

St Stephen's
Catholic College



St Stephen's News

Issue 6 - Term 2 - Week 2

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



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-Lest we forget -



The Hatfield family commemorated ANZAC day by riding out to their front gate on their horses. There is currently an army block at their cattle station, so the army has been based at the front gate. They held a small service and pictured from left to right are: John, Dalta, Georgia and Cameran. Pictured with the Haltfield's is PTE Garate of Alpha Company from 51st Batalion FNQR.

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NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Unfortunately, due to responses to the COVID-19 precautions, events have been postponed for the foreseeable future.



Keep up-to-date with COVID-19 updates, by clicking on the link above.



TERM DATES 2020

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

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

Earlier this year, I introduced the annual theme of journey, we are currently living through an extraordinary journey. We know from other global events that we will rebuild down the track, particularly when we recognise we are both local and global citizens working together. At St Stephen's we are committed to responding to this once-in-a-lifetime crisis in a calm, steady and positive manner. I am sure we will be telling our grandkids about COVID 19 and its lockdown.



During these last few surreal months, we have consistently heard the words "unprecedented" and "catastrophe". I believe some sections of the media, have worked with a paradigm of fear and confusion inducing anxiety and stress for many families. Some media outlets initially pushed to shut schools, and now are working on a concerted effort to reopen schools. I would like to reassure you that we are responsive to directions from Government authorities although regardless of the venue – home or school, our teachers will work with students to continue their learning. We will continue to welcome those students whose parents are essential workers, and we understand the importance of community wide social distancing measures to ensure everyone is safe from the threat of COVID19. It is important for us that we work together with families to provide the best possible outcomes for all students.

We have listened to parent and student concerns on the impact of the time of isolation. I encourage you to reframe the situation to find moments of gratitude, joy and peace. Firstly, to view this as a time of fallow. A time of restoration through reflection, prayer, compassion and tenderness to both ourselves and others. A time to build the peace of our individual spirit, a time to deepen our connection to home and a time to rejoice in the hopefulness of our community. As we read in Ecclesiastes 3:1 - 8:

*"For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted,
a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to break down and a time to build up,
a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to seek and a time to lose, a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to sew, a time to keep silence and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."
Ecclesiastes 3:1 – 8. Catholic Youth Bible Second International Edition NRSV*

So in your isolation, what time are you bringing to fruition on your journey?

Secondly, we know that all learning is good learning – curiosity and boredom are often the mother of invention and teenagers are both inventive and resilient. I encourage them to harness their curious 'learners' mindset. I would encourage families to work together to share their knowledge – learn how to make a fishing lure or crochet a blanket or tie a tie or sew a button, learn how to paint the fence! This mindset will be the basis of the springboard into academic learning on their return. Let us create a climate of growing, a time where we are all, adults and children alike, learning. Where we begin by not knowing, inspired with the excitement of learning, followed by a spark of creativity and new learning. Let us plan to make this a time where we understand that learning takes many forms, where we learn from each other.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Let us use the technology as a tool, for instance, record the stories of a grandparent's childhood or create pictorial diary of the family isolation. We have seen this in many young people including our College Captains who have designed a Canvas page devoted to their learning over this time of isolation.

This learning is self-directed, prompted by their own curiosity, designed and completed by them. Amongst other things they have been growing plants, designing and planting a garden and pizza making. Self-directed learning comes from a place of understanding that learning is life long, life wide and better when it is shared. As Pope Francis reminded us, "this is a time to reawaken and put into practice that solidarity and hope capable of giving strength, support and meaning to these hours when everything seems to be floundering"

I would like to thank you for assisting us in providing students with the effective learning they need to be successful academically and as compassionate young people who remain connected to their school and community. I would also like to publicly thank our staff who have moved rapidly into providing productive learning experiences under a different model and associated complexity and who everyday refine those experiences for students. We know we have good teachers, who know their students and are able to provide positive learning opportunities. I am also most appreciative for the work and wisdom of teachers and staff who have been dedicated to make connections with our students in this time of isolation.

At the end of the day, I know that "this too shall pass". When it does we will be different, changed by our experiences and celebrating a newness with great jubilation. In light of the Easter story I offer you the risen Christ as a symbol of those hope-filled new beginnings, where we wait patiently to be like the women at the tomb and raise the cry of a new dawn.

