



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



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Building Positive Relationships



On Friday 15 March, students and staff participated in the national day against bullying and violence. Through participation in a myriad of activities, students were encouraged to try new experiences, be more tolerant and accepting of others and to make new friends. The day was a resounding success towards building more positive relationships among the student body.

NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Wednesday 27 March

Australian Geography Competition

Friday 29 March

Cross Country (commencing at 12.30 pm)

Monday 1 April to Friday 5 April

Year 7 Camp (Girls 1-3)

Year 7 Camp (Boys 3-5)

Monday 1 April to Wednesday 3 April

Year 12 Retreat

Tuesday 2 April to Thursday 4 April

Year 6 visits

Friday 5 April

Stations of the Cross Liturgy

Students Requiring Medication

If your child requires medication to be taken during school hours, please contact Mrs Linda Bale to discuss the requirements of the College.

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) with any information and photos.

ABSENTEE EMAIL

If your child is absent, please email:
ssm.absentee@cns.catholic.edu.au

Maths Tutoring Available

Tuesday and Thursday

Recess 2 - S5

(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 or telephone: 4086 2500. This also applies to any other contact details.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

"The simplest prescription for improving education must be dollops of feedback."

(John Hattie)



PRIORITIES FOR 2019

In order to enhance the educational experiences of students, schools embark on an annual explicit improvement agenda. At St Stephen's, the targets for 2019 centre around writing, data analysis and Catholic identity.

In the area of writing, St Stephen's has implemented a school-wide literacy improvement plan with a focus on writing on demand. While students are adept at producing work with no time constraints, some struggle to complete a written task under pressure, in a set time frame. With the introduction of the new QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) system for all senior students from 2019 onwards, the ability to write on demand in a set time frame is a very important skill which must be acquired. For those students undertaking subjects in science or mathematics, fifty percent of the final result will be derived from an external assessment under strict examination conditions, including the time allocation.

Effective decision-making about students must be based on evidence. The collation and analysis of data about individual students enable teachers to make informed decisions about the progress being made. This data can take a variety of formats. Our teachers are strongly encouraged to examine data about their students so that they can implement strategies for improvement. To this end, the college has acquired the expertise of Dr Judy Smeed who assists our teachers to understand where students' strengths lie and which areas require further development. Data analysis also provides information about students who may require extension and enables effective feedback to be provided to students about their progress so that improvement can occur.

The Catholic identity of a college goes beyond external signs such as statues or religious icons. This identity is based on how a school lives out the Gospel values, honouring the dignity of all in every interaction. With the launch of the Catholic Faith in Action Program in year eleven this year, students are called upon to reflect on their relationship with God and with each other, as well as participating in a project which gives witness to justice and service for others. Subjects such as Study of Religion and Religion and Ethics are no longer compulsory, but form part of a suite of electives which students may study. What is compulsory is Catholic Faith in Action. The Diocese of Cairns is to be commended for pioneering this program which aims to make faith real for our students.

STUDENT SUCCESS

After weeks of training, the St Stephen's Chess Team had its first foray into the competitive arena on 7 March, narrowly missing out on second place, to achieve the title of third. In the same week, Jonah Williams participated in the next stage of the Lions Youth of the Year where his moving prepared speech brought a tear to many.

CHESS CLUB

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)

Room: S4 - Every day during Recess 2.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

On Friday 15 March, the college community participated in the anti-bullying day with a myriad of activities. Due to the hard work of our Pastoral Middle Leaders and College Leaders, students were exposed to experiences which fostered positive relationships.

The priorities for 2019 and the success students experience can only be achieved by all members of the St Stephen's community working together to achieve improved outcomes and well-being for our students. In the words of Mother Teresa: **"You can do what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together, we can do great things."**

With trust in the Lord

Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal

ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Lent

Lent is a special period in the Church Year leading up to the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus. In the Roman Catholic Church, Lent is 40 days in duration - a mini version of the 40 days the ancient Israelites spent in the desert. This time transforms the Hebrew slaves into God's own covenant-keeping people, which echoes the theme of our Lenten call to turn back to God and live the Gospel. While many of us consider Lent a time to confront bad habits, try harder or even get leaner, the heart of the season is recognizing that we live in communion with others. **"Lent invites us to clean up our lives, throw out the rubbish, and reclaim the spirit within that appreciates being alive, in love with family and friends, and engaged with neighbours"** (GPBS, 2019). It calls us to find the reality of the holy in the everyday, the ordinary, in all that is and to **"cultivate a deeper consciousness of God's love at our fingertips"** (GPBS, 2019).



