



# St Stephen's News

Issue 19 - Term 4 - Wednesday 22 November 2017

**Principal:** Mrs Ida Pinese

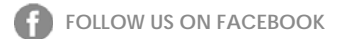
**Deputy Principal Curriculum:** Ms Andrea Chiesa

**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



## - Farewell to the Graduating Class of 2017 -



St Stephen's Catholic College farewelled the year twelve cohort last Friday. Families, staff and students attended assembly to congratulate the cohort for their achievements and to wish them all the very best for their future endeavours. This was followed by an evening mass at St Thomas of Villanova Church.



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

***"The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark."*** (Michelangelo)



As the 2017 school year comes to an end, it is important for our college community to reflect on the above quotation. Have we been inspirational in our goal setting or are we content to remain in our comfort zone? This not only applies to our students, but also to the strategic priorities of our college.

Upon the completion of five years of secondary school last Friday, the year twelve students may question how many times they have set their aim too high and surprised themselves of what they were able to achieve. Certainly, the Queensland Core Skills Test results released last week are a testament that many students possessed the talent to achieve at a very high level, with about 31% of those who sat the test attaining an "A" result and over 60% receiving between an "A" and a "B". They are to be congratulated for this outstanding effort. The graduation celebrations on Friday 17 November were moving events for students, their parents and teachers, and the culmination of a year marked by signature events, assessment, spiritual formation and positive relationships. We wish them the very best for their future aspirations and encourage them to aim high.

With our college entering its thirteenth year in 2018, our community is planning the strategic priorities for the next decade. Feedback from parents is very welcome and I invite parents to attend the Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting on 6 February, 2018, to have input into this process. It is important that we look into the future to envision the requirements of a school in 2028.

While the excitement of imminent holidays is being felt by the remaining years seven to eleven cohorts, commitment to doing one's best in final assessment tasks should be a priority for all students. Students will undergo tests until the very last day when school officially ends at 3 pm on Friday, 24 November. Our staff will be busy finalising results, preparing for 2018 and welcoming our future year seven students in the final student free week. The challenge for next year will be the ability to accommodate 118 year seven students—our largest ever cohort. We are at capacity and ask for understanding from families who may be on our waiting list.

Student leadership positions for 2018 were announced at assembly on 13 November. All students who nominated for leadership are to be congratulated on the manner in which they delivered their presentations to their peers and their demeanour during the election process. It was a rigorous, democratic process which respected the students' voice. We are indeed blessed to have students who are willing to aim high and be of service to our college community.

The end of a school year is a time for farewells to both staff and students who are relocating. In senior leadership, we wish Ms van Hooydonk the very best in her new position in Cairns, and Ms Chiesa a rewarding time as she takes on a teaching role in the classroom and with learning support at St Stephen's. Our best wishes are also extended to Mrs Gilbert who has taken parental leave—we look forward to hearing her good news. We have been very fortunate to have these hard-working leaders on staff and I thank them for their commitment and dedication to St Stephen's.





## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In 2018, we welcome, Mr Simon Vaughan, as the Deputy Principal, Mr Rohan Priestly, as the Assistant Principal, Administration, and Miss Janai Sugars, as the Acting Assistant Principal, Religious Education.

We also wish the following staff the very best in their future aspirations, as they depart St Stephen's, and thank them for their contribution to the college: Ms Kate Darling, Mrs Havva Murat, Miss Laita Nozaic, Miss Catherine Peters, Mrs Christine Weedon and Mr Lee Xhafer. The Scientific Officer, Mrs Alicia Jaggard will also be on leave in 2018.

