

St Stephen's  
Catholic College



Trust in the Lord

# St Stephen's News

Issue 1 - Term 1 - Wednesday 6 February 2019

**Principal:** Mrs Ida Pinese

**Deputy Principal:** Mr Simon Vaughan

**Assistant Principal Religious Education:** Mrs Laura Gilbert & Miss Janai Sugars

**Assistant Principal Administration:** Mr Rohan Priestly

**Business Manager:** Mr Hadyn Flynn

**College Leader Pastoral Care:** Mr Matthew Draper

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## Welcome to St Stephen's - 2019



On Tuesday 29 January, the 2019 academic school year commenced, with the college community welcoming the year seven and year twelve cohorts. We wish the year seven cohort a rewarding experience, as they make a smooth transition to secondary schooling and look forward to the significant contribution they will make to our community. Above: Jake Priestly, James-Dean Cummings, Serg Battistin and Liam Pozzebon welcome twins, Isabella and Georgia Battistin to St Stephen's Catholic College.

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# NOTICES

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



### Monday 11 February

Opening Mass  
Year 11 Parent Information Evening

### Tuesday 12 February

Year 11 Catholic Faith in Action  
P & F AGM

### Friday 15 February

School Photos

### Monday 18 February

Year 7 Meet and Greet

### Monday 25 February

Year 12 Parent Information Evening

### Wednesday 27 February

Swimming Carnival

### Wednesday 6 March

Ash Wednesday

### Thursday 7 March

Year 8 Geography Excursion  
Chess Competition

### Monday 11 March

Open Evening

### Wednesday 27 March

Australian Geography Competition

### Friday 29 March

Cross Country (afternoon)

### Monday 1 April to Friday 5 April

Year 7 Camp

### Monday 1 April to Wednesday 3 April

Year 12 Retreat

### Friday 5 April

Stations of the Cross Liturgy

## CHESS CLUB

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)

**Room: S4 - Every day during Recess 2.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



## TERM DATES 2019

Term 1: 29 January to 5 April

Term 2: 23 April to 28 June

Term 3: 15 July to 20 September

Term 4 : 8 October to 29 November

Year 12 - 15 November

### Student Free Days 2019

Friday 26 April

Monday 21 October

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS!

Please inform the college if your child has achieved success in an extra-curricular activity not directly related to school, so that the college community can celebrate these achievements. Please email Mrs Pinese ([ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au)) with any information and photos.

## ABSENTEE EMAIL

If your child is absent, please email:  
[ssm.absentee@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.absentee@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## Maths Tutoring Available

### Tuesday and Thursday

Recess 2 - MCR

(all students welcome)

### Wednesday

3.00 pm - 4.00 pm - Library

Years 10 -12 only



## Change of Details

To ensure communication is received, please advise the college if you have changed your email address. Please email the office: [ssm.office@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.office@cns.catholic.edu.au) or telephone: 4086 2500. This also applies to any other contact details.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

***"The parts are many but the body is one.....If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it.  
If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it."***

(Extract from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians)



Welcome to the 2019 school year. The above quote from scripture reminds us of the importance of working together as a community—teachers, non-teaching staff, students and parents—in order to foster the well-being of our students. Each part is important to the success of our college from an academic, pastoral and spiritual viewpoint.

Among the tenets of the St Stephen's culture which our community promotes, are the sense of family and a strong focus on respect, responsibility and confidence in a faith-based environment. On 29 January, our college welcomed the newest members of the St Stephen's family—103 year seven students. I am very grateful to the year seven Pastoral Leader, Mrs Salerno, and the home form teachers for the caring manner in which they supported these students in the transition from primary to secondary school.

Continuing the legacy of academic excellence set by past cohorts, the seniors of 2018 achieved outstanding results. Not only did 99% of students achieve a Queensland Certificate of Education, but 29% of OP-eligible students gained between a 1 and 5, with Ellana Spina and Elena Pilat as the OP 1 recipients. In the majority of cases, our students received their first preference of tertiary studies. The college community is very proud of the efforts of all year twelve students and wishes them the very best with their future studies or the world of work.

In keeping with the demands of the 21st century with its focus on digital learning, two more cohorts have received digital devices. In 2019, the year nine students will be the only cohort to access the computers via the trolley booking system. Along with access to the management learning system, Canvas, it is our hope that all students will benefit from this initiative.

During the summer break, major projects were completed. To provide shelter from both the sun and rain, a covered walkway now connects the college to the bus shelter on McIver Road. Refurbishment of one of the computer laboratories as a flexible learning area will also enable teachers and students to experience 21st century pedagogy.

Teachers have the greatest impact on a student's learning. We are pleased to welcome four (4) new Middle Leaders, a Guidance Counsellor and three non-teaching staff to St Stephen's in 2019. (Refer to the relevant section in the newsletter for information about our new staff.) On 18 February, there will be a "Meet and Greet" evening for parents and carers of year seven students. This is an informal event where parents can meet their child's teachers, as well as other parents. We are grateful to the Parents and Friends Association for hosting a BBQ on this occasion.

The 21st century is best described as an era of change and education is no exception. In 2020, the current year eleven students will be the first to graduate under the new Queensland Certificate of Education system which is significantly different from the system which applies to our current year twelve students.



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

To inform parents and carers of these changes, there will be a year eleven information evening on Monday 11 February. Key members of the senior and middle leadership teams will be in attendance to assist parents to understand the new system. Parents of year eleven students have received a letter about this evening and I strongly encourage everyone to attend.

