



St Stephen's News

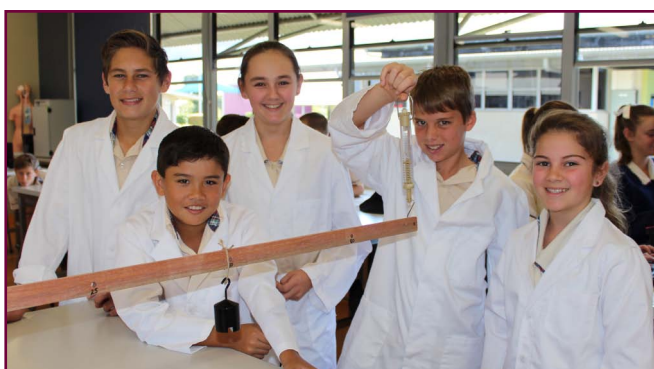
Issue 13 - Term 3 | Wednesday 19 August 2015

Principal: Mrs Ida Pinese
Deputy Principal Curriculum: Ms Andrea Chiesa
Assistant Principal Religious Education: Mrs Laura Gilbert
Assistant Principal Administration: Mr Lance Helms
Business Manager: Mr Hadyn Flynn

National Science Week!

Year 11 student, Rebecca Hermanus, has been accepted into the National Youth Science Forum in 2016. After successfully making it through a series of interviews and challenges, Rebecca will head to Canberra to represent St Stephen's and the Mareeba Rotary Club in January next year. Rebecca said she is excited about the opportunity and is looking forward to meeting like-minded people.

Pictured: College Principal, Mrs Ida Pinese, Rebecca Hermanus, Gifted and Talented Middle Leader, Mrs Simone Gillies and Science Middle Leader, Mrs Pepita Ison.

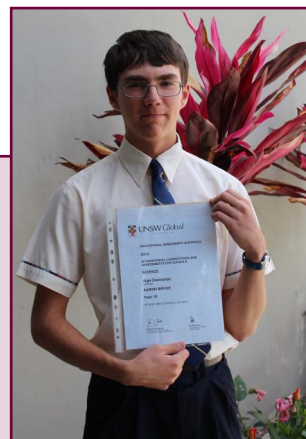


National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science and technology. It provides an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of Australian scientists to the world of knowledge. It also aims to encourage an interest in science, and to encourage younger people to become fascinated by the world in which we live.

Year 7 students: Erik Wallace, Jack Garcia-Fraser, Holly Bryce, Callum Zugno and Keelie Nicholls.



Congratulations to Aaron Bryce who received a High Distinction for the ICAS Science test, performing in the top 1% of Australia. The Year 10 student also attended the Brain Bee State Championships in Brisbane at the University of Queensland earlier this month. *Read about his experience on page 10.*



NOTICES

IMPORTANT DATES:



| | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 20 August | Arts Exhibition |
| 24-26 August | Year 11 Biology Camp |
| 1 & 2 September | QCS Test |
| 3 September | Board Meeting |
| 7 - 10 September | Year 12 Block Exams |
| 8 September | P&F Meeting |
| 18 September | St Stephen's Day |

TERM DATES 2015

Term Three: July 13 - September 18

Term Four: October 6 - November 20 (Year 12)
October 6 - November 27 (Year 7 - 11)

You're invited!



St Stephen's Day

Friday, 18 September
9.00 am - 3.00 pm

- ★ Mass followed by blessing of Chapel
- ★ Talent showcase ★ Mini-fete
- ★ Staff v Student Netball Competition



