



Dove Tales Newsletter

Carramar Campus



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A few days ago we were privileged to have a visit to our Carramar campus from the Minister for Education, the Hon Dr Elizabeth Constable. This was the result of a letter of congratulations from Dr Ridden on her appointment when the new Government came into power last year, in which he invited her to visit Carramar.

In spite of a cold wet day, Dr Constable was able to see what a fine environment for learning and community we have created at Carramar, and the Executive Team and our Chair of Council, Mr Michael van Drunen, were then able to ask her about her directions and priorities in education and explain some of the challenges we face because of a lack of government funding.

Early Childhood education is a major topic on her agenda and there are reports being compiled to determine future directions. Our programs for early intervention and screening of students in the year before they join us in Pre-Primary are recognised as exemplary practice in education. Funds for this testing would be much appreciated although it is an expense we acknowledge as essential at St Stephen's School, whoever funds it. At present our School resources this screening.

Another issue for her Government includes the question of whether or not to move all Year 7s into Secondary School, as most private schools have already done. This would be most beneficial to us as it would enable us to receive the increased funding that secondary students receive. This funding is already provided for students interstate where Year 7 is secondary schooling. Our Year 7 Transition program has been formalised this year as the point of entry into the Secondary School.

The proposed National Curriculum has huge implications for all in Australian education but the day of a National Curriculum is still a long way off, according to Dr Constable. This is a Federal initiative that is not receiving huge support from the States until clearer directions are more forthcoming.

The Minister for Education is the Minister for all sectors – State, Catholic and Independent. We urged Dr Constable to promote this understanding in the community as she moves around our State. Within our own local schools, we need to continue to build relationships between each other and help break down any antagonism and distrust between educators. We all have the same goal – the best education for our children.

Dr Constable kindly agreed to open our new *Lorraine Paul Centre* at the Duncraig Campus. This will be held on Thursday 30 July at 10am. At the same time we will have the Year 7 Transition building named as the *Glenda Parkin Centre*. It will be a day to thank God and celebrate another stage in the life of St Stephen's School. The Moderator of the Uniting Church in Western Australia, Rev Ken Williams will dedicate these two buildings.

My best wishes to all our families and staff of St Stephen's School for a happy and refreshing break from the routine of school life. May God bless you in your family life. Our staff and students have all been working extremely hard this term so the break is timely. We look forward to parents and students attending the Reporting Day on Tuesday 21 July.

Please pray for those who are unwell, either physically or emotionally, and for any who are struggling in a relationship.

You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. (Matthew 5:14)

Mrs Caryl Roberts
Principal

Whole School Information (cont)

Key Dates 2009			
Mon—Fri 20-24 July	VET Wet Trades Balga Workplace Learning Bethany Home Tour	Wet 29 July	VET
Tue 21 July	Reporting Day	Thu 30 July	RACI Chem Quiz French Day
Wed 22 July	Yr P-12 return	Fri 31 July	NIPSSA (Primary) I Cross Country Yr 4–6 Secondary House Athletics Carnival
Thu 23 July	Yr 11, 12 SWL	Mon-Fri 3-7 Aug	Book Fair Battle of the Bands Alliance Française Exams
Fri 24 July	<i>Dove Tales</i>	Mon 3 Aug	Yr 9 & 10 2010 Parent Information Night Yr 11-12 subject counselling
Mon 27 July	Primary House Cross Country Yr 4-6 Yr 11 & 12 2010 Parent Info Night	Wed 5 Aug	VET
Tue -Thu 28-30 July	Yr 11/12 Subject Counselling	Fri 7 Aug	Yr 11 River Cruise <i>Dove Tales</i>
Tue 28 July	Junior House Debating		

Congratulations!

Rebecca Baxter (Year 6) was awarded first place in the Junior Goju-Kai Karate-Do Kumite (sparring) event held at Wesley College in June.

Jaime Hearle (Year 11) has been selected to represent Western Australia in the 2009 State Schools Girls' Football Team. This team will be competing at the National Schools Championships in Maroochydore, Queensland between 24 and 30 July, 2009.

Haydn Slodecki (Year 11) represented Western Australia in the U18 team in the Australian Indoor Cricket Junior Championships held in June.

Bethany Home Fundraising

During the July school holidays, three of our Year 11 students, *Kate Mallis*, *Rachael Lewis* and *Cameron Creighton*, will be travelling to Malaysia to work with staff and students at Bethany Home.

Bethany Home is a day school supporting students with special needs that rely on fundraising to operate. As well as the giving of their time, our students wanted to take with them a monetary gift from St Stephen's School to be used to support the school and its students.

To raise funds our three students sold hot Milo at recess and lunch to the secondary school daily and ran a sausage sizzle on the last day of term for the Primary School.

