

St Stephen's
Catholic College



Trust in the Lord

St Stephen's News

Issue 18 - Term 4 - Wednesday 8 November 2017

Principal: Mrs Ida Pinese

Deputy Principal Curriculum: Ms Andrea Chiesa

Assistant Principal Religious Education: Mrs Laura Gilbert

Assistant Principal Administration: Ms Anja van Hooydonk

Business Manager: Mr Hadyn Flynn

College Leader - Pastoral Care: Mr Matthew Draper

 FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

- Community Day Strengthens Relationships -



Last Friday, the year nine cohort enjoyed a community day at Sugarworld. Events, such as these, encourage team building and foster positive relationships.

Lot 3, McIver Road, Mareeba
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Office Hours: 7.45 am - 3.45 pm Monday - Friday
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NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Monday 6 November - Friday 10 November

Year 12 Block Exams

Tuesday 14 November

P & F Meeting

Friday 17 November

Year 12 Graduation Mass

Monday 20 – Friday 24 November

Year 11 Block Exams

Year 7 to 10 Exams

End of Year Mass

Wednesday 29 November

Year 6 Transition Day

COLLECTION OF STUDENTS BY PARENTS

Please note - collection of student by parents during the school day:

- Parents are to report to reception
- Students are to report to student services
- Students sign out before meeting parents at entrance to reception.

Maths Tutoring Available

Tuesday and Thursday

Recess 2 - MCR

Wednesday

3.00 pm - 4.00 pm - Library

Years 10 -12 only



CHESS CLUB

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)

Room: S5 - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at Recess 2 and Thursday morning before school.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



TERM DATES 2018

Term 1: Years 7 and 12 only
commence Monday 22 January
All Students - Tuesday 23 January
Term 1 ends: Thursday 29 March

Term 2: 17 April to 29 June

Term 3: 16 July to 21 September

Term 4 : 8 October to 30 November
Year 12 - 16 November

Student Free Days 2018

16 April and 22 October

ENROL NOW FOR 2018

All new students must have an enrolment interview. This includes those who already have siblings attending St Stephen's Catholic College. Contact the office for more information. Phone: 4086 2523

ABSENTEE E-MAIL

If your child is absent, please email
absentee@sscc.qld.edu.au

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 (principal@sscc.qld.edu.au) with any information and photos.

CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS?

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

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

"The most important thing a teacher does is to care, deeply and steadfastly, about each student and their outcomes." (Dr Peter Coutis)



Implied in the above statement is the notion that the level of care extends beyond what is taught, to who is taught and that students appreciate teachers who treat them as individuals, building positive relationships. While this may be challenging at times, it is evident from the accolades received by students at two significant events in the past two weeks, that our teachers are there to support students to achieve their best.

While at the annual Awards Night, where excellence was celebrated, students were competing against their peers at our college, the Industrial Technology and Design students whose work was submitted at the 16th Annual Design and Technology Teachers' Association Awards on the successive evening, competed against other schools in our region. Not only were students the winners in four separate categories, but they also received second and third places. Our congratulations are extended to all students who were acknowledged for their excellent outcomes at these two events.

Every day that students attend school counts towards the achievement of their goals. It is disconcerting to discover that the attendance rate at St Stephen's currently stands at 91%. If students are to take advantage of the opportunities that the college offers, the attendance should be at least 95%, which approximately equates to two and a half days of absence per term. I would like to remind parents and carers of the protocol that should be observed if families intend taking extended leave during the school term:

PROCEDURE FOR REQUESTING LEAVE DURING TERM TIME

1. As a courtesy, a request should be made to the principal, either by phone or email of the intention to take extended leave before any travel plans are made. It is not enough to email Student Services of one's intention.
2. At the time of the request, the effects on a student's outcomes of taking leave will be clearly outlined.
3. If parents proceed with the leave, all assignments which fall due during the period of leave must be completed and submitted without any extension to the due date. This can occur before the leave is taken or on the due date via electronic methods. Any tests which are scheduled during the leave period, must be completed upon the student's return to school, unless it is deemed that the prolonged absence invalidates the result. This decision will be made by the school.
4. It is also the responsibility of the student to catch up on missed work upon returning from leave

Although I appreciate that there are extenuating circumstances such as medical reasons and bereavement which may explain a student's prolonged absence, it makes the task of ensuring that students achieve their best very difficult if attendance is poor. I encourage all parents to reconsider their travel plans if it means that students will miss school.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At the next college assembly on 13 November, the future leaders of 2018 will be announced. I would like to congratulate all students who nominated for leadership positions and who also went out of their comfort zone to address their peers. These leaders will be invited to assist with the year six to seven transition day on 29 November.

