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Issue 1/2009

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Greetings to everyone in our St Stephen's School community for 2009.

I give a very warm welcome to all our new families across our two campuses and trust that you will soon feel at home in our school. I hope that each new student settles in happily and finds friends quickly.

I also welcome our new staff members and hope that they soon feel at home. A Commissioning Service was held for new staff before students returned. At this service Ms Christine Benson was commissioned as our new Head of the Primary School at Duncraig. We wish her God's blessings as she leads and serves her community with wisdom and care. Our Chair of Council, Mr Michael van Drunen, also commissioned me as your Principal. This appointment has been made by Council for a 12-18 month period until a new Principal is found. I feel honoured to be leading our wonderful school and know that 2009 will see new growth and development for all who work and learn here.

We have had a very smooth start to the year, thanks to our special staff who have all spent a considerable amount of time preparing for 2009. It is also due in part to your preparations on the home front in getting your child/ren ready both physically and emotionally for the new beginning.

I want to focus on two points:

Community

Community and care are essential elements in our school's character. It matters here that people feel a part of our community and that they experience care. We want you and need you as our parents, to become part of the partnership that will support your child's education. We know that children do better at school when they see that their parents are involved in their school.

As a school, we need the triangle of the students, parents and staff to be a strong bond. I encourage each of you to be involved and to make connections with other parents and students. Speak to your child's teacher or Dean or Head; look on the calendar, read *Dove Tales*, to find ways that work for you to make connections through school events and activities. You may feel a bit shy or daunted by the prospect of meeting new people, but we are friendly and are eager to have you join with us.

I am looking forward to a year of vibrant, inclusive friendships in a community that is growing.

Learning

We celebrate the successes of our Year 12 students in their final results for 2008 and are all very proud of their achievements. They have brought honour to themselves and our School and we wish them ongoing success in their career choices. Their example is for all our younger students to grab hold of and start to emulate. We expect each student at school to work hard this year. Opportunities to learn are available for each student and there is no reason to waste them. A positive attitude and perseverance are our expectations of everyone in their learning this year.

Principal's Report (cont)

Parents, please encourage your child/ren in their learning and maintain your own high expectations. Keep them striving to do their best and working hard. It can be too easy to say well done to children, but it is not always so easy to discern whether it was the best they could do. Children know themselves whether it was their best effort. My prayer is for this community; its students, its staff and its families - that God will bless us as we seek to walk His path for our school for 2009.

The source for a productive life: 'I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.' John 15:5

Mrs Caryl Roberts
Principal

Whole School Information

Key Dates 2009			
Tue 10 Feb	CAS P&F meeting	Mon—Wed 23—25 Feb	Yr 8 Boys' Camp
Wed 11 Feb	VET CAS	Mon 23 Feb	Primary Wet Carnival Yr 4-6 Yr 12 Leadership Training (A/S)
Thu 12 Feb	Yr 11 Art Drawing	Tue 24 Feb	CAS
Fri 13 Feb	Yr 8 Parent Sundowner	Wed 25 Feb	VET CAS
Mon 16 Feb	House Swim Carnival	Thu—Fri 26—27 Feb	Swim Camp
Tue 17 Feb	CAS UCA Pancake Breakfast	Fri 27 Feb	Pre Primary Language Screening
Wed—Fri 18—20 Feb	Yr 7 Camp Yr 8 Girls' Camp	Mon 2 Mar	Labour Day Holiday
Wed 18 Feb	CAS VET	Tue 3 Mar	CAS
Fri 20 Feb	Yr 11 Geography Fieldwork <i>Dove Tales</i>	Wed 4 Mar	VET CAS
		Fri 6 Mar	Arts @ Lunch (Music) <i>Dove Tales</i>

You are invited to join us on **Tuesday 17 February** from 7.30—8.15 am outside the Canteen. \$3 will buy you pancakes and juice. Your hosts are the Faith and Values Learning Area. Enquiries to 9306 7100.

Whole School Information (cont)

Congratulations!

Garrick Morgan (Year 10) has been selected to represent Western Australia at the 2009 School Sport Australia Cricket Championships in Cobram/Barooga, Victoria from Saturday 28 February to Saturday 7 March 2009.

Term Dates 2009

Term 1	Term ends on Thursday 9 April
Term 2	Wednesday 29 April—Friday 3 July
Term 3	Wednesday 22 July—Friday 25 September
Term 4	Tuesday 13 October—Friday 4 December.

Information, Policy, Parental Consent, Health and Emergency Form 2009

Students Information Forms, Data Collection Forms and Smartrider Application forms.