While teaching and learning is the core business of the college, we are mindful of developing whole people who are compassionate, kind, emphatic, grateful and resilient, while seeing the face of Jesus in all those with whom they come into contact. At assemblies, students are urged to adopt the PRIDE philosophy by demonstrating perseverance, respect, integrity, dignity and excellence in their interactions with the members of our St Stephen's community and beyond.

The success of any school is reliant on the positive relationships that are formed between teachers, students and their families. I value the feedback that parents provide to improve our practices and the opportunities for students. Their well-being is at the focus of all that we do. I thank you all sincerely for sending your students to school for the start of the year with all the necessary materials and invite you to be active participants in our college through the Parents and Friends Association which meets once a term.

We have had a great start to the school year and I look forward to working with you all in 2019.

With trust in the Lord

**Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal**

[ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au)



The 2019 Senior Leadership team from left to right: Mrs Laura Gilbert (Assistant Principal Religious Education), Mr Hadyn Flynn (Business Manager), Mr Matthew Draper, College Leader Pastoral Care, Mrs Ida Pinese (Principal), Mr Simon Vaughan (Deputy Principal), Mr Rohan Priestly (Assistant Principal Administration) and Miss Janai Sugars (Assistant Principal Religious Education).

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to 2019! I trust that all members of the school community were able to celebrate the holidays in a relaxing and joyous manner.

This year brings a number of new challenges for our new students in a variety of areas. The major change in 2019 is the introduction of the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) system. This will see year eleven students undertake external exams for general subjects in late 2020, a process not seen for over forty (40) years in this state.



There have also been changes to the way the QCE is calculated for the year eleven students. All of these changes will be outlined, along with other supporting resources the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) has developed, through a parent information night which will be held on Monday 11 February. I would encourage all parents, carers and students to attend this information session on the new system. I can guarantee that from a school perspective, teachers have been preparing over the last eighteen (18) months for the transition to the new senior system.

This year is also special as we will be running a dual system of the new Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) processes in year eleven and the superseded Overall Position (OP) system in year twelve. Parents of year twelve students should feel assured that the college will make sure that the outcomes of all year twelve students are made a priority. This includes the QCS preparation program, QCE outcomes and quality assured assessment techniques. Throughout the year, the college will communicate with students and parents about certain dates of importance (ie: QCS dates and exam block dates) and your support of these processes would be appreciated. From time to time, parent interviews regarding the progress of year twelve students may be required to make sure your son or daughter is on the correct pathway.

To allow for the transition to the new QCE system, a redevelopment of the timetable has occurred. This has meant that senior students are able to have more contact time per week with their teachers, which should improve student outcomes. Monday now commences at 8.45 am, with Tuesday to Friday commencing at 8.30 am. Each day will finish at 3.00 pm, with days consisting of six (6) by fifty (50) minute lessons. Although the college has redeveloped the timetable to maximise student outcomes, the major contributing factor to student achievement is attendance. Attending every day across each term and participating in lessons and meeting assessment expectations will allow your students to reach their highest potential. The partnership between the home and the school cannot be underestimated and when these two stakeholders are working in unison, achievement levels increase.

I wish all students the best for the upcoming year and should you have any questions please feel free to email or phone the Curriculum Officer, Mrs Rosie Rantucci to make an appointment, telephone: 40862506 or email: [rgaqqianor@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rgaqqianor@cns.catholic.edu.au)

**Mr Simon Vaughan**  
**Deputy Principal**

[svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au)

### MEET AND GREET EVENING

### YEAR 7 Families

**Date: Monday 18 February 2019**  
**Commences: 5.30 pm**  
**Venue: St Stephen's Catholic College**  
**BBQ provided by P & F Association**

**RSVP: Thursday 14 February**  
**Mrs Szerstuk on 4086 2500**

A stylized illustration of a brown metal BBQ grill on a stand. The lid is open, and steam is rising from the cooking area. Inside the grill, there are two pieces of food, possibly corn cobs or sausages, being cooked. The background is a light yellow with a subtle pattern.

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

It is with much excitement and great enthusiasm that we join forces in the role of Assistant Principal Religious Education at St Stephen's this year. We look forward to taking a team approach to leading the faith-life of our college.



Last week, over 600,000 young Catholics joined with Pope Francis to celebrate the World Youth Day Closing Mass in Panama. The Pope's concluding message to young pilgrims from all over the world is particularly relevant for us as we begin a new school year and can be summarised in one word: "**NOW**". Pope Francis described the danger of living in "a kind of waiting room, sitting around until we are called." He stated that often both adults and young people think that their "Now has not yet come," or that they are "too young to be involved in dreaming about and working for the future." Pope Francis encouraged "dreaming of and working for tomorrow, starting today." He urged young people to realize that they have a mission and to become passionate about it, stating, "We may possess everything, but if we lack the passion of love, we will have nothing." Pope Francis' words provide great inspiration for our college community, encouraging us to make the very best use of our time and talents, to be active learners, agents of change and to live our lives with passion and intention in service of others. We are blessed to be part of the community of St Stephen's and must embrace the learning and service opportunities at our college.

### **Catholic Faith in Action**

Last week, year eleven students commenced the Catholic Faith in Action Program, a faith learning experience which captures the sentiments of Pope Francis at World Youth Day, by calling students to examine faith within the reality of their own life and take positive action which is reflective of Catholic Social Teaching. This beginning of this course was marked by a blessing of student journals, to be utilised throughout the two (2) year course of study, by Deacon Michael Lindsay and year eleven retreat. I commend students for their engagement in the program thus far and look forward to seeing how their learning enriches their understanding of self, God and others and enhances the Religious Life of the School.