Our recruitment process for the 2018 school year is almost completed. In the next newsletter, there will be information about staff movements—fortunately, we have a very stable staff and changes are often the result of relocation for personal reasons or employment of extra staff to match higher enrolments.

As a college we are very appreciative of parental support, as evidenced by the strong attendance at the annual Awards Night—thank you for the trust and confidence you have in our college.

With Trust in the Lord

Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal

principal@sscc.qld.edu.au

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM

For our year twelve students, this week of block exams represents a significant milestone in their journey. Their results will contribute to the determination of levels of achievement for each subject, to the fulfilment of QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) requirements and compilation of Tertiary Entrance Statements for our OP-eligible students. It is not a time for relaxation and our year twelve students are urged to undertake appropriate preparation for these final tests. As has already been mentioned in a previous newsletter, our College will not be issuing reports for this cohort, as all results which are issued by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority, are to be accessed by students, either electronically via learning accounts, or by mail.

Year eleven block exams commence on Monday 20 November. As was the practice at the end of semester one, students will only be required to attend school for the relevant exam session. They may, however, choose to remain at school to study. It is important that parents are aware of their child's movements when not completing a test and that students are not seen in town in their school uniform, once the exam session is over.

At St Stephen's Catholic College we expect students to complete all assessment tasks before going on holidays. Any student who has outstanding assessment will be required to return to school on Monday 27 November to complete unfinished tasks.

Academic reports should reflect a student's performance under assessment conditions, so it becomes difficult to make valid judgments if evidence is missing due to non-completion of tests and assignments. The following dates signify important academic events in the final weeks of term four:



- Monday 6 November to Friday 10 November (inclusive): Block exams for year twelve.
- Monday 20 to Friday 24 November (inclusive): Block exams for year eleven and class tests for years seven to ten.
- Friday 24 November at 3.00 pm: School concludes for 2017.
- Wednesday 29 November: Year six transition programme.
- Thursday 30 November: Reports completed and ready for posting (stationery lists for all year levels, year nine and ten elective subjects for 2018, and year eleven student course selections for 2018 will be included in these reports).

I thank you in advance for ensuring that your child attends until 3.00 pm on the last day of term with all assessment tasks completed for the 2017 school year.

Ms Andrea Chiesa

Deputy Principal Curriculum

achiesa@sscc.qld.edu.au

Leadership Opportunities

St Stephen's Catholic College provides many opportunities for students to display leadership. Event leadership is one thing; daily leadership is a completely different scenario. Whilst coordinated events may fall necessarily into the hands of a designated leaders to organise, it is the daily acts of leadership available to all students that presents the most frequent opportunity.

Servant leadership is in many regards a very strange concept to some, with Jesus as our role model. Servant leadership has no greater emphasis. The recently completed mural outside MCR displays the image of Jesus washing the feet of his disciple. Whilst his disciple Peter found it difficult that Jesus, his leader, would wash his feet, Jesus was declaring for all to see that his position of influence was to be spent in acts of service to mankind.

The Servant Leadership Model

It is of great importance that our student leaders in 2018 operate from a Servant Leadership model. The job description for Leadership may not read as expected. The focus for our leaders in 2018 is:

- It is about relationship, service and humility.
- It stems from being faithful to who you are.
- It means following the example of Jesus.

I look forward to working with the student leaders in 2018, as we work together to see our school further its Mission statement by:

- Creating a sense of family.
- Supporting students in developing respect, responsibility and confidence.
- Developing compassionate, whole people who are morally autonomous.
- Encouraging students to build successful relationships, communicate effectively and achieve their personal best.

The student leaders of 2017 have served the school well and I congratulate them on their service to the school community and wish them well with their future endeavours.

