

St Stephen's
Catholic College



St Stephen's News

Issue 2 - Friday 19 February 2021

Principal: Ms Kerry Manders
Deputy Principal: Mr Simon Vaughan
Assistant Principal Religious Education: Ms Janai Sugars
Assistant Principal Students: Mrs Jayarani Salerno
Business Manager: Mr Hadyn Flynn

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PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE



On Wednesday, the College community gathered for the Ash Wednesday liturgy, which marks the beginning of the Lenten season. The theme chosen by Caritas Australia this year for Project Compassion is 'Be More'. The College will raise funds for communities that are in need of the basics through Project Compassion, but they are challenged to have a greater awareness of the plight of others.

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NOTICES



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday 10 March
Year 7 Immunisations

Thursday 11 March
Open Evening

Friday 12 March
Student Free Day

Monday 15 to Friday 19 March
Year 7 Camp

Wednesday 17 to Friday 19 March
Year 12 Retreat

Wednesday 24 March
Cross Country

Monday 29 March
Year 10 Real Talk

Thursday 1 April
Easter Liturgy



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

Remember, to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home if you are sick
- If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, get tested.
- Stay 1.5 metres away from other people, think two big steps.
- Wash your hands with soap and water, or hand sanitiser.
- Leave a location if it is crowded.

CHESS CLUB

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



TERM DATES 2021

Term 1: 27-1-2021 to 1-4-2021
Term 2: 19-4-2021 to 25-6-2021
Term 3: 12-7-2021 to 17-9-2021
Term 4: 5-10-2021 to 26-11-2021

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



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers

"Aspire not to have more but to be more" St Oscar Romero



Lent

This week on Ash Wednesday as we began the season of Lent, we prayed:

"Bless us Lord as we receive these ashes as a reminder of our humility. We ask for the forgiveness of our sins as we recall times when we have turned away from you and have not shown mercy to others. We ask you to help us to be fair, peaceful and just as we go about your work in the world. Fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit as we stand with our global family who bear the burden of injustices and inequalities around the world." lent.caritas.org.au

Lent is a time in the church calendar where for 40 days we reflect on the message of Jesus - we slow down, reflect, and review, particularly our relationships with God and others. It is a time of fasting, prayer and giving. We are called to consider what we have and what we do with what we have. It is a time where we are encouraged to see what we can do for others. It is in our actions to "Be More" that we prepare for the coming of Easter, the time of Jesus's death and resurrection, a time of hope for all Christians. As we do each year lent is the time of supporting our neighbours in need through Caritas and Project Compassion:

"This significant time in the liturgical season asks us to reflect on the needs of our brothers and sisters and be thankful to God for our many blessings. We are reminded of those who do not have access to the basic needs of human life, and to consider ways in which we can act to best serve them. Now more than ever, all communities, most especially vulnerable ones, are struggling from the effects of the global pandemic. As we prepare for the Paschal Mystery centred on the passion, death and Resurrection of Christ this Easter season, we must stand in solidarity as a global family, challenging ourselves to 'Be More' in reaching out to others." lent.caritas.org.au

I encourage students and families to visit the Caritas website and discuss the concept of "Be More" introduced by Saint Oscar Romero. It is when we let go of the concept of having more and embrace being more that we free ourselves and empower others to live a more fulfilling life. When we focus on being more for ourselves, others and our world then we grow and make a difference.

200 years of Catholic education

On Thursday I had the privilege of participating in the Cairns Catholic Education Services celebrations for the bicentenary of Catholic education in Australia. The theme 'faith in the future' recognises the faith, hope and courage of those who have contributed to this story in the past and who continue to contribute to the vision now and into the future. Catholic Education across Australia in the last two hundred years has had times of significant challenge and we pay tribute to those who persevered to provide us with the many options and opportunities. At the celebratory mass we sang:

*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*

*We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us
They are saints and they are humans, they are angels, they are friends
We can see beyond the struggles and the troubles and the challenge
When we know that by our effort's things will be better in the end*

*They lift me higher than I could ever fly
Carrying my burdens away
I imagine our world if they hadn't tried*

(STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS by Joyce Johnson Rouse)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL (CONT)

I pay tribute to St Mary MacKillop and all of the religious orders (in particular the Sisters of Mercy who were instrumental in Catholic Education on the Tablelands) that changed the education landscape for us in Australia. It is through their hard work and dedication that we have created a place of value, hope and faith for young people to thrive in the 21st century.