Go gently, God bless.

Ms Kerry Manders
Principal

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

😊 This week in isolation...

Here's what some of your fellow peers have been up to this week...



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Welcome back to a strange start to term two. COVID-19 has meant a dramatic difference in the way we facilitate learning and education within not only Queensland but across the nation. Although it has been a tough time to settle into the routines of learning under a home based learning model, the opportunities for learning outside the curriculum seem endless. It is definitely a time where the home-school partnership of teachers and parents are critical to support our students.



At a time such as this, and with the media's perception of the role of the parents, can I reassure you, that in no way are we asking parents to play the role of a teacher. Timetables have been sent out and students are expected to adhere to these, just as they would if they were onsite at the college. Staff are conducting a range of lesson types, which include Zoom, and students are expected to participate in these lessons. Year eleven and twelve students have the added bonus of tutorials during the week (mainly on Monday) where they can access their teachers for extra help and guidance. Parents need to be reassured that the teaching exists with the teacher, however the learning can be aided by the parent.



What do I mean by this?

It means having set routines, a suitable workstation, making students have their usual recess breaks, going to bed at a suitable time, etc. The major positive in the way the timetable has been established is that there is time for students to engage in other forms of learning outside the set curriculum. For example, prepare and cook the night's dinner, walk the dog for 30 minutes per day, read a book, watch a documentary, build a garden bed out of recycled materials; the list is endless. It is important for us to maximise the opportunities students have at this time. The timetable also has an allocation for self directed/ supplementary learning. I would like to offer some suggestions in regard to this time for students and parents. This set time may involve the following:

1. Supplementary work from classes via Canvas (ie: homework, assessment work, etc)
2. Extension work from set work in lessons
3. Recommended work from electives that may not have been completed via Canvas (including HPE)
4. Other learning opportunities – as mentioned previously



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

We have organised the block teaching time before lunch (for a majority of the days and year levels) as we believe this is when the students are at their optimum learning readiness. Therefore, the afternoon is a great time for students to be outside, active and progressing with a new skill. It is a time such as this that the soft skills of creative thinking, problem solving, risk taking, and critical thinking can be developed.

Regarding assessment to be undertaken this term, the following has been decided at this point in time (further advice will be sent home should the situation changes):

- Year seven electives will not be assessed
- Year eight electives which are for the term (ie: Economics and Business, Visual Art, Drama and Music), will have a modified assessment piece should school resume as normal in week six. Year eight electives that are eight week units (Robotics, ITD, Graphics, Food Technology and Digital/Information Literacy) will not be assessed
- Year nine and ten electives will have a modified assessment piece should school resume as normal in week six
- All core subjects in years seven to ten will be assessed for all year levels (refer to the assessment calendar which will be published on the website in the coming week)
- Year eleven and twelve examinations will be reviewed in terms of timing based on when we return to school. Therefore, some examinations may not be on the published calendar at this stage. Assignments (take home assessment) will be due as per the assessment calendar
- A reissue of the assessment calendars may occur later this term.



Finally, if parents or students have concerns or would like to know more about their student's learning of the curriculum, the first port of call is the classroom teacher. The teacher is the best person to provide guidance and support for your student and answer any questions you may have at this time. Rest assured that all teachers are working extremely hard to provide the best experience your student will have within the current learning environment.

God Bless

Mr Simon Vaughan
Deputy Principal

Email: svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au

Photo 1: Mr Veschetti

Photo 2: Mr Fenner

Photo 3: Ms Sugars

Photo 4: Aarin Ryan's cooking

Photo 5: Mrs Holden

Photo 6: Andrew Gallo's gardening



SCIENCE

During this new and challenging time for learning, I hope that "behind the scenes of home-based learning in Science" provides some insight as to what is happening in our department. All teachers are regularly checking in on their students with their Zoom lessons. Mr Vaughan has shared some photos of Science teachers in their virtual classrooms. Our Science Officers are preparing, carrying out and filming experiments so we can share them with our classes. If your child is having any trouble either connecting to Zoom, or with their set tasks, please encourage them to stay connected by emailing their teachers and/or using Canvas Discussions. Please do not be anxious if there are problems - remember that any learning is better than no learning, and together we will get through this! Stay safe.