Pastoral Challenge: Our Privilege Is Service

An excerpt from Weekly Parables for Catholic Schools, as follows:

"I remember being really frustrated with some young leaders. They were discussing who should sleep in beds and on the floor during a retreat where beds were limited. The retreat leaders insisted they should get beds, because they were leaders".



It is normal to want privileges after working hard for a position, whether it is team captain, club president, or retreat leader. But Jesus' followers should always be willing to give up privileges to serve others.

Many Jewish religious leaders missed Jesus' message and an opportunity to grow closer to God, because they valued their privileges. They closed their minds to Jesus' message and clung to their power.

Challenge:

When has the privileges of leadership tempted you to take advantage of or ignore others?

What action are we called to take?

1. As leaders we need to keep our minds open, even when ideas threaten our privileges.
2. Jesus calls us to focus on what's best for the people who look up to us.
3. Be mindful that we have the opportunity to serve at school, in the playground or the classroom practice every day by the choices we make.

This year has been a memorable year and I look forward to serving the school community in 2018.

Mr Matthew Draper
College Leader Pastoral Care
mdraper@sscc.qld.edu.au

FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER CURRICULUM - THE ARTS & LOTE

On 13 October, St Stephen's Catholic College held its annual Arts Exhibition. The display showcased the impressive work from the Visual Art and Media Art students (from years eight to twelve). In particular, crowd favourites were the displays of year nine ceramic pop art sculptures of everyday food items and the year ten wearable art 'trashion' creations. Also on show, the year eight Media Art stop-motion animations were a big hit as were the remarkable works of the senior students.



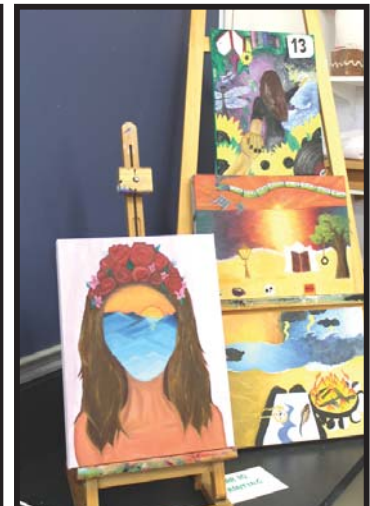
Music and Drama students entertained audiences with a variety of genres including performances of Greek theatre, acapella music, fingerstyle guitar, piano improvisations and Shakespearean duologues. The quality of performance was extraordinary which is a real credit to the students who were dedicated in rehearsing for weeks prior to the event. The evening finished with some drama games involving some brave audience members.

I would like to thank the parents and community members who came along to support our students. Your presence was greatly appreciated. The event could not have happened without Ms Lowerson and Mrs Malcolm arranging the displays and entertainment, respectively. An enormous thank you goes to all the staff and students who assisted in many ways in the preparation. I am very much looking forward to seeing how the students will top their creative works at next year's exhibition.

Miss Janai Sugars

Middle Leader Curriculum - The Arts & LOTE

jsugars2@sccc.qld.edu.au



FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER CURRICULUM - ENGLISH

“Why do we have to learn Shakespeare?”

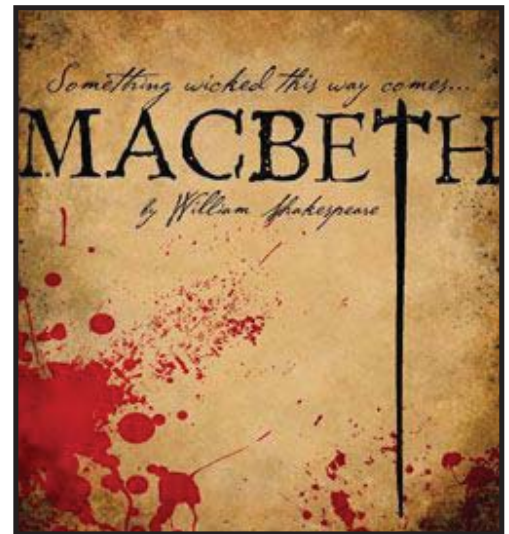
This is a question often heard by English teachers everywhere. While the value of such literature as part of the foundation of the English language is acknowledged by many, its relevance for contemporary students is not easily recognised.



