



Principal: Ms Kerry Manders
Deputy Principal: Mr Simon Vaughan
Assistant Principal Religious Education: Ms Janai Sugars
Assistant Principal Administration: Mr Rohan Priestly
Business Manager: Mr Hadyn Flynn
College Leader Pastoral Care: Mr Matthew Draper



College Leaders Inducted for 2020



College Captains: Jenna Kerswell, Ethan Backshall, Aarin Ryan and Andrew Gallo.



Cultural Leaders: Emily Perrett and Holly Bryce.



Student Representative Council: Connor Askey-Doran (Vice-President), Coleman Doyle (Treasurer), Dalta Hatfield (Secretary) and Jamie Hewitt-Toms (President).



Social Justice Committee: Victoria Bambino (Vice-President), Alara McGrath (Committee Member), Alexandra McCormack (President), Emmylou Milgate (Treasurer) and Kara Cazzola (Secretary).



Pastoral House Leaders: Sam Dryden and Giulia Pilat (McAuley), Makenzi May and Katlyn Broad (Augustine), Hope Kennedy (Deacon, absent is Sarah Cockburn) and Isabella Cuda and Blake Tahir (Muluridji).

NOTICES



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday 24 February

Year 12 Parent Information Evening

Tuesday 25 February

Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 26 February

Ash Wednesday

Monday 2 March

Author Visit

Tuesday 3 March

Chess Competition

Tuesday 4 March

Year 7 Immunisations

Monday 16 March

Student Free Day

Thursday 19 March

Open Evening

Monday 30 March – Friday 3 April

Year 7 Camp

Friday 3 April

Easter Liturgy

STUDENT FREE DAY

Monday 16 March 2020

CHESS CLUB

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)

**Room: MCR - Every day during Recess 2.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



TERM DATES 2020

Term 1: 28 January - 3 April

Term 2: 20 April - 26 June

Term 3: 13 July - 18 September

Term 4 : 5 October to 27 November
Year 12 - 20 November

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

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the St Stephen's community

We are approaching the halfway point of first term, students have settled into the rhythm of the learning and are preparing for the first pieces of assessment. It is a sign of success for us when students have engaged with their studies with such great energy.

In the last two weeks we have held our major Term one events – Year 7 Meet and Greet and Opening Mass. The year 7 Meet and Greet was an opportune time for new families to meet each other and teaching staff and to hear important information to how to develop as a successful secondary school student. This Monday we officially opened the year with mass and the induction of our student leaders. We were privileged to have many invited guests and Year 12 parents join us. At mass we welcomed 145 new students to our College family. We blessed each new student and the College badge they were to receive as a sign of welcome and belonging to the College. I spoke to students encouraging and challenging them for their journey at St Stephen's – “You have joined a nurturing family environment. Our College family is one that has Christ at the centre of all that we do bringing God's presence in all things. As such we are called to be people of compassion with respect for ourselves, each other and the environment. Our College family encourages and nurtures each member to develop successful relationships through the courage to be kind and supportive. We have a clear commitment to restore relationships that may be damaged along the way and we encourage you to persevere through challenges always in search of excellence.”

Badges are a tangible sign of the connection to our College and the roles that students undertake. The Year 12 students received their senior badges and the elected leaders their position badges all of which were blessed by Fr Greenup. These outward signs of leadership are reminders of the commitment students have made to our College. I encouraged the seniors and elected leaders to look towards a model of leadership based on Jesus and the notion of service, a model where “Jesus tells us that leadership and service cannot be separated. To be called to leadership is to be called to service, leadership is about growing a servant heart. Leadership is not about power over others, it is about working in relationship with others. It means leadership is about heart shown when we are courageously compassionate, respectful and kind. When we lead with a servant heart of Jesus we liberate and motivate others to do the same. We empower others to do the same. We become a living example of what Christ wants to bring to all people. We know that St Stephen was a very good example of courageously bringing people to understand Christ through his words and actions. St Stephen was modelling a courageous servant heart. Pope Francis models this type of courageous leadership - It is about being a leader of influence, through the way we live and interact with the world, not through telling others what to do, instead by showing them how to act. Leading through actions is modelling a servant heart and a servant heart is always authentic, humble and one of action. To the leaders of the College - always remember your words and actions should liberate and motivate others. Remember to show everyone in our community that you are compassionate courageous and humble leaders called to action to service.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At St Stephen's we are lucky to be reminded of this call to service, humility and courage very simply and concisely by our mural which carries the message: "Jesus washed the feet of others. Are you prepared to do the same?". I believe that it is timely in the world in which we live for all of us to reflect on those words "Are you prepared to do the same", how will you show your servant heart to others this year?".