Mrs Pepita Ison

Middle Leader Science

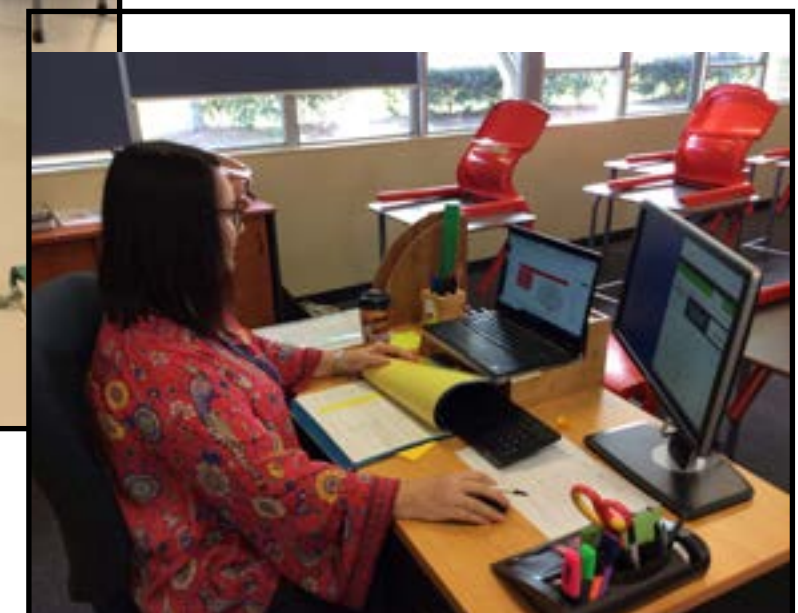