### **Opening Mass**

On Monday 11 February at 8.45 am, the college will celebrate our Opening Mass and Induction of Student Leaders. All parents are welcome to attend.

### **Sacramental Program**

Students who are interested in being baptised in the Catholic Church, or undertaking sacraments of First Reconciliation, Confirmation or Holy Communion are encouraged to contact Mrs Gilbert in person or via email, to register their interest by the end of week three. Formation and preparation for the sacraments will take place during school hours.

### **Prayer in the Chapel**

Staff and students are invited to share in prayer, music and reflection in the College Chapel each Friday at 8.15 am.

### **Plenary 2020**

Pope Francis has sent his support and blessings to the Catholic Church in Australia as it commences a three (3) year process to consider its future through the Plenary Council 2020. As members of our school community, and extended Church community, parents are encouraged to engage in this process by providing a submission to the Plenary Council in light of the following questions:

- ***What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?***
- ***What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?***

For more information or to make a submission, please visit the Plenary Council website at: [www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au)

**Mrs Laura Gilbert and Miss Janai Sugars**  
**Assistant Principal Religious Education**  
[lgilbert1@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lgilbert1@cns.catholic.edu.au)  
[jsugars2@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jsugars2@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATION

We have had an interesting start to the year from an operational perspective. It is great seeing Tinaroo dam fill up but the rain still keeps falling and we have had some challenges dealing with the consequences.

I love the quote, "**Someone would love to have your bad day**". We had a few organisational issues to start the year, but my thoughts and prayers go to the Townsville people for the hardships they are facing. There must be many schools and students affected by the flooding.



There are a lot of off-campus activities, particularly in the Health and Physical Education Department in term one. This year we aim to send all of our parent permission forms to parents and caregivers by SMS or email using a system called Parent Slip (EdSmart). This is a great system and it reduces the use of paper, lost forms and minimises miscommunication. Thank you for your support of this initiative.

The calendar is filling up quickly with events for this term. The year eleven retreat has just finished. In week three we have our Opening Mass and year eleven parent evening, both on Monday. School photos will also be completed on Friday. There is a tab on the school web page called News and Events, and an item called Important Dates and Events. As the label suggests, the important dates can be found here.

I wish all members of our college a wonderful and successful 2019.

**Mr Rohan Priestly**  
Assistant Principal Administration  
[rpriestly@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rpriestly@cns.catholic.edu.au)

# St Stephen's Catholic College Photo Day

## Friday 15th February

**Order forms are available at the school office  
or order online at  
[www.nqsp.com.au](http://www.nqsp.com.au)  
using the key A4GWTZ6G**

**NQ** School  
Photography

4/90 Aumuller St, Portsmith  
Ph: 40355388  
email: [info@nqsp.com.au](mailto:info@nqsp.com.au)  
website: [www.nqsp.com.au](http://www.nqsp.com.au)

### Student Welfare

Welcome back to all our parents and students. I am looking forward to continuing strong partnerships with parents and students this year, building on 2018. As College Leader Pastoral Care, welfare of students is core to my role. In attending to the welfare of students it is important that any issues are dealt with in a timely, respectful and supportive manner. It is with this in mind that the process of attending to issues is clearly outlined. Any issue of a minor nature that is class related is to first be brought to the attention of the class teacher, who is best positioned to provide a timely response. If a matter is persistent or of a more significant nature, then the college has in place the position of Middle Leaders Pastoral (MLP) who will attend to such matters in relation to their year cohorts. Parents wishing to contact or make an appointment with an MLP, can do so via our school office or emailing the MLP directly. Contact details can be directly accessed through the school's website.

- Years seven and eight - Mrs Salerno
- Years nine and ten - Mr MacCallum
- Years eleven and twelve - Mrs Crockford

If a matter is unresolved, persistent or of a serious nature, then I will be directly involved to ensure the matter is attended to swiftly and respectfully.

### New Initiative - Buddy Program

Our senior and year seven students have been buddied this term to foster pastoral care and pastoral house spirit. The intent of the program is that there would be opportunities created to allow our senior students to "catch up" and assist our junior students with any questions or practical help they may want in settling in to life St Stephen's. The initiative is designed to have a dual effect, whereby establishing a "buddy" friendship that may continue throughout the year. Scheduled opportunities for meetings will occur in term one.

### New Initiative - Transition Card

Many thanks to Mrs Jayarani Salerno and assisting staff for the creation of a transition card. The transition card lists important contacts for 2019 to assist year seven students transition to college life.

### Restorative Justice

Restorative justice continues to be the model the school adopts when resolving pastoral matters. It is a way of viewing conflict and wrongdoing that focuses

first on the harm these cause to relationships, and the obligation to repair that harm. The practice of restorative justice does not in any way excuse the wrongdoing or minimise the responsibility of the need to put things right; more so there is an emphasis on maintaining high standards of conduct. Therefore, the high expectation of students' conduct and the consistent application of restorative practices at our college sets the moral benchmark that expects all students to .... *act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with (their) God. Micah 6:8 (NIV)*. This verse, wholly applied to our lives, provides the very foundation for successful relationships, built on mutual respect and conveys the optimum setting for our students to achieve their personal best.



### Student Leadership

With the start of a new year comes the excitement of servant leadership. It is of great importance that our student leaders in 2019 operate in a servant leadership mode. The job description for leadership may not read as expected. The focus for our student leaders is:

- It is not about profit, gain or glory.
- It is about relationship, service and humility.
- It stems from being faithful to who you are.
- It means following the example of Jesus.