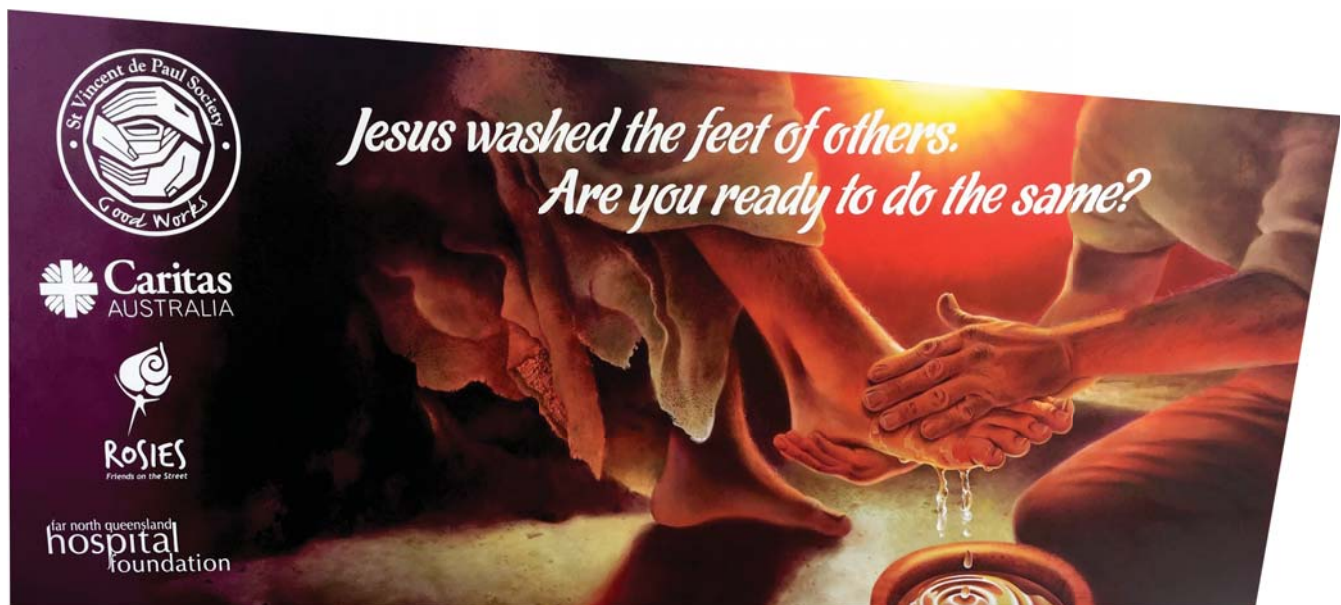
While it is so easy to become caught up in the material trappings of the festive season, we need to reflect on the significance of this time for Christians. The happiness we feel at Christmas comes from the giving of ourselves to the ones we love. It is a reminder of the birth of Christ and his selfless love for our salvation. I hope that you are able to be with family at this very special time of the Advent calendar to appreciate the importance of others in our lives.

Without the valued input of teachers, parents and the broader community, St Stephen's would not have experienced another successful year. I am very grateful for the support, loyalty and hard work of so many people, including the leadership team of Ms Chiesa, Mrs Gilbert, Ms van Hooydonk, Mr Draper and Mr Flynn and my personal assistant, Mrs Szerstuk, all teaching and non-teaching staff, the College Board, the Parents and Friends Association, Catholic Education Services, our parents and most importantly, our students.

Thank you for your continued confidence and faith in our college. God bless you all. I wish all families a holy and safe Christmas and look forward to working with you in 2018.

With Trust in the Lord

**Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal**  
[principal@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:principal@sscc.qld.edu.au)



# 2018 COLLEGE LEADERS



**College Captains:** David Bin, Joshua Kievit, Elena Pilat and Gabriella Cuda



**Student Representative Council**  
 President: Annalisse Troncone (above left)  
 Vice-President: Brianne So Choy (above right)  
 Secretary: Keeley Mason (below left)  
 Treasurer: Josiah Draper (below right)



**Social Justice Committee**  
**(from left to right):**  
 President: Paulina Bernhardt  
 Vice-President: Mackenzie Elms  
 Secretary: Lauren Davis  
 Treasurer: Taylah Phelan

**Augustine Pastoral Leaders:**  
 Lia Schincariol and Thomas Hallam



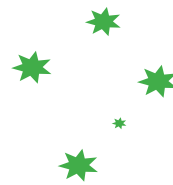
**Deacon Pastoral Leaders:**  
 Lauren Brown and Thomas Roesler



**McAuley Pastoral Leaders:**  
 Jamie Malcolm and Travis Cummings



**Muluridji Pastoral Leaders:**  
 Zoe Quintieri and Ella Ryan



## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In the four weeks leading up to Christmas, we await in hope the arrival of Jesus. Through the season of Advent, the Church reflects on the significance of God becoming one of us, through the birth and mission of Jesus. Hope, is a powerful theme of Advent - this feeling of expectation and trust in God that we will experience the presence of Christ in our hearts and through our interactions with others in a new and special way.



While this year Advent doesn't officially begin until the school year concludes, we will gather next Friday as a college community to give thanks for the year that was and reflect on the hope, peace, service to others and prayerfulness of this season. Our Christian faith and the ethos of our college teaches us that our hope should lead to action, so that this gift can become a reality for others. Pope Francis calls young people not to be robbed of hope but to be bearers of hope. We can do this by extending our friendship, respect and care to those in our school, family and communities.