In closing I want to congratulate all students, staff and parents for a successful start to the year. I especially would like to thank the parents who have supported the school events and I look forward to continuing this positivity throughout the year.

May God bless you this week as you encounter all people with a servant heart.

Ms Kerry Manders

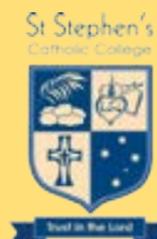
Principal

Email: ssm.principal@cns.catholic.edu.au



Congratulations to the Parents and Friends Association 2020 Executive

President: Mrs Glenys Pilat
Vice-President: Mrs Valentina Lister
Secretary: Mrs Jillian Crane
Treasurer: Dr Margaret Purcell



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Learning in the Digital Age

There is differing opinion on the role digital technology should play within schools. On one side of the spectrum, we have educators with the opinion that full implementation and a laptop or iPad is all that is required. On the other side, we have the purists and traditionalists that believe paper and pen is golden. I believe, digital technology plays a role in our schools more than ever before, but it is a tool, not a replacement, for the teacher in the classroom.



Employers are wanting to hire workers who are digitally savvy and agile, in order to move with a fast-paced business landscape. However, being able to create documents on an iPad is a small fraction of what is required in today's workforce. Employers are wanting collaborators, excellent communicators, people that can think creatively and critically, while being able to problem solve. It is these "soft skills" where the role of the teacher comes to the fore. The way learning experiences are structured in lessons allows our students to develop these employable skills. These experiences also allow our students to develop skills around cognitive verbs, for example analysing, evaluating and justifying.

Teachers have had to modify, year on year, their teaching practices to meet the needs of their students. Digital technology has meant we need to respond further to what people learn, how people learn, where people learn and when they learn. It is interesting to note that the developments of the teenage brain mean the traditional school hours are becoming more difficult for our adolescents due to sleeping patterns. However, the beauty is that digital technology can support the optimum learning times for students through resources being available at any time. The school does not support students studying until midnight or 1.00 am, but having resources available to support their learning.

St Stephen's Catholic College has taken a step forward in the implementation of digital technology through the roll out of CANVAS, our learning management system (LMS). This has meant there is support for both teachers and students in the delivery of skills and content in all key learning areas. It also can provide staff with critical feedback on the individual learning needs of our students. I believe that we have the balance right between traditional key literacy and numeracy but also the development of students in the 21st Century skills.

Mr Simon Vaughan

Deputy Principal

Email: svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au

St Stephen's Catholic College
2020 Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 25 February from 9.00 am
at the Mareeba Swimming Pool

Refer to page 14 of the newsletter
for more information.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Year eleven and twelve students began the 2020 school year with the annual senior retreats.

On 30 and 31 January, year twelve students spent some time at the Genazzano Retreat Centre, reflecting on their influence and impact on others. Over the two days, the students engaged in games, craft, reflection sessions and made plans for their year as leaders of the College.

On 3 and 4 February, the year eleven students explored their purpose and vocation in their lives. Throughout their activities they took the opportunity to reflect on the relationships that have shaped them and continue to shape them as they grow into young adults. Their retreat marks the beginning of the year eleven students' journey in the Catholic Faith in Action program, the senior religion course that began in 2019.

Both year levels are to be commended on the way they immersed themselves in the experience. It was wonderful to see growth in the students and strengthening of bonds across the cohorts. A big thank you goes to all of the teachers who attended the retreat, especially those who contributed to sessions through acting, speaking, crafting and musical support.

Ms Janai Sugars
Assistant Principal Religious Education
Email: jsugars2@cns.catholic.edu.au



Year 11 Retreat



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Year 12 Retreat



**“Successful writers are not the ones who write the best sentences.
They are the ones who keep writing.”**
(Bonnie Friedman)



The relevance of writing skills in our contemporary, digital world is a topic often debated. While many might assume that written communication is not valued, the reality is that in the modern workplace, professionals in every sector are required to demonstrate proficient writing skills, and recent research suggests that written communication skills are at the top of employers' wish lists. It is even reported that companies around the world are investing heavily in improving the writing skills of their employees.

