



Dove Tales Newsletter

Carramar Campus



21 August, 2009

Issue 13, 2009

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Communication

It is important that in our society we have avenues to express our opinion in our community and in our country. Voting is one forum for this, writing letters is another.

As parents at St Stephen's School you are always welcome to voice your concerns if you have an issue that needs clarification or explanation, or if you are unhappy about a situation. Naturally it is preferable that you speak with the appropriate staff person rather than chat amongst a group and then assume that everyone agrees with your opinion.

Letters and sometimes emails are used for written communication with the School but these must be signed and sent to the appropriate staff member. We can deal with your individual issue but not statements that start off with 'lots of parents think' or complaints from unknown sources. If we are asked to deal with bullying issues, we need precise details and names. We also need a name to any letter. Facts and specific situations are important for finding out the truth. In dealing with any of your complaints, staff do not ostracise your children or 'take it out on them' if you identify yourself. We all must take responsibility for our opinions and for what we write.

As you are aware, you may speak with a teacher, a Dean, a Deputy, a Head and then the Principal. Members of Council do not get involved with the management of the School, however if a matter is unresolved, the Chair of Council and then the Moderator of the Uniting Church may be involved in the process.

As in all organisations we are not perfect as a School, nor as individuals. We are all human and make mistakes but our intentions are always to be fair and do what is best for our children. Of course, like you, we also appreciate being told when you are happy with what we do. It can be much easier to communicate only when things are going wrong.

River Cruises

Our Year 11s have had successful and enjoyable river cruises this month, both campuses having fun with fancy dress costumes. Well done to our students for their commendable behaviour that was commented on by members of the public. Parents and teachers can be proud of our Year 11 students.

Information Nights and Reporting

On your behalf I thank all our staff for their time and work in organising professional information nights and for writing reports. Academic and administrative staff are all involved and many hours are expended to provide the information needed of student progress and to make informed decisions about their future directions.

Snapshot of Australian Independent Schools

You will find a snapshot of the independent schools in Australia for 2009 in this newsletter and on our website.

Comment (cont)

Registration

This week the Registration Board has spent time at both campuses looking at the operation and management of our School. Staff provided information needed to achieve registration for the next 5 years. The process has become more rigorous compared with the last round, following the management problems associated with some other schools.

Congratulations

Our congratulations go to Dr Phil Ridden for receiving an award from Principals Australia, the John Laing Professional Development Award. This is an award for excellence in leadership by a principal. Phil's award was one of four presented in WA.

Inspire and Gifted and Talented

I am very keen to raise our profile in the community for our gifted and talented students. This will need further resourcing from the School, but to start with, the terminology we use has been modified slightly. The name *Inspire* now refers to the learning support end for students with learning disabilities and difficulties. We receive funding for some of these students from Federal and State governments. The name *Gifted and Talented* refers to the support provided for our students with giftedness and exceptional talent. It is important that we work towards raising the academic standards of all our students and being recognised in the community.

Principal Search

We ask parents for your prayers as the process for the selection of our next Principal gets under way. The Council is using the services of the firm Lester Blades and the advertisement was in the papers recently. I will conclude my term as Principal either at the end of Semester 1 or at the end of 2010. This time frame is necessary to give the school of the incoming person adequate time to find a replacement, particularly if already a principal.

Mrs Caryl Roberts
Principal

Whole School Information

Have you got your tickets for our Thanksgiving Service?

This is a wonderful opportunity to come together as staff, students and parents to celebrate our community at Carramar and to thank God for all that we enjoy in this wonderful school.

This year the Carramar Thanksgiving Service will be held in the Sports and Learning Centre at 7pm Friday 11 September. Please book your tickets early and return the tear-off slip below as indicated.

Due to the flooring in the Sports Centre, ladies are requested to please avoid wearing stiletto heels. Students should wear winter uniform, including blazer for Secondary students.

We look forward to seeing all our families at this event as we celebrate being a school community and show our pride and love for St Stephen's School Carramar.

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ORDER FORM FOR TICKETS FOR CARRAMAR THANKSGIVING SERVICE 2009

Please complete and return this section of the form to the **Primary or Secondary Office**.