With the support of the Primary School staff, students and their families and wonderful donations from Drovers Meats and Buttercup Bakeries, Kate, Rachael and Cameron are extremely proud and thankful to be able to take with them to Bethany Home a fantastic monetary gift from St Stephen's School, Carramar of \$1650.

Tour Mornings

Tour Mornings of St Stephen's School for any interested new families will be held at Carramar on Tuesday 1 September at 9am and at Duncraig on Wednesday 9 September at 9am.

Whole School Information (cont)

We have NEiTA Teachers!

Miss Julie Budworth, Mr Matthew Sloan and Mr Nathaniel Pestell have been nominated. Thank you to the parents who took the trouble to express their appreciation to these teachers. All staff share in their pride.

Building resilience: Teach and model resilience to your child

Presented by: Associate Professor Pia Broderick, PhD Clinical & Academic Psychologist School of Psychology Murdoch University. St Stephen's School has been very fortunate to secure a night with Pia Broderick!!

Why do we need resilience?

How resilience is related to bullying and learning independence

How to we learn to be resilient?

What parents can do to help their teenagers develop resilience.

When? 4 August, 2009 from 7.30pm—9.00pm

Where? Makaria House

This evening will be offered first to Year 7 and 8 parents—but bookings are required.

Please call Mrs Jones (Mr Plowman's Personal Assistant) on 9306 7363 to register

Men With A Mission: Fathers, Fat and Good Eating

Jane McCaffrey is a Nutrition Medicine professional who will give fathers tips on healthy eating habits and being good role models for their kids.

Time: 6.30pm for Dinner
7.30pm for Speaker

Date: 19 August 2009

Venue: Glengarry Tavern, Duncraig

Cost: \$5.00 at the door. A-la-carte menu available. Buy your own drinks

Contact: Brian Plowman (9306 7363)
Roderick Wood (9306 7104)
Glenn Chinen (9243 2135)

Quiz Night

This popular event is happening again this year on Friday 4 September at 7.00pm in the Primary Forum. Start getting your tables of 8 together. Tickets will be on sale from Week 2 Term 3 from Mrs Brooks-Crew in the Secondary Administration. This is an alcohol free event. Proceeds go to the *UnitingCare*. (Mr S. Weaver and Mr J. Clarke-O'Reilly)

We need your music

The Thanksgiving Service for the Carramar Campus will be held on Friday 11 September in the Sports Centre. This year, we are planning to have a large band and a massed choir consisting of students, staff, AND PARENTS.

If you would like to join the band, please contact Mr Shannon de Bie (debiesh@ststephens.wa.edu.au or phone 9306 7100). Singers please contact Miss Jennifer Key (keyje@ststephens.wa.edu.au or phone 9306 7100). Rehearsals will begin next term and will be scheduled so that parents and staff can participate.

Primary

Reports and Oral Reporting

We remind you that reports will be available for collection from the Primary Forum on Reporting Day, Tuesday 21 July. Please arrive for your interview perhaps 15 minutes early, to allow time to read the report before the interview.

If you have not made an interview time, please contact the school on Monday 20 July, or during the vacation. In most instances, we encourage you to have your child with you in the interview.

Staff Movement

Miss Amie Hort has resigned as a Pre-Primary teacher position to continue her university studies. We will miss her, but wish her well in her new life. We welcome *Mrs Joanna Deck*, who will take Amie's place.

Mrs Linley Wilkinson (Year 3 teacher) will be on long service leave in Term 3. We welcome *Mrs Joween Basmadjian* who will take Mrs Wilkinson's place for Term 3.

Arts and Academic Festival

Last week, a large number of our students, together with Year 7s, participated in our Arts and Academic Festivals. This is a House competition, in which students receive points for participating, and bonus points if they are awarded a place by the adjudicators. Here are the results:

Music-Parresia	Mathematics-Makaria
Media Production-Parresia	Science-Makaria
Drama-Parresia	Spelling-Parresia
Public Speaking-Charis/Makaria	General Knowledge-Parresia
Dance-Makaria	Writing-Charis

The overall winning house for this year's Arts and Academic Festival was Parresia.

House Cross Country

Our Primary House Cross Country Carnival has been rescheduled from Friday 24 July to Monday 27 July. The event will be held in the morning, and parents are welcome to come and watch.

Primary Captains

We appreciate the leadership shown by our Primary Captains in Semester 1. This lively and energetic bunch led us well. They were Jacinta Eliot, Connor Martin, Nina Whyte, Christopher Erickson, Amara Hughes and Beau Wenn-Payne.

Staff nominate for this role all students who meet the published criteria. Students in our senior year levels then elect the captains from those nominated. In Semester 2 the Primary Captains will be Rachel Dodge, Jordan Harun, Sinead Macauley, Lachlan Napier, Rebecca Gould, and Jack Weston. We look forward to their leadership.