Students at St Stephen’s Catholic College study Shakespeare in English in years ten, eleven and twelve, so we were very fortunate to have been entertained by the Shake and Stir Theatre Company who visited St Stephen’s towards the end of term three.

Students (and staff!) thoroughly enjoyed their performance of ‘Statespeare’ which highlighted the intricate plots, powerful and recognisable characters and timeless themes of Shakespeare’s plays. This production was especially beneficial for year eleven students who were studying Macbeth and preparing to present monologues from the perspective of a Shakespearean character.

Mrs Tamara Schincariol
Middle Leader Curriculum - English
tschincari@sscc.qld.edu.au



FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Finance Matters

It is very important for the college, operationally, to keep the fee collection rate high. Please ensure your fees are fully paid by the end of the year.

The 2018 Budget was presented to the Diocesan Board of Governance in November. The budget was within all benchmarks set by the Diocese and approval will allow us to continue to deliver excellent educational outcomes in 2018.

Mr Hadyn Flynn
Business Manager
hflynn@sscc.qld.edu.au



SCHOOL FEES
All school fees must be finalised during
December 2017.

FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER CURRICULUM - E-LEARNING

Dear Parents and Carers

This time of year marks a busy period as we prepare for the upcoming roll-out of student devices to our year seven and year ten students in 2018.

Families will receive a letter about an information evening with their child's report. It is our intention to roll out the devices in the first week back in 2018, and I'm personally excited to see what our young people can create using digital technology.

To maximize the device's usefulness, all staff teaching years seven and ten will receive ongoing professional development in the use of the student devices, as well as training in digital pedagogy.

I look forward to seeing what staff and students can accomplish using ICT next year and wish you and your family a happy and holy Christmas break.

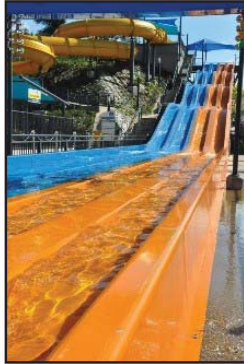
Mr Richard Baker
Middle Learning Curriculum - E-Learning
rbaker@sscc.qld.edu.au



FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER PASTORAL - YEARS NINE AND TEN

Year Nine Community Day – a sweet success!

A great day was had last Friday at Sugarworld in Cairns. Year nine students enjoyed the opportunity to let their hair down at what can be a stressful time of the year. Students slid, splashed and swam the day away with their classmates and enjoyed water melon, burgers, chips and an ice-cream.



Uniform Matters

I have spoken with a few year nine and ten students regarding ripped and/or worn parts of their uniform (eg: shoes, shirts, lost ties, etc). While it is acknowledged that we only have a few weeks remaining in the school year, it is still expected that students retain a neat and presentable appearance at all times. Please ensure that your child's uniform remains in an acceptable condition until the last day. Any correspondence, questions or concerns can be recorded in SRB's or communicated via phone or email.



Keep up the monitoring

Now in week six, with only weeks seven and eight remaining in the term for year nine and ten students, I once again request that parents continue to monitor, support and report, as necessary, any concerns around their children's academic, social/emotional well-being and completion of school work and assessment.

Lifestyle and Balance

Getting good marks at school is achieved by doing more than just lots of study. To perform at their best, adolescents benefit from balance in their life and lifestyle. Exercising (staying physically active) is one (of many) important aspect of a "balanced" lifestyle for adolescents. Common advice seems to suggest a minimum of 30 minutes, three times a week. Recent research even suggests that it is OK to break this into smaller chunks of exercise during the day like three walks for ten minutes at a time. Other examples of healthy exercising for teens included:

- Playing sport once a week with one or two training sessions.

- Going for a jog every second day (or a walk involving hills – softer on the joints).
- Going to the gym three times a week for an hour's workout.
- Walking fifteen minutes to school and fifteen minutes home each day.
- Taking the dog for a walk after school most days.
- Playing a game/sport at lunch times at school most days.



A student with a balanced approach to life and school will also:

- Spend time with family.
- Spend time with friends.
- Have regular hobbies or activities.
- Play a sport or exercise regularly.
- Have time each week where they totally relax and let their body "chill out".

