



Principal: Mrs Ida Pinese - principal@sscc.qld.edu.au

Deputy Principal Curriculum: Ms Andrea Chiesa - ACHiesa@sscc.qld.edu.au

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Built on Solid Foundations

Celebrating 10 years of providing quality Catholic secondary education!

Last Monday the latest building stages were officially opened, coinciding with the college's 10th anniversary. Bishop James Foley blessed six new classrooms, two science laboratories and the covered lunch area before unveiling the plaques with Member for Barron River, Mr Craig Crawford MP. St Stephen's Catholic College would like to thank all those who have played a part in the formation and development of the college, and the wider local community for their ongoing support and faith in the college.



The latest building stages were officially opened by Bishop James Foley and Mr Craig Crawford Member for Barron River, on behalf of Education Minister Hon Kate Jones MP.



College Captains Joshua Priestly and Mellory Aitken, Member for Barron River Mr Craig Crawford MP and Vice-Captains Joy Musch and Ayden Smith.



Foundation Principal Mr Gerard Simon cut the cake to mark the 10th anniversary with Principal Mrs Ida Pinese and Bishop James Foley.

NOTICES

IMPORTANT DATES:



27-28 May	Rotary Field Days
05 June	Readers Cup
08 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)

TAFE Cairns is offering some exciting school holiday programs in Hospitality.

If you missed the **Responsible Service of Alcohol** program, then don't despair!

A one day course is available at Cairns TAFE on Monday 29 June 2015.

Extend on this into **Hygiene and Food Safety** on Tuesday 30 June 2015, then progress to Barista – **Prepare and Serve Espresso Coffee**, over the following three days!

Fees range from \$75 - \$195 for each program. Similar programs are available in Tourism.

See Mrs Goleby for further information.



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 their ability 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.

The Social Justice Committee
invites you to

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

at St Stephen's Catholic College

Thursday, 28 May

St Stephen's Catholic College Inter-House

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Thursday, 25 June: 12.30 - 3.00 pm

Friday, 26 June: All Day



FROM THE Principal



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of St Stephen's

On Monday, 18 May, the latest stages of our building program were opened by Bishop James Foley and the Member for Barron River, Mr Craig Crawford. The following extract from my principal's speech captures the sentiment of the occasion:

"The problems of the world cannot possibly be solved by sceptics, or cynics whose horizons are limited by the obvious realities. We need men who can dream of things that never were."

These words, spoken by John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the first Catholic President of the United States, have relevance for us today, as we open our new buildings. The people of the Mareeba Parish who had the vision to dream of things that never were, have played a significant part in the formation of St Stephen's Catholic College.

These far-sighted people, like our early pioneers, blazed the trail that began our journey when Bishop James turned the first sod of soil on Muluridji land in May, 2005, to today's opening of our new buildings. Were it not for the determination, persistence and hard work of this group of visionary people, some of whom are with us today and the faith and trust of those early parents we would not be celebrating the growth of this college and marking its 10th anniversary. It is fitting that we have with us today, Mr Gerard Simon, the Foundation Principal. I would like to acknowledge the hard work which he carried out in the formation of this college and thank him for his untiring efforts in those pioneering years. Having been at St Stephen's for the past nine years, I am only too familiar with the exciting challenges that had to be overcome.

From that inaugural opening in 2006, with a population of approximately 40 year 8 students, we have progressed to a student population of 540, ranging from years 7 to 12, with over 70 staff. It has not just been about adding extra buildings, but instead we celebrate the formation of young people who are encouraged to: take responsibility for their learning, have a high respect for themselves and others, take immense pride in our college and be morally autonomous and compassionate, with an awareness of God's presence. These wonderful facilities would not have been possible without the generous contribution of funds from the Federal and State Governments, the support of the Queensland Catholic Education Commission and the Diocesan Development Fund.