Date Claimers

Parents and friends of our college community are invited to join us for the following liturgical celebrations:

- Year 7 Class Mass – Thursday 21 March, 11.45 am, College Chapel
- Year 11 Class Mass – Wednesday 27 March, 1.20 pm, College Chapel
- Stations of the Cross Liturgy – Friday 5 April, 1.20 pm, Undercover Area

Just Leadership Day

On Thursday 28 February, some year eleven students participated in a Just Leadership Day at St Joseph's in Atherton presented by Caritas representative Kerry Drysdale. The activities were focused on social justice involving games and presentations which highlighted the circumstances in which the poor and marginalised live. The year eleven students assisted students from the primary Catholic schools in the Western deanery during the sessions and challenged them to a handball competition at recess. In the afternoon session, the students planned actions to take back at school to raise awareness and act in solidarity with the oppressed.

Mrs Laura Gilbert

Assistant Principal Religious Education

lgilbert1@cns.catholic.edu.au

LENTEN REFLECTION

WHENEVER

Whenever you feel alone, go and sit with one who is even lonelier than you.

Whenever you feel unloved, show your love to another.

Whenever you feel exhausted by others, get some sleep yourself.

Whenever you seem to be annoyed by someone, look at how you annoy others.

Whenever you feel anger from a friend, consult your own feelings of anger.

Whenever you are bothered by someone else's inability to get something done, take a look at what you have yet to finish.

Whenever you feel as though you are not being listened to, consider how well you yourself are listening to others.

Whenever your life seems to be turning into a nightmare, go and help the dream of another come true.

Whenever you are looking for someone to affirm you, take a moment, wash your face, look at yourself in the mirror, and discover God's work of art.

Whenever you are praying for peace, do not forget to pray for the serenity to create a peaceful centre in yourself.

Whenever you want to work for justice, seek justice for yourself as well.

Whenever you want to seek revenge, remember the pain you are inflicting on yourself.

Whenever you feel as though all is hopeless, try to seek out and find strength in one thing or person that you can always count on.

Whenever you feel you cannot offer forgiveness, choose to forgive yourself.

Whenever you get the urge to correct another, do an inventory of your own growth.

Whenever you are fearful for someone else's hurt feelings, take a moment to touch and heal your own wounds.

Whenever you feel resentment toward someone, first stop and let go of the bitterness you feel toward yourself.

Whenever you feel the call to teach and empower people, do not forget to follow the same curriculum.

Whenever you want to console and dry another person's tears, allow yourself to cry with them.

Whenever you feel that the last thing you want to do is sing, know that this is probably the time when you need to sing the most.

Whenever you are seeking God's attention, be sure to honour the divine presence that is already moving within you.

[DH: 2/28/17. Copyright © 2017 David Haas / The Emmaus Center for Music, Prayer and Ministry. Used with permission. All rights reserved.]



LENT

FROM THE SOCIAL SCIENCE AND BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

A few weeks ago, year eight geography went on an excursion with Miss Morrow, Mrs Heath, Mr Vaughan and Mr Marti.

Mr Marti works for the Barron River Catchment Care and he provided us with great insight on areas along the Barron River Catchment. We explored Bonadio's property with Mr Marti to view the revegetation of the riparian zone along the banks of the Barron River, in order to reduce erosion and increase native wildlife habitat. We then travelled to the Tolga Detention Basins which provided us with an example of the importance and relevance of these types of community and environmental initiatives.

