

St Stephen's
Catholic College



St Stephen's News

Issue 12 - Friday 6 August 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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Catholic Education Week



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NOTICES



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday 4 and Friday 6 August

Year 10 SET Plans

Tuesday 10 August

Dr Bestmann Cricket

Wednesday 11 August

Chess Competition

Friday 13 August

Year 12 Certificate II in Resources - Excursion

Astronomy Night

Monday 16 to Friday 20 August

Science Week

Wednesday 18 August

Vietnam Veterans Day

Thursday 19 August

Year 12 Certificate II in Resources - Excursion

Volunteers Afternoon Tea

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

Last week we celebrated Catholic Education week with great excitement and reflection on the work, the communities and the gifts of two hundred years of Catholic Education. The theme "A spirited tomorrow" acknowledged the long tradition of Catholic education and its continued relevance in preparing students for the future filled with the Spirit.



We also recognised the educators of Queensland who have been outstanding in their work to support students. This year we decided to celebrate Catholic Education week with a College specific award, the St Stephen's Medal. The St Stephen's Medal will be presented each year in honour of the service that St Stephen demonstrated to his community. It will be awarded to a staff or community member who has contributed long-standing service and commitment to the College in the light of St Stephen.

The recipient will have exemplified the service of St Stephen and walked in the footsteps of our College Patron. The recipient, like St Stephen, will have demonstrated what it means to follow Christ with faith, service and courage, and will receive a medal and lapel pin. The design of the pin features a palm branch which has long represented the calling and challenge to follow St Stephen in being people of deep faith.

The recipient of the inaugural St Stephen's Medal is Mr Gerry Simon. Mr Simon was the Foundation Principal of St Stephen's from 2006 – 2013.

Mr Simon spoke to assembled students and staff about the faith and courage of our early staff, parents and students and their work to develop a sense of family and community. This community rose out of a sense of service and hope. These values continued to be central to the culture of the College alongside faith and courage. Gerry outlined the importance of these values underpinning every part of the College history, but always combined with the pervasive sense of hope. It was clear that the founding minds of the College always had a vision to offer the Tablelands a secondary schooling experience that provides opportunities to build options for students grounded in our catholic values and quality relationships.

In Cairns Catholic Education we call this experience of catholic values, Encounter, and this is drawn from the Emmaus Story in Luke's Gospel (24:13-35). In this story the disciples encounter the risen Christ and recount their 'hearts burned within them.' They came to understand that it is through encounter with others and the work of the Holy Spirit, that we come to know the risen Christ. This calls on all members of the College community to consider the way we live, learn and serve in our community. Our Encounter Framework was developed to describe a process that enables our growth as a Catholic community.

It describes the ways of being and living in a Catholic community where we:

- **Respect** the culture which makes us who we are, where we honour the sacred dignity of each person appreciating the difference and diversity in our community.
- **Connect** with people and the community we are in with awareness of the place, the Earth and the Spirit that binds us together.



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!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

- **Reflect** on what makes us who we are, a people of hope who are searching for truth and the common good
- **Embrace** this culture beyond the school community by living life deeply, fully to meet all that life has to offer

I invite each community member to take time to reflect on how you live, learn and serve in our community. Do you do so in ways that respect all, embraces all and connects us to each other?

May the peace and courage of Christ be with you always.

God Bless

Ms Kerry Manders | Principal

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

JASON CISLOWSKI: DOCEMUS AWARD



Our most sincere congratulations go to Jason Cislowski, for being named the recipient of the School Officer Honours at the recent Docemus Awards.

Jason, your professionalism here at St Stephen's Catholic College is truly appreciated.

Docemus meaning 'to teach', the awards acknowledge and celebrate the exceptional commitment, achievement and contribution to Catholic Education by staff, volunteers and supporters of Catholic Education.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Although we are only halfway through the year, it is now time to begin the process of subject selection for junior year levels and transitioning the year twelve cohort to external assessment and a life after school. At this point in the term the year twelve students are finalising their last piece of internal assessment. For some students this represents 75% of their course, for others 50%. With this however, the focus begins on preparation for external assessment. The first part of this are the mock external exams which begin in week eight of this term. An exam schedule will go out to students in week five so they are prepared for their exams. Students will only be required to be present at school if they have an assessment session. Another aspect to transitioning students to life after year twelve was the QTAC Presentation held on Monday 2 August via Zoom.



Students were presented with critical information regarding their choices for next year. Any students needing further information on the information presented should see myself or Mr MacCallum. Students in years eight to ten are now in the process of going through subject selection. Unfortunately, this year the night was changed to an online event, however, students were able to discuss subject options with teachers at the pop-up stall in the Holy Spirit Centre across last week. Year ten students will now undertake their SET Plan interviews to map a pathway, whether that be ATAR, Vocational or fulltime work/apprenticeship. For year eight students it is a time to choose subjects that may lead to a pathway in the future, while year nine students should be starting to narrow a future direction with their subject selection. Term three is an exciting time for students as they select subjects for next year and the year twelve students look to their future post year twelve.