One way in which our students and staff actively becomes bearers of hope is through our St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal. A sincere thank you to all members of our college community who have supported this appeal in order to give hope to those in our community who are enduring hardship this Christmas.

I wish staff, students and parents a happy and holy Christmas, and God's richest blessings for the 2018 year.

**Mrs Laura Gilbert**  
**Assistant Principal Religious Education**  
*lgilbert1@sscc.qld.edu.au*

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATION



Every year, change brings challenges and new experiences and this year was no exception. I want to give my thanks to the students, parents and staff for contributing to the smooth running of the school on a day-to-day basis.

As we approach the end of term four, students are working hard to finish all assessments and reports will be sent to all parents and guardians in the first week of the school holidays.

We said goodbye to our year twelve cohort and I was fortunate to teach some of them Mathematics B and also trained students for the QCS test. I want to congratulate the year twelve students on their QCS results. They have used the skills taught by Mrs McGrath, Mrs Provan and Mrs Pinese in QCS practice very well. It was also a pleasure to accompany the year twelve students on their trip to Lake Eacham. They had a relaxing time, the weather was lovely and they all enjoyed the barbecue that Mrs Crockford put on for them.

To finish the term, Mrs Gilbert and Miss Sugars have been busy organising the end of year mass. The day will finish with the final assembly for 2017.

I wish you a safe and relaxing holiday.

**Ms Anja van Hooydonk**  
**Assistant Principal Administration**  
*avanhooydo@sscc.qld.edu.au*



## NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Recently, our year nine students had the opportunity to meet the author of the class novel they are currently studying. Throughout the day, Christine Bongers discussed the novel 'Intruder' with students. She spent time dissecting the book in regard to the characters and their relationships with each other. The students in each session had some very interesting questions to ask Christine and her answers would have provided some food for thought for their assessment pieces.



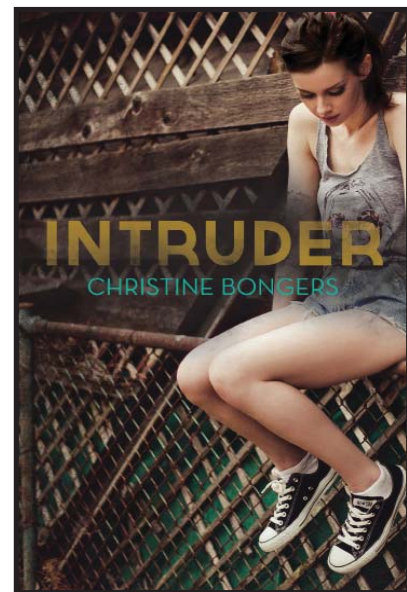
Christine also spent time discussing the finer points of writing and how to become a published author. Her seminar was fascinating and the take away point from her stories would be resilience - keep trying and learning, especially from any disappointments life might throw your way and your dreams will become achievable.

The students enjoyed their day with Christine Bongers and meeting the author of their class novel will have added depth and meaning to their study. Christine herself enjoyed the day and commented positively on the student's attention, behaviour and participation.

**Mrs Simone Gillies**

**Middle Leader Curriculum - Gifted and Talented**

*sgillies@sscc.qld.edu.au*



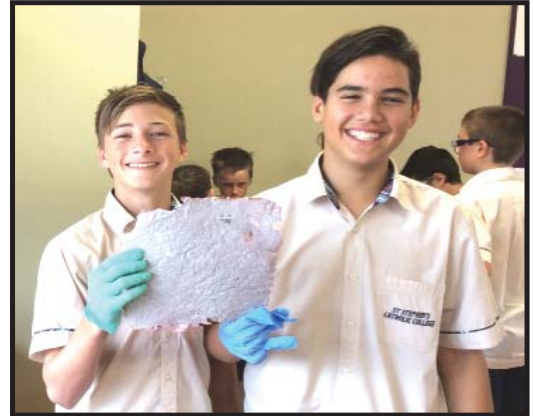
## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER CURRICULUM - SCIENCE

As 2017 draws to a close, our year seven students are engaged in projects. Some are investigating sustainability by making recycled paper. Others are investigating forces by building mouse trap racers. Our year eight and year nine students are busy revising and studying for their end of semester exams this week, while year ten students have finished the year by presenting their Earth and Space Science projects.

We wish all of our students and their families a blessed and peaceful Christmas, and look forward to welcoming back all students in 2018.