The Tolga Detention Basins were built in 2009 by the Tableland Regional Council and Barron River Catchment Care. The purpose of these basins is to slow the stormwater flow and trap sediment from muddy run-off from the surrounding areas. The basins provide the area with improved drainage, which helps prevent erosion. It helps with the quality and quantity of vegetation growth, which then helps the local wildlife. The basins also allow for cleaner water to flow into the Great Barrier Reef. We also learnt about the Zuni bowls, that were constructed in the area. They were constructed by hand and to describe them, they are large round hollows in the ground that are supported by large rocks. These bowls are connected to the detention basin by underground pipes. The purpose of these bowls is to help slow the water flow and prevent soil erosion.

The excursion was extremely informative and we all learnt about the importance of decreasing soil erosion.

Written by:

Caitlin Wadley and Nate Mitchell - Year Eight Geography Students



FROM THE ARTS AND LOTE DEPARTMENT: JAPANESE

The year seven students are at the end of the elective cycle and will have a listening test to conclude their assessment for this subject. Prior to this assessment, students have been working on their speaking and listening skills, describing their families and talking about their self-created monsters. Some students got the topic mixed up and wanted to include their little brother or sister in the monster topic!



The year nine students have almost mastered the 46 hiragana symbols and they deserve to be really proud of their achievement. In a very short time they can read the chapter from the text book which is all in Japanese symbols. There is a picture below of the symbols also showing the sounds and the stroke direction. All Japanese words can be represented by the symbols. A problem arises when Japanese people try say non-Japanese words using these sounds. The sound range is quite limited and results in some unusual pronunciation. The year nine students will have a reading and speaking test to end the term.

Mr Rohan Priestly

Japanese Teacher

rpriestly@cns.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE ARTS AND LOTE DEPARTMENT: DRAMA

Drama has had an exciting start to 2019, with students being exposed to many different types of theatrical conventions. Melodrama and story telling have been the focus of our junior school with our year nine drama class heading to St Thomas' of Villanova at the end of this term to perform their children's theatre plays that they have created. Our senior students have been focusing on the theatrical conventions of Epic and Greek theatre and are learning the different types of elements of each of these conventions through analysis and performance. For some of them, this will be their first time performing in drama since their junior years and we look forward to what they come up with.



Finally, drama club has started up again for this term and we have had a great response from students who are wanting to participate. It will be offered again next term every Friday at second recess for anyone wishing to come and play games, hang out with friend or just have fun.



**Mrs Samantha Malcolm
Drama Teacher**

smalcolm@cns.catholic.edu.au

FROM THE ARTS AND LOTE DEPARTMENT: MUSIC

As always, there is plenty happening in the music department!

2019 kicked off with a spectacular excursion to the Cairns Choral Society production of the Popular Broadway hit "Wicked"! A great group of students, staff and parents spent 'One Short Day in the Emerald City', all from the comfort of the brand new Cairns Performing Arts Centre. We even met the stars of the show, Glinda and Elphaba! Seeing live productions like this is an invaluable learning experience for students studying in the Arts. A massive thank you to all who supported this excursion and drove themselves or their children down the range in the wet weather!



The Queensland Music Festival has announced the opening of their annual competitions. Music transforms a film's narrative, enchanting and captivating the audience and **Score IT!** allows students a chance to let their creativity run wild. Great prizes are up for grabs including composition workshops, masterclasses, recording sessions and professional recording equipment. Budding singer-songwriters may prefer the **On Song** competition, where six aspiring musicians, aged 12-18, will be given the chance to develop their songwriting skills in a one-of-a-kind mentorship with award-winning Australian musician, Jack Carty. In addition, winners will receive studio equipment and the incredible opportunity to perform at a popular Brisbane music venue. For more information please see Ms Kitchiner, the posters in the music block or www.qmf.org.au (entries close 24 May 2019).

Finally, the St Stephen's Catholic College Choir is busily rehearsing for a number of events coming up. We will be performing at our college Anzac Day ceremony and we are hoping to compete in the Cairns Eisteddfod in June. Any interested students are welcome to join, please see Ms Kitchiner or Mrs Livingstone for details.