If you would like to discuss anything related to curriculum, please feel free to contact Mrs Rantucci and make an appointment.

Mr Simon Vaughan

Deputy Principal

Email: svaughan@cns.catholic.edu.au



CAITLIN WADLEY: PRESS RELEASE FROM QBI

Brain Bee winner is a neuroscientist in the making

Atherton teenager Caitlin Wadley has set her sights on a career in neuroscience or astrophysics – and she is well on her way with a win in the Queensland Brain Bee Challenge. The Year 10 student from St Stephen's Catholic College at Mareeba succeeded ahead of 33 others from around Queensland to win the state title. Caitlin correctly answered questions about brain biology, mechanisms and diseases to book a spot on the national stage in the Australian Brain Bee Challenge on 26th July. She will also spend a week in laboratories at UQ's Queensland Brain Institute in September to gain an insight into life as a researcher.

"I spent a lot of time preparing for the Brain Bee because it is a field I am very interested in," Caitlin said. "It also opens up more exciting opportunities for the future." Caitlin said she was interested in the brain because there was still so much that neuroscientists had to uncover. "With neuroscience being a relatively new field, it offers so much room for curiosity and discovery," she said. "Maths and science are tied for the favourite school subjects – science lets me constantly ask questions and there is no limit to information available."

As part of the Queensland Brain Bee Challenge, Caitlin and her fellow participants were shown around the QBI laboratories and spoke to researchers, confirming her passion for science. "The facilities were incredible and the few research projects we heard about seemed really intriguing. "We had a chance to look in the labs and I knew that's somewhere I want to be sometime in the future. "I just can't wait to get among those people and learn from them."

Caitlin said she saw science as an outlet for her curiosity, allowing her to question, experiment and innovate. "In the future, I hope we turn this curiosity towards the planet and its biocapacity, so we are using our resources in the most sustainable way to preserve it for future generations – or maybe just going to live on Mars."

The Australian Brain Bee Challenge is for students to learn about the brain and its functions, learn about neuroscience research, find out about careers in neuroscience and to dispel misconceptions about neurological and mental illnesses.

Challenge organiser and QBI neuroscientist Professor Bruno van Swinderen said it was started to address deficiencies in the public's perception of science in general, and neuroscience in particular. Students are tested on intelligence, memory, emotions, sensations, movement, stress, ageing, sleep, Alzheimer's disease and stroke.

Media: Erik de Wit, QBI Communications, e.dewit@uq.edu.au
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Congratulations Caitlin Wadley from St Stephen's Catholic College on winning this year's Queensland Final of the Australian Brain Bee Challenge!



MIDDLE LEADER - YEAR 10 AND 11



What a busy yet rewarding time for our students. By now, students should be well settled, back in routine and working hard in class. We are over the halfway mark for the year, so hopefully students have set themselves new goals for the final four months of schooling.

I thank our parents for their regular communication with the school, from calling or emailing absences or lateness, to writing notes for uniform infringements, as well as the regular contact with classroom teachers. Education really is a united approach, and it is wonderful when the daily routine runs smoothly.

The year ten cohort are in the midst of completing their SET Plans, a time that brings joy for some as they get to cement their future, but is fear-inducing for others as the pressure starts to mount to answer that all-important question: what are you going to do for the rest of your life? Perhaps it is timely to remind students in the latter category that this, too, is just one small step in their journey, that the subjects they choose to study in senior are not going to define who they are as a person, and that the average person will have 12 to 15 jobs in their lifetime! So breathe, choose something you enjoy and take that first step... the other steps will just naturally fall into place.

The year eleven students are in the process of nominating for student leadership positions in 2022. I want to congratulate all our nominees for being courageous and taking that leap of faith in having a go, putting themselves out there and challenging themselves by being willing to take on a new and exciting position next year. There are some wonderful role models in year eleven, and we look forward to watching them grow into our future leaders. We are living in times of uncertainty and turbulence, so now, more than ever, our world needs strong leadership.

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

Attending the Western Deanery Mass at St Joseph's last week were year ten students, Toby Cross, Milan Maloberti and Emma Nicholls.



DR ANTHONY GRAY'S VISIT TO ST STEPHEN'S

Students recently had the opportunity to hear from Dr Anthony Gray. From law reform, the concept of terrorism to negligence, students from years ten to twelve, had the opportunity to debate legal issues. Thank you to the Business Liaison Association for their support of law students in Far North Queensland.



SPORTS UPDATE

Congratulations to the following Students for progressing to the 10-19 Years Cross Country State Team:

Brayden Thomson
Ned Donovan
Nicholas Fogale
Emalina Fogale
Michala Thomson



Eli Smith and Jack Wearne competed at the Under 13 Boys State Titles for Hockey in Townsville over the holidays.