**Mrs Pepita Ison**  
**Middle Leader Curriculum - Science**  
*pson@sscc.qld.edu.au*





## FROM THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR

This year, I was able to provide counselling and consultation services for students and families five days per week and this will continue throughout 2018. During the year, a significant number of students accessed the guidance and counselling programme. In addition, parents and other members of the wider community were also able to seek support, or gather information relevant to their needs and circumstances.



Hopefully this won't be the case, but during the holidays, you may need to talk to someone about concerning issues regarding your son or daughter or perhaps there may be family issues that could arise. The following contacts are available on the Tablelands and Mossman area for you to access if required:

- Community Services Tablelands Inc., Atherton: 4091 3850
- More Allied Health Services, Malanda: 4096 5046
- Atherton Counselling and Training: 4091 7555
- Dimbulah Community Centre: 4093 5444
- Lifeline: Atherton 4091 7466; Mareeba 4092 7421; Mossman 4098 1535
- Lifeline Counselling Crisis Support: 13 11 14
- Mareeba Information and Support Centre: 4092 1948
- Tablelands Counselling and Support Services, Mareeba: 4092 6899
- Tablelands Child and Youth Mental Health Service (CYMHS) Atherton 4091 0213 & Mareeba 4092 1971
- Tablelands Sexual Assault Service: 4091 4036
- Kids Help Line: 1800 551 800
- Parentline QLD: 1300 301 300
- Relationships Australia: 1300 364 277
- Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre: 4099 5518
- Mossman Community Centre: 4098 2005
- Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre: 4093 8933

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and parents of the St Stephen's community, for their ongoing support once again this year.

I wish all of you a safe and happy Christmas holiday and look forward to working with you in 2018.

**Mrs Michelle Hall**  
Guidance Counsellor  
[mhall3@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:mhall3@sscc.qld.edu.au)





## ST STEPHEN'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - MEAGHAN & RACHAEL STEFANUTTI



Meaghan Stefanutti graduated from St Stephen's Catholic College in 2010. Meaghan has a Diploma of Hospitality and is currently living in Brisbane and working as a Senior Functions Supervisor at the Novotel Brisbane Airport. She has recently travelled to Japan, Europe, Canada and America and is planning a holiday to Greece in July next year.



### ***Meaghan Stefanutti - 2006 to 2010 (Foundation Student)***

*Honours: Mareeba Dimbulah Community Bank Award for Citizenship*

### ***Rachael Stefanutti - 2009 to 2013***

*Honours: Mareeba Dimbulah Community Bank Award for Citizenship*



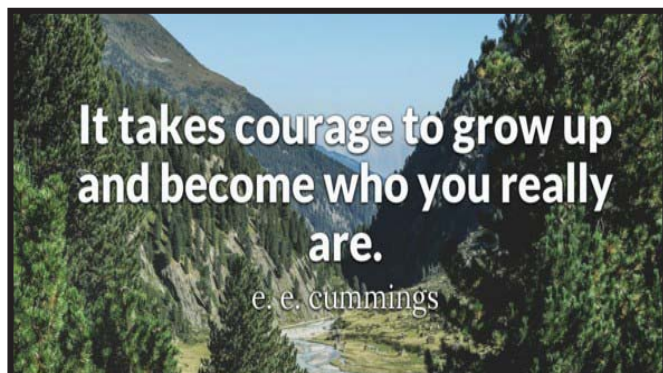
Rachael Stefanutti graduated from St Stephen's Catholic College in 2013 and is about to complete her Bachelor of Education (Secondary) - Home Economics and History, from QUT.

Over the past four years, Rachael has worked part-time as a Manager at McDonald's and has received a number of awards. Rachael has also travelled to Japan and Malaysia on a study tour.



## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER PASTORAL - YEAR 7

*"Nothing goes to waste on the journey of life. Both good and bad experiences shape your mind and heart for what is to come"* by Curiano quotes life.



The year has nearly finished with different hurdles along the way for each year seven student. This cohort of students has grown and matured so much. All students have adapted to life at high school admirably and have mastered timetables, lockers and moving between classrooms, while being organised for each subject. They have also made new friends and developed new relationships with staff. The confidence and enthusiasm they have demonstrated on their journey is a credit to



them and they deserve to be commended for successfully making a smooth transition from primary to secondary schooling.

Students have also established more independence and responsibility for their learning, and are able to manage their time more effectively. Continual growth in creating study habits that suit their own needs is important as they complete homework, study for final exams and submit their last assessments, especially over the next few days.