Yours in music,

Ms Emily Kitchiner
Music Teacher

ekitchiner@cns.catholic.edu.au



FROM THE ARTS AND LOTE DEPARTMENT: VISUAL ART

Here are some pictures of the very first year seven Visual Art class. It is a new subject that started this year and students are learning about the elements of art: Line, Shape, Form, Colour, Value, Texture and Space. The students have an eight week rotation, so eventually all of the year seven's will be introduced to these important basic elements in their first year of high school, with the plan that they will be able to build upon this valuable knowledge as they continue with Visual Art in the following years.



All year seven students will complete a creative mini composition for each art element in a variety of mediums, like: pencil, coloured pencil, paint and pastel. At the end of their course, they produce a portfolio which is what they are holding up in these photographs.

Mrs Nola Nunes
Visual Art Teacher

nnunes@cns.catholic.edu.au



Year seven boys with their portfolio.

Year seven girls with their portfolio.



Year Eight - Food Technology



Year Nine - Food Technology



Year Ten - Food Technology



Year Eight - Health and Physical Education



FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - VET AND VOCATIONAL LEARNING

Careers and VET News

A term one races to an end, I am again encouraging year eleven and twelve students to explore their post school options and prepare and research a Plan A and a Plan B option. Below I have included several articles of interest and am happy to meet with students and parents to discuss further.



Comparing OPs and ATARs

All states in Australia, except Queensland, call their year twelve tertiary entry score an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). The ATAR is a number between 0 and 99.95 (highest) with increments of 0.05. The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) currently provides all Tertiary Entrance data (OP/FPs and ATAR) to QTAC. From 2020 QTAC will calculate the ATAR not QCAA. If you are applying for interstate courses, the relevant tertiary admissions centre can obtain your ATAR directly from QTAC. Tables converting OPs to QTAC selection ranks and QTAC selection ranks to ATARs can be accessed from the [QTAC website](#). Note that these [tables are based on 2018 year twelve](#) results so can be used as a guide only. You can learn more about ATARs and how to obtain an ATAR statement from the [Student Connect website](#).

I'm not eligible for an OP. Can I still apply for courses through QTAC?

Yes, when you apply to QTAC, you will be given an OP ineligible rank based on your best 20 semester units of Authority subjects, Authority-registered subjects and Vocational Education and Training (VET) recorded in your Learning Account. Sitting for the QCS Test could improve your OP ineligible rank and could be an advantage. Use the OP Ineligible Estimator on the [QTAC website](#) (scroll down to the OP Ineligible Estimator) or talk to your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor to get an idea of how QTAC will calculate your OP ineligible rank.

You may receive additional Adjustment Factors if you complete other qualifications that can be included in your Learning Account (e.g. Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma or acceptable music/speech and drama qualifications). If you receive more than one rank, the rules of the institutions you apply for will determine which of these ranks becomes your first order rank (the rank used for your competitiveness). Note that you must still meet the subject prerequisites and any other entry requirements of the courses you apply for.

UQ: FEAST registrations are now open

FEAST is a five-day residential program held at the UQ Gatton Campus for students in years ten to twelve, who are interested in agriculture, animals, vet science, food and/or the environment. It will be held from 30 June 2019 - 4 July 2019. This is a popular program, so register now on the [FEAST website](#).

Certificate II in Resources and Infrastructure Work Preparation

Certificate II is the entry qualification for the resources and infrastructure industries. This course is being offered to year eleven and twelve students and is fully funded under the VETiS scheme to eligible students. The course combines on line learning and field work. The course runs for 8 weeks and the next course starts on June 29. For more information please see Mrs Hoult.

Mrs Carol Hoult

Middle Leader VET and Vocational Learning

choult@cns.catholic.edu.au

2019 'SAINTS' WHEELBARROW RACE TEAM

Training and preparation for this year's Wheelbarrow Race is underway. This year, St Stephen's Catholic College will again support the Mareeba Friends of the Hospital Foundation as their chosen charity. To maximise our fundraising endeavours and to purchase necessary equipment for the race, we are asking for the support of individuals and businesses in the form of sponsorship. We are happy to receive donations of any amount, from \$25.00 to \$500.00. All sponsors will be acknowledged by publication of the company/and or individual's name and logo on the college's Facebook page and in the school newsletter, as well as being displayed on the bus during the event.