### Uniform and Grooming Matters

College expectations regarding "uniform and grooming" are outlined on pages eight and nine of the Student Record Book (SRB). It is expected that students who have a variation to uniform will be accompanied by an explanatory note from parents/guardians.

### Senior Drivers

Any student wishing to drive to school, transport siblings and park in designated student parking on school grounds, must complete the "Senior Driving Permission Form" and return it to school prior to accessing the school site. For more information regarding this, students are to contact Mrs Stacey Crockford.

### Mr Matthew Draper

College Leader Pastoral Care

[mdraper@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mdraper@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Welcome back to all families for the 2019 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 off your tuition fees. If there are two younger siblings at a Catholic school then the discount increases to 30% off tuition fees. Therefore, it is important that the office is informed of any sibling information.



Families that travel on the Dimbulah, Kuranda, Mossman, Atherton and Tolga buses are charged a \$20.00 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 offer will be available again in 2019.

When you receive your fees and you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact our Accounts Officer, Mrs Pina Menniti, directly via email [gmenniti@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:gmenniti@cns.catholic.edu.au) or 4086 2508.

Whilst the college has been in holiday mode for staff and students, it provides a gap for much of our maintenance and construction work to occur. Over the Christmas break we had the painters in to touch up all classrooms, carpet cleaners to clean all floor surfaces and pest control was completed for all buildings. I would like to thank our Facilities Manager – Mr Sam Bozzo for his untiring work over the holiday period. Construction work has also commenced on the covered walkway project. We thank local Tableland builder Ian Byrnes for his meticulous workmanship.

**Mr Hadyn Flynn**  
Business Manager

[hflynn@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hflynn@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## WELCOME TO NEW STAFF



St Stephen's Catholic College welcomes the following new staff to our college community:

**Mrs Linda Bale**

Administration - Student Services

**Mr Peter Johnston**

Janitor

**Mrs Debbie Cummings**

Receptionist

## DAY 1 - TUESDAY 29 JANUARY



Year seven student, Emily Howard with year twelve students, from left to right: Rhett Pritchard, Nicola Jennings, Daniella Montagner, Benjamin Struthers, Kaitlyn Oliver, Skyla Sue, Emily Howard and Kyrah Johnston.



Year seven students during second recess, from left to right: Emily Dixon-Mills, Isabella Diamond, Nimala Clarke and Kiara Ramscar.

## FROM THE COUNSELLOR

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the wider St Stephen's community as the new guidance counsellor for 2019. It is with great excitement that I take up this position and carry on the work of our previous counsellor, Mrs Michelle Hall. While I am new to this position, I have now spent an entire decade working at St Stephen's in the roles of teacher, Vocational Education Coordinator and Careers Advisor. After having completed my Masters of Guidance and Counselling in 2018, I am keen to implement my new skills and assist students to improve their emotional, social and mental well-being. All students have the opportunity to meet with me as needed, can self-refer or can be referred by parents and teachers. Students can come to my office or email me for an appointment. Parents are also welcome to email me or call with any concerns or to make an appointment for their child.



I can assist students with developing their organisation and time management skills, improving study skills, negotiating/improving friendships, developing/improving relationships with family members and teachers, managing stress and anxiety, improving grades and goal setting etc. I will also be case managing students with social and emotional needs through Student Diversity. I look forward to assisting as many students as I can this year to develop their skills and resilience and to building relationships with parents and the wider community. Please feel free to contact me at [hmuratmaks@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hmuratmaks@cns.catholic.edu.au) if you have any questions or would like to request counselling support for your child.

**Mrs Havva Murat**  
**Guidance Counsellor**

[hmuratmaks@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hmuratmaks@cns.catholic.edu.au)

**Tips for Helping your Child Overcome Back-to-School Anxiety**  
(Retrieved from <https://www.kidspot.com.au>)

### **Share your own personal school experiences.**

As a parent, it's beneficial to share your own school experiences; the activities you enjoyed, what you learnt, anything you felt anxious about and overcame, and subjects you may have struggled with. Children typically enjoy hearing stories from their parent's childhood as it helps normalise the anxiety they may be feeling and offers them reassurance.

### **Role play**

Role play can really help in dealing with anxiety inducing situations and assist children in feeling confident about coping with them when they arise. For example, have your child act out the part a student who isn't understanding class work and help them model appropriate responses and coping techniques. This will help them relate these into real-life situations.

### **Prepare and familiarise**

Plan how you can help reduce the amount of unexpected and uncontrollable situations your child will face. Think of everything you can do in advance of their first weeks to help your child feel in control of their experience. Walk or drive your child on the route to their new school, so they get used to what the trip will look like and think about arranging for friends to meet them at the school gate when they arrive. Research shows that the presence of a familiar peer during school transitions can improve children's academic and emotional adjustment. Every little bit of preparation helps relieve their anxiety of getting settled into a new school year.

## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER STUDENT DIVERSITY

It is an honour and privilege to have the position of Middle Leader Student Diversity at St Stephen's Catholic College. My name is Trudy Pretorius and I look forward to learning alongside all staff, students and parents associated with the college.



My experience as an educator comes close to reaching the twenty (20) year mark and has provided me opportunities to work in small, rural schools as well as large, metropolitan establishments: from Dimbulah to London, to the car park of a convenience store in a little town in South Africa - a most rewarding experience, helping young children learn to read with scratchings in the dirt, as they waited for their parents to collect them after opportunistic work was attained on a day-by-day basis.

The rewards of educating are far reaching and rarely predictable: flexibility and change are keystones in education. I appreciate and embrace both, if the purpose is valid, with the best interest of learners at heart.

Having completed a Master of Education in an area considered Information Science (that of Teacher Librarianship), my role has seen me work with students from all of the Catholic feeder schools on the Tablelands. There are many students whom I have met during their primary school days that I am now being reacquainted with at St Stephen's. It is a joy to see the young men and women they are growing into and I am looking forward to catching up with who they are now, meeting new learners and helping them all along the road to whom they wish to become.

I am supported in this endeavour by the very experienced previous Middle Leader of Student Diversity, Mrs Gail Musch, who is mentoring me through my new position as she also attends to the duties of Learning Support Teacher. Miss Hannah Zazzi brings the enthusiasm of youth, the connection this creates with our learners and the currency of recent educational practice gained through her studies into the role of Learning Support Teacher, as well. Additional to this, Hannah is a published researcher in the field of Autism Spectrum Disorder, finding implications and identifying improvements to classroom environments as the focus for her first paper.

To assist in our administrative procedures we have Mrs Rosetta Musso, an important team member who coordinates appointments for staff and students, and the associated paperwork. Helping all teachers to deliver an exceptionally high standard of education to all learners, whether they be in need of educational support, extension or differentiated access are Mrs Fiona Adil, Mrs Libby Bulst, Mrs Selena Dyer and Mrs Tina Hubner. These ladies are known to, and familiar with, existing St Stephen's students and have spent the majority of week one, getting acquainted with our new enrolments, specifically those entering year seven.

Please be in contact with any member of our team if you have any questions, queries or comments on aspects relating to the ways we address Student Diversity at St Stephen's. In essence, every student is a diverse learner and we appreciate communication between home and school to be able to enhance learning for all students.

This [link](#) to St Stephen's Staff Directory provides email contact to all of the above mentioned staff.

**Mrs Trudy Pretorius**  
**Middle Leader Student Diversity**  
[tpretorius@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:tpretorius@cns.catholic.edu.au)

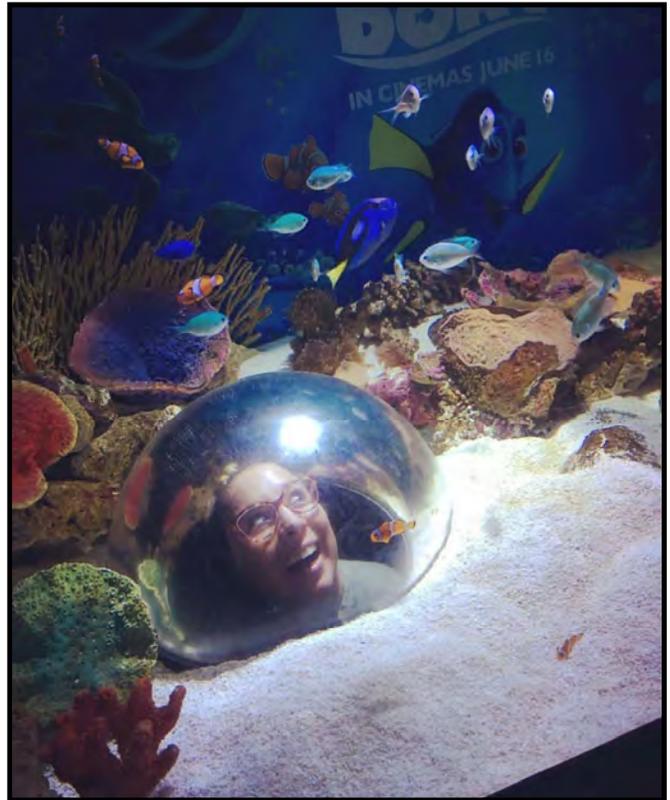
## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER ARTS AND LOTE

Hello! My name is Emma Ledlin and I am the new Middle Leader Arts and LOTE here at St Stephen's Catholic College. My teaching areas and life passions are Drama and English; I love that I have a job where I get to come to school at do something that I truly treasure.

As Middle Leader, I hope to ignite further passion for Arts and LOTE education, as well as focusing on teaching students the 21st century skills of, not only self awareness, but emotional intelligence and empathy, making them the best versions of themselves.

As well as being brand new to St Stephen's, I am brand new to the Tablelands, and I am very excited to be taking on this Middle Leader role here in this beautiful part of the world.

**Ms Emma Ledlin**  
**Middle Leader Arts and LOTE**  
[eledlin@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:eledlin@cns.catholic.edu.au)



## MAREEBA SHIRE - AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Congratulations to Mrs Samantha Malcolm who received an Australia Day Award at the Mareeba Shire Council ceremony for her dedication and hard work in the category of the Arts and Culture. While not recipients of awards, our two students (David Bin and Jake Priestly) were worthy nominees.



## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADERS SOCIAL SCIENCE AND BUSINESS

I am very excited to be taking on the role of Middle Leader Curriculum for Social Science and Business this year.

I will be sharing this role with Emily Pensini and between the two of us, there is over twenty (20) years of experience leading teams in these curriculum areas. Our focus will be to develop students to become engaged citizens who are not only informed of the world around them but are inspired to make a difference.



This year is sure to be a year of new directions with the year eleven's experiencing a new process in their senior syllabus. I am fortunate to be able to teach Legal Studies and Business under the new QCE system.

Regards

**Mrs Prue Vaughan**  
**Middle Leader Social Science and Business**  
[pvaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pvaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au)

## ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE - ALUMNI



### **Kodee Shannon** **Year Twelve** **Graduating Class** **of** **2013**

On 13 December 2018, Kodee Shannon was awarded with his degree in Bachelor of Science (majoring in Geographical Science), from the University of Queensland. He has now been accepted to continue on with his masters.

Congratulations Kodee on this remarkable achievement! We wish you well for the future.

## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER SCIENCE

The Science department this year comprises ten (10) teaching staff, who are assisted by two very capable Science Officers. I would like to introduce you to the team:



From left to right: Mr Richard Baker (year eleven Physics), Mr Richard Bassano (year twelve Physics), Ms Andrea Chiesa (year eleven Psychology, year eleven Science in Practice), Mr Norman Fenner (years eleven and twelve Chemistry and years seven, eight and ten Science), Mrs Regina Holden (years eleven and twelve Science in Practice and years nine and ten Science) and Mrs Pepita Ison (year eleven Biology and years eight, nine and ten Science).



From left to right: Mrs Jodie Jackson (year eleven Biology and years eight and ten Science), Mr Kieran Morley (years seven and nine Science), Mrs Nola Nunes (year seven Science), Mrs Samantha Schermer (year twelve Biology and years seven, eight, nine and ten Science), Dr Linda Fogg – Science Officer and Ms Alicia Jaggard – Science Officer.

The main focus of the department in 2019 is a smooth transition to the new QCE system for the year eleven students. There are four general science subjects and one applied subject being offered this year – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology and Science in Practice. In the junior school, assessment tasks are being modified to better reflect assessment techniques used in the new system.

St Stephen's continues to assist our students to participate in science opportunities outside the classroom. Deborah Hermanus (year twelve) recently returned from the National Youth Science Forum, while Alannah Falvo (year nine) attended the 2019 National Questacon Invention Convention. The girls were both wonderful ambassadors for our college. Nominations will soon be called for year eleven students to join the University of Queensland Science Ambassadors Program, and Science Club should be up and running next week. Science Club is open to all students and will be held during recess two on Tuesdays. Please encourage your student to join in the wide range of activities offered throughout the year.

**“Educating scientists for a sustainable future”.**

**Mrs Pepita Ison**  
**Middle Leader Science**  
[pison@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pison@cns.catholic.edu.au)

The National Youth Science Forum (NYSF), or as the alumni fondly remember, 'nerd camp', is a twelve (12) day residential program purposed to expose senior year students to the many careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). This year, 588 students from across Australia, with a minority being international students, were selected from 1,300 applications. These students were allocated to one of three sessions occurring beginning, middle and end of January. I attended the last session, Session C, of the NYSF this year through the financial support of Mareeba Rotary, the selection process conducted by Rotary District 9550, and the encouragement of St Stephen's Catholic College, my family and friends.

This year, Session C was held at the Australian National University (ANU), giving students of the NYSF the opportunity to visit Canberra's many STEM facilities. These STEM visits were tailored to the interests of the students, and as my interest was engineering, I was able to explore and conduct sample experiments related to the ongoing research in places such as the Deep Space Communication Centre and the ANU Research School of Engineering and Physics. Participants also attended several lectures delivered by renowned Australian scientists, and listened to Dr. Alan Finkel AO, the Chief Scientist of Australia, outline his academic journey to his current position. Each of the NYSF's major partners, among which included several universities, then presented students with a better insight into the STEM opportunities they offered post-graduation. Between visits and lectures, participants engaged in many social events, which facilitated much networking between the cohort, visiting alumni, and several Australian scientists. This fostered a strong sense of community, and made farewells all the more difficult.

As one of three students selected to attend the NYSF from Rotary District 9550, the prestige of this opportunity was overwhelming. All who attended had completed the same (if not more) rigorous selection process that I had, so from the first day, it was obvious that I was surrounded by Australia's future scientists. In an atmosphere so welcoming, it was hard to not settle in quickly. Every day was packed with activities, leaving myself with an abundance of STEM knowledge to process each evening. I was constantly encouraged to leave my comfort zone, and when given time to reflect on the program's last day, I came to realise

the amount of personal growth I had achieved over a mere twelve days. Not only did every participant feel more equipped for their senior year, but the NYSF had initiated excitement within us for our journey ahead.

In a stereotypical school setting, there is much stigma surrounding terms such as 'nerd camp' and 'STEM'. When attending programs such as the NYSF, this stigma is debunked. With a network of over 10,000 alumni from the last 36 years that the NYSF has been running, attending this program has given myself the opportunity to form important connections within the Australian STEM community. Through these connections, I have discovered several career pathways I had not known existed. Between the 189 students, 23 staff members, and twelve (12) days of my session, I am incredibly grateful for all who made this experience possible. For those in year eleven with even the slightest interest in STEM, I would highly recommend applying for the NYSF, because there is nothing to lose from extending yourself.



My engineering and advanced manufacturing interest group, Newton, at Parliament House before the Opening Ceremony.



Home Hospitality Sunday is day in the middle of the camp set aside for rest, where students are allocated Rotarian "parents" to stay with.

## ALANNAH FALVO - YEAR NINE

During the summer holidays, I travelled to Canberra to participate in the 2019 National Questacon Invention Convention. At the end of last year, I was selected as one (1) of twenty-five (25) students from across Australia to participate in this five (5) day workshop at the Ian Potter Foundation Technology Learning Centre.

Over the course of the five (5) days, I was given the chance to create a prototype of an invention which incorporated the theme of 'Liveable Communities'. This theme was all about exploring issues in our local areas and trying to prevent these problems into the future. My invention was a sediment collector and was aimed at reducing sediment-runoff in the Great Barrier Reef. It was intended to not only help the Great Barrier Reef, but also the farmers who had lost their sediment due to flooding, by returning the collected sediment back to farmers to be reused. Using robotics, computer-aided design (CAD), 3D printing, workshop machinery and tools, as well as other materials, I was able to bring my idea to life along with the support and inspiration I received from various STEM professionals.

I had an incredible experience and met amazing people with similar interests as myself. Some of the highlights of my trip were meeting Australian entrepreneurs and getting advice on how to improve my invention, as well as tips on how to become a successful entrepreneur. I was also interviewed and featured on the local WIN news. But the biggest highlight of all, was the end of week showcase where my fellow delegates and I presented our final prototypes to many guests such as Australian innovators, scientists, entrepreneurs, past delegates and most importantly his Excellency the Governor General, Sir Peter Cosgrove.

Overall, I gained so much from this experience, such as improved networking, public speaking and coding skills, as well as inspiration to never give up on an idea, no matter how many times you may fail. I am truly grateful for this opportunity and would recommend applying to anyone who is interested in STEM. "



## YEAR ELEVEN - RETREAT



Year eleven students attended Retreat on 4 and 5 February, where they participated in several activities which explored their journey so far and encouraged them to find their purpose in life. Top left: Isabella Cuda, Jamie Hewitt-Toms, Giulia Pilat and Rachel Kleyn. Top right: Kirby Crimmins. Above left: Sophie Raciti and above right: Callum Zugno and Sam Dryden. Below: the year eleven cohort.



## STUDENT SUCCESS - HOLLY RANKINE - YEAR ELEVEN

Parelli Natural Horsemanship was started by Pat Parelli over twenty-five (25) years ago. He wanted to help horses, but more importantly he wanted to help humans to help horses. His savvy program was put together with the help of his Australian wife Linda. The program also covers the psychology, nature and spirit level of the horse. Holly started Parelli with her first week long camp in the mid year school holidays of 2017.

She has since attended lessons, camps and courses and has successfully passed her level three auditions within twelve (12) months, which is an amazing achievement. To date, Holly has reached this level by paying with her own money and savings. She has also passed one section of level four, with three sections to go.

Holly applied for a scholarship in the Parelli foundation organisation late last year. This is designed to help young people continue their Parelli journey. Holly was successful with her application which will enable her to complete her level four attainment.

There are only four levels you can attain in Australia. Holly would then need to travel to Colorado in the United States to further her education towards becoming a Parelli instructor. This is her dream when she has finished year twelve. She is also planning to study beauty therapy to help fund her goal.

During the Christmas school holidays, Holly has spent four (4) weeks with an instructor in the Parelli program. She has been living at his property located at Condamine, south western Queensland. Holly has been assisting with and learning to start young, untouched horses. She is also working, cleaning horse pens, top dressing lawns, trimming hedges, watering and feeding horses and generally learning about horse care and behaviour. The instructor has been impressed with her commitment, knowledge and hard work while she has been learning with him.

Great work Holly!



## 2018 YEAR TWELVE STUDENTS - CONGRATULATIONS!



Several of the year twelve students from 2018 attended our first assembly on Wednesday 30 January. Dylan Cappella (OP 3 - will study Engineering at JCU), Moses Hannett-Wade (OP 4 - will study Engineering and Science at QUT), Lauren Davis (OP 5 - will study Chiropratics at RMIT), Ellana Spina (OP 1 - will study Medical Imaging at QUT) and Elena Pilat (OP 1 - will study Medicine at JCU). Nine other students achieved OP scores between 1 and 5, but were unable to attend the assembly due to other commitments.

## [WEP.ORG.AU](http://WEP.ORG.AU) - EXCHANGE

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**IF NOT NOW, WHEN?**

**AT A GLANCE!**

- Choose from 27 countries
- Attend school overseas
- Live with a local host family
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**"THIS HAS BEEN THE MOST AMAZING ADVENTURE, THERE ARE NO WORDS!"**  
CAITLIN, CANADA

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# Daily Specials

## MONDAY

Chicken Fillet Burger - \$4.50

## WEDNESDAY

Chilli Chicken Wrap - \$5.00

## THURSDAY

Pizza - \$6.00

(Hawaiian or Supreme)

## FRIDAY

Calzone - \$6.50

Ham and Cheese  
Ham, Cheese and Pineapple  
Chicken and Cheese  
Vegetable  
Meat Lovers

(Lent: Fish Burgers - \$5.50)

## MULTICULTURAL

### TUESDAY

#### AUSTRALIAN

Weeks 2, 6 and 10

Pies - \$4.50

Sausage Rolls - \$2.00

#### MEXICAN

Weeks 3 and 7

Nachos - \$4.50

#### CHINESE

Weeks 4 and 8

Chinese Fried Rice - \$4.50

#### AMERICAN

Weeks 5 and 9

Plain Hotdog - \$4.50

Hawaiian Hotdog - \$5.00

(with pineapple and cheese)

# TERM 1-2019



## *Vegetarian and Gluten Free Options*

### VEGETARIAN

Garden Salad - \$4.00 (small)

Garden Sald - \$5.50 (large)

Udon Noodles - \$5.00

Vegetarian Burger - \$5.00

*(with Chickpea and Salad)*

Sandwiches - \$5.00

*(Choice of Fillings)*

Vegetarian Enchilada \$4.50

### GLUTEN FREE

**Pasta and Chicken**

**Coleslaw Salad**

\$5.00

**Garden Salad**

\$4.00 (small)

\$5.50 (large)