Please supply _____ (number) tickets,

and send them home with _____ (student's name)

in _____ (student's classroom or homeroom)

Parent Signature _____

Whole School Information (cont)

Key Dates 2009			
Mon - Fri 24 - 28 Aug	Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 1,3	Mon 7- Tues 8 Sep Wed 9 Sep - 11 Sep Mon - Fri 7- 11Sep	TAFE Counselling TISC Counselling Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 2,4
Mon - Fri 17 - 21 Aug Fri 21 Aug	Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 1,3 <i>Dove Tales</i>	Fri 11 Sep	Thanksgiving Service (Sports Centre)
Mon -Fri 24 - 28 Aug	Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 1, 3	Mon 14 Sep - Fri 18 Sep Mon 14 Sep	Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 5,6 Yr 12 Drama Evening
Mon - Fri 31 Aug- 4 Sep Mon - Fri 31 Aug- 4 Sep	Leavers Shield Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 2,4	Wed 16 Sep	VET
Wed 2 Sep	VET	Thu 17 Sep - Fri 18 Sep	Volleyball Tournament
Fri 4 Sep	St Stephen's Day <i>Dove Tales</i>	Fri 18 Sep	Yr 1 Sleepover Secondary Interschool Athletics Carni- val Arts at lunch

Notice to owners who bring their dogs onto the school grounds

St Stephen's School brings to your attention that the school property is private property and under the Western Australian Government Dog Act 1976, it is an offence if a person brings their dog onto private property without the owner's consent.

In particular we ask dog owners not to bring their dogs onto the school property during school hours and that also includes walking your dog/dogs on the school oval.

The School has been happy for owners to exercise their dogs after school hours, providing that the owners carry with them at all times a plastic bag and remove all dog faeces.

We thank-you for your co-operation.

Congratulations

Ariane Bolton, 1H, reached the semi-finals in the world BMX titles.

Redbacks Netball Team, consisting of year 7 students *Heledd Smith, Chelsea Dredge, Hannah Wijnen, Tayla Pickering, Katelyn Stynes, Megan Rosser & Melissa Allan*, who were Bouncers Sports Centre - Year 7 Division 1 League Champions. They were also runners-up in the Grand Final Game, just missing out by 1 goal after needing to play extra time. Congratulations also to Chelsea on being chosen as the Season's Best Player, as voted by the umpires throughout the season. Due to their amazing success throughout the last year they have been asked to go up to play in the Year 8 competition so we wish them continued success for next season, which starts in 2 weeks. Also a big welcome to their new member *Ashlyn Kendall* (Year 8).

Jason Best captained the Junior Boys 16 & under Ocean Ridge tennis team, who won their grand final in the Hyundai 2009 Junior Winter League competition on 9 August 2009.

Whole School Information (cont)

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 (and grandparents, uncles, aunts etc.).

The choir will rehearse on 25 August, 1 September and 8 September from 3:30—4:30pm in Parresia. Please join us. Enquiries can be directed to Mrs Jennifer Key (keyje@ststephens.wa.edu.au or 9306 7163).

Enquires about joining the band can be directed to Mr Shannon de Bie (debiesh@ststephens.wa.edu.au or 9306 7342).

Library News

The library will be closed after school on Thursday 27 August due to a staff gathering in the library.

Book Fair & Book Week

A big thank you to all who came along to the book fair. It was again a very successful event, providing enjoyment to the customers and some great new resources for the library.

Book week is happening now! It runs from 24—28 August. The primary students are being asked to dress up following the theme of "Book Safari" on Wednesday 26 August. A special assembly will take place in the Primary Forum at 8.45am on that day. Students have been working towards book week with Mrs Urquhart and a note was placed in the diary suggesting dress up ideas. We do not expect or want you to rush out and hire a costume. Very creative costumes can be made with a bit of thought and little cost!

We have lots of activities planned for the week so feel free to call in and see what a wonderful place our library is.

Uniform Shop Request

We have received uniforms back for exchange which are not in a resalable condition. Please note that the uniform should not have been worn, and be in the same condition as sold, or there will be no exchange! For example there should be no names on, no make up, no stains etc. All returns must be accompanied by a docket. Please note that there is no return on specials or second hand clothes!

Tour Mornings

Tours 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.

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 are on sale from Mrs Brooks-Crew in the Secondary School office. This is an alcohol free event. Proceeds go to UnitingCare.

