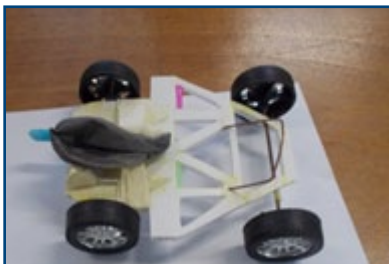
Term one was a very exciting term for the Technology Department. With the introduction of our new year nine subject, Graphics, we have really been able to provide enriching experiences in this traditional INTAD subject area.



So far this year our year 9's have designed and raced CO2 Dragsters.



While year 10's have designed and built Balloon Powered Racers



Our senior Technology Studies class has had access to a new 3D printer, which has enabled them to start to prototype design ideas. These printers will also be incorporated into future junior design subjects, as well as our Senior Graphics classes.



Our year 12 Engineering Students are also embracing a subject enhancement, with the introduction of an exciting new project. These students will be working together to build a box trailer, with the idea that this group work on a large project will better prepare them for industry.



Toni Stevens
Curriculum Leader –Technology
tstevens@sscc.qld.edu.au

Year 10 Poetry

Year 10 English students have commenced a Poetry unit. They have been inspired by famous poets, Walt Whitman and Ogden Nash, to create some entertaining poems of their own.

The Cyclist

By Aaron Bryce and Bronson Cater

Down the switchback road, the cyclist pedals hard;
Hunched over the bars with legs of steel;
His tight, bright vest blasted by the wind
Determination in his eyes, he powers to the end.

The Chess Player

By Maddison Leonforte and Jarred Moreno

*Grim and determined, he faces his opponent;
The board daunting and dark;
Willing him to win in the final moment
The clock rings in his ears and he moves his final piece
– checkmate.*

The 'Ping Ponger'

By John Tomerini and Marco Soncin

*In an empty hall, stands the stout ping ponger
He is short, but strong, with bulging biceps
His singlet rests on his yellowed shoulders
With paddle in his grip, like a white-water rafter*