At St Stephen's, a Whole School Literacy Plan is implemented each year to ensure that literacy skills are being developed and consolidated in all curriculum areas according to the specific requirements of each discipline. This year, we are continuing to promote and practise writing skills throughout the college. As our year twelve cohort are to undertake external examinations for the first time with the introduction of the new QCE system, the importance of writing pace and stamina is recognised, so staff in all curriculum areas from years seven to twelve, are implementing strategies to improve students' writing ability. Such 'backward mapping' aims to ensure that students have the skill and stamina for long form writing and are adequately prepared not only for high stakes testing, but also for successful careers beyond school.

Mrs Tamara Schincariol
Middle Leader English
Email: tschincari@cns.catholic.edu.au



How has the 2020 school year started in your household?



After almost two months of a break from the school routine, it can take a while to get back into the swing of things. Setting good study habits is essential to success. Being able to do this falls under the 'executive functioning' part of our brain. As I shared last year (see below), executive functioning in teenagers is still developing and is particularly difficult for someone with ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

To assist your child hone their executive functioning skills for success at school via support at home, consider the following tips:

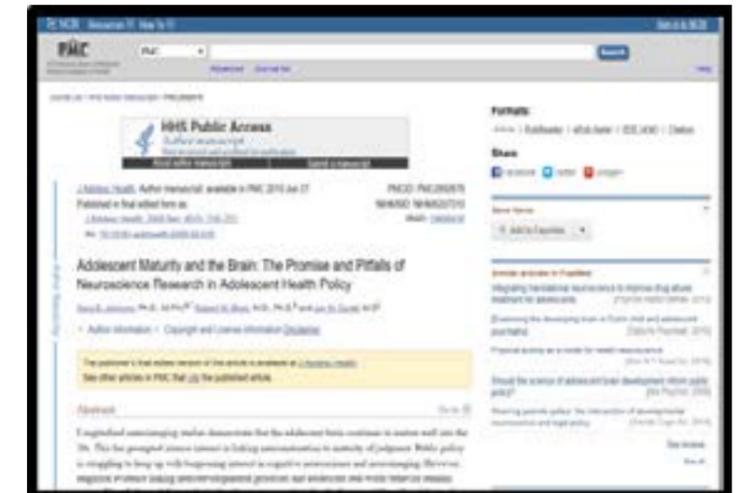
- * Establish consistent schedules and routines
- * Use checklists
- * Use notetaking templates
- * Show exactly what to study and how to study it
- * Establish study schedules and routines
- * Turn mountains into a series of molehills
- * Be specific about steps and deadlines

If your child finds it difficult to understand their homework expectations or what they need to know for an exam or how to tackle an assignment, encourage them to take ownership of their learning by emailing their teacher(s). All teachers' email addresses are on the staff directory section of the St Stephen's website: <https://sscc.qld.edu.au/our-college/staff-directory/>

Mrs Trudy Pretorius
Middle Leader Student Diversity
Email: tpretorius@cns.catholic.edu.au



Medina, J. (May 21, 2018). What parents and teachers need to know about the teenage brain and executive function. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2YMwTmz>



Johnson, S. B., Blum, R. W. and Giedd, J. N. (2009) Adolescent maturity and the brain: The promise and pitfalls of neuroscience research in adolescent health policy. Retrieved from <http://bit.ly/2MbLuGL>

TECHNOLOGY

Hello and welcome to 2020, I hope you have had a restful break and are looking forward to an exciting year.



The introduction of our new ATAR subjects: Industrial Graphics, Engineering and Digital Solutions, has allowed our very experienced and professional staff to deliver a lot of new fun and exciting activities, to complement our very successful junior program. Each subject comes with some very specialist software and equipment. To cater to the students who may find these new programs a little tricky – or for those who simply love to play with the new technology, our staff run a few different lunch time activities.

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, the Systems room is open during second recess for those students who would like access to the software / equipment used in Graphics, or a little extra help with any of the INTAD subjects. Pictured are the year twelve Engineering students stress testing concrete samples.