In October last year every student would have received by post or on Orientation day an *Information, Policy, Parents Consent, Health & Emergency Form 2009*. Some of you may have received a *Data Collection Form* and Year 7 and 8 students an application for a Smartrider form.

Please complete and return them to the school urgently, even if there are no changes to the information, using the reply paid envelope provided or drop them off at Administration. This data needs to be inputted into our computer system for a smooth start to the year.

To those parents who have already returned them - thank you.

Urgent help needed in the Library

The library needs helpers to cover text books which are urgently needed for students. Please call 9306 7128 if you can help. Kettle's on! Mrs Claire Bentley

Secondary Assistance Scheme

Parent/Guardian to be eligible to claim the allowance for this government initiative:

- must hold one of the following cards: Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card, Centrelink Family Health Care Card or Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card. These cards must be current in first term of school year.
- have student/s in Years 8 - 12, including the year the student turns 18 years of age.

Application forms are available from main administration (off Harrington Ave). Closing date is 9 April 2009. Enquiries can be made to Mrs Pam Doust 9306 7100.

Duty of Care

Staff members are on duty from 8.05am. Students who arrive before this time are not supervised. There is also no staff supervision provided after school. Students are therefore not allowed to play on any playground equipment.

Nut Products

Please be aware that in our school community we have several students who have life threatening reaction to peanuts. Therefore, this school is, as much as possible, a "nut free zone". Please avoid giving children food containing nuts.

Lost Property

There are lost property boxes around the school. Please check the boxes regularly if your child has lost an article of clothing.

Whole School Information (cont)

***CYCLERSCHOOL* INITIATIVE & POLICY**

Students are encouraged to ride their bicycles to St Stephen's School. We strive to be a healthy school and recognise the benefit of moderate, frequent exercise and healthy eating. Riding a bicycle to school and leaving it in the allocated area is a privilege. Students **must** agree to comply with guidelines in order to ride their bike to school. These guidelines encourage safety for cyclists, pedestrians and vehicle occupants.

Bicycles are a young person's introduction to road rules. From a school perspective there are aspects of this relationship which necessitate clear guidelines in the interests of the student and school community.

Guidelines

The school reserves the right to withdraw this privilege as part of its overall management of the Pastoral Care and Discipline procedures.

Student bicycle parking is only permitted in the designated area.

Students must agree:

- To wear an approved cycling helmet at all times
- To obey the road rules
- To walk the bike when in school grounds
- To provide a bike lock and lock the frame of the bike to the bike racks
- To participate in Bike/Traffic Education when offered
- To attach the ***CYCLERSCHOOL*** sticker to the steering post.

Parents must ensure:

- The bicycle is maintained in a roadworthy condition
- Their child/children understand the road rules
- Adequate insurance cover is sought as the School is unable to accept any responsibility for any theft, damage to, or caused by the bicycle while on school grounds.

The above conditions are outlined in a document which the students will be given to bring home. Both the student and parent must sign it agreeing to the conditions. The student then brings the signed document back to the front desk (Primary admin for Primary students; Secondary Admin for Secondary students) and will be given a sticker to place on their bike. The sticker **MUST** be put in a clearly visible position on their bike (i.e. the steering post .)

Primary Music

Welcome back to you and yours. We hope that your break has been refreshing, interesting and fun and that you are ready for a really exciting first term in music. There are some significant events planned for Term 1 and some stimulating developments which we hope you will want to be part of.

Firstly, Senior Sing Thing and Junior Sing Thing Choirs will continue to operate this year with some minor changes. The number of children in each choir will be reduced (25 – 28 students in total) and prospective members will have to pass an audition which focuses on the accuracy of vocal pitch and strong rhythmic awareness. **Jnr.Sing Thing** will still be for students from Year 1 to Year 3 and will be conducted by Simone Armstrong on **Thursdays** between **8.00am and 8.45am**.

Snr. Sing Thing will take children from Year 4 to Year 6 and will be conducted by Debbie Pattison on **Tuesdays** commencing at **8.00am** and finishing at **8.45am**. Not only will there be an emphasis for students on learning choral technique through a variety of music but also how to present themselves at rehearsals and performances. Willingness to commit to regular attendance and punctuality each week will be a prerequisite for being in each particular choir (unless sick). Auditions for **Jnr. Sing Thing** Choir will commence **this Thursday** (Week 1) in the Charis Music Room. Auditions for **Snr.Sing Thing** will commence **Tuesday** of Week 2 at this stage in the Charis Music Room.