I would like to thank all those involved with the opening to ensure that it was a great success. At St Stephen's there is a significant focus placed on serving others. Not only did the college choir sing beautifully at last week's opening, but our college leaders demonstrated resilience in performing the master of ceremony duties while recovering from the effects of the very strenuous Great Wheelbarrow Race undertaken over the previous three days. In raising money for various worthy causes, participating students learn to adopt a life of service to others less fortunate. The college community congratulates them on their determination, team work, self-belief and sense of social justice. Our gratitude is extended to the many sponsors and the parents and friends who helped in so many ways to make the experience a memorable one for the participating students. Of special mention is our College Captain, Joshua Priestly who completed a solo run. What an amazing achievement!

In conclusion, our best wishes are extended to the year 8 students and their teachers who will be on camp this week.

Trust in the Lord
Mrs Ida Pinese | **Principal**

FROM THE

Assistant Principal Administration

“Is it helpful, or is it hurtful?” That is the question.

After a smooth start to the year, it has become apparent that some students are not grasping the difference between what is helpful and what is hurtful. Mrs Hall, the school’s Counsellor, and I have had a few interviews with students recently about their sharing information and opinions that have upset other students. We have tried to make the message simple and clear to these students: “If your words are hurtful, then you are not being helpful.”



Some students believe that they have the right to share their opinions whenever they feel like it, as if it is their given right. Some students believe that they have the right to say whatever they want, even if it hurts someone else. Fortunately for them, the college does not see things this way. We believe that everyone has a right to an opinion, but if the opinion offends others, it does not need to be shared – a very useful mantra for our students as they ready themselves for the workforce. We are working with these students to help them be more helpful rather than hurtful. Hopefully, these students will be able to extend this helpful approach in every aspect of their lives and be a more positive influence on all around them.

It is our hope that all students feel safe at school, and that includes not being subjected to the hurtful whims of others.

God bless.

Lance Helms | **Assistant Principal (Administration)**
LHelms@sscc.qld.edu.au

**Queen’s Birthday
Public Holiday**

Monday, 8 June 2015

FROM THE

Deputy Principal Curriculum

Year 11 and 12 exam block is scheduled from 15 to 18 June. Information about these tests will be sent home shortly via students in these cohorts. For our Year 11 students, the most significant change from Year 10 is the requirement to report to school only when there is a scheduled exam. Exams take precedence over TAFE courses and work experience, which means that students cannot miss an examination session because of these commitments. It is the student’s responsibility to inform employers and outside trainers of the examination schedule and to make other arrangements for work experience or TAFE courses. Our Year 12 students, however, should be well informed about the process. A medical certificate is required should a student be absent for a test. This is in line with the College’s assessment policy and Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority requirements.



For students in Years 7 to 10, testing will mostly occur in weeks eight and nine of term two during the scheduled lessons for particular subjects. Students will be advised of test dates by their subject teacher and attendance is mandatory.

NAPLAN: I would like to congratulate our Year 7 and 9 students for their conduct during the recent Naplan tests. They are to be commended for the conscientious manner in which they participated in this national testing program. Well done, students! Their results, which become available towards the end of term three, will be sent home to parents as soon as we receive them. We appreciate the work done by all our teachers to prepare students for the rigor of the testing conditions and would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mr Helms for smoothly managing our first year with two cohorts undergoing testing.

Andrea Chiesa | **Deputy Principal**
ACHiesa@sscc.qld.edu.au

YEAR 11 NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

High school is a place filled with many challenges and it is good to see that the Year 11's of 2015 are doing their best to meet those challenges. As term two rolls on to the end of the semester, students should be making preparations for their block exams. Organisation and perseverance are the key factors to success.

A major change for the boys of Year 11 this term has been the wearing of a school tie. With much mirth at the start of term, I believe that the Year 11 boys now have the expertise to successfully tie a tie. Being correctly attired is one of those tangibles that employers are always looking for and in that respect I would like to remind parents and guardians that, students having correctly polished shoes also has great impact.

As always it is a great responsibility and privilege to be the Year 11 cohort pastoral leader and I look forward to meeting the challenges ahead.