Robotics and STEM

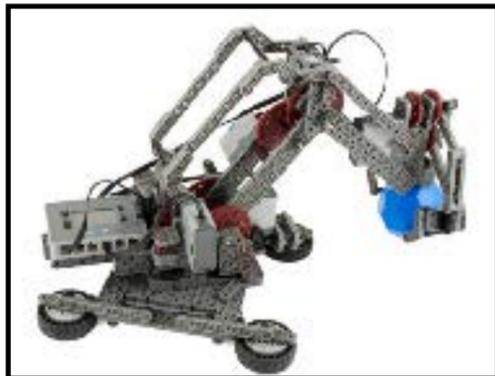
A current catch-phrase in education is STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths. We are

encouraging our students' exposure to STEM subjects by incorporating Robotics into years seven to nine. Year seven students are learning about coding using Minecraft. Year eight's in the robotics classroom, have produced Lego robots and have begun to write programs for them. A number of students who have successfully built their 'bots and got them to respond to programming instructions have commented that it's easy. Year eight students are also extending their studies to include RobotC which is based on the more traditional language, "C". The Robotics Club will be up and running from next week too!



Year Nine's are in - Vex – igitating Robotics

Our year nine students are extending their study of Robotics to include new kits from Vex Robotics. These kits from USA allow students to combine Engineering principles with Robotic programming in RobotC to produce more advanced devices for more complex problems. Students have already begun to code and learn the details of RobotC syntax.



TECHNOLOGY

Visiting Emerging Architect – Dirk Yates

Dirk has over 15 years experience in architectural practice, most recently establishing the practice Speculative Architecture. As Director of Speculative Architecture, he has developed projects with institutional organisations Arts Queensland, Brisbane City Council, and the Institute of Modern Art. Dirk was an instrumental member in the development of educational facilities and planning at St Joseph's Nudgee College, St Rita's College, Brisbane Girls Grammar School, The University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology.

In recognition of design excellence, he has received scholarships and grant funding from the Australian Institute of Architects, the British Council, the Australia Council for the Arts, and Arts Queensland. Most recently the Corps à Corps Courtyard commission at the Institute of Modern Art won the Queensland state award for Art and Architecture from the Australian Institute of Architects. The St Joseph's College Learning Centre by m3architecture, with his contribution as a design and project architect, received a national award for an education building in 2017 from the Australian Institute of Architects.

We are very fortunate to have Dirk visiting our school and talking to our senior graphics students on Tuesday 25 March.

Finally, I would like to say that I am looking forward to working with you and your families throughout the year, so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Ms Toni Smith

Middle Leader Technology

Email: tsmith6@cns.catholic.edu.au

speculativearchitecture



Speculative Architecture is led by Dirk Yates.

Refer to website for further information:
<https://www.speculativearchitecture.com/>

VET AND VOCATIONAL LEARNING

It has been a busy start to the year!

I would like to wish our TAFE in Schools students a very productive year attending TAFE in either Atherton or Cairns. These year eleven students will complete a certificate II course in preparation for securing a School Based Apprenticeship for year twelve or continuing their studies in their chosen fields. Four students have also secured school based traineeships and apprenticeships with sign ups occurring over the next few weeks. Please contact me should you wish to know more about what is involved in employing a school based or obtaining one.



Victoria Bambino is well on her way to transitioning into the world of work at the end of her schooling. Last year, Victoria started work experience at Mutchilba State School as a Teacher Aide. This year she is continuing her work each Friday and completing a Certificate II in Community Services with her year twelve studies. Working between several classrooms, Victoria assists students with literacy and numeracy activities. We would like to thank the teacher Ms Bianca Parise and the Principal Mr Luke Morris, who have provided this opportunity for Victoria and have been so supportive. She is a valued member of their school community as well as ours. Well done Victoria!



Tax File Number - you will need one!

A Tax File Number (TFN) is a unique number issued by the Australian Tax Office (ATO). It is required for:

- Starting work (including part-time and casual jobs)
- Lodging a tax return
- Applying for Commonwealth Government financial assistance such as pensions and other benefits
- Applying for the Higher Education Loan Program (e.g. HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP) and VET Student Loans when you start your university, TAFE or college study.