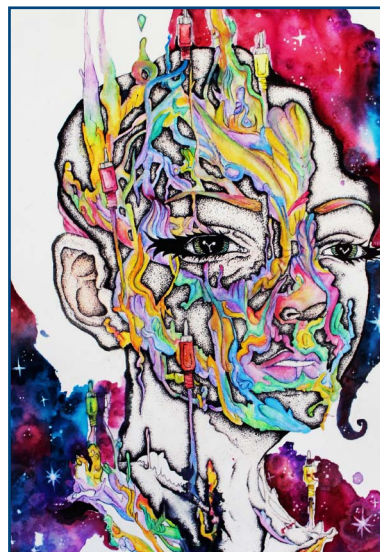
St Stephen's Catholic College

ANNUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

Date: Thursday, 20 August 2015

Time: 4.30 – 6.30 pm

St Stephen's Catholic College
McIver Road, Mareeba



Mathematics Tuition

Students seeking help with their Maths may attend a tuition/homework class on Tuesdays and Thursdays at second recess in the MCR classroom. Mr Ellison and Miss Sugars 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.

Change of contact details?

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

FROM THE Principal



Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

One day a visitor arrived at the studio of Michelangelo and was fascinated to see the great man working on a large block of shapeless marble. Dexterously he chipped away, his precision and concentration captivating the visitor who could see nothing of any substance appearing. "What are you trying to do?" was his question. "I am releasing the angel imprisoned in this marble."

This is the central task of teachers: to empower young people to fly.... (Educating Hearts: Anthony Maher and Bob Hanley)

One of the most important resources in any school is its teachers. It takes courage to be a teacher, for teaching involves more than the imparting of knowledge and skills in a specialist area. To teach is to touch the mind and hearts of students, to value the individual student and to promote qualities such as integrity, honesty, respect, humility, confidence and acceptance. Good teachers teach more by example than by word and go into a classroom to teach individuals, rather than a group. Without good teachers it is difficult to have good schools. We are fortunate to have quality teachers at St Stephen's who have a passion for their vocation and a genuine desire to help students to achieve their potential and "to empower them to fly."

Whenever parents acknowledge the important role which teachers play in the formation of their child, that appreciation and respect is well-received. I would like to thank parents for the role they play in assisting teachers to do their job well. The diversity of talent in the student body is enhanced by the strong partnership between the school and the home to work together in the best interest of students. As well as success in the recent national Science competition by a significant number of students, Visual Art students are eagerly preparing for the annual Art Exhibition, Japanese language students are primed to host two different schools from Japan and over fifty-eight athletes are training for the upcoming Peninsula trials. In the midst of all this activity, service to others is still an important focus for our college. As this edition goes to print, several year 11 students proudly represented the college at the Battle of Long Tan commemoration, while the combined Saints band is all set to provide entertainment at the Seniors Week morning tea on Friday.

On the eve of the Queensland Core Skills Test which the OP-eligible students are undertaking, it is important to remember this holistic view of education. Our year 12 students have undergone a comprehensive training programme and are well-prepared. The lessons they have learnt in the process are not only confined to the subject matter of the test, but relate to how they will react to the challenges over the two days. We ask that they put this test into perspective and wish them the very best for 1st and 2nd September.

In contemporary Australian society, many people are very self-absorbed and disengaged from political, social and economic issues. They search for perfection and material gratification in an attempt to find happiness. However, the deepest satisfaction in life comes from a sense of meaning and purpose. Service to others gives us this meaning. If as educators, in partnership with parents, we can continue to educate the heart as well as the mind, students will be well-prepared to make a positive contribution to society.

Trust in the Lord

Mrs Ida Pinese
Principal

FROM THE

Assistant Principal Administration

In the past few weeks, we have experienced the reappearance of students exhibiting unsafe behaviours crossing Mclver Rd after school. At the previous full-school assembly, I reminded students that there are only two places where they are allowed to cross Mclver Rd after school: on the western side of the bus shelter and near the chapel just before Cater Rd.



Some of the students see their parents or carers parked directly outside the main gates and car park, mainly near the corner of Salihe Ave and Mclver Rd, and make inappropriate choices by taking the shortest route. Parents can help to rectify this situation by waiting for their children closer to where the students are allowed to cross Mclver Rd. The previous statement is in no way meant to be a directive, merely a suggestion. The safety of our students is paramount, and we feel that any proactive alteration to usual routines that can help minimise the danger to students is worth pursuing.