Visual Arts Exhibition 2009

You are Invited to the Visual Arts Exhibition 2009 in the Technology Hub (PP - 12).

Opening Night	Monday 21 Sept 6.30pm.
Viewing times	22 – 24 Sept 8.30am – 4.30pm

The exhibition promises to be a colourful, varied visual experience with the whole sensory experience on Open Evening from Music, Fashion Show and excellent catering. Students work from the Pre-primary Art to the Upper School Visual Art Course will be on display in the Technology Building last week of Term 3.

Ranging from Secondary Mixed Media, Art Major and Minor classes and the energetic work of Primary Art students all contributing to a range of various studio pieces on display.

Year 11 1A/B Visual Arts Course of study will provide a Fashion Show of their Teenage Apex Fashion Award entries on opening night, along with musical accompaniment from both the Primary and Secondary students.

Year 11 Home Economics will be providing the catering and waitressing on the evening, making the whole event an enjoyable experience for the whole family.

Primary

Primary Swimming Lessons begin on Monday 17 August and continue daily to the end of term as follows:

Years 1 and 3	Monday 17 August to Friday 28 August
Years 2 and 4	Monday 31 August to Friday 11 September
Years 5 and 6	Monday 14 September to Friday 25 September

Lessons will be held at The Arena, Joondalup. The time every day is the same: 2.00—2.40 pm for all year levels. Please complete the form your child has brought home and return it to the school immediately. Further copies of the enrolment form are available from the Primary Office. The supervisor states that children suffering from epilepsy require a medical certificate stating that they are safe to swim under normal supervision. If your child is diabetic, please discuss this with Miss Penn.

Lessons are compulsory for students in Years 1-6. Exemptions will be granted only to students with medical problems (a letter from parents to that effect is required) and students who have completed Stage 12. Students in Yr 6 who have passed level 9 will participate in one week of surfing lessons. These families have received a separate letter.

The children may bring their bathers and towels in a plastic bag and put their bathers on at school during lunchtime, or may wear them under uniforms (but they must not be visible hanging down below shorts!) After the lesson children will, of course, dry themselves thoroughly and change back into their uniforms at the pool immediately following the lessons so that they are not sitting around in wet clothes. (Please ensure your child brings their underwear in their bag!). Swimming goggles are encouraged. All clothes, goggles and towels should be clearly marked with your child's name. Please do not send payment for the swimming lessons as the cost is already on your account. Parents may watch lessons, but must pay pool entry fee.

We would be most grateful if any fathers who are available could come to the pool on a rostered basis to assist in the boys' changing room. Please contact the Primary Office on 9306 7111 if you can help. You will need a Working With Children Card.

Father's Day Event

All Pre-Primary, Year 1 and Year 2 Dads are invited to a special Father's Day event in their child's classroom at 8.30 on Friday 4th September 2009.

Secondary

Year 11 Drama "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

The Year 11 Drama Performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is just around the corner!

If you haven't got your tickets yet make sure you get them from the secondary office or Mrs Leadon as soon as possible as seats are limited.

Dates are: Wednesday 2 September and Thursday 3 September at 7pm in T6. Please note that these dates have changed since the last *Dove Tales* publication.

Year 12 Drama Evening

The Year 12 Drama Evening is taking place on 14 September at the Duncraig Theatre. There is no need for a ticket; just get there for a 7pm start. This will be your last opportunity to see our Year 12s perform and it is a wonderful opportunity for those of you continuing with Drama in 2010 (and beyond) to see what Upper School Drama is all about!

Expressions of Interest – Year 12 Mock & Year 11 Semester 2 Exam Supervision

We require approx 25-30 parents to assist us with the invigilation of the Year 12 mock examinations and the Year 11 Semester 2 examinations this year.

The Year 12 mock examinations will be conducted from Monday 5 October (second week of the school holidays) to Wednesday 14 October. The Year 11 Semester 2 examinations will be conducted from Monday 9 November to Friday 20 November. If you have half or full days available during these periods, to work off your 2009/2010 Family Commitment hours, then please contact Miss Simone Robinson on 9306 7320 as soon as possible.