(Source: www.enhanced-learning.net)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I, or other staff, can be of any additional support or assistance in your child's education. Also, please feel welcome to keep me up to date with any "out of school hours" activities your child might be involved in. It's always good to hear what students are up to, out of school, so this can be appropriately mentioned and congratulated (either on assembly or one to one).

I take this opportunity to wish you all a holy, happy and safe Christmas and pray that the true meaning of the Advent/Christmas season is lived, felt and celebrated in your homes during this time.

God bless

Mr Paul MacCallum

Middle Leader Pastoral - Years Nine and Ten

pmacallum@sscc.qld.edu.au



BRONSON CATER AND KYLE BING CHEW

Bronson Cater and Kyle Bing Chew (year twelve students) have recently graduated with a Certificate 2 in Aviation Engineering. Their families are very proud of their achievements. For the last two years, Bronson and Kyle having travelled to Cairns weekly to attend their course.

This was the first time this particular course had been offered in Queensland, and with 25 students starting, the group graduated with 19. The boys underwent testing and an interview process before being accepted, then had two years of theory and practical examinations, which they did very well in. With the success the course has had in Cairns, Brisbane Aviation will now run the same programme.

Congratulations, Bronson and Kyle!



SHARLENE HUISKES



Sharlene Huiskes – RAAF Base Pearce Female Flight Camp

During the second week of the September holidays, I was fortunate enough to be accepted to attend the Female Flight Camp at RAAF Base Pearce, Western Australia.

Defence work experience programmes, like these, are available for teenagers in all services of the Australian Defence Force, where it provides an incredible insight into life in defence as well as the numerous jobs on offer. During the flight camp, I was able to engage with many experienced male and female pilots who offered advice and mentoring as well as meeting pilots still undergoing training.

As a result of this experience, I was able to gain valuable and integral knowledge regarding the recruitment process and the life of a female pilot. During these five days we were able to participate in many memorable activities such as physical training, travelling around RAAF Base Pearce where we engaged in presentations from the various sections, boarding in the base accommodation, as well as individual and group flights in a PC-9 (roulette) and a C-27J Spartan, respectively. This experience was extremely memorable and has significantly influenced my outlook on life as a female pilot and I strongly encourage anyone who has an interest in defence to partake in camps such as these.



Sharlene Huiskes
Year Eleven

SABINE CONOLLY



Sabine Conolly (year twelve) has won a 'Power Trip' to Canberra to connect with influential female mentors, as part of the Country to Canberra's prestigious - Leadership Competition. Sabine's outstanding ideas about diversity and leadership ultimately gave her the opportunity to represent the region. Sabine said she is excited to meet inspiring political and business leaders, and to take the advice back to her local community.

Congratulations Sabine!

ALAINA SMITH

Alaina Smith (year eight) recently attended the North Aussie Life Saving Carnival, where she had a successful placing in every event and was also picked in the Queensland Country Team which competes at the Gold Coast at the end of the month.

Well done Alaina and all the best for the next competition!



SONGFEST CHOIR

Several students from St Stephen's Catholic College recently participated in the Choral Songfest at the Cairns Convention Centre. The night was a showcase of musical prowess of incredible children's ensembles, a unique celebration of culture and language. They sang alongside the prestigious Sydney Children's Choir, the Gondwana Indigenous Choir and the awe-inspiring world famous Vienna's Boys' Choir! "It was a magical evening and an absolutely delightful experience being in the audience", stated by another concert goer / parent - Mrs Julie Goleby, "like angels singing in the heavens". Students have described their experience as:

Clare Newton - "Helped to improve vocal range."

Manouche Mounier - "Totally enjoyed the experience"

Rosa Askey-Doran - "Once in a lifetime experience, would definitely do it again!"

Taijana Goleby - "I had an amazing experience, made some new friends, and learnt new singing techniques."

Sophie Viljoen - "It was a great opportunity and was very exciting being on stage with such talented singers from a variety of choirs."



From left to right: Sophie Viljoen, Rosa Askey-Doran, Manouche Mounier, Clare Newton and Taijana Goleby.

YEAR TEN - DRAMA



Year ten Drama students have been working on Radio Drama - which is a dramatised performance broadcasted on radio. Working in small groups, students had to pick a genre, (most of them have chosen horror), write a script and perform it using sound effects to help create dramatic meaning.