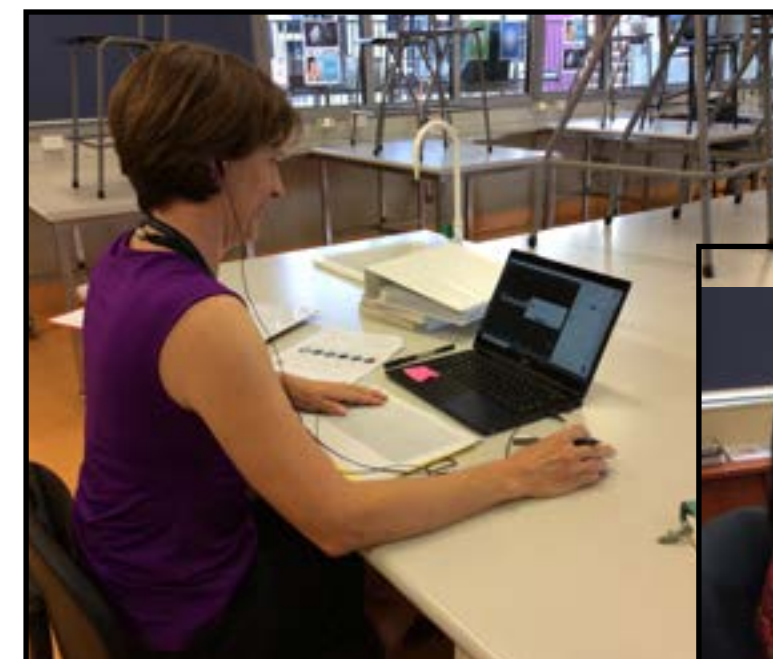
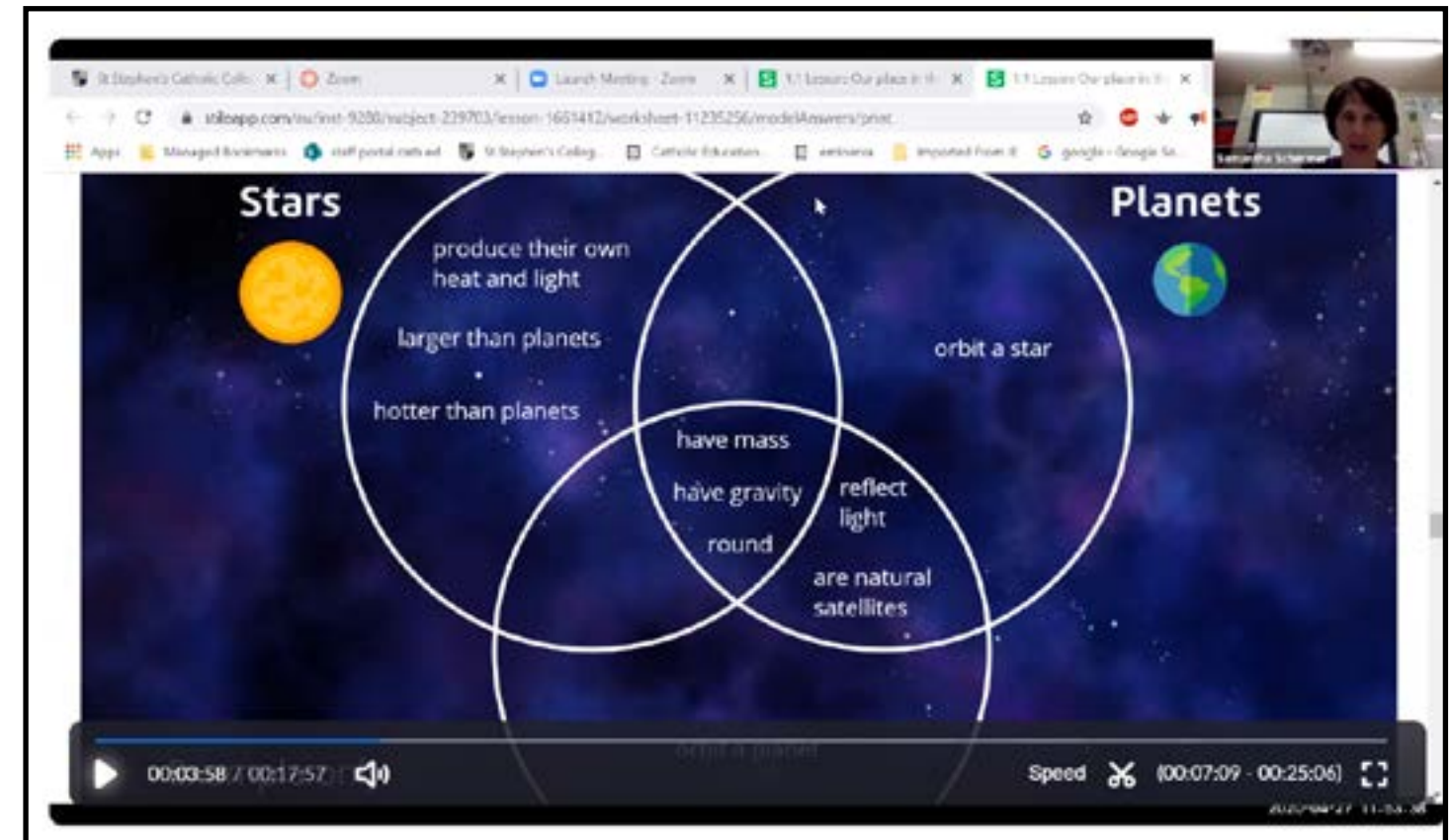
Email: pison@cns.catholic.edu.au