The Year 12 OP-Eligible students are gearing up for the QCS test, which will take place September 1 and 2, Tuesday and Wednesday of Week 8. A letter has gone home with Year 12 students, and an excerpt of the letter follows:

We would like Year 12 students and their parents/carers to be aware of the following information regarding the test days:

- Students must attend both days of testing. If they are unavoidably sick, a medical certificate is essential. Students will be provided with a special medical form which must be completed when receiving medical attention. This form will be submitted to the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority by the college.
- There is only one recess break during the day, and we are providing lunch at no cost to the students for these two days.

- STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT SITTING THE QCS TEST ARE NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND SCHOOL ON THESE TWO DAYS. We have difficulty providing adequate supervision for them while their peers are sitting for the QCS test. They are strongly encouraged to work on assignment work or study while at home, as examinations will occur in the week following QCS testing.

Good luck to these Year 12 students and God bless.

Lance Helms

Assistant Principal (Administration)

lhelms@sscc.qld.edu.au

National Tree Day

To mark National Tree Day last month, St Stephen's received a tree from Councillor Mary Graham of the Mareeba Shire Council.



Student Representative Council Executive, Adrianna Soncin, Tiarne Reedy, Zachary McAulay with College Principal, Mrs Ida Pinese and Councillor Mary Graham.

HEALTH ALERT

We have received a report that there has been an outbreak of chickenpox in the community.

For more information on the signs and symptoms of the disease, please refer to the Queensland Health website.

<http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au>

FROM THE

Assistant Principal Religious Education

Last Saturday, the Church celebrated the solemnity of the Assumption of Mary. This is one of only two Holy Days of Obligation (other than Sundays) celebrated by the Church in Australia. This feast acknowledges Mary's special role as our spiritual mother and the mystery of her assumption (body and soul) into heaven.



Mary provides an inspiring example of faithfulness and trust in God for all Christians, but especially young people. As a young woman, Mary discerned and calmly responded to the call of God when told of the news that she was to bear His son. Despite being scared, alone and vulnerable, Mary remained open to God's call and will for her life.

Young people can often be confused about where they are going, lack the courage to use their gifts and talents for the glory of God or feel alone and isolated in their struggles. Let us pray that Mary would continue to be an example of hope, openness to God's call and trust in His providence for our young people.

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.

Date Claimers

- Year 7 NFS – Thursday 20th of August and Thursday 28th of August
- Daffodil Day – Friday 28th of August – Students can purchase a daffodil for a gold coin from the Social Justice Committee
- St Stephen's Day - Friday 18th of September

Laura Gilbert

Assistant Principal (Religious Education)

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Gifted & Talented

Term three has been exceptionally busy for the whole school. Many students have been challenging themselves and trying new experiences. In keeping with our Mission Statement, some of our students have shown independence with their learning in extending themselves beyond the school curriculum.



Aaron Bryce (year 10) attended the state championship of the Brain Bee in Brisbane, an experience he will never forget. The day included the competition, a variety of seminars from prominent scientists and tours of various working labs at the Brain

Research Institute. Aaron is to be commended for the time and effort he put into this extracurricular activity.

Ten students, from years 7 - 12 attended a two day Writers' Festival at Trinity Bay High School. Students were able to experience four, one-hour workshops each day. The theme for this year's festival was fantasy and students worked with authors and illustrators on their own creative masterpieces. Everyone is looking forward to next year's festival.

Congratulations to Rebecca Hermanus (year 11) who has been selected to attend the National Youth Science Forum in Canberra next year. The forum is held for incoming year 12 students who wish to study science, technology or engineering subjects at university. Rebecca will be representing St Stephen's in Canberra in January 2016. The Mareeba Rotary Club is sponsoring Rebecca's selection and trip to Canberra. The selection process involved rounds of interviews and Rebecca is to be commended on her initiative in taking on this challenge.