Happenings at SSCC?

Schools are always busy places, and we enjoy the challenges and excitement this brings to our community. The last fortnight has seen so many activities:

Year 6 Visits

The College Transition team has begun our program of visits to the local Catholic primary schools. Miss Hannah Zazzi and I have accompanied two of our students to return to their primary schools and speak with Year 6 students about life at secondary school. This week we visited St Joseph's and St Thomas' and next week will visit St Anthony's and St Augustine's. This is a wonderful opportunity to assist our 2022 students to begin their transition. A huge thank you to Claire, Sam, Harley and Rose who were wonderful ambassadors for St Stephen's.

International Women's Day Breakfast

Preparations are well underway for International Women's Day Breakfast. We are honoured to have the most amazing women sit on our panel for the Breakfast including: Mayor Angela Toppin, Councillor Lenore Wyatt, Ms Michele Dale, Ms Jessica Fealy, Ms Naomi Winspear, Dr Johanna English and Mrs Gail Wason. I look forward to hearing their thoughts on the International Women's Day 2021 theme - #womenlead. All proceeds will go to project compassion, with a limited number of tickets please book your places on: <https://www.trybooking.com/BOVFP>.



Open Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming all families, current and future students, and community members to our College Open Evening as we showcase all that we do at St Stephen's. The College will be open from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. We will have a sausage sizzle as well as a pizza van on site for you to grab an early dinner whilst you are here. Please pass on our invitation to anyone who might be interested in seeing the College in action.

I wish you all the very best as we begin our Lenten journey. May the peace of Christ be with you.

God Bless

Ms Kerry Manders | Principal

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



On Monday 8 March, St Stephen's Catholic College is hosting International Women's Day celebrations with breakfast and a panel of dynamic local women to share their leadership wisdom.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

As part of the strategic directions devised in 2019, the College has targeted feedback as one of its main priorities in teaching and learning across the year.



As a collective staff we want our students to be engaged in every lesson of everyday. To challenge them and reward their efforts while developing twenty first century skills that position them for a life of options and opportunities. To achieve this goal, we want to provide detailed, informative, and understandable feedback to our students on formative and summative assessment. The College created a Learning and Teaching Framework based on the work of Robert Marzano and the New Art and Science of Teaching. A particular focus of this framework is centered around feedback to students.

Dylan William writes extensively on this topic and talks at conferences (now Zooms) across the world to provide real strategies around feedback to educators. One of the first steps to providing and receiving real feedback is the relationship between the student and teacher. The relationship allows the teacher to know when to push and when to hold back, how to deliver feedback for maximum impact and the needs of the student at that time for that assessment, either formative or summative. Ultimately, without a relationship, all the research in the world regarding feedback will not matter.

A focus this year will be on formative feedback for students. The use of formative assessment (or informal assessment) is so critical in the learning journey for our students. Formative assessment (if used correctly) can predict summative assessment outcomes. It allows teachers to pinpoint where every student is tracking according to the learning goals of the unit. The beauty of the latest trends in education is that we can use technology (for example Canvas) to our benefit to return data very quickly that can be deciphered with relative ease by the teacher. The educator can then provide timely and clear feedback on aspects a student needs to improve in. It is then this feedback that opens up a world of options and opportunities for our students.

Mr Simon Vaughan

Deputy Principal

Email: svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au



Don't throw away your old sporting equipment, particularly golf balls - the Health and Physical Education Department is always on the lookout for them! Donations are greatly appreciated!



