

St Stephen's
Catholic College



St Stephen's News

Issue 9 - Term 2 - Week 8

Principal: Ms Kerry Manders
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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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Students were treated to some fabulous home baked treats on Thursday to raise funds for the Cancer Council, with the Biggest Morning Tea (more photos on page nine). Thank you to the Social Justice Committee and their team of helpers for cooking up a storm. From left to right: Sarah Cockburn, Rose Driscoll, Alexandra McCormack, Alara McGrath, Dalta Hatfield, Emmylou Milgate and Kara Cazzola.

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NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS:



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



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

ABSENTEE EMAIL

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

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.

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.

HOPE



Show the courage and wisdom
of the Holy Spirit

be kind
be helpful
be welcoming
be fair



Show the Hope of the Holy Spirit

Be positive
Give others the 'benefit of the doubt'

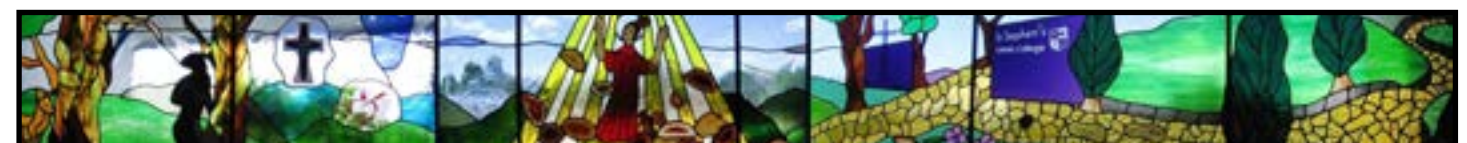
Last week, after the feast of Pentecost, we opened the Holy Spirit Centre for students to use. Each day we were inundated by excited, eager, and very active students. Whilst I saw excitement as students played together delighting in the newness of the hall, I noticed something far more important than their joy. I noticed some students who were tentatively waiting on the side, called into the game by their peers and I watched the pace slow for them to participate and be included. I noticed 'homemade' rules change to suit all participants. I noticed the confidence grow with supporting cheers from the crowd. I was proud to see the acceptance, compassion and inclusion demonstrated. This week I saw great care and compassion demonstrated again when a student was injured while playing on the oval. Other students were overwhelming in their support of the injured player. Our students were bringing compassion alive in small but real ways. With each action I was reminded of Monday's prayer from Matthew 5, the Sermon on the Mount, often seen as a helpful guide for Christian life.



*"When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak and taught them, saying:
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven .
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek; for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled; Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart; for they will see God!
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.
Blessed you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for the reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you".*

Our student's actions were reminiscent of verse nine – "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God." On the same day I saw the news dominated by a world of hatred. Taking a leaf from the Prime Minister's book, I asked myself "How great is St Stephen's?". Our community is growing compassionate young people in a world of hatred. Peace has its roots in compassion, acceptance and inclusion so for peace to thrive we must breed these. On the 2020 World Day of Peace, Pope Francis said "War, as we know, often begins with the inability to accept the diversity of others, which then fosters attitudes of aggrandizement and domination born of selfishness and pride, hatred and the desire to caricature, exclude and even destroy the other.... Mistrust and fear weaken relationships and increase the risk of violence, creating a vicious circle that can never lead to a relationship of peace...Peace emerges from the depths of the human heart ["http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco_20191208_messaggio-53giornatamondiale-pace2020.pdf"](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/peace/documents/papa-francesco_20191208_messaggio-53giornatamondiale-pace2020.pdf)

As we continue in this disconnected world I would ask that we be models of acceptance and inclusion, drawing peace from deep within our heart. Year 12 Catholic Faith in Action students are leading the way, engaging with our younger students showing the Peace of Christ is at the heart of all we do at St Stephens. What makes this impressive? For some, this year has been one of loss: - the loss of normalcy; the loss of connection; the loss of the dreams of how their year would be. Some are grieving.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

David Kessler (2020) gives advice on how we can respond to COVID induced feelings of loss, <https://hbr.org/2020/03/that-discomfort-youre-feeling-is-grief>. He suggests we move through the stages of grief (denial, anger, bargaining, sadness, acceptance). Whilst the stages aren't linear and may not happen in this order, it provides some scaffolding for what we collectively might be feeling. The good news, for the path out of this grief, is compassion. He suggests to balance the worst case scenario thoughts with the best, come back to the present with mindfulness and breathing, offer empathy and compassion to all, overprotect those around us and look to find the light of meaning. For instance, if loss of connection is what we are grieving then the light is to connect using technology. We may not be able to go to the birthday celebrations with Nonna but we can still eat cake together via Facetime. It is in finding the light we show the heart of compassion through the acceptance and inclusion of others. It is through compassion we will bring peace to our community.

May the peace of Christ be with you this coming week.

God Bless

Ms Kerry Manders
Principal

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



FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Term two fees were emailed out during May 2020. This was a little later than usual, as we evaluated a fair level of discount as a reaction to COVID-19 for all families.

It is very important that fees are still paid in a timely fashion to ensure the delivery of quality programs and services for every student and meet all fixed costs.

If you have any questions or queries about fees please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Pina Menniti on 40862 508 or gmenniti@cns.catholic.edu.au

Over the past five weeks I have been called on to conduct a number of enrolment interviews. I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to interact with future students and their families. I also gained an insight into how important having great facilities are when choosing a secondary school, as many potential students are impressed by our buildings, grounds and play areas.

We are so blessed to have the natural beauty and modern built spaces within our campus.

Mr Hadyn Flynn
Business Manager
email: hflynn@cns.catholic.edu.au



FROM THE COLLEGE LEADER PASTORAL CARE

End of Term Two

As we draw to the end of a term of unprecedented challenges, I am reminded of the strong community that surrounds our students. Starting with and most importantly yourselves as supportive and caring parents. It is our privilege to partner with you in the education of your children.



With academic reports being finalised in the next few weeks it is important to remember that we are in the business of developing not only independent lifelong learners but just as importantly students who are respectful, responsible and have a willingness to serve others.

Pastoral Challenge

So many times in a single day we are given the chance to share the love of God, but often we are so afraid of what others may think that we put it aside. We let our thoughts get in the way of actions.

Sometimes we just have to break out of our shell and let others know the greatness of God. When given the chance, let others know that someone cares. Share the love of Christ today with someone in our community.

Pastoral Challenge - What action are we called to take?

Jesus challenged his disciples with a commission, kind of like a job assignment. Jesus' Great Commission is our calling too. The message of God's love and forgiveness is for people of all nations. But we do not have to travel far – our jobs start right at our front door with our friends, families, and neighbours and school community. The job requirements? Someone who is willing to speak up about God's incredible love.

A woman saw a little girl in the street playing with rubbish. The child was poorly dressed and ill-nourished. The woman became angry and said to God, 'Why do you let a thing like that happen in the world you created? Why do not you do something about it?' God replied, 'I did something about it – I sent you'.

Uniform reminders

- Students are to be in full school uniform upon entrance to the college and on exit.
- Make up and nail polish are not permitted.
- Boys to be clean shaven.

Mr Matt Draper
College Leader Pastoral Care
email: mdraper@cns.catholic.edu.au



MIDDLE LEADER MATHEMATICS

Home-Based Learning

Term two preparations were thrown a massive curve ball with COVID-19 and home isolation catapulting both teachers and students into the world of home-based learning. Zoom classes were well attended and students were able to access a range of online resources including online textbook resources, Education Perfect and video tutorials and other work set through the school's learning management system Canvas.



Year Ten and Eleven Subject Selections

Year ten students are being encouraged to start thinking about their subject selections for mathematics in 2021 in preparation for their SET plan (Senior Education and Training plan) interviews in term three. Students have the option of choosing from four senior mathematics courses in years eleven and twelve and it is important that students are aware of the importance of this selection for both their QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) and their future pathways, whether that be a vocational pathway or a tertiary pathway. In semester two of year ten, students are offered a choice of courses which are aimed to best prepare them for their subject selection in senior. The Preparation for Maths Methods course is recommended for students wishing to undertake either Maths Methods (or a combination of Maths Methods and Specialist Maths) in 2021-22. It is recommended that students are currently achieving a B or better and have an interest in completing Maths Methods in senior.

The Preparation for General Maths course is recommended for students who are currently achieving a C or better and have an interest in completing the General Maths course in senior. It is not recommended that students who complete the Preparation for General Maths course choose Maths Methods or Specialist Maths in senior.

The Numeracy Short Course is recommended for students who are currently achieving lower than a C. This course focuses on real life applications of mathematical concepts and processes. Successful completion of this course will give students one QCE point as well as their Numeracy tick. It is not recommended that students who complete the Numeracy Short Course choose General Maths, Maths Methods or Specialist Maths in senior.



It is important that year ten students start thinking about their future pathway and discussing their options with parents and teachers so that can make an informed decision about which course they choose in senior. I am happy to answer any questions or queries about subject selections in senior or the courses offered in semester two of year ten.

Senior assessment

The QCAA has removed one internal piece of assessment from each of the year twelve maths courses to compensate for the time lost due to school closures earlier this year. Year twelve students will now sit their last internal exam early next term before their external exams in late October. Year eleven students are completing Unit 1 exams this week.

Maths Competitions 2020

The Australian Maths Competition will be held on Thursday 30th July. Students wishing to participate in this competition should send expressions of interest to cellison1@cns.catholic.edu.au by the last day of term two. The ICAS Maths Competition will go online again this year and will be held between Monday 31st August until Friday 4th September. Nominations for this competition will be taken early in term three.

The QAMT Seven and Eight Maths Quiz will take a different format this year due to COVID-19 related restrictions with interschool competitions. St Stephen's will enter a team of three in the statewide competition. Maths enthusiasts in years seven and eight will be invited to be participants in term three.

Maths Tutoring

Another reminder that Maths tutoring is held every Tuesday and Thursday at second recess in the MCR. All students are welcome to attend. After school tutoring is on Wednesday afternoons in the library from 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm (years ten to twelve only).

Mr Chris Ellison

Middle Leader Mathematics

email: cellison1@cns.catholic.edu.au

MIDDLE LEADER YEARS 11 AND 12

Years 11 and 12

Students across years eleven and twelve continue to work through the demands that these two years of schooling can bring. From VET Certificate courses to ATAR subjects, from designing products to delivering speeches and everything in between, students are to be commended on the way in which they continue to work through the remainder of this somewhat "different" term. Having said that, students have naturally required varying degrees and forms of support and assistance to ensure they are all keeping their heads above the water - and that is OK! We are all human. If you think your child is displaying worrying signs of stress and/or anxiety stemming for school work, please let us know. What we see at school and what is seen and known about at home are often two different things.



Meeting with Ms Manders

Year twelve students met with Ms Manders on Monday morning to hear important information about the remainder of the school year for year twelve. This included information about the external exam block, Graduation Ceremony and what the last few weeks of school might look like for students. Information from this will be forwarded to parents next week.

Transition Profile

On Monday morning, year eleven students had the opportunity to complete an electronic Transition Profile. The form aims to capture information about academic progress, future work ambitions and general information that assists students and staff to plan for students' transition into life beyond secondary schooling. Year ten students also completed the same profile with year twelve students completing a similar one in the near future.

Careers/Pathways

Please be aware that information regarding pathways and careers is available to year ten, eleven and twelve students via their year level Canvas page. I encourage parents to ask their children about this page and ask to have a look at it. It is a helpful source for both students and parents to check on a regular basis. As information is added to the page, students are sent a notification via their school email account (another thing to be regularly checking!)

Information Available on Canvas

- Road Map 2020 – Monday's presentation to year twelve students by Mr Vaughan
- External Assessment Timetable (year twelve)
- 2021 TAFE Course Guide
- UCAT Verbal reasoning Test
- Are You Defence Force Ready?
- JCU Early Offer Program
- VET – 2021 Hastings Deering Apprenticeships
- and other information

(If you think you cannot see any of the above information, please let me know).

Interested year twelve students are encouraged to be researching universities and what they may have available for "early offers." QTAC preferences for students applying to universities will be completed during term three. Finally, with parts of the workforce slowly returning to some form of normality, students are encouraged to keep an eye on apprenticeships and traineeships as employers may be more willing to take on extra staff.

All the best for the fortnight ahead.

Mr Paul MacCallum

Middle Leader Years 11 and 12

email: pmacallum@cns.catholic.edu.au



MIDDLE LEADER THE ARTS AND LOTE

Along with the rest of the school, the Arts and LOTE department also went online at the start of this term. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the staff who work in this department for being so flexible and quick to learn new skills when it came to taking their subjects - which are highly practical in nature - into the online world! We hope our students enjoyed staying engaged with their Arts and Languages electives during home based learning. Below are some of the outcomes of our online learning experience.



Ms Emma Ledlin
Middle Leader The Arts and LOTE
email: eledlin@cns.catholic.edu.au

JAPANESE LESSONS



The year nine and year ten students studied Japanese online from week one to week five. There were a variety of reading, listening and writing activities available for the students. As for responding, students recorded themselves doing their best reading, took photos of their writing and completed online activities.

Unfortunately, we will not be hosting Japanese visitors this year. Our sister school in Sano, Japan is also limited on where they can travel and this includes Australia. We hope that we can pick up the program again next year when we are scheduled to visit them in Japan.

Mr Rohan Priestly
Japanese Teacher
email: rpriestly@cns.catholic.edu.au

VISUAL ART YEARS 8 AND 10

Visual Art students have been creating impressive works while learning from home.

Both year eight and ten students were exploring different ways of creating self-portraits using different media (eg: drawing, collage and digital drawing).



Ms Kendra Todd
Visual Arts Teacher
email: ktodd@cns.catholic.edu.au

VISUAL ART YEARS 8 AND 10



Top left: April Hainsworth.
Top right: Amy Hill.
Left: Kiyah Iacutone.
Right: Kiara Fulton.

VISUAL ART YEAR 9

These images are from the year nine art class for their photography unit, ISOLATE. Students were asked to document their lives in isolation, using the elements of art. Upon return, the students have started to learn how to use Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop to enhance their images.

Ms Kristin Tennyson
Visual Arts Teacher
email: ktennyson@cns.catholic.edu.au



Left: Hollie Kent



Above: Lana Morrison



Above: Alyssa Crane



Above: Piper Ottone

BIGGEST MORNING TEA!



SEBASTIAN'S TAKE ON ISOLATION!

During the school holidays the premier of Queensland, Annastacia Palaszczuk, announced that students had to stay at home and do home school for 5 weeks. When I heard this news I was helping my dad pick lemons and I said to dad, 'This is going to be interesting doing home school for the first time and for 5 weeks.' He said, 'It is what it is and it might be the safest option so you don't bring the virus home.'

So during the last weekend of the school holidays, I prepared my study area for 5 weeks of home school. I was so nervous about this new experience for me and everyone else. Then, on Monday the 20th of April I woke up, had my breakfast and started to get ready for home learning. The first day took so long to finish then after that it went so quickly. When I was at home after I finished school work for the day I would go and help my dad in the packing shed, packing lemons or limes or picking the lemons or doing other jobs for him, while he was busy packing or picking. Also, during this time, I was doing videos to put on the Student Isolation page to keep all the students entertained and to show things that the students didn't know about, like my sugar cane video and raking up leaves underneath the trees around the house.

Then, on May 4th, Premier Palaszczuk announced that on May 11th Kindergarten, Prep, Year 1, Year 11 and Year 12 would be returning to school with everyone else on the 25th of May. When I heard this I was so happy that I could meet my peers, mates and friends once again. I still had to focus on the last week of homeschool. On that Thursday when I finished I said to my mum, "Yay, I finished home school" because on Fridays I work. Mum said, "Thank God for that!" But she still had to look after my sister Livinia for another two weeks.

So on Sunday night, the day before I was going back to school, I didn't have much sleep and when I woke up the next morning I told my mum that I didn't sleep well. She said you didn't sleep well because you were excited to go back to school. When I got to school I saw everyone and went to say hello to my mates and friends that I hadn't seen for 7 weeks. Everybody was happy to be back.



RECESS 2 IN THE HOLY SPIRIT CENTRE



YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY



YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY





- Celebrating 15 years of Quality Catholic Secondary Education -