In addition, about 24 students each semester are elected by their peers to other leadership roles. We appreciate their leadership also.

Lunch Time Event

Our Primary Captains organised and ran a Bazaar at lunch time on our final day of term to raise funds for the charities we support. They did an excellent job. Thank you for your support as parents.

Secondary

Year 7 Transition

We look forward to meeting with parents on Reporting Day, Tuesday 21 July. Please ask your child's teachers for an appointment by sending in the interview sheet.

We will be sending home a letter before the end of the term to invite all parents to our 'Year 7 Learning Journey', which will be an opportunity for you to experience your child's year so far and for them to show you how much they have learnt. This will be held in Week 4 of Term 3.

Computer outage

Due to movement of our computer servers at the Duncraig Campus between Wednesday 15 - Friday 17 July, this may result in parents not being able to access the Curriculum Handbooks for 2010 during this period. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Reporting Day

Your child's reports can only be collected on reporting day, Tuesday 21 July, from the Secondary Administration. Letters and schedules have gone home and appointments should already have been scheduled with teachers. Secondary Administration will be open from 7.15am – 7.15pm on that day.

Parent Information Evenings regarding 2010 Subject Selection

Year 11 and 12 students (in 2010) and parents should attend this evening to obtain information about upper school subject selections for 2010, expectations, tertiary education pathways, TEE requirements, ATAR ramifications and WACE or 'graduation' requirements.

When: Monday 27 July
Times: Year 12s 6.30pm—7.15pm
Year 11s 7.30pm—8.30pm

Where: Primary Forum
Curriculum Leaders will be available to answer questions.

Year 9 and 10 students (in 2010) and parents should attend this evening to obtain information regarding course selection options, expectations and requirements for their child in preparation for later studies in upper secondary.

When: Monday 3 August
Times: Year 10s 6.30pm—7.15pm
Year 9s 7.30pm – 8.30pm

Where: Primary Forum
Curriculum Leaders will be available to answer questions.

Parents of 2010 Year 11 and 12 Students

Following on from the Parent Information Evening for Years 11 and 12, compulsory subject selection counselling sessions for both student and parent, are being held 27 July – 3 August.

This is to give every student the most appropriate, advantageous and sensible subjects for their upper schooling. We insist upon this interview, in order to maximise your son's or daughter's academic outcomes and will not process any selections unless a meeting has been attended.

Community News

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.

Tapping Dental Therapy Centre

With the winter/influenza season approaching and the need to contain the spread of infection, it is wise to take simple precautions to minimise transmission of all respiratory infections.

As part of this process, if your child feels unwell, has high fever, cough and/or sore throat, they should not attend for dental treatment.

You are advised to contact the Dental Therapy Centre to cancel your child's appointment and make another appointment for your child at a later date.

If your child is in pain or requiring urgent treatment, this can be discussed and arranged with staff at the clinic.

Those children who attend with symptoms of illness will not be treated.

Tapping Dental Therapy Centre is located at Tapping Primary School, 87 St Stephens Crescent, Tapping. Phone 9404 7902, fax 9404 6133.

The City of Joondalup invites parents to free workshops at the Joondalup Library in Boas Avenue:

- Parent Separation—Guide for Parents with Teenage Children Thursday 13 August 6.30-8.30pm
- Everything you need to know about Leavers' Week Wednesday 21 October 7.00-8.30pm
- Understand your Adolescent Tuesday 8 December 6.30-8.30pm

Refreshments will be provided. Bookings are essential. Please contact the Youth Services Team Leader on 9400 4223.

Karate at St. Stephen's School, Carramar and Duncraig

Karate is a great way to keep fit, develop self esteem and have fun! Help your child be the best they can be! Classes for children will resume in Term 3. Limited places are available, please register your interest now. Teen/adult sessions are available. Please phone Ben on 9243 3554 for more information.

UnitingCare West Winter Appeal

The sad fact about the world's economic crisis is that people who were financially comfortable are finding themselves struggling to pay the rent or buy food for their children.

To help in a time of crisis, UnitingCare are seeking donations. These can be done online at www.unitingcarewest.org.au or by phoning 1300 663 298

Please give generously. Every little bit helps.

Boredom Busters at the State Library 4-19 July

- Sunday Stories on 5 July from 11.00am in The Place. No bookings required, all welcome.
- Follow the trail from The Place on the mezzanine level to discover all it has to offer.
- Build your own city using paper bags, paper and your imagination.
- Read some stories from *Wakakirri's Biggest Book of Short Stories Ever*.
- Curl up with a great book from My Favourite Children's Book Display.

For further information please contact the State Library WA at 9427 3111.