SCIENCE



SCIENCE



MIDDLE LEADER: YEARS 7 AND 8

Wow! What a start to term two! I am truly so very proud of how year seven and eight students have engaged with the on-line learning so far this term. Their technology skills have been amazing and the independence and conscientious work habits that they are developing should be commended. Don't get me wrong, I know it has not been smooth sailing everyday but with the support students are receiving from their family members at home and their teachers at school, students are achieving success at their level. Congratulations! Keep up the great work! A few little reminders for students:



- Begin home form zoom every morning at 8:35 am
- Email home form teacher or me if technical issues occur
- Be ready to begin scheduled zoom lesson for each core subject according to the Continuity of Learning timetable Monday to Friday
- Complete the elective activity uploaded to CANVAS each week (year seven - Wednesday and year eight - Thursday)
- Complete set independent tasks and homework (set by the teacher) during self-directed learning time
- Check emails twice a day (minimum)
- Check announcements on CANVAS twice a day
- Email class teacher for questions or concerns about the set work

Thank you for your continued support with this new style of learning and for supporting and guiding your child's learning. It is great to have your support and to be working together. Remember you are not alone and we are here to help. Feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Jayarani Salerno

Middle Leader - Years 7 and 8

Email: jsalerno@cns.catholic.edu.au



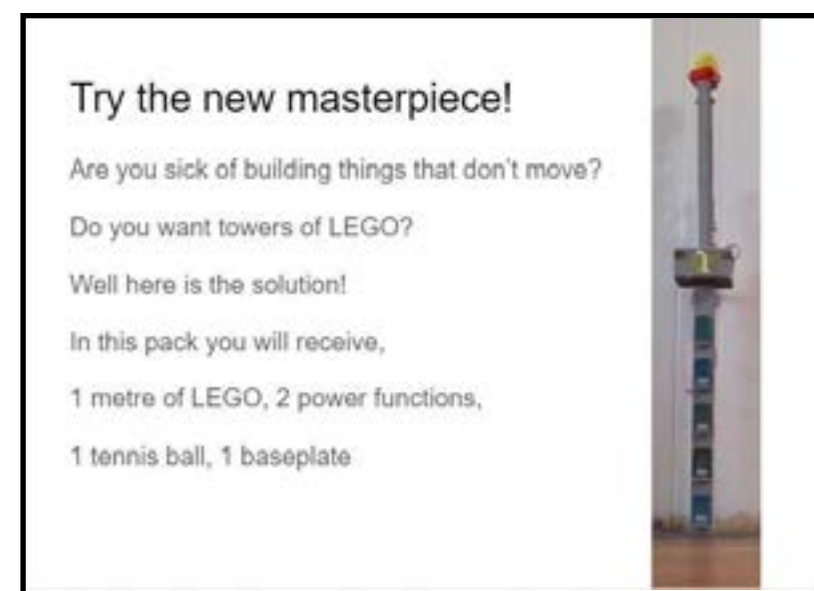
Year 8 History Class engaging in their Zoom lesson

MIDDLE LEADER: YEARS 7 AND 8



Above: 7.1 Home Form - Crazy hat/hair/helmet sharing

Supplementary activities happening at home!



Above: Kip Williams (year seven) - Lego Challenge (Engineers at work): The thick part of the tower is where all electricity lies to power the famous Spinning Tennis Ball. To turn it on all you have to do is flick the switch in the corridor of shades. That will activate the power box powering the motor which spins a long shaft to eventually (less than 0.01 seconds) spin the tennis ball. The corridor begins with white and leads to black.



Above: Ewan Hall-Matthews (year seven) - Garden Bed, made from recycled materials.



Above: A table from paper that will support the weight of 5 books. Sam Hitchins (year seven) 22 sheets of paper and about 1 metre of string, holds 10 books.

MIDDLE LEADER: YEARS 11 AND 12

Welcome to the start of another busy term for year eleven and twelve students, even if it is a very different context, to say the least. Fingers crossed for a return to normal routine later in term two. For now, I pray and hope that students are managing to keep up with their subject demands via online learning and working. I continue to encourage both parents and students to communicate any concerns, questions or feedback to relevant staff at the college.



Careers and Pathways - while there have obviously been a number of cancellations affecting students, I bring to your attention some Career and Pathways information. This, and more, is available on the students' Canvas page. The Cairns-based Careers Expo has been rescheduled to 27 August while an opportunity is available for students, teachers and parents across the country to attend an on-line Virtual Careers Expo. More than 60 universities, colleges and registered training organisations from across the country will be on hand showcasing everything their institution has to offer. I encourage all students to register for this event - when: Thursday 7 May and Friday 8 May 2020, time: 12.00 pm to 8.00 pm. In terms of university pathways, I encourage students to also register their interest via email communication directly from universities, if they haven't already done so. Important dates and other information are often communicated via university portals. If students are requiring information around pathways during this time, that is Uni options, TAFE, VET, career options, subject matters, etc, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Vaughan, or me, and we'll endeavour to answer your questions or concerns. We also continue to look at our own school-based opportunities for information sharing - they might just obviously be conducted at a later date. We will keep you informed.

A BIG SHOUT OUT!! I must give a big "shout out" to students and their families for the way in which they are handling this current mode of education. Granted, we have all responded in different ways, but it has been encouraging to see students and families communicating their concerns with college staff. This way, problems can be solved, stress levels can be minimised and students can keep up with their work. It is a different context. It is stress inducing and the cause is out of our control. We will get through it and things will be different after it. But for now, we still have each other's support and, hopefully, understanding. Our College Captains have gone above and beyond to create an area on Canvas for students, staff and parents to upload items for sharing. Called Student Isolation Station, it's fantastic to see what people are up to and a great way for people to stay in touch. Thank you, College Captains.