An exciting venture for music this term is the music camp (with a choral emphasis) which has been booked from the afternoon of **Thursday April 2 to Saturday April 4** late morning at **Landsdale Farm School**. Numbers will be limited (58-60) and confined to students who learn an instrument from Year 3 with a preference for Year 4 upwards. There will be an information meeting about this on **Monday February 23 at 7.00pm** in the **Primary Forum**. Please mark this in your diary.

Primary Music (cont)

On **Wednesday February 11 at 3.30pm** we are holding an interactive meeting for interested students (and their parents!) with the instrumental tutors of many of the following instruments – Acoustic Guitar, Alto Saxophone, Clarinet, Double Bass, Electric Bass, Flute, Trumpet and Trombone. Students will be able to see, hear and learn about these instruments up close. A certain number of instrumental lessons will be available on all of the instruments shown for those wishing to start. *Please note – certain instruments will be restricted to certain age groups.*

The following is a summary of the performance based music groups operating this year:

<u>Performance Group</u>	<u>Day + Time</u>	<u>Leader / Conductor</u>
☆ SENIOR SING THING ** Auditions from Tuesday February 10 (Week 2) from 8.00am in Charis Music Rm.	Tuesday 8.00am – 8.45am	Mrs Deb Pattison
☆ JUNIOR SING THING ** Auditions from Thursday February 5 (Week 1) from 8.00am – 8.45am in Charis Music Rm.	Thursday 8.00am – 8.45am	Ms Simone Armstrong
☆ PRIMARY ROCK BAND **Open to <u>Year 6 students only.</u> ** Auditions will be held on Wednesday February 11 (Week 2) at 12.45pm sharp in the Charis Music Rm. Students should bring their lunch.	Wednesday 3.30pm – 4.15pm	Mr John Sandosham
☆ JUNIOR CONCERT BAND **Starting Thursday February 19 (Week 3) in Charis Music Rm. (Unless otherwise notified) ** For young musicians on the following instruments - Alto Saxophone, Clarinet, Electric Bass, Flute, Trumpet, Trombone, Piano, and Drums/Percussion.	Thursday 3.30pm - 4.15pm	Ms. Simone Armstrong
☆ PRIMARY STRING ENSEMBLE ** Also known as 'The Fabulous Fiddles!' ** For string players from Year 4 to Year 6. The ensemble will be commencing on Monday February 9 at 8.00am (Week 2).	Monday 8.00am – 8.45am	Mrs Anne Speer

Primary Music (cont)

☆ PRIMARY ACOUSTIC GUITAR ENSEMBLE(S) **TBA soon** Mr John Ralph
Mrs Deb Pattison

☆ YEAR 4 CHOIR / YEAR 5 CHOIR / YEAR 6 CHOIR

****Compulsory choirs which will rehearse once a week for Term 1. Following Term 1 students will choose to commit to the choir for the completion of the year or will not participate in the choir for the rest of the year.**

Year 4 Choir	Monday 2.40pm – 3.20pm	Ms. Simone Armstrong
Year 5 Choir	Monday 1.20pm – 2.00pm	Mrs Deb Pattison
Year 6 Choir	Tuesday 1.20pm – 2.00pm	Mrs Deb Pattison

PLEASE NOTE: – All members of the above groups will be expected to sign contracts to commit themselves to their respective groups for the year. All groups will be performing at a variety of music events throughout the year such as Primary Assemblies, school +/- or special worship times (ie. Easter), Festivals, Eisteddfods, Thanksgiving, Carols by Candlelight, and a formal school concert. If you have any queries with anything concerning instrumental learning and performance groups please email armstrs@ststephens.wa.edu.au or pattisd@ststephens.wa.edu.au

Here is a summary of the important dates for students of music (and their extremely patient / supportive parents!) this term :

Week 1	<u>Thursday February 5</u> 8.00am – 8.45am	Jnr. Sing Thing auditions 1
Week 2	<u>Monday February 9</u> 8.00am – 8.45am	Primary Strings Ensemble commences
	<u>Tuesday February 10</u> 8.00am – 8.45am	Snr. Sing auditions 1
	<u>Wednesday February 11</u> 12.50pm – 1.30pm	Primary Rock Band auditions
	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Interactive Meeting with Instrumental Tutors. For parents and prospective instrumental students.
	<u>Thursday February 12</u> 8.00am – 8.45am	Jnr. Sing Thing auditions 2 / First session of choir commences

Primary Music (cont)

Week 3	<u>Tuesday February 17</u> 8.00am – 8.45am	Snr. Sing Thing auditions 2 / First session of choir commences
	<u>Thursday February 19</u> 3.30pm – 4.15pm	Jnr. Concert Band commences
Week 4	<u>Monday February 23</u> 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start	Music Camp Meeting
Week 9	<u>Wednesday April 1</u>	Term 1 Music Assembly
	<u>Thursday April 2 to Saturday April 4</u>	Music Camp
Week 10	<u>*Thursdays April 9</u>	Easter Service (TBC)
	<u>*Easter Sunday</u>	St Stephen's Uniting Church and School in Carramar (TBC)

PLEASE NOTE: - The other main Music Assembly will be held in Term 3 Week 4 which is August 12.