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

CAREERS INFORMATION

Events – July

ECU

Open Day (Joondalup Campus) – 19 July

MURDOCH UNIVERSITY

Be a Vet for a Day (Year 12 Students) – 6 July

Be an Animal Scientist for a Day – 7 July

Media Frenzy – 6 – 10 July

Study Skills Session and Parent Night – 15 July

Be A Business Student for a Day – 26 July

NOTRE DAME

A Day in the Life of a University Student – 17 July

ECU Prospectus Print Error

ECU have advised of the following error in their *2010 Futures Undergraduate Course Guide*:

“Admission criteria for another Education course have been printed for the Bachelor of Education (Kindergarten through Primary). We wish to advise that standard school leaver admission requirements apply for the Bachelor of Education (Kindergarten through Primary). Details of our admission requirements for school leavers can be found here: www.reachyourpotential.com.au/futurestudents/schoolleavers/entry/”

University Admissions Information 2012

The new University Admission requirements are now available on the TISC website for your information. This provides the latest pre-requisites and recommended subjects for entry to all public Western Australian Universities for 2012 (current Year 10 cohort). With subject selection just around the corner for Year 11 2010, it would be wise for students to examine this list before choosing their subjects. The TISC website is www.tisc.edu.au. The link to the information is on the front page under “Latest News”.

Defence Technical Scholarships

Applications are now open to current Year 10 and 11 students who are interested in pursuing an Australian Defence Force trade career after completing Year 12. Successful applicants will receive payment of up to \$3000 paid over the year and there is no obligation to join the Navy, Army or Air Force after finishing school. Eligibility criteria and additional information about the Scholarship is available on the Defence Force website <http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/dts/>. Applications are open until 14 August 2009.

Apprenticeship Opportunity – Carpenter

A fantastic opportunity is available for a reliable and enthusiastic student who is interested in pursuing a career in carpentry. The successful applicant will need a driver's license and vehicle as work is across the metropolitan area. Visit the Careers Office for more information or if you are interested in applying.

COMMUNICATION

Communicating effectively with adolescents

It has been estimated that teenagers today spend a third of their waking time among their peers and less than a tenth of their time interacting with adults. When you consider all the elements competing for your teenager's time including television, electronic gaming machines, homework and part-time work it is little wonder that parents are lucky to spend even half an hour a day with teenagers.



The best communication in families tends to happen when no one is working at it; however opportunities to talk shouldn't be left to chance. Here are some ideas to promote some communication between you and your teenagers:

- Make all meals television-free and insist that all family members eat together
- Have an electronic screen-free day once a week (except computers used for schoolwork). You will be surprised what a difference it makes.
- Take your teenager out alone and spend some special time together.
- Ask their opinion about a range of topical and news issues
- Look for communication starters. Television, music and shared interest can provide entry into your teenager's world.

MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Speaking with teenagers can require great attention to detail. Sometimes it seems that you say one word out of place and a teenager can close communication down or fly off into a tantrum. That can seem like normal behaviour with some young

people for quite a period. Communication that came naturally with children suddenly requires parents to choose every word with care, to consider carefully tone of voice and body language. It seems that communicating with teens is like going for a job interview – you need to pay close attention to what you say and how you speak.

Here are some ideas to promote respectful two way communication between parents and young people:

- Respect your teenager's ideas and opinions. There is a difference between disagreeing and disregarding. You may say, "I understand what you are saying, but I disagree with your opinion."
- One way of dealing with teenagers is using a problem-solving approach. That is, you state the rule: "I need you home safely by . . . o'clock." And then follow up saying, "Let's come up with some ways to make this work for you and me." Then generate some ideas and pick a solution and try it. Talk in a week or two to see if it is working.
- Give the speaker plenty of time to finish what they are saying without interrupting. Give your teenager your full attention when they talk.
- Use 'I-sentences' to get you point across. For example, "I feel worried when you don't tell me where you are going."
- Be prepared to negotiate and change your mind if presented with a reasonable argument. On the other hand, avoid being ambushed by a teenage bush lawyer arguing for a better deal just as

you are going off to work. Set some rules and processes in place for negotiating.

CHOOSE BATTLES WISELY

The trick to living cooperatively with teenagers is not to fight with them over the minor events. It is easy to become caught up in battles over relatively inconsequential issues such as bedroom tidiness and appearance, or school uniforms, which are inconsequential in the broader scheme of life. The trouble with sweating over the small stuff is that relationships are damaged with young people over issues of relatively little importance. It also drains energy away so that when there really is a need to hold some ground over an important issue such as a young person coming home at a reasonable time from a party there is just nothing left to fight with.

KEEP IN MIND

Create opportunities to talk with your teenagers. Often they prefer to talk with parents by themselves.

Let them bring a friend to some family events. It is important that young people don't drop out of their family.



Parentingideas
MICHAEL GROSE