They have been working very well and I look forward to hearing their performances.

Mrs Samantha Malcolm
Drama Teacher

YEAR TEN - FOOD TECHNOLOGY



APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATION 2018



**Catholic
Education Services**
Diocese of Cairns
Learning with Faith and Vision

130 Lake Street | PO Box 5296, Cairns Q 4870
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www.cns.catholic.edu.au

18 October 2017

Dear Staff, Parents and Students of St Stephen's Catholic College

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Rohan Priestly to the position of Assistant Principal – Administration of St Stephen's Catholic College. Mr Priestly will take up his appointment from the beginning of 2018.

Mr Priestly is an experienced educator and leader at St Stephen's Catholic College, where he has been on staff since 2009. Prior to this appointment he was an English teacher at Taketoyo Town Council in Japan and a Japanese Teacher at St Mary's Catholic College.

Mr Priestly brings to this important role a firm commitment to St Stephen's Catholic College, a passion for social justice and enrichment activities to support the learning and wellbeing of all students. These beliefs complement his strong work ethic and a high level of initiative and integrity.

Mr Priestly's qualifications include a Masters of Education - Flexible Learning, Masters of Education - Learning Technology, Bachelor of Education, Japanese Language Studies and Diploma of Teaching.

The interview panel consisted of Fr John Sullivan - Parish Priest, Mrs Ida Pinese - Principal, Dr Sally Towns – Director School Development, Secondary and Mrs Michelle Bryce – Board Chair. We thank the panel members for their commitment to this important process.

Please join us in congratulating Mr Priestly on his appointment and his ongoing commitment to St Stephen's Catholic College.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Bill Dixon in black ink.

BILL DIXON
Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Fr John Sullivan in black ink.

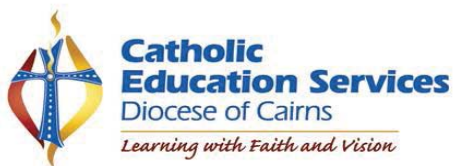
FR JOHN SULLIVAN
Parish Priest

ABN 42 498 340 094

The Roman Catholic Trust Corporation for the Diocese of Cairns



APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY PRINCIPAL 2018



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www.cns.catholic.edu.au

27 October 2017

Dear Staff, Parents and Students of St Stephen's Catholic College

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Simon Vaughan to the position of Deputy Principal of St Stephen's Catholic College. Mr Vaughan will take up his appointment from the beginning of 2018.

Mr Vaughan is the Head of Faculty – Business, teacher of Economics, Business Management and Business Education of Sheldon College, Redlands, where he has been on staff since 2003.

Mr Vaughan brings to this important role his strong faith and wealth of educational leadership, organisational and pedagogical knowledge. This is well complemented with his strong work ethic, eagerness to learn and grow and a high level of initiative and integrity.

Mr Vaughan's qualifications include Bachelor of Education majoring in Economics, Minor in Business and Social Science/Humanities.

The interview panel consisted of Fr John Sullivan - Parish Priest, Mrs Ida Pinese - Principal, Dr Sally Towns – Director School Development, Secondary and Mrs Michelle Bryce – Board Chair. We thank the panel members for their commitment to this important process.

Please join us in congratulating Mr Vaughan on his appointment.

Yours sincerely

BILL DIXON
Executive Director

FR JOHN SULLIVAN
Parish Priest





The SSCC Annual

St. Vincent de Paul



Christmas Hamper Appeal

2017

What you need to do...

Step 1: Get Mum/Dad to add items to shopping list each week.

Step 2: Bring items to home form; place in hamper.

Step 3: Class SRC Rep daily empties hamper at the glass room in S8.

Having trouble with ideas?



Non-perishable foods are a great option!

- Tinned ham
- Christmas pudding
- Candy canes
- Packets of chips, crackers, lollies, shortbreads, etc.



Sealed drinks would be greatly appreciated!

- Soft drinks
- Juices
- Cordial



Celebratory items are a must at Christmas!

- Bon-bons
- Party poppers
- Christmas decorations
- Disposable cups, plates, cutlery