Although students have embraced numerous challenges enthusiastically and displayed significant improvement in their organisation and time management, these skills will need ongoing monitoring by parents over the next few years to ensure continued success. It is important that students continue to take responsibility to monitor their progress and learn from mistakes made this year, and make adjustments for 2018. Take the time to look at any remaining stationery items and books which have not been used and keep them for 2018.

I hope that all students have time to recuperate and enjoy a well-deserved rest over the Christmas break and that families enjoy time together to reconnect without the day-to-day stress of school life. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all year seven students for their hard work, diligence and friendship over the year. Every student has contributed to making our cohort a very positive and confident one. Students have worked together with their teachers to deal with the demands and pressures of high school, and I am very proud of their achievements.

I wish you and your family a very blessed and joyful Christmas.

**Mrs Jayarani Salerno**  
**Middle Leader Pastoral - Years 7 and 8**  
[jsalerno@sccc.qld.edu.au](mailto:jsalerno@sccc.qld.edu.au)





## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER PASTORAL - YEAR 11

Well, would one believe it? The year is almost at an end! I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to lead the year eleven cohort this year, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for all your support over the past ten months.

The year has certainly been a productive one for our year eleven's, as they settled in to senior schooling and adapted well to the rigour associated with such a transition. Senior shirts have been ordered, leadership positions for next year have been finalised... all that's left to do are a few exams, right?

As we farewelled our year twelve's last week, I took a moment to reflect on what this meant for our year eleven's, and I was feeling genuinely excited for what is in store for us next year. It will certainly be a busy, yet memorable year, and I can't wait to walk this journey with them.

For now, I want to wish all our year eleven students and their families a very safe, happy and holy Christmas. May God bless you all over this special holiday period, and I look forward to seeing you all next year.

**Mrs Stacey Crockford**  
**Middle Leader Pastoral - Years 11 and 12**  
*scrockford@sscc.qld.edu.au*



## FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER CURRICULUM - TECHNOLOGY

St Stephen's Catholic College was successful at the DATTA Queensland and Business Liaison Association Awards held in October. Pictured with their certificates below are: Dayna Scapin (year eleven), Brandon Green (year twelve), Aarin Ryan (year nine), Hunter Liebold (year twelve) and Dean McDonald (year ten). The categories included:

- Senior Technology and Design - Open Design
- Senior Technology and Design - Closed Design
- Senior Mechanical/Electrical/Robotics Design
- Year Seven and Eight Technology and Design - Project and Design Folio

**Ms Toni Smith**  
**Middle Leader Curriculum - Technology**  
*tstevens@sscc.qld.edu.au*



Right: Dean McDonald and left: Dayna Scapin, Brandon Green, Aarin Ryan and Hunter Liebold.



## YEAR 9 - BUSINESS TRADING - ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

Year nine Economic and Business students recently participated in the \$20.00 boss programme which was offered by the Foundation for young Australians, whereby teams of four (4) to five (5) students banded together to create a business idea. It was a unique and exciting opportunity for students that enables them to:

- Participate in an immersive learning experience where they create a real-world business.
- Build skills that make them enterprising, including:
  - motivation, confidence and resilience
  - financial and business literacy
  - creativity and courage to experiment
  - teamwork and communication
- Understand that businesses can have a social or environmental purpose, and that business is a powerful tool for making the world a better place.
- Be inspired to consider self-employment and other entrepreneurial career choices.



During recess, students sold their products or services and profits were donated to a local charity. Staff and students wish to thank everyone for their support.

**Mrs Julie Goleby**  
**Business Teacher**  
[jgoleby@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:jgoleby@sscc.qld.edu.au)





## ST STEPHEN'S GOLF OPEN

Following the recent St Stephen's Golf Open, awards were presented at assembly. To recap, results from the open:

Winner: Thomas Hallam 94

Third: Logan Poggioli 106 (on a countback)

Runner Up: Darcy Hallam 95

Fourth: Thomas Flynn 106

**Mr Hadyn Flynn**  
**Golf Coordinator**

*hflynn@sscc.qld.edu.au*



Pictured with Mr Flynn, from left to right: Darcy Hallam, Logan Poggioli and Thomas Hallam.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY - SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER



Performing their last official duties, the College Captains, Matthew Cheesman, Amelia Aitken, Tulani Lea'uanae and Ashley Greenwood, along with Mrs Pinease, attended the Remembrance Day service in Mareeba on Saturday 11 November.