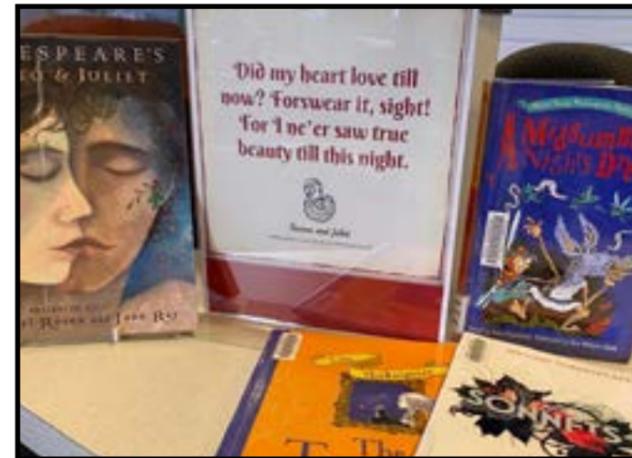
The easiest way to get a TFN is to:

- Complete an online application form from the ATO website
- Print a summary of your application which includes your application reference number
- Make an appointment for an interview at a participating Australia Post Office
- Take the summary of your application and proof of identity to the interview within 30 days of completing your online form.

Visit the ATO website for details about this process. Year 12 students intending to apply for tertiary study in 2021 should apply for their TFN this year to avoid any delays early next year.

Mrs Carol Houtt
Middle Leader VET and Vocational Learning
Email: choutt@cns.catholic.edu.au

LIBRARY LOVER'S DAY





St Stephen's Catholic College Swimming Carnival

INVITATION: To parents and friends to attend the annual St Stephen's Catholic College Swimming Carnival

DATE: Tuesday, 25th February 2020

LOCATION: Mareeba Swimming Pool

TIME: 9:00 am – 2.55 pm

PARTICIPATION: This event is a wonderful opportunity for students to interact with others in their pastoral house and build positive relationships and house spirit. In the past, students have thoroughly enjoyed the day. All students are expected to attend the carnival and to participate in the Pastoral House events for participation points for their pastoral house. Students unable to swim on the day must have a note from a parent / guardian and provide it to their home form teacher on Tuesday morning. All students who will be absent must have a valid reason which is conveyed to the Principal prior to the carnival (we understand that on some occasions there may be extenuating circumstances which prevent your child's participation).

TRAVEL: Buses will transport students to the Mareeba Swimming Pool after home form in the morning and return in time to allow students to catch their regular buses in the afternoon.

DRESS: Students will wear their sports uniform. If they are competing in an event, they are to wear their swimmers underneath their uniform to school. Coloured sunscreens in house colours are permitted at the pool but are not to be worn to school. There is to be no coloured hair. Sports joggers must be worn to school that day. Students may change into thongs at the pool. They are required to wear their school hat and their sports uniform shirt between events. Students are required to change back into their sports uniform, remove coloured sunscreen, and put on their joggers before returning to school. School bags are to be left at home and replaced by your own bag for ease of identification at the pool.

CANTEEN: The canteen at the pool will be open selling snacks and drinks. There will be a BBQ lunch available (sausages: \$3.00 and hamburgers: \$6.00). **This BBQ needs to be pre-ordered and paid for at the school tuckshop by the 21st of February.** Students are advised to bring their own drink bottle as there are no drinking tap facilities at the pool.

We look forward to you joining us for this great day of swimming and inter-house competition.

Yours in sport

Kerry Manders
Principal

Kieran Morley
Middle Leader – Sports and Activities

The Student Representative Council organised their first event for 2020, Cupcakes for Valentine's Day. Congratulations to the team, with over \$700.00 in sales. Thanks to McPherson Family Bakery for their assistance with the preparation of the cupcakes, even allowing our students to organise and pack the cupcakes for distribution at school.





PANCAKE DAY

CELEBRATE SHROVE TUESDAY BY ENJOYING A DELICIOUS PANCAKE AT THE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

25TH OF FEBRUARY

\$1
FOR ONE

\$2
FOR THREE

TOPPINGS INCLUDE:
-SYRUPS
-JAM
-BUTTER
-CHOC CHIPS



SPORTS BURSARY

Are you a Year 11 or 12 athlete competing at a state, national and/or international level?
We have two \$650 bursaries available.

APPLY AT TRC.QLD.GOV.AU
APPLICATIONS CLOSE 13 MARCH 2020

See Bursary Guidelines before applying.



*St Joseph's Parish School
P & F Debutante Ball
Committee*

Presents

*St. Joseph's Debutante Ball
held on
Sat. 6th June 2020*

Any interested Year 11 or over girls considering making their Debut are required to attend the following information night:

Where: St Joseph's Catholic Church

When: Sunday 8th March

Time: To start at 6.15 pm

Debutantes, partners and parents/guardians are required to attend.