Finally, please have a think about whether you would like to be part of a Music Support Group for 2009 which will not involve too much time; where you can make use of the skills you have in a minor or major way. There will be more on this later.

Mrs Deb Pattison and Miss Simone Armstrong
Primary Music Teachers

Primary

Primary Wet Carnival

The **Wet Carnival** will now be held on **Monday 23 February**, not Friday 6th March. It will involve students and teachers in **Year 4-6** and will take place at the Arena, Joondalup.

Parents who wish to help please contact the Primary Office on 9306 7111.

Learn a Musical Instrument

If you would like your child to learn a musical instrument, please note in the Music section above, the opportunity to "test drive" our instruments on 11 February.

Secondary

Music Opportunities

If you would like to plug your child's musical talent into the expanding instrumental program the following instruments are available for tuition: Trumpet, trombone, clarinet, flute, fife pipe, Alto/Tenor/Baritone saxophone, harmonica, violin, viola, cello, double bass, electric bass, piano, tuned & untuned percussion, drums, classical guitar, classical/contemporary / musical theatre voice.

Forms for instrumental tuition can be collected from the music office.

Secondary Ensembles available for beginner to advanced students are available for the following groups:

Instrumental Groups	Vocal Groups
Jazz Big Band	Music Major Vocal Group (Year 10 - 12)
Brass Big Band	Divas Devine (Years 10 - 12)
Concert Band	Vocal Workshop (Years 8 - 9)
Stage Band	Male Barbershop (All Years)
Classical/Flamenco Guitar Ensemble	Female Barbershop (All Years)
Saxophone Ensemble	Year 7 Choir
Latin Percussion Ensemble	
Jazz Fusion Flute Ensemble	
Secondary String Ensembles	
Chamber Ensemble	
Funk Soul Rock band	
Classical Funk Band	

Please contact Mr. Shannon de Bie on 9306 7342 for further information, additionally if life is hectic please email debiesh@ststephens.wa.edu.au

Mathematics Club Years 7 to 12

The wait is over....Maths Club will recommence in Makaria on Wednesday 18 February in Room M1 from 3.30 to 4.30 pm. All students are welcome to come along and receive some help with their mathematics or just share in an afternoon of Mathematical XTC. Makaria Computer Pod will be available for Mathletics.

House Swimming Carnival

The annual House Swimming carnival will be held at **The Arena, Joondalup on Monday 16 February 2009**. This promises to be a great day and we look forward to seeing parents and friends supporting the students. The first event begins at 8.45 am.

Parents and students please note the following. Students are not allowed to visit the kiosk whilst at the swimming carnival. We also ask that parents do not purchase food or drink for their children and bring it to them in the stands. Students need to bring food and drinks from home. Thanks for your support in this matter. See you there.

Year 8 - Parent Contact List and Social Club

The parent contact list is 14 names short of being complete, If you would like to add/update your details, please contact Year 8 Mum, Bev Brown. It would be also be greatly appreciated if everyone could forward their email address to me so that I can keep you informed of upcoming social activities. We will be blind copying email addresses. Bev Brown email jazzcoco@optusnet.com.au or phone 0421 277 967.

Secondary (cont)

Year 10 and 11 Students

Parents of Year 10 and 11 students are informed that the school has obtained a position in the popular P.A.R.T.Y. program on Wednesday 4 March 2009.

'Road traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for 10-24 year olds' (WHO, 2007) Royal Perth Hospital (RPH) is providing public health promotion for students across the state relating to trauma or injury. It is called the 'Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth' (P.A.R.T.Y.) The aim of the program is to promote injury prevention through reality education, enabling youth to recognise risks and make informed choices about activities and behaviours. The relationship between choice, independence and injury is explored.

The students spend a day at RPH, The morning session is spent in the Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit and Trauma Ward. The afternoon session is conducted at the Rehabilitation Division and Spinal Unit at Shenton Park Campus. Through a variety of teaching methods, students see first hand what it is like to be injured. Student's are encouraged to think 'What if it happened to me?'