**Where Have All The Good Men Gone?
By Nicholas Brammer**

I can understand the hurt.
I do feel the pain.
But is it really all of us
that must suffer this betrayal?

The slaying and the beating of the male name
Is due to just a few.
Who can't respect life, this game,
So, why do they all see us from that point of
view?

That loud point of view
That obnoxious point of view
That careless point of view
Just that piece of dirt point of view.

It's not all guys you know,
We're not all guilty,
The media annihilation
Killing a good man's spirit

Blood from the mental thrashing
Steam bellowing from ears in frustration
News headlines piercing like daggers.
Does the world know what they are doing?

The mephitic male masculinity,
Like a dome on the rest of society
Where have all the good men gone?
They're still here, but
Consumed by the media, pretentious.

The representatives of this gender
Automatically elected.
They're the offenders.
Really?

The cries of good men
choked out by the coverage of violence,
harassment, and aggression.
Fall on deaf ears.
Why cry out when you are not heard?

Our good men endure days of embarrass-
ment.

But what can we do?
Feeling like we're always being watched.
We are betrayed by our own kind.

Poking fun, but is it really funny?
Not listening, well we're expected to.

Only talking
The only thing required for evil to prevail is
for good men to do nothing.

I can understand your hurt.
I do feel your pain.
But is it really all of us
That must suffer this betrayal?



St Stephen's Catholic College has brought home the Year Nine and Ten Readers Cup FNQ Regional Competition for the second year running. (Last year the competition was cancelled due to COVID-19). Caitlin, Natalie, Eva and Ella spent the last term reading and discussing the set of chosen books. Their hard work and dedication to reading enabled them to hold their nerves and take the win in the last round. During the Olympic week it was great to see the team sport of reading take the spotlight!

Congratulations to our dedicated reading team.



Above: How it started!
Below: How it finished!



Winners: Caitlin Wadley, Natalie Millerd, Eva McLennan and Ella Schrale.



INTERSCHOOL NAIDOC CHALLENGE - TOUCH FOOTBALL



Congratulations to the winning team from St Stephen's Catholic College that competed at the Interschool NAIDOC Challenge Touch Football Event held at Kuranda District State College



ST STEPHEN'S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

It's been over 10 years since the graduating class of 2010 left St Stephen's and we would love to hear from you! St Stephen's Catholic College invites you to join the SSCC Alumni Association. For further information, please contact the College.

<https://sscc.qld.edu.au/our-college/st-stephens-alumni-association/>



Mr Gerry Simon

Recipient of the inaugural St Stephen's Medal
Foundation Principal of St Stephen's 2006 – 2013



St Stephen's
Catholic College



Cordially Invites You to Our

VOLUNTEERS AFTERNOON TEA

Thursday 19 August 2021
4:30-5:30pm

Holy Spirit Centre
St Stephen's Catholic College
McIver Road, Mareeba

Meet and greet for those looking at joining us and a thank you for those already assisting the college.

Please R.S.V.P. by 4 August to
Rhonda Smith
rsmith@cns.catholic.edu.au
or
call 07 40862500



**27
AUGUST**

ARTS EXHIBITION
ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

6:00 – 9:00PM
FREE ENTRY
MUSIC AND DRAMA
PERFORMANCES
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

High Tea Menu

Savoury:
Spinach and Feta Scones w Butter
Caramelised Onion and Brie mini Quiches
Crunchy Pork Schnitzel Meatballs w Sweet Chilli Sauce

Sweet:
Chinese Custard Tarts
Orange Sugar Cakes
Caramilk Brownies

2021 HIGH TEA EVENT - 4TH
AUGUST 2021



SSCC GOES ON PILGRIMAGE!

As part of the Catholic Education Week celebrations, students in year eight and nine participated in a pilgrimage experience based on the theme of the week, "A Spirited Tomorrow". As a form of prayer, a pilgrimage is a prayer of the body and a pilgrim is a person who prays with their feet. As the spiritual purpose was to journey home with a new eyes and a new heart, the students undertook this walk along the old railway line back to the St Stephen's campus whilst reflecting on the themes of spirit, hope, thanks and stillness.

"The Pilgrim was a very fun experience for me and my peers. Even though it was very hot I felt like it was a very calming and fun activity for me and my friends to do together, I felt like I found more stuff about my friends and even myself during the walk." Jesse Mete

"I really enjoyed just going for a nice stroll and being with nature. It is what God built for us and I feel like we should cherish it more by going out and being with each other." Emily Howard

"The pilgrimage was so fun! It showed me more about others and the environment in the Mareeba outback. All the activities made me think about some things I don't really think about often." Emily Walker

"The walk was an inspiring and eye-opening experience, I learned a lot about my classmates, teachers, and the Christian faith alike." Xavier Mullane

"I really enjoy walking, so that was fun for me (although I would have probably preferred a walk a bit further away from the road :)" Emily Krummel



PARENT ENGAGEMENT DAY



An INVITATION

PARENT ENGAGEMENT DAY
CAIRNS | SAT 4 SEPT | 12.30PM-6.00PM
Our Lady Help of Christians School, Earlville

KEY SPEAKERS

Andrew Fuller, Psychologist, discussing 3 topics:
Behaviour, Mental health and Motivation

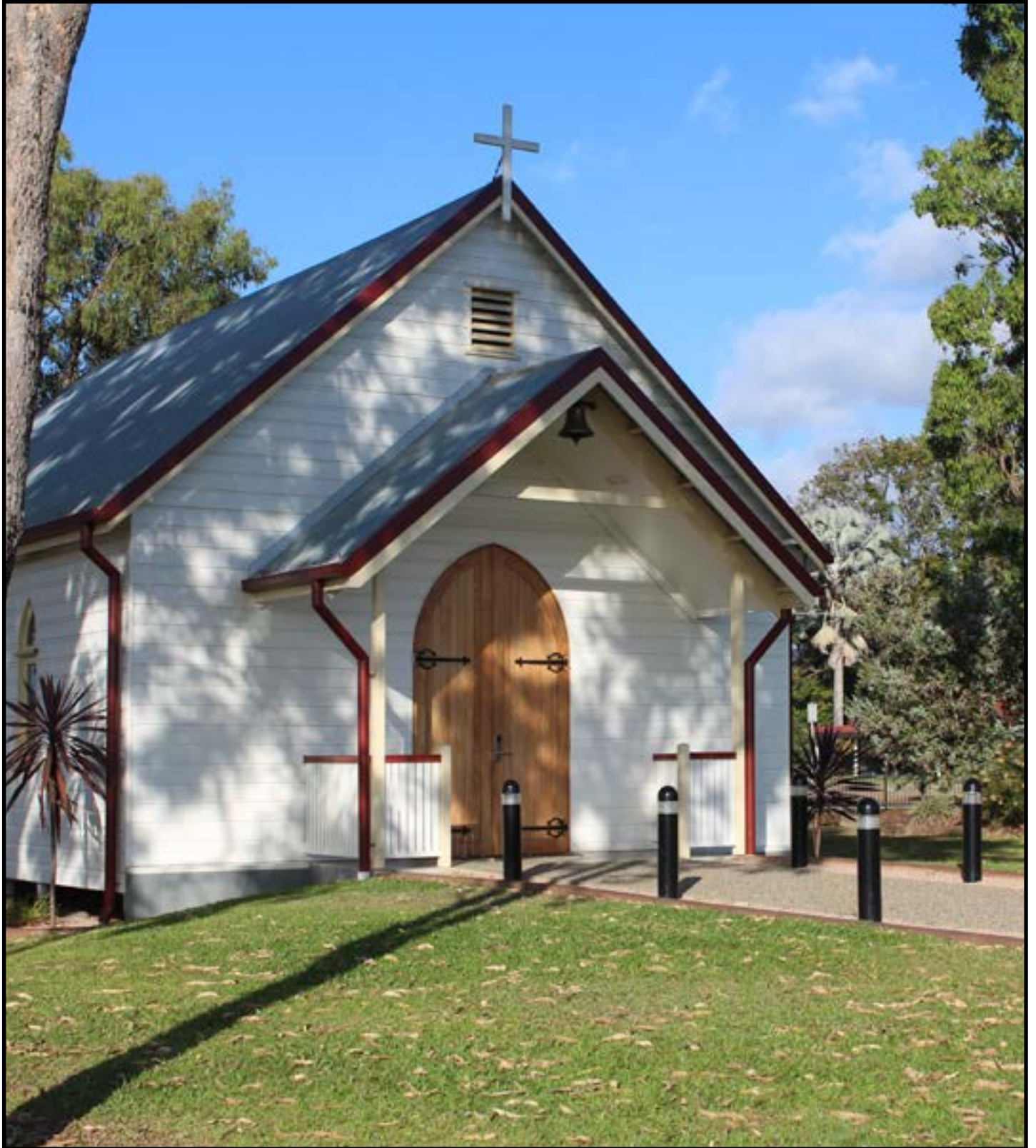
Chris Borrell, The Fathering Project

Bernadette Kay, Catholic School Parents Queensland
talking with 5 schools about their best practice in Parent Engagement

All Catholic School Parents, Principals & School Staff welcome.
A free event to support our children's learning and wellbeing.

Topics for all ages Prep to Yr 12

Click on the link below for more details and to register
<https://www.cvent.com/d/nmqgsk>



- Celebrating 16 years of Quality Catholic Secondary Education -