As the event is to be run over the weekend from Friday 17 to Sunday 19 May, it is important that the school office receives all sponsorship donations by Wednesday 15 May. Sponsorship can be made by direct bank deposit (see the details provided below), at reception or by phone (07 4086 2500). Any enquiries and electronic copies of company logos can be emailed to Mrs Maree Lopez, at mlopez@cns.catholic.edu.au

We ask that if you make a direct deposit, please notify the college on the above email address.

Mr Paul MacCallum

Wheelbarrow Race Coordinator

pmaccaullum@cns.catholic.edu.au

Direct Deposit Details

Bank: National Australia Bank

BSB: 084 352

Account No: 0000 12931

Name: St Stephen's Catholic College

Detail: GWR Insert Company Name

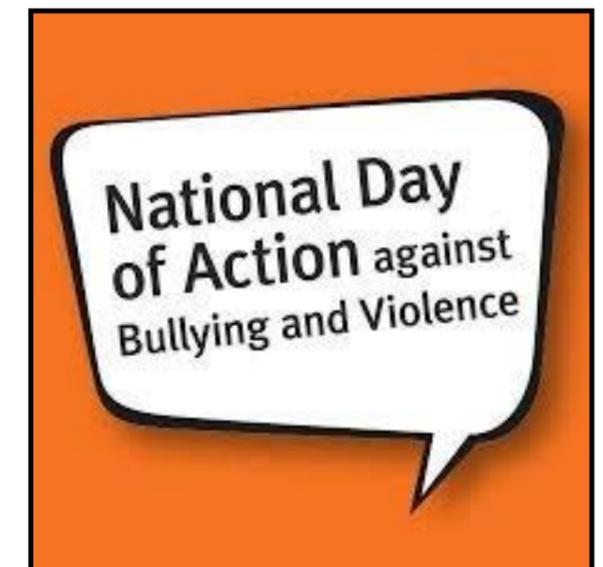


Meet some of the participant's for the 2019 SAINTS team, from left to right: Jacob Gegg, Finley Green, Jonah Williams, Benjamin Struthers, Nataliah Lopez, Gemaley Evans Madrid and Kyrah Johnston.

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE



NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE



New Cashless System is here!



St Stephen's Catholic College is constantly on the lookout for new ways to make your interactions with school more convenient. That's why we've engaged with Flexischools, Australia's leading school payment system, to provide a new cashless way for you to pay for school services.

Order and pay for a range of school services online with Flexischools online ordering...

Flexischools is the fast, convenient and secure way to order and pay for [SERVICES WITH FLEXISCHOOLS] from home or on your mobile. Flexischools makes our school service[s] available to you 24/7

- Parents set up a Flexischools account online and pre-load the account with funds.
- Parent can use the funds in their account to order and pay for a range of services online
- Parents can view their orders online and can set a daily spending limit.

Get Started with Flexischools...

Set up an account for online ordering...

You can set up an account online – it only takes a minute.

1. **Register for Flexischools** by visiting www.flexischools.com.au. Add your student, their school and form class to get started.
2. **Top-Up your account** via Visa, Mastercard, PayPal or direct deposit.
3. **Make an order** by selecting from the range of options made available by your school and proceed to make payment for the order listed in your order pad.
4. **Review Orders** by logging back in to your Flexischools account. You can set recurring orders, view transaction history or cancel orders via your Flexischools login.

What does it cost?

Online Ordering Fees -	\$0.29 per order
Account Top-Up Fees -	Direct Deposit FREE
	Credit card (visa/mastercard) 15c + 1%
	PayPal 15c + 1%

In 2018, St Stephen's Catholic College implemented Parent Slips(via EdSmart) to assist with communication between school and parents. Parent Slips is an online system that replaces all the paper forms we send home for you to complete and return. By moving to an online system the school anticipates making good savings in time and cost compared with managing a paper process. The online system is extremely easy for parents to use. Instead of paper forms coming home in your child's school bag, you will be sent an email notification, with a link to click that opens a secure web page version of the form to complete and submit. You can do this on your phone, tablet or computer. You do not need to download any apps or register. The online system is a much more efficient way to capture all this information from you, and means teachers and the administration staff can easily keep track of who has returned their forms. All of the data you submit in the forms is held in a secure database and is only accessible to selected school staff.