Cycle Enduro 2009

The Cycle Enduro is a 60km endurance bike ride, from St Stephen's School to Lake Monger and back. Students from Years 7 - 12 are invited to participate in this annual event. This year it will be held on St Stephen's Day, Friday 4 September. Nomination forms are available from the School Nurses in the Secondary Health Centre. As with previous years places are limited, so completed nomination forms need to be returned ASAP. We are also looking for parent helpers to ride on the day. Please contact Mrs Angela Gordon or Mrs Claire Franklin on 9306 7147 if you are able to help.

Community News

St Stephen's Uniting Church Carramar: The church gathers at 9am each Sunday in the Primary Forum. All are welcome to attend. The Minister is Rick Williams, phone 9306 7338.

The Uniting Church Connection

Some families have no connection with a Christian church, yet would like to have their child baptised, or to have a service of thanksgiving to God for their child. If you would like to discuss this with someone, Rev Rick Williams, who is Minister in Residence at our Carramar campus, will be happy to talk with you.

He can be contacted on 9306 7338, 0424 791 535, or rickw@uniting.com.au.

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.

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.

Karate at St Stephen's School

Karate is a great way for young people to get fit while having fun. Help your child to excel at school by developing their self esteem, confidence and self discipline. They will learn authentic Karate in a safe and professional environment. For more information visit www.karatewa.com or phone Ben on 92433554.

Carramar Cougars Gets in2 Cricket!

Friday afternoons - 12 week season

23 October 2009 to 29 January 2010

Houghton Park, Carramar

Registration includes: Backpack, Bat, Ball, T-Shirt, Bucket Hat, MILO Giveaways and Training/game days.

For further details contact Sandy on 040 882 6622

Wanneroo Little Athletics Club

Little Athletics is a fun and friendly way to keep fit as well as promoting good health. It caters for boys and girls aged 6 to 16 years.

Registrations: Saturday 5 September 9am and 12 noon in the soccer clubrooms at Kingsway Sporting Complex.

Training starts Tuesday 15 September at 5pm at Edgar Griffith Park Dve, Wanneroo. Athlete's birth certificate required.

Regular Training: Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-6pm.

Enquiries: Mandy Powell (9306 8985) or Cheryl Duina (9405 4749).

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

CAREERS INFORMATION

Up and Coming Events – September

ECU

Prospective Students Information Evening – 1 September (Joondalup), 9 September (Mt Lawley)
Occupational Therapy Career Information Evening – 16 September

NOTRE DAME

Admissions Information and Course Expo – 2 September

UWA

Sunset Campus Tour – 7 September

OTHER

WAAPA Masterclass - 5 September

Students wanting to apply for admission to WAAPA should consider registering for the WAAPA Masterclass. The aim of this class is to demystify the audition process for students who would like to apply for courses at WAAPA. The three hour session includes mock auditions for singing, acting and dance and prepares auditionees for all challenges! Call 9370 6007 or email explore.waapa@ecu.edu.au for further information or visit www.waapa.edu.au/explore.

North Metropolitan Careers Expo

Another fantastic opportunity to meet business and industry representatives, professional career counsellors, and University, TAFE and Apprenticeship & Traineeship consultants. Parents and students from Years 8 – 12 welcome. It's on Saturday 29 August, 10am to 3pm at Peter Moyes Anglican Community School, Salerno Drive Mindarie. Workshops will be run throughout the day – for more information contact Lyn Jolly on 9247 0600.

UWA Scholarship Information

Booklets are now available from the Careers Office which outline the various scholarship opportunities available to students wishing to undertake studies at UWA in 2010.

ECU University Preparation Course and Portfolio Entry Pathway Updates

Over the past year, the minimum entry requirements for these university entry pathways have been in a constant state of flux. The latest information published by ECU, and available on the university website, is as follows:

ECU will continue to accept English at a stage 1C/1D (where an 'A' is achieved in both courses) in meeting ECU's English Competency Requirements for the University Preparation Course (UPC), but will continue to require a minimum of Stage 2 for entry via the TER and Portfolio Entry Pathway to Bachelor courses. In addition, those courses which are included in the calculation of points for entry to either the UPC or Portfolio Entry Pathway must be at Stage 2. ECU will also continue to recognise for entry to UPC, the successful completion of a Certificate IV as part of the students 12 years worth of schooling.

I urge any student who is considering using this entry pathