



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



A Spirited Tomorrow - Catholic Education Week



NOTICES

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Tuesday 11 August
P and F Meeting

Saturday 29 August
Year 12 Formal (Private Event)

Thursday 3 to Monday 14 September
Year 12 Mock Exams

Friday 4 September
Student Free Day

Friday 18 September
St Stephen's Day

REMINDER: The lifting of some COVID-19 restrictions has allowed some return to "normal". Whilst we can have whole College assemblies, please remember that any adults onsite must adhere to social distancing requirements and COVID safe regimes, washing hands, avoid touching our faces, keep a safe distance (1.5 meters), sneeze and cough into the elbow and if unwell, stay home and follow the Queensland Government recommendations to have a COVID-19 test.

TERM DATES 2020

Term 3: 13 July - 18 September

Term 4 : 5 October to 27 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.

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



Coronavirus (COVID-19)
UPDATES AND RESOURCES



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

CHESS CLUB

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)
Room: MCR - during Recess 2
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



Dear Parents and Carers

Last week we celebrated Catholic Education week, where the theme was **Spirited Tomorrow**. This was a wonderful opportunity to pause and reflect on the legacy of 175 years, I am reminded of words of Paul Kelly's song "From little things big things grow". This certainly describes last 175 years of catholic education, from a slab hut in Queen Street Brisbane with 56 students, to more than 300 schools with more than 20,000 staff and 150,000 students learning across the full length and breadth of state. The dream of those first educators to deliver a quality education within a catholic environment have come to fruition in our St Stephen's community.



The theme of this year also points us to the future, of where our own legacy will be revealed. We look to the past with gratitude and the future with hope. I am very grateful for reaping the benefits of those who have gone before me. As I explained to students at assembly we are standing on their shoulders, this is summarised in Earthmama's song of the same name:

*I am standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before me
I am stronger for their courage, I am wiser for their words
I am lifted by their longing for a fair and brighter future
I am grateful for their vision, for their toiling on this Earth*

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Several lines in the song are particularly powerful for me: firstly, "I am stronger for their courage", as an educator I admire those people who had the courage to develop a vision and bring others with them to make that future real. Courage is like will power; it gets stronger each time we act courageously. We have an amazing model of courage in our patron Saint Stephen. It is up to each of us to be courageous and to build a community that enables us to reach our potential.

Secondly, "I am lifted by their longing for a fair and brighter future". We are products of generations of those who looked to the future with hope and excitement, in fact, catholic teachings are grounded in hope. As Pope Francis in his book On Hope suggests "Life is often a desert, it is difficult to walk, but if we trust in God, it can become beautiful and wide as a highway. Never lose hope; continue to believe, always, in spite of everything. Hope opens new horizons, making us capable of dreaming what is not even imaginable." It is up to each of us to live with a positivity that brings hope to others.

Finally, "I am grateful for their vision". We were all sitting in the Holy Spirit Centre, reaping the benefits of those within our community who had vision and perseverance. The original St Stephen's community could see a high-quality education delivered in a catholic context on the tablelands or as Pope Francis says "dreaming what is not even imaginable". It is now our chance to embrace a vision of an exciting and aspirational future.

As a College we continue to be a community that has at the very core – gratitude, hope and courage. St Stephen was known as a man "full of the Holy Spirit" who wanted to bring people to know Christ. In walking in Christ's footsteps we are courageous, hopeful and grateful. We are on our journey together as a community, together standing on the shoulders of those who came before us. I ask in these troubled times of the pandemic, what is the legacy we are leaving for those who follow us? Are we leaving gratitude, hope and courage as our forebears did? Let us listen to Pope Francis, trust in the Lord always looking for beauty in the breadth of the experience as we dream a future that is beyond our expectations.

May the hope of the risen Christ be with you always.

Ms Kerry Manders
Principal

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



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



The College Captains were invited to attend the Mareeba Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Monday 3 August 2020. The Captains provided the audience with an insight into life at St Stephen's Catholic College, particularly during isolation. Pictured above are: Councillor Angela Toppin - Mayor of Mareeba Shire Council, Joshua Cousley and Gamuchirai Makoti - Mareeba State High School Captains, Aarin Ryan, Jenna Kerswell and Andrew Gallo - College Captains from St Stephen's Catholic College and Mr Joe Moro - President of the Mareeba Chamber of Commerce.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATION

A degree of normality has settled over the school with classes back to normal after the break. Let's hope that this can continue for the rest of the term, at least. The second half of the term is going to be busy with plenty on the calendar. In week five we have the SET Plans for the year ten students, a process that helps students clarify what they are hoping to do post-compulsory and therefore the subjects that they should be considering in the senior years. The year ten students also have their last round of immunisations in week six. If any student misses their immunisations they can follow up with the family GP or at the hospital.



On a more pleasant note, the senior formal will be held on the weekend of week seven. As with many events this year there is quite a different set of conditions that must be adhered to for the formal to proceed. In spite of this, it will be a great night and I look forward to seeing the students enter the Holy Spirit Centre for the first formal held there. The year twelve students will then back-up in week eight with the start of the year twelve mock block exams.

The best day of the year, in my opinion, is St Stephen's Day on the last day of this term, Friday 18 September. There will be a liturgy, a mini fete, a talent show and a Teachers versus Students netball game (years ten to twelve) or other activities for the younger grades (years seven to nine).

Have a great term three.

Mr Rohan Priestly
Assistant Principal Administration
Email: rpriestly@cns.catholic.edu.au

STUDENT DIVERSITY

With more than half of the most challenging year behind us, we bravely and optimistically head toward the end of 2020. The learnings we have made in the first semester of the year exceeded all of our wildest expectations - no one knew that we, as teachers, students and parents, could achieve what we did in such a short amount of time, under such huge pressure. But we did and we ought to pause to congratulate ourselves, reflect upon what we've done and prepare for what is to come.



As a parent and an educator, one of the best things I have seen due to the COVID-19 pandemic is how self-directed learning has encouraged resilience in our young people and helped them develop highly employable skills. The Digital Marketing Institute (DMI) states employers want to hire people who are digitally prepared, motivated to adapt to rapidly-changing landscapes and be proactive in self-directed learning. Self-directed learning is not a new concept (studies can be found from the 1970's and it was very popular during the 1990's) but it's not always easy and doesn't come naturally for everyone.

Rodney Skager's UNESCO studies conducted during the 1980's found that *'only a very rare type of learner, the introspective extravert, was capable of demonstrating the necessary skills to engage in self-direction'*. The good news is that research *'confirmed that self directed learning must be explicitly taught ... requir[ing] time for depth of learning and reflection'* (DMI).

Numerous articles agree that the following four steps are key to developing self-directed learners:

1. Assess readiness
2. Determine goals
3. Engage in the learning process
4. Reflection/evaluation of learning

For more detailed information to help prepare your child to be life-long, self directed learners, see the links below:

- [20 Steps toward more self directed learning - shorturl.at/mtvY8](https://shorturl.at/mtvY8)
- [How to help students be self directed learners - shorturl.at/ckntF](https://shorturl.at/ckntF)
- [Self directed learning: a four step process - shorturl.at/jnA05](https://shorturl.at/jnA05)

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

YEAR 7 NEWS

What a great start to term three! Students have displayed stability and confidence and adapted to being back to face to face learning. I know that as a teacher, I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the students at school and starting the term well.



This year we had fifty year seven students invited to the Special Recognition Luncheon, which happened on Friday 31 July. This was an excellent opportunity to acknowledge the students that have been going above and beyond with their work and showing great behaviour in class. Congratulations to all the year seven students who continually display fabulous effort.

Now that things have settled down and students have seen their semester one report card, they must continue to work hard, apply themselves to their studies and stay organised. Organisation keeps students on track so that they can achieve the results they deserve, but it also helps with an important life skill. Replenishing stationery is essential at this time of the year. Here are some ORGANISATIONAL tips for students to follow:

1. Develop a routine. Consistency is the key to student success.
2. Set rules for yourself.
3. Write everything down.
4. Create your own deadline that is before the actual deadline.
5. Work on one task at a time; don't multi-task.
6. Use a planner.
7. Declutter once a week.

Please do not hesitate to make contact with me if you have any questions or concerns and have a wonderful and safe term three.

Mrs Jayarani Salerno
Middle Leader Pastoral - Year 7 and 8
Email: jsalerno@cns.catholic.edu.au



YEAR 7 NEWS



Memo

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

7 August 2020

Senior secondary

Number: 032/20

QCAA invigilators for external assessment

Purpose

To notify schools that the QCAA is seeking applications from Queensland community members for QCAA invigilator positions.

Background

The QCAA appoints members of the Queensland community to observe and report on the administration of external assessment sessions at secondary schools and approved assessment venues throughout Queensland.

Invigilators play an important role in promoting public confidence in the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) system and ensuring that proper and fair administrative procedures are implemented.

Information

Applications from Queensland community members for invigilator roles are now open.

Role summary

Invigilators are required to:

- attend allocated assessment sessions at assessment venues
- observe and report on the administration of assessments and the collection, counting and packing of materials at the end of assessments.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a QCAA invigilator role, community members must:

- hold a blue card or an exemption card
- be at least 18 years of age
- be eligible to work in Australia
- have photographic identification
- have a personal email address
- have a mobile phone
- have access to a computer, the internet and a printer



For all Queensland schools

- supply names and contact details of two referees.

What you need to do

Please advertise the invigilator positions within your school community and encourage suitable community members to apply.

Note:

- Before applying, community members should read the *Position description: Invigilators and invigilator frequently asked questions* available at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/assessment/external-assessment/qcaa-invigilators.
- Eligible applicants will need to submit their applications via the Assessor Jobs app in the QCAA Portal (www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/logins/qcaa-portal/landing-page).

Finding out more

For any further information, please email eainvigilators@qcaa.qld.edu.au or phone (07) 3074 7574.

Claude Jones
Director, Assessment, Reporting and ICT Systems Division

YEAR 11 AND 12 - CERT II - RESOURCES & INFRASTRUCTURE CAMP

This week, some of us were fortunate enough to embark on a camp, which is combined with our Certificate II in Resources and Infrastructure. We were away two nights and had the opportunity to connect with our peers and the staff, we formed great friendships and learnt alot. We were given the chance to go out of our comfort zone and connect with what life outside of school will be like. From 8.00 am to 5.00 pm we 'worked' completing different components of our certificate, outside of this we took turns cooking and cleaning.

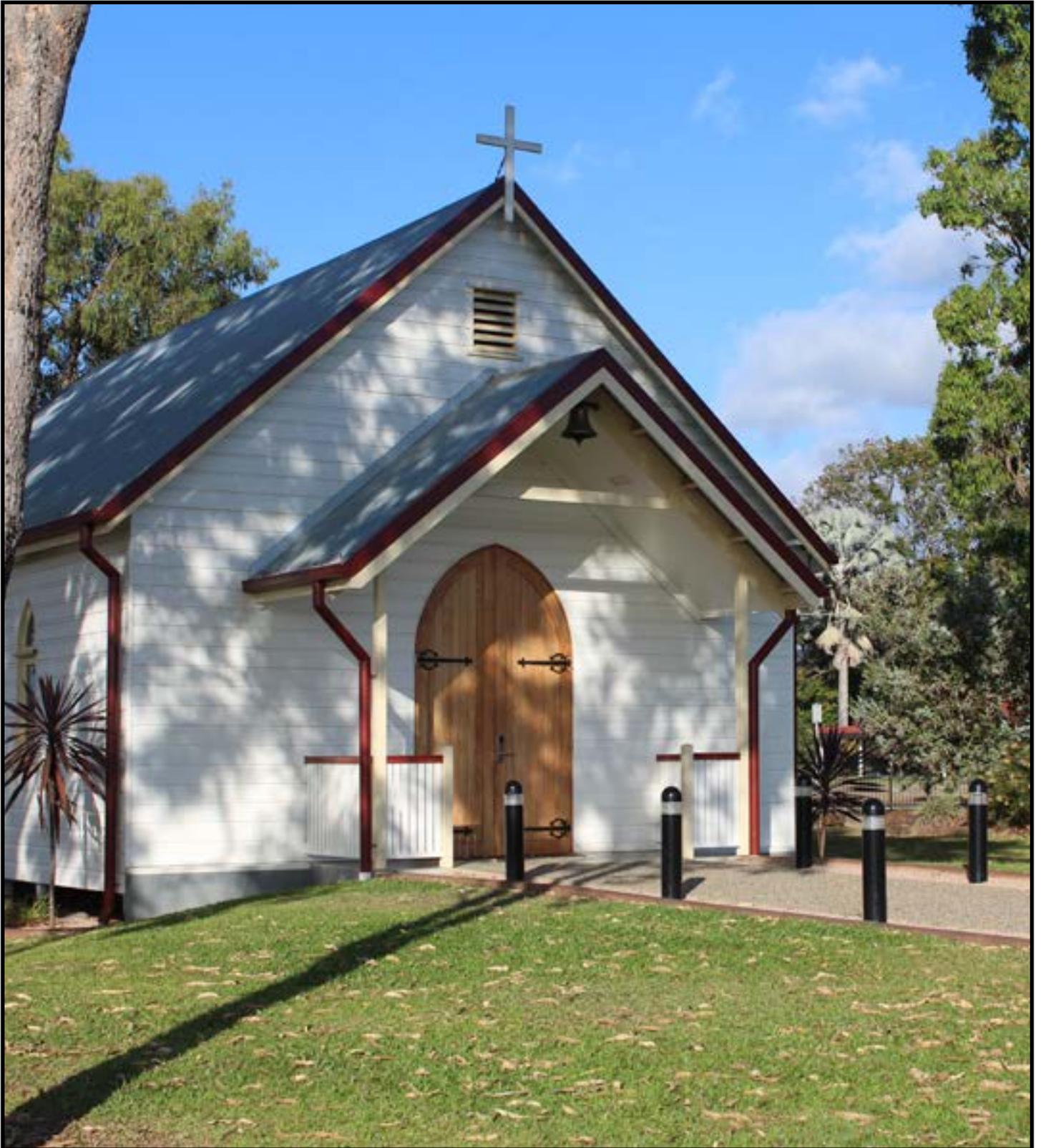
This course gives us several tickets for the future, for example, working at heights plus the overall qualification at the end, this is a great introduction to the drilling and mining industry.

Ethan Backshall and Beau Santarossa
Year 12 Students



YEAR 11 AND 12 - CERT II - RESOURCES & INFRASTRUCTURE





- Celebrating 15 years of Quality Catholic Secondary Education -