PAST STUDENT SUCCESS - ELENA PILAT

Elena Pilat, College Captain in 2018, OP 1 recipient and also Runner Up to the Dux at the college's Awards Night, has received a high commendation and scholarship in the TJ Ryan Memorial Medal and Scholarship program in recognition of her leadership qualities and academic excellence. Congratulations to Elena from the St Stephen's Catholic College community.

History of the Scholarship

The TJ Ryan Memorial Medal represents a long-standing tradition of recognising educational achievement in Queensland. The award is a memorial to Thomas Joseph Ryan, former teacher, barrister and Queensland Premier (1915 - 1919), and are provided to students who demonstrate a strong commitment to high academic achievement and outstanding leadership in both their school and the local community.

From 1927 to 1970, the TJ Ryan Memorial Scholarship was awarded to the student who achieved the highest result in the state scholarship examination. The scholarship program ceased with the end of these public examinations.

In 1993, the TJ Ryan Awards were re-introduced by the Queensland Government. The award was open to students from disadvantaged backgrounds who demonstrated academic excellence and who displayed leadership qualities through their achievements in year 12. From 1996, the awards were expanded to all students who demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities and academic excellence during their senior years at high school.

In 2003, the award was renamed the TJ Ryan Memorial Medal and Scholarships but has also been known as the Premier's Awards and the Lilley Medal. Up to ten TJ Ryan Memorial Medal and Scholarships are awarded each year.



Parent Portal Invitation



Access is restricted to parents of students at our school and a logon is required. An account has been created for you with the email address you have provided to the school and the details are outlined below.

The Parent Portal will enable easy access to information about happenings in the school, forms that need to be returned, names and contact details for staff, policy information and much more.

There's also a special section to allow you to check the details we have recorded in our enrolment system about your children, and if necessary, advise us of any changes.