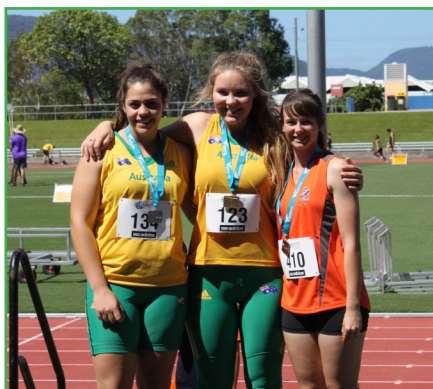
Please feel free to contact me at the college either on 4086 2500 or email gveschetti@sscc.qld.edu.au

Mr Carlo Veschetti
Middle Leader Pastoral (Year 11)



Congratulations

Earlier this month, Year 12 student Jennifer Moss (far right) was selected to attend the Oceania Area Athletics Championships in Cairns. Jennifer competed in the Youth (U18) hammer throw event where she placed third. **Congratulations Jennifer.**



Gifted & Talented

Congratulations to Aaron Bryce and Julian Gueho (pictured). Both students have qualified for Round Two of the Brain Bee Challenge.



Last term, Year 10 students were given the opportunity to participate in the Brain Bee Competition. Over 5000 students from across Australia and New Zealand competed in Round One of the Brain Bee Challenge. Our students achieved some great results.



Round Two will be held at Queensland University in Brisbane. The day will include an Individual Challenge to determine the 2015 ABBC Queensland Champion, as well as tours of the research laboratories and presentations by special guests working in science.

The Readers Cup teams have competed in a friendly competition at school and the final two teams to represent St Stephen's have been chosen. These two teams now have two weeks of preparation left. A big thank you to the year 7's and 8's who have spent the last eight weeks reading and preparing for this competition. We wish our school representatives all the best for the June competition.



Simone Gillies
Program Leader (Gifted and Talented)
SGillies@sscc.qld.edu.au



Science

The Science department is bustling with activity at the moment as all senior science students are carrying out experiments of their own design for assessment. Plants, micro-organisms and pool water are just some of the topics of investigation.



Our Science in Practice students have also been very busy setting up their fogging systems for their hydroponics studies. All this practical work has meant that our Science Officers Dr Linda Fogg and Mrs Michelle Ford have been working extra hard to ensure the smooth running of all of our practical work. A special thank you to both of them at this very busy time.

After school Science tutorials have also commenced for our senior students on Monday afternoons from 3-4 pm. Students are able to seek specific assistance, and the tutorial is staffed by two of our science teachers. Permission notes are available from student services if your child has not already received one.

Finally, several Year 10 students recently competed in the Australian Brain Bee Challenge. Congratulations to all these students for participating in this competition, and particularly Aaron Bryce and Julian Gueho who are now eligible to compete in the State Finals in June.

Pepita Ison
Curriculum Leader - Science
PIson@sscc.qld.edu.au



Nikia Hanush.

FROM THE Business Manager

Term Two Fees were posted out on 28 April. Included on the invoice was the ability to pay your fees using BPAY. The College hopes that providing a variety of payment options will assist families in meeting their fee obligations.



It is very important that fees are paid on time to ensure the delivery of quality programs and services for every student.

If you have any questions or queries about fees please don't hesitate to contact Pina on 40862500 or gmenniti@sscc.qld.edu.au

Hadyn Flynn | **Business Manager**
hflynn@sscc.qld.edu.au

First Aid Course

Last week, several Year 12 students completed a Provide First Aid module as part of their RII20113 Certificate II in Resources and Infrastructure Work Preparation course.



Above: Dominic Groundwater and Kain Kapteyn.



Anthony Carpenter, Indiana Shannon and Benjamin Scurr.

Great Wheelbarrow Race 2015

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

R.A. Blake (Dental) Pty Ltd
 Flightech Pty Ltd
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THANK YOU!



SOLO: Joshua Priestly crosses the finish line at Chillagoe.



One does not simply run to Chillagoe pushing a wheelbarrow.