Simone Gillies

Program Leader (Gifted and Talented)

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Social Science & Business

Geography students from St Stephen's tested their geographical skills and knowledge against students from all around Australia in the 2015 Australian Geography Competition.



Results were received recently, and I am extremely pleased with how our students have continued to perform.

We have a number of student geographers at our college who performed to a very high level in the Competition this year with nine gaining high distinctions, three distinctions and nine credits. Sixty percent of entrants achieved a credit or better, which is exceptional.

Over 76,000 students from 770 schools entered the Australian Geography Competition this year, so the results give us an external benchmark as to how our students are going in certain aspects of geography.

Bernard Fitzpatrick, a geographer and the competition's national coordinator, said; "The competition plays a role in promoting geography to students and the wider community."

"Geography is an important subject which develops a student's understanding of the spatial and temporal relationships of people and place. It helps students appreciate the complex nature of social, economic, and environmental interactions," said Mr Fitzpatrick.

The competition, a joint initiative of the Australian Geography Teachers' Association and the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, is sponsored by the University of Queensland.

Congratulations to all participants. Well done.

Dwayne Miller

Curriculum Leader – Social Science and Business

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Distinction recipients: Lachlan Greenwood, James Stevenson and Ellana Spena.



High Distinction recipients: Julian Gueho, Victor Bernhardt, John Tomerini, Aaron Bryce, Marco Soncin, Matthew Cheesman, Jake Powell, Adam Gampe.

Long Tan Day 2015



Aaron Bryce, Celina Spena, Ashley Rains, Kate Wilcox, Dannielle McCormack and Vivek Kolala attended the Long Tan commemoration service in Mareeba on Tuesday.



Australian History Competition

The Australian History Competition is sponsored by the History Teachers' Association of Australia and is held annually for history students in year 10 and year 8.

With over 20,000 entries, The Australian History Competition enhances the skills and understandings of the Australian History Curriculum, and is Australia's largest history activity.

A number of history students achieved outstanding results. They include:

Year 8

Distinction: Megan Crane, David Reddie, Isabel Rose

Credit: Deborah Hermanus.

Year 10

High Distinction: Adam Gampe, John Tomerini.

Distinction: Victor Bernhardt, Aaron Bryce, Matthew Cheesman, Marco Soncin.

Credit: Amelia Aitken, Chloe Cleland, Ashley Greenwood, Jarred Moreno, Mick Thiele.

Congratulations and commendations go to all who participated in this worthwhile activity.



Year 8 Distinction recipients: Isabel Rose, David Reddie and Megan Crane.



Year 10 Distinction recipients: Adam Gampe, Victor Bernhardt, Aaron Bryce, (High Distinction), John Tomerini (High Distinction), Matthew Cheesman and Marco Soncin.

Year 7 and 8 Economics and Business

ESSI Money! During the Economics and Business rotation course, which lasts a term, Grade 7 and 8 students get the chance to play against each other on this interactive financial literacy online game. The task is completed over a number of lessons and can be finished by the students at home. The above image shows Year 7 students from term two being introduced to the concept of the game. The aim is to be the most secure in their personal finances, asset ownership and employment at the end of a virtual 26 weeks. Students pit their financial skills against others in their grade which can be seen on a tally board kept on the main screen for the students to see where they are positioned. Another aspect of this course allows students the opportunity to learn what is needed to be a good entrepreneur running

a successful business. The image below shows a student giving his multi-modal presentation on what is needed to be a successful entrepreneur.