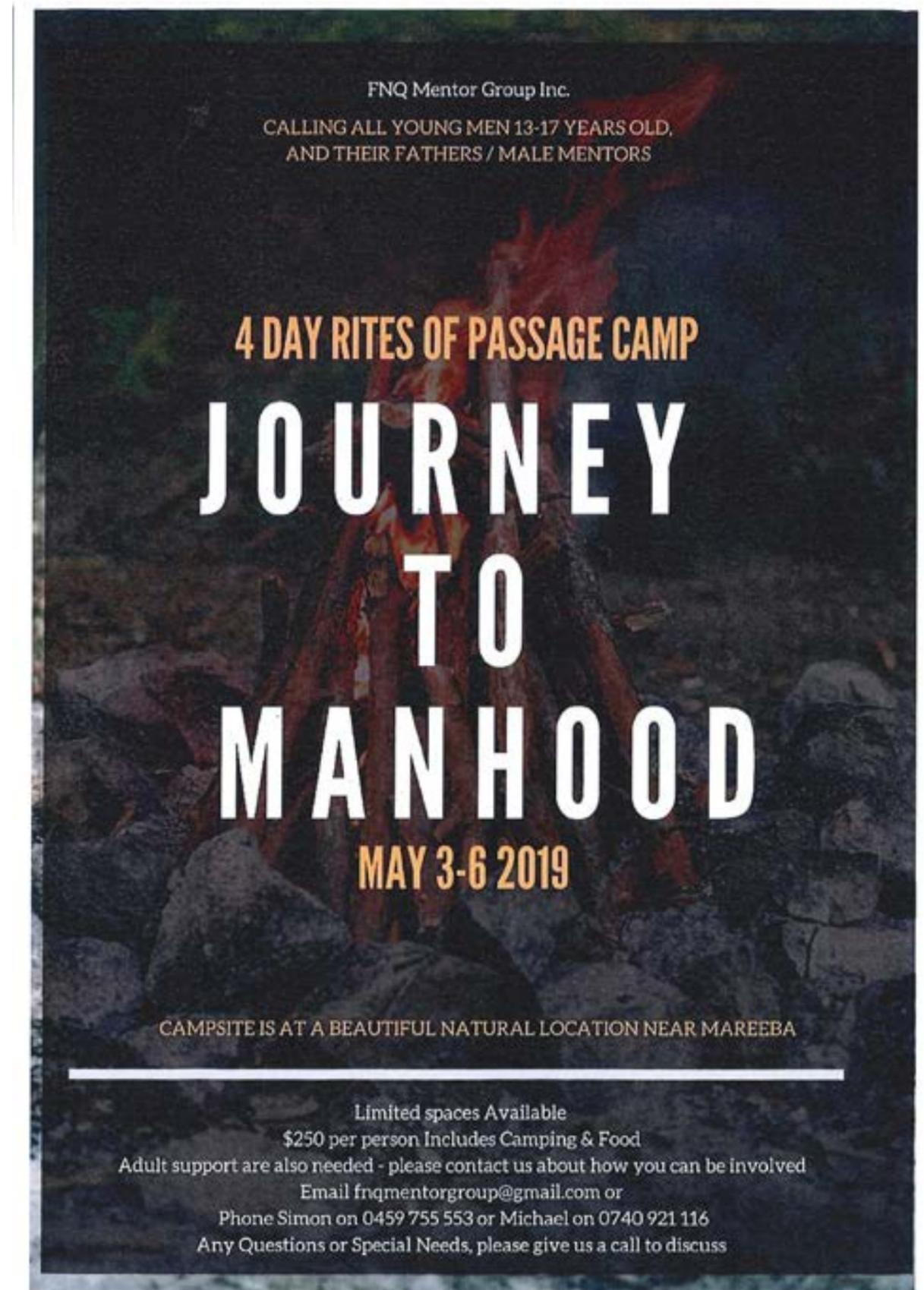
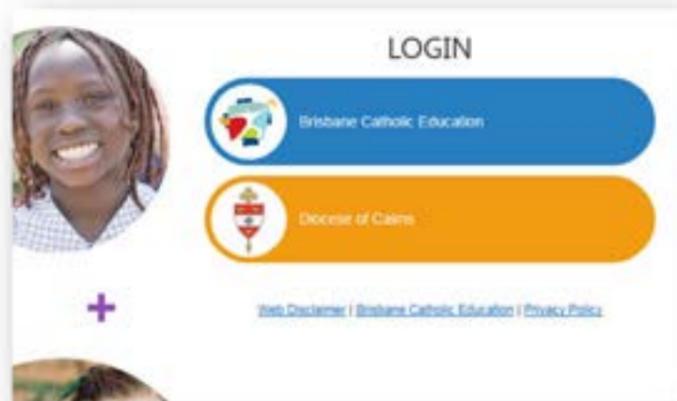
You can also check on information about your child's attendance, teachers, timetable, NAPLAN performance and Academic Report cards.

We will be making increasing use of the Parent Portal to provide a range of information to parents in the future.

The initial login requires you to verify your identity and setup a password. This document will run you through the process.

ADD A LINK TO YOUR PARENT PORTAL HERE

1. Start the process by clicking on the Parent Portal link above or the Parent Portal link on our School Website. You will be met with a login screen.



ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

ENROL NOW

FOR 2020

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Scholarship applications for academic, sporting and cultural for Year 7 in 2020, are now available. Application forms are available from the college website or from the college office.

Closing date: Friday 5 April 2019

Families intending to enrol students for 2020 must collect an enrolment package from the college or download a copy from our website. The following steps outline the process:

1. Complete the application for enrolment documentation.
2. Attach the necessary documentation as per the checklist in the enrolment package.
3. Return the application with \$100.00 enrolment fee in person or by mail and all applications must be received by Friday 5 April 2019.
4. Once the enrolment application has been received, you will be contacted for an interview. Your enrolment interview may occur in terms one or two.
5. Confirmation of your child's enrolment will occur in term two, when you will be sent a confirmation of enrolment package to complete. This package must be returned to the college for processing.



**Lot 3, McIver Road Mareeba
PO Box 624 Mareeba Qld 4880**

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Email: ssm.office@cns.catholic.edu.au
www.sccc.qld.edu.au**