For now, take care and stay in touch.

Mr Paul MacCallum

Middle Leader - Years 11 and 12

Email: pmacallum@cns.catholic.edu.au



WELCOME TO TERM 2 IN THE LIBRARY

The library has been working hard to provide resources to support students and teachers in our new learning environment. Links to these resources can be found on the Library Canvas Course and the Library Website and include:

- Free access to databases for students until the end of May/June. These include Gale Reference Centre and World Book Encyclopedia.
- Audible has released a number of free audio books so take the opportunity to listen to some great books.
- Stay at home and travel the world with a virtual tour of U.S National Parks, Louvre Museum and other museums from around the world
- Try something new like a Pixar drawing course, a cooking class with Jamie Oliver or a free art course through the New York Museum of Modern Art.
- The Wellness module will help students and teachers stay calm and relaxed.
- And many more activities to support the school community whether it be curriculum based or down time.



We are also offering a Click and Collect for library borrowing.

1. Reserve your book

- Reserve your book through the library website.
- Login
- Search
- Reserve

2. Collect and Return

- Collect your books from the collection trolley outside the front office.
- Books will be wrapped in brown paper with names clearly visible. Please only touch and collect your reservation.
- Return your loans to the return trolley outside the front office.
- Please adhere to social distancing - wait 1.5m away from the trolley if someone is returning/collecting books.

3. Fridays Only

- Collection Day - Fridays only 9:00 am - 12:30 pm.
- Once your transaction is complete please leave immediately.
- Please do not make any unnecessary trips to the college.
- Students attending college can collect books any day during the week from the library.
- If this day does not suit please wait until school resumes to return your books.
- Borrow ebooks if all else fails. Links on Library Canvas Course.

If students require any help, please contact Mrs Simone Gillies: sgillies@cns.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Simone Gillies

Teacher Librarian

Email: sgillies@cns.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Suzanne Assenheim

Library Assistant

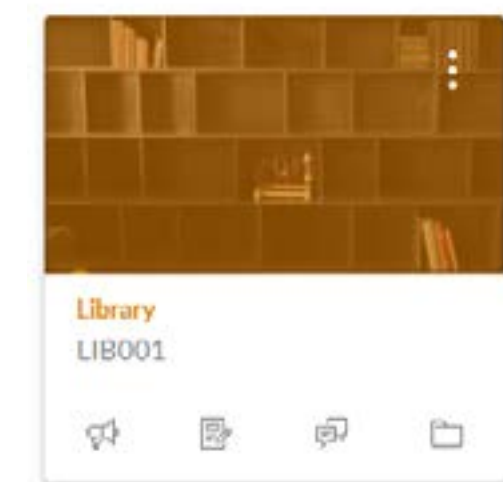
Email: sassenheim@cns.catholic.edu.au

LIBRARY - Welcome to your online social library.

Share the love!
 • Discuss the books you are reading
 • Share photos of your shelves, books
 • Find new genres and titles and learn from authors
 • Keep the world from your reach
 • Try something new
 • Grow the network
 • Relax and enjoy our library's online.
 Please join us on Facebook.



Dashboard



ANZAC DAY AT HOME



Top left: The Baldwin Family. Top right: Emily Krummel. Above left: Taijana Goleby. Right: Loralie Hinchcliffe.



ANZAC DAY AT HOME



Top left: Kiyah Iacutone. Top right: Thelma Lalabalavu with younger brother, Rafael. Middle left: Azali and Nate Mitchell. Above: Paige Carey. Left: Emily Walker.



ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

ENROL NOW for 2021

Enrolment packages can be obtained from the College website or from the College office.

Our process is:

1. Complete the application for enrolment.
2. Attach the necessary documentation.
3. Return the application and the enrolment fee by Friday 8 May 2020.
4. Enrolment interviews will occur in term two.
5. Confirmation of your child's enrolment will occur in term three.

Closing date: Friday 8 May 2020 - Limited Places Available.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Scholarships for academic, sport and culture for year seven in 2021, are now available.

Application forms are available from the College website or from the College office.

Closing date for scholarship applications: Friday 8 May 2020



**Lot 3, McIver Road Mareeba
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