**Sandwiches**

*(Choice of Fillings)*

\$5.00

**Chicken Tender Wrap**

\$5.00



## SANDWICHES

Egg and Lettuce Salad	\$4.00
Chicken	\$3.50
Chicken and Cheese	\$4.00
Chicken and Salad	\$4.50
Chicken and Aioli	\$4.00
Ham	\$3.50
Ham and Cheese	\$4.00
Ham and Salad	\$4.50
Cheese	\$3.00

### Extras

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

## WRAPS

Salad and Cheese	\$4.00
Chicken and Salad	\$4.50
Ham and Salad	\$4.50
Tuna and Salad	\$5.00
Toasted Hawaiian Wrap (with ham or chicken)	\$5.00
Crumbed Chicken Wrap (half)	\$3.00
Crumbed Chicken Wrap (full)	\$5.00

## DRINKS

Water	\$4.00
Iced Tea	\$4.50
Flavoured Water	\$4.50
Powerade	\$4.50
Fruit Juice	\$4.50
Waterfords	\$3.50

## SALADS

Garden Salad (small)	\$4.00
Garden Salad (large)	\$5.50
(Includes: lettuce, beetroot, cheese, carrot, corn, asparagus and egg)	
Pasta and Chicken Coleslaw	\$5.00
Udon Noodles	\$5.00

### Extras

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

## AVAILABLE DAILY

Lasagne	\$4.00
Garlic bread	\$2.00
Pastries	\$3.80
Enchilada (Vegetarian)	\$4.50
Enchilada (Beef or Chicken)	\$5.00

## SNACKS

Chicken Fingers	\$2.50
Popcorn Chicken	\$2.50
Single Pizza	\$3.00
Sidewinders	\$3.00
Cheese and Bacon Bun	\$3.00
Vegemite and Cheese Scroll	\$3.00
Jelly and Custard	\$3.00
Muesli Swirl	\$3.50
Muffins	\$2.50
Frozen Yoghurt	\$2.50
Sausage Roll	\$2.00
BBQ Pork Riblets	\$2.50



SAVE THE DATE FOR...

# CAIRNS DISABILITY EXPO 2019



- Meet Employment, Study and Lifestyle supports and options
- Learn about the NDIS including non-NDIS eligible options
- Connect with advocacy, supports and services for people with disability.

**THURSDAY  
18TH JULY**

**FREE ENTRY  
MORNING 08:00-1:00PM**

**EVENING 3:00-6:00PM  
VENUE TBA**

More Details:  [www.cairnsdisability.net.au](http://www.cairnsdisability.net.au)

 @CairnsDisability

# PENINSULA SCHOOL SPORT DISTRICT STRUCTURES



Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Peninsula School Sport District Structures 2018/19

In 2018, the Peninsula School Sport Board undertook a review into the structures and operations of District School Sport within the FNQ region. The findings from this review have provided the opportunity for Peninsula School Sport to work together with District Sporting Committees to improve outcomes for students and staff. Future key improvements to District School Sport in FNQ include:

- \*Re-aligning and amalgamation of new 10 to 19 years sporting Districts.
- \*Streamlining student pathways into District Sporting teams.
- \*Developing processes and strategies for schools to utilise in the transition of students from primary into high school to enhance participation in sporting programs.
- \*Ensuring mandatory Department of Education Guidelines and risk management procedures are implemented and followed.
- \*Enhancing involvement, decision making and communication from leading FNQ school leaders, staff and Pensport.
- \*Re-invigorating school sport competitions and programs – schools have the opportunity to review, reflect and enhance their own sporting programs within District Clusters to maximise student participation.

Information about District School Sport can be sourced via the Peninsula School Sport website or via your school's Sports Co-Ordinators/PE Teachers.

Peninsula School Sport would also like to thank all staff from across FNQ whom have put in many extra hours, often in their own time, to ensure students have the opportunity to engage in various school sporting opportunities during this process. Exciting times ahead as we continue to improve moving forward sport in FNQ for the future.

Yours in Sport,

Jo Butland

Acting RSSO

Clint Mogg

Acting Assistant RSSO

## Mareeba Lions Metrogain 2019

# Fight kids' cancer.



### Happy story

Ava, now eight and free of cancer due to funds donated by the Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Fund.

This year we aim to raise over \$500,000 and to do so we need your support.

## Come to the Lions Biggest BBQ!

All funds raised will go towards the fight against kids' cancer.

**Where** Arnold Park Mareeba

**When** Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019 from 8 am

**Lions Club of Mareeba** lionsmba@gmail.com

Every child deserves a chance at a healthy life  
Our Vision: 100% survival for kids with cancer



The Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation is a Company of Incorporated Lions Clubs



**MAREEBA NETBALL  
MIXED NETBALL  
FUN NIGHT**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019  
6pm**

**Come along to our Fun Night of  
Mixed Netball**

**Games: 7-a-side Mixed Teams  
Round Robin Lightning Rounds**

**Fee: \$35 per team**

**Nominate a Team: Contact Louise Ebner  
0477 442 751**

**Sausage Sizzle  
Hot Chips  
Drinks**

**Jasper Street - Davies Park, Mareeba**

St Stephen's  
Catholic College



# OPEN EVENING

Monday 11 March 2019  
5.30 pm - 6.30 pm

**Students entering Year 7 in 2020 and beyond!**

- Display of specialist areas
- Information about the college culture, curriculum and expectations
- Enrolment Handbook
- Self-guided tour of facilities
- Scholarship information



*College Captains for 2019: Kyrrah Johnston, Jonah Williams, Jake Priestly and Deborah Hermanus.*

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