Ms Catie Peters | **Business Teacher**



Senior Business

In the subject 'Business Management' students gather the skills required to become leaders rather than managers. There is plenty of theory to be learned, but with this there is ample opportunity to practise these skills. This image shows students who took part in a worldwide leadership experience called the 'Marshmallow Challenge', completed in term two. In this event, they competed against business leaders, university business students and other senior school business students to build the tallest possible structure out of limited resources. It then had to be capable of holding a marshmallow on the top. This is just one of many activities used in the subject which allows students to develop their business skills and personal attributes to enhance their future working career.

Ms Catie Peters | **Business Teacher**



Courage to Care Exhibition

When: August 14 - September 11

Where: Seville Mercy Conference Centre,
35 Bauhinia Ave Earlville, Cairns.

For more information visit

www.couragetocare.com.au

Golf Open 2015

Hot and sunny conditions greeted the field for the 2015 St Stephen's Golf Open. Our eager golfers put on a wonderful display of skill and sportsmanship over 18 holes at the Mareeba Golf Club.

I would like to thank Mr Mike Hallam, Mr Greg Lee and Mr Fabian Gallo for assisting with supervision throughout the tournament. I would also like to acknowledge the staff at the Mareeba Golf Club for their generous assistance in planning the event.

Results:

JUNIOR MALE CHAMPION: Tom Hallam

SENIOR MALE CHAMPION: Hayden Lee

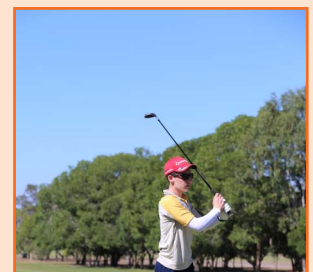
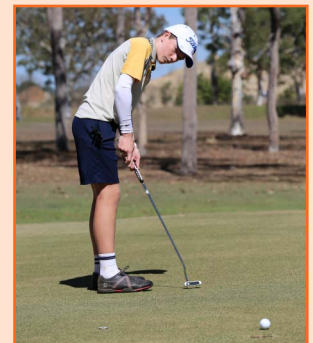
OVERALL 2015 CHAMPION: Hayden Lee

Planning has already commenced for our 2016 Open event and I look forward to golf participation growing amongst our students.

Hadyn Flynn

Business Manager / Golf Co-ordinator

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Technology



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back Mr Frank Caines who returns to our IT department after his well-deserved long service leave, and to welcome Mr Robert Bauer to our Technology Team. Robert has joined our team as the INTAD (Industrial Technology and Design) teacher aide, and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role.

The INTAD team and the Certificate II in Furniture Making students would like to send a massive thanks to Mr Trevor Allwood, from Tolga Woodworks, for delivering a unit on wood turning. This session was a truly valuable experience for our students, who were exposed to industrial processes and procedures by a true expert in the field.

Toni Stevens
Curriculum Leader –Technology
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Food Technology

Term three sees the third rotation of year seven and eight students beginning their Technology journey, with our year 7's enjoying Digital Technology and Graphics, and our year eight students discovering Digital Technology, Industrial Technology and Food Technology



Writers' Festival

Trinity Bay State High School

In July, a small group of students from different grades, travelled to Cairns to attend the Writers' Festival.

It was a two day workshop during which students were exposed to four different authors and illustrators. The theme this year was fantasy and the authors were Saffron Bryant, Richard Harland, David Lovegrove and Melaina Faranda.

On day one, students were exposed to different techniques on how to develop characters and build fantasy worlds. Day two consisted of putting the theories from day one into practice.

All the students enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to attending the 2016 Writers' Festival.

Andrew Close (Year 8)

"It was a great experience that allowed us to express our creative side. I would really love to go again." **Celina Spena**

"I really enjoyed how the authors engaged and gave tips to all of us. I would really enjoy going again." **Ryley Smith**

"I really enjoyed the days. It was fantastic getting to meet all the authors and it was really good getting to do all the activities with the authors. My personal favourite was Richard Harland." **Hayden Reppel**

"The Writers' Festival was absolutely amazing. It helped hone my writing skills and assisted me in smashing through my writer's block and unlocking the cage to my inner plot-bunnies. Everyone was brilliant. I would definitely go again." **Emily Hallam**

"My favourite part about the Writers' Festival involved meeting the number of fantastic authors and learning from them how to improve our writing skills and how to get our foot in the door of publishing." **Mathilde Gargan**

Brain Bee State Championships 2015

The Brain Bee State Championships included 210 students from various schools around Queensland.