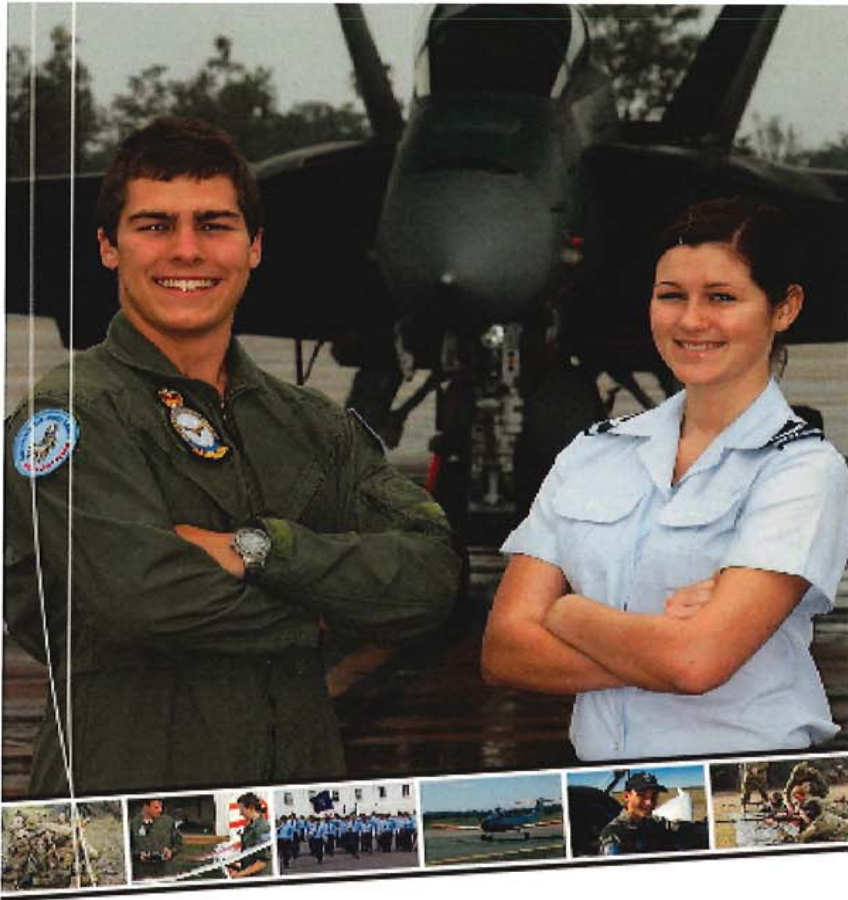


# YEAR 12 - DRIVING HOME THE MESSAGE





# AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS



**AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS**  
Cadets – Air Force's future  
[www.aafc.org.au](http://www.aafc.org.au)



**106 SQUADRON (TABLELANDS)**

**Recruiting Now!**

**Youths 13 - 17 yrs**

**Phone us to register your interest or attend  
one of our information sessions.**

**Phone 0437774536 for details.**

*Unit facility located at 2A Abbott Street, Mareeba*

## ACTIVITIES

- \* International Exchange Trips.
- \* Powered and Glider Flying.
- \* Firearm Safety Training.
- \* Courses at Defence Bases.
- \* Competitions at National Events.
- \* Rifle Shooting.
- \* Radio Communications Fieldcraft.
- \* Drill & Ceremonial.
- \* Navigation Training.
- \* Survival Training.
- \* Model Rocketry.
- \* Team Building.
- \* Abseiling.
- \* High Ropes.
- \* Canoeing.
- \* Air Shows.

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- \* Educational Qualifications.
- \* Great experiences.
- \* Leadership Training.
- \* Confidence Building.
- \* Public Speaking.
- \* Instructional Training.
- \* Mateship/Friendship.
- \* Self-discipline.



## ST STEPHEN'S CHRISTMAS GREETING AND 2018 TERM DATES



*St Stephen's Catholic College extends its appreciation to our parents and the wider community for their support during 2017. It has been another successful year in which our students have learnt life lessons and grown in responsibility and confidence. Best wishes for a Christmas filled with joy and peace.*

*Mrs Ida Pinese  
Principal*

*And the angel said to them,*

*"FEAR NOT, FOR BEHOLD,  
I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY  
that will be for all the people."*

*- LUKE 2:10*

St Stephen's  
Catholic College



Trust in the Lord

## TERM DATES 2018

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

Term 2: Tuesday 17 April to Friday 29 June

Term 3: Monday 16 July to Friday 21 September

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

### Student Free Days 2018

*Monday 16 April and Monday 22 October*