For more information relating to the program please refer to <http://www.rph.gov.au/traumaparty.html>

St Stephen's School is delighted to be offered a position in this program on Wednesday 4 March 2009. 30 Year 11 and 12 students are able to attend. There is no cost to attend the program, the only cost will be for transportation. This has yet to be finalised. As numbers are limited we would like interested parents to contact the school to nominate their son or daughter to attend. There will be other selection criteria by the school.

Could parents please contact either Marg Jones (9306 7363) or Lindyn Brooks-Crew (9306 7190) to nominate your son or daughter by 13 February, 2009..

Community Notices

Relationships Australia Family Connection

Building and nurturing families can seem a daunting task but it is not mission impossible. This six week course is for adults and their children over 10 - inclusion is the key. Parents and children will learn about cooperation, relating respectfully and solving problems. Children will attend from the second session onwards
Learn How To: strengthen family relationships, develop practical skills for family etc. **Session Topics:** Parents and children in healthy families, solving family problems as children grow: change in healthy families, drugs, sex and you. Contact Information Office on 9489 6322. Course takes place at Relationships Australia, 15 Cambridge Street (cnr Southport Street), West Leederville on Tuesday 17 and 24 February, 3, 10, 17, 24 March and Wednesday 13, 20, 27 May, 3, 10, 17 June. \$80 single parent/family/ \$120 couple/family.

Nutrition -The Vital Cog Which Determines Our Health, Happiness and Potential to Learn and Focus

Come join other P-12 parents for an evening of coffee with guest speaker, Jane McCaffrey! (Master of Nutrition Medicine [cand.],BA Ed, Adv.Dip.Holistic Counselling & Mind-Body Medicine) as follows:

Date: Thursday Night 26 February
Time: 7.30 pm-8.45pm
Venue: Makaria House

Jane is a passionate disciple of holistic wellness and believes that the parents , staff and students of St Stephens can be a guiding light to other schools in establishing a healthy community.

Jane is the Education Director of LiFE Academy in Joondalup and also consults in Nutrition at the LiFE Natural Health Centre. She is a contemporary of Julie Eady who has written "Additive Alert". Contact: www.life-academy.com.au or jane@life-academy.com.au

Uniting Church Visibility

Parliament Reminded of the Basics of Christian Faith: The President of the Uniting Church in Australia, Rev Gregor Henderson, was invited to preach at the service to mark the opening of Parliament for 2009. From the Bible, he read: Psalm 146, Philippians 4: 4-9, Luke 10: 25-37. You can read what was said on the Uniting Church website: www.wa.uca.org.au

Community Notices (cont)

St Stephen's Uniting Church Carramar: A church meeting is held at 9am each Sunday in the Primary Forum. All are welcome to attend. The Minister is Rick Williams, phone 9306 7338 (w) or 9309 6681 (h).

Karate

Karate classes are once again being offered after school in the Sports Centre. Classes run on Friday at 4pm. All are welcome. Please phone Ben on 9243 3554 for more information or visit www.Karatewa.com.au





FUN4KIDS weekly each Tuesday after school commences Tuesday 10 February from 3.30pm-5.00pm for ages 5 - 12 years old. The cost is \$2.00 per session and includes afternoon tea. Activities are games, music, stories, craft and more. The venue is Christian City Church, 31 Chadlington Drive, Padbury. Please phone: 9307 5000 www.c3hh.com.au <<http://www.c3hh.com.au/>

This fortnight's Bible Reading: please click on <http://www.lectionarystudies.com>

Canteen Roster

		8.30-11.00am		11.30am—2.00pm
Monday	9-Feb-09	N Higginson		L Scott
Tuesday	10-Feb-09	HELP NEEDED		HELP NEEDED
Wednesday	11-Feb-09	H Weybury	L Saunders	A Res
Thursday	12-Feb-09	S Overstone		HELP NEEDED
Friday	13-Feb-09	Sharon Carter		HELP NEEDED
Monday	16-Feb-09	New Crosser		Danielle West
Tuesday	17-Feb-09	L Tinley		Tina de Klerk
Wednesday	18-Feb-09	S Hawkins		HELP NEEDED
Thursday	19-Feb-09	L Hildreth		HELP NEEDED
Friday	20-Feb-09	T Maley		HELP NEEDED
Monday	23-Feb-09	Babe		HELP NEEDED
Tuesday	24-Feb-09	HELP NEEDED		HELP NEEDED
Wednesday	25-Feb-09	H Weybury	L Saunders	HELP NEEDED
Thursday	26-Feb-09	M Kirkby		HELP NEEDED
Friday	27-Feb-09	S Safe		HELP NEEDED

If you can help in the Canteen, please ring 9306 7132.

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Website: <http://dovetales.ststephens.wa.edu.au> <http://www.ststephens.wa.edu.au>