The first part of the day was an introduction by the head of the Queensland Brain Institute. This was then followed by the Preliminary Individual finals (What chemical messenger is responsible for the knee jerk reflex?).

After this, students were broken up into groups and given a tour of the Institute's research labs. This included speeches by some of the postgraduate students who were working in the labs. Some of the areas of research included: the effects of Parkinson's disease on C. Elegans (a worm species); how exercise can increase the memory in ageing mice and how Picasso triggerfish can be taught to recognise complex patterns and colours.

Then the Individual finals were held (Which area of the nervous system is damaged in Multiple Sclerosis). This was followed by two lectures by Professors (one from Canberra University and one from the University of Washington). These lectures were on how sleep works and why drugs affect the brain. Both of these lectures were very interesting and provided much insight into how external influences affect our brain. After this there was also a team competition for the schools which had multiple finalists.

Overall it was a very interesting day and allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of our most confusing organ.

Aaron Bryce (Year 10)



THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE CHAIN

**St Thomas' Catholic Church,
Mareeba
Sunday, 13 September 2015
Mass at 2.30 pm**

Career News

Students intending to relocate for tertiary study in 2016 should be starting to think about accommodation options. The links below provide information about on-campus and off-campus options for students at the major Queensland universities including fees and application deadlines, along with contact information if you are seeking further information about a particular college/accommodation option.



University of Queensland UQ Colleges: <http://www.uq.edu.au/student-services/accommodation/colleges>

Other UQ Options: <http://www.uq.edu.au/student-services/accommodation/other-options>

Queensland University of Technology (QUT):
<https://www.qut.edu.au/about/services-and-facilities/all-services/accommodation>

Griffith University: On campus accommodation:
<https://www.griffith.edu.au/accommodation>

Griffith off campus accommodation: <https://www.griffith.edu.au/accommodation/off-campus-accommodation>

University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) Student accommodation: <http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/student-support/accommodation-and-housing>

Central Queensland University (CQU)
Student Residences Mackay and Rockhampton:
<https://www.cqu.edu.au/student-life/services-and-facilities/student-residences>

James Cook University Cairns and Townsville options: <http://www.jcu.edu.au/accommodation/>

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



St Stephen's Drum Lessons

Music is an essential part of the human experience – one that brings about emotional and spiritual well-being while teaching important academic concepts including math, history, foreign languages/cultures, work-ethic and team work.

There has been some interest in students wanting to learn percussion (drums). However, to make this program feasible, we need more enrolments. Jonathon Barbagallo is a very talented and qualified instructor with lots of experience.

Students will have the opportunity to learn skills and gain knowledge for becoming a musician. Drumming not only teaches rhythm, it improves coordination, gross motor skills and reflexes.

Students enrolled in this program will attend a lesson each week during school time. The lesson times may be rotational or constant at the principal's discretion. **If you are interested in learning drums with Jonathon, please pick up a contract from student services.**

Inter-school Horse Sports - Tolga, August 16



Giulia Rogato.



Emmylou Milgate.



Amelia Aitken.



Jamie Hewitt-Toms.

'Elev8' Mountain Bike Event - Atherton, August 16



Leon Peressini, Callum Lee, Cameron Rogers, Travis Cummings, and Realyn Seymour.



Dean Alterio.



Tiago Torres.

Last Sunday, several students from St Stephen's participated in the Elev8XCM 8 hour cross country marathon in Atherton.

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

AAB Office Equipment



UPTOWN MUSIC TEACHING STUDIOS

Bringing Music into your life ...