For further information please contact
Kylie Akers on 4091 2744 / 0417 007 432
Or Melissa Pezzelato 0400 209 544



OPEN EVENING

Thursday 19 March 2020
5.30 pm - 6.30 pm

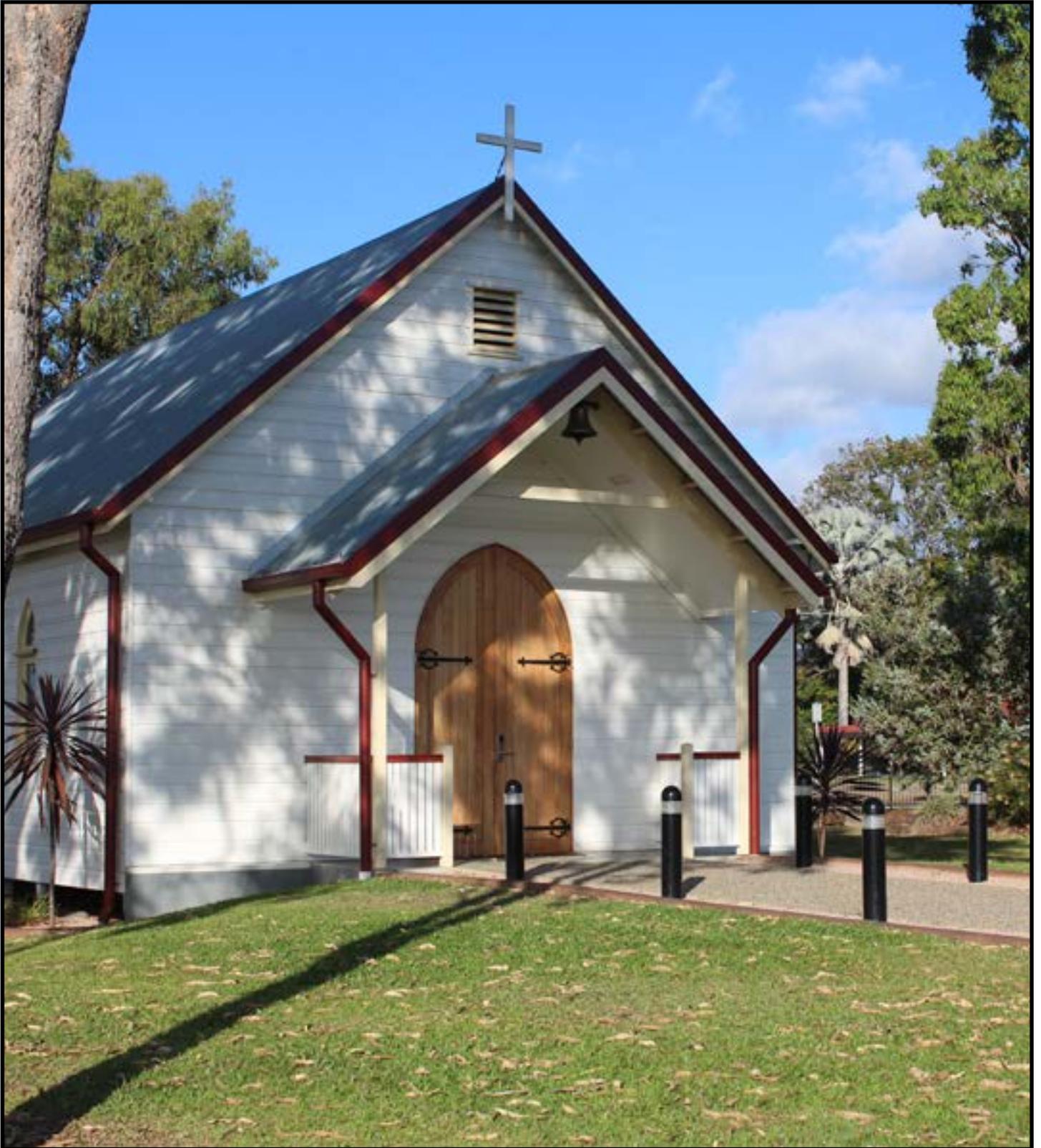
Students from all primary schools entering Year 7 in 2021 and beyond!

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



College Captains for 2020: Aarin Ryan, Andrew Gallo, Ethan Backshall and Jenna Kerswell.

Lot 3 McIver Road, Mareeba QLD 4880
Telephone: 4086 2500
Email: ssm.office@cns.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.sccc.qld.edu.au



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