MIDDLE LEADER - YEAR 10 AND 11

Welcome back to a new school year, a year which is undoubtedly one of the biggest in our year eleven students' schooling. While some of our year eleven's may be beginning their first senior year with graduation in mind, it is important for them to remember that the transition from year ten to eleven can be a challenging one as the rigour of senior study is something unfamiliar to a lot of students.



It may be timely, therefore, to remind our families of the support available here at the College, from classroom teachers and curriculum leaders to myself as the Pastoral Leader and Mrs Havva Murat-Maksuti, the Guidance Counsellor. We are all here to support your children on this wonderful, short journey through year ten and eleven. For our year ten's, hopefully they have settled back into their school and study routines with ease and a conviction to improve their learning this year. It is a year of decisions for the cohort as they should already be thinking about their skills, passions and interests in preparation for senior subject selection.

It is critical that students begin to organise their busy lives to ensure adequate time is devoted to their studies. As we adults all know, balancing work and family commitments can be a challenge, so when you throw school, sport and other extra-curricular activities into the mix, it is no wonder that our young people often struggle to prioritise their time. Mrs Murat-Maksuti and I are available to assist students with compiling a study schedule, but a few other tips to help students maintain a healthy mind and body include: regular exercise; eating a healthy and varied diet; getting a good night's sleep (recommendation for teenagers is a minimum of nine (9) hours per night); allocating time to family and friends; minimising part-time work (recommendation is about ten (10) hours per week); prioritising school work; and working ahead (not procrastinating). If our students can effectively balance all the commitments in their lives now, they are setting themselves up for a happy, positive and successful life as an adult.

The year eleven's began this year by taking time out to explore their faith, their relationships and their journey in life at the year eleven Retreat. The focus of the Retreat was their Catholic Faith in Action theme for this semester: **Who Am I?** The students must be commended on their exemplary behaviour at Genazzano as they participated in activities, responded well to sessions and even enjoyed a bit of free time to swim, play volleyball and relax! I thank Ms Sugars and the year eleven home form teachers for their preparation, planning and support on Retreat.

We extend a warm welcome to new students who have joined us in years ten and eleven:

Year 10: Emma Nicholls, Carli Wheeler, Ava Srhoj, Brogan Streeter and Janos Torma

Year 11: Hak Rattanaphan and Marley Luff

We hope they are already feeling at home at St Stephen's and are navigating their way confidently through the challenges a new school can bring.

I look forward to meeting all our year ten and eleven parents throughout the year, but please do not hesitate to contact me at any time via phone on 07 4086 2588 or email scrockford@cns.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Stacey Crockford
Middle Leader Pastoral - Years 10 and 11
Email: scrockford@cns.catholic.edu.au

VALENTINE'S DAY



PANCAKE DAY



CELEBRATE SHROVE TUESDAY

HAPPY PANCAKE DAY



PAST STUDENT SUCCESS: MATTHEW CHEESMAN



2 February 2021

Ms Kerry Manders
The Principal
St Stephen's Catholic College
PO Box 624
Mareeba
Qld 4880

Dear Ms Manders

I'm delighted to be able to write you in respect of a former St Stephen's Catholic College student, Mr Matthew Cheesman, from the St Stephen's Class of '17.

In 2021, Matthew will be one of St Leo's Residential Assistants, part of our ten man team tasked with receiving, welcoming and making feel at home, those men who will be joining the Leo's community this year.

With best wishes

Yours faithfully

Stephen Foley
Head of College & Chief Executive
St Leo's College
College Road
Within The University of Queensland

College Road, St Lucia, Queensland 4067 Australia

ABN: 74 283 279 529

Congratulations Matthew!





Collection Notice for parents/guardians

2021 Student Residential Address and Other Information

The Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (the department) would like to advise you that a request has been made for your child's school to provide residential address and other information as required under the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (Cth).