The Great Wheelbarrow Race was an exciting, fantastic, and unforgettable experience. The race started at Mareeba and concluded at Chillagoe. I remember starting the race at Mareeba for the team. The camera man was right up close, filming every moment. The clock was counting down, "10, 9, 8..." I was staring directly ahead thinking "I will never give up." "3, 2, 1, GO!" We were off!

For the first day, we has set a goal of 2 hours and 30 minutes. We missed the goal by 8 minutes; nevertheless, I was so proud of the team as we had run 42 kms.

The second day was the most difficult day. We had to run 62 kms. It felt like we were going to give up but after we stopped at Petford, we recovered and got our mojo back. Seeing the "Almaden 5 km" sign was amazing. The team pushed all the way and we conquered our goal of 4 hours with a time of 3 hours and 51 minutes.

The third day was the best. We learnt a new change over technique and not only did our speed increase, but so did our team cohesion. The team really came together on the last day and we blitzed our goal of 2 hours by 11 minutes.

I am so proud of not only my team, but also Joshua Priestly who ran the entire 143 kms, solo. I would also like to thank all the staff who were involved; I cannot thank them enough for all the hours and effort they spent preparing the three days and all the behind the scenes action that occurred. **The key to success is to never give up and always stay positive.**

Jake Pendlebury | **Team Captain**

2015

Enter the WET TROPICS POSTER and PHOTO COMPETITION



Loving every moment

People from around the world come to visit our region because of its beauty, biodiversity, ancient landscapes and culture. We want you to capture one or many of these significant elements, in either a photo or artistic poster, to show us how you love every moment.



What do you need to do?

- Create an A3 poster that will persuade others to care for our beautiful rainforest and reef. OR
- Take a digital photo of what is special to you about the region.

Who can enter?

Prep to Year 3 and Year 4 to 7 students are invited to write and illustrate a persuasive poster OR take a photo that captures beauty, biodiversity or culture.

- Your persuasive poster needs to include an eye-catching graphic and short slogan that is designed to encourage people to love our region.
- Using a digital camera, capture your photo and email to wettropics@wtma.qld.gov.au. All photos need to be under 5MB. We will accept up to two entries per individual.
- Posters and photos will be judged separately and in two categories, Prep to Year 3 and Year 4 to 7.

What are the themes?

- **Photos: *Loving every moment*** - capturing the beauty of our region and why we need to protect it.
- **Posters: *Here today gone tomorrow - What's at risk?*** - What messages would you tell others about our unique wildlife and how to care for it.

What do you win?

- Winners will receive prizes from our local tourism sponsors Skyrail and Cairns Harbour Cruises.
- Winners will be promoted by the media and on both the Wet Tropics and sponsors' websites.
- Winners, their family and teachers will be invited to attend a special awards ceremony in September 2015.

Prize conditions for Skyrail and Cairns Harbour Cruises:

- 1) Prize to be offered for a maximum of 30 students, which also means a maximum of 6 adults (ratio 1:5) travelling FOC
- 2) The prizes do not include transfers.
- 3) Children under 14 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. For the purposes of this competition only, accompanying adults will be provided with complimentary tickets.
- 4) Travel is subject to availability; prizes are valid for 12 months from the date the winners are announced.
- 5) Reservations are essential and are required at least 21 days prior to date of travel.
- 6) Once the entries are received WTMA will own all artwork and photos in perpetuity for promotional purposes and distribute accordingly; artists will receive no payment.

When do entries close?

Entries close on **Friday 26 June 2015**. Include your name, school, class, teacher and school phone number on your A3 poster sized entry and within an email if its a photo.

Send them to:
Wet Tropics Management Authority
PO Box 2050
Cairns QLD 4870

Deliver them to:
Wet Tropics Management Authority
Ground Floor, Cairns Port Authority,
Cnr Grafton and Hartley Sts, Cairns.

Or email photo in jpeg format (max 5MB) format to: wettropics@wtma.qld.gov.au

For more information phone: 07 4241 0508 or www.wettropics.gov.au



ENQUIRIES Phone (07) 4241 0525 or EMAIL wettropics@wtma.qld.gov.au