The school is required to provide the department with the following information about each student at the school:

- Names and residential addresses of students' parent(s) and/or guardian(s)
- Student residential address (excluding student names)
- Whether the student is a primary or secondary student (education level)
- Whether the student is boarding or a day student (boarding status)

Your child's school generates a unique and unidentifiable record number for each student record. The number is only used by the school for this collection. It is not allowed to be used for any other purpose. The number indicates to the department that each record provided is for one student.

Purpose of the collection

The Student Residential Address and Other Information Collection (the Collection) informs Australian Government school education policy and helps ensure funding for non-government schools is based on need.

The information collected will be used to inform school funding calculations. It is combined with data held by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) to calculate a non-government school community's anticipated capacity to contribute to the costs of schooling.

From 2020, a new measure of capacity to contribute, the Direct Measure of Income (DMI), was introduced. The DMI is based on the median income of parents or guardians of students at a non-government school using data collected through the Collection. More information about the DMI can be found at <https://www.education.gov.au/what-direct-measure-income>.

Use and disclosure of personal information

Your personal information is protected by law under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (Privacy Act). Personal information is information or an opinion about an identifiable individual. Personal information includes an individual's name and contact details.

Any use or disclosure of your personal information must occur in accordance with Privacy Act and the *Australian Education Act 2013* and *Australian Education Regulation 2013*.

Your personal information provided to the department through the Collection may be:

- disclosed to the ABS for the purposes of capacity to contribute calculations and analysis as a part of the Multi-Agency Data Integration Project (MADIP). Further information about MADIP can be found on the [MADIP page](#) on the ABS website.
- disclosed to a contracted auditor where the department may from time to time, carry out an audit of a school's submission to the Collection. The contracted auditor compares the school's submission with the student enrolment information held by the school and will not use the information for any other purpose
- disclosed to its service providers for the purposes of the provision of information and communications technology support services to the department
- used or disclosed where it is otherwise required or authorised by law.

The department does not intend to disclose your personal information to any overseas recipients.

The department's privacy policy can be found at www.dese.gov.au and includes information on:

- how individuals can access and seek correction of the personal information held by the department;
- how complaints about potential breaches or breaches of the Privacy Act can be made;
- how the department will deal with these complaints.

The department commissioned an independent privacy impact assessment (PIA). The PIA assesses the flows of information under the Collection, compliance with the Privacy Act and measures in place to safeguard the personal information being collected. The report is being updated, and will be available in 2021 on the [SchoolsHUB Address Collection help and support page](#). The current version is available at <https://docs.education.gov.au/node/51436>.

What do you need to do?

You are not required to do anything. Your school is responsible for providing the requested details to the department; however, you may wish to ensure that your school has the most up-to-date and correct details for your family.

Contacts for further information

Your school can provide additional information about the Collection process.

Alternatively, please visit the [SchoolsHUB Address Collection help and support page](#).

REFLECTION ON LENT

In the spirit of this Lenten season, let us place ourselves in the presence of God and reflect on the good works that we can enact as we are called to improve our daily duties and charity towards others.

In Luke's gospel, Jesus said, "The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised". He told people that they would need to take up their cross daily and follow him and he challenged people with the question, "What does it profit people if they gain the whole world but lose or forfeit themselves?"

In our world today, we and our students are challenged in our self-definition and actions by materialism, ego, vanity, pride, fear and self-centredness. Public figures across our global society are similarly challenged - whether to consider and then act for the good of their people or to be predominantly self-serving. As humans, we are confronted with making the choice about achieving a balance of positive actions for ourselves, our families and others on a daily basis.

So, today we pray that on a global level, in the midst of present internal conflicts in Russia, Myanmar, India and Hong Kong, among other countries; in the worldwide rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine and calls for equity of distribution; and in the day-to-day running of countries, that leaders act in the best interests of the people who they serve. We also remain thankful for the systems of our own country and the freedoms and privileges that we enjoy in Australia.

On a local level, let us remind ourselves to undertake one action every day that is of service to our families; one action that is helpful to our colleagues and at least one action that shows each other that we are truly ourselves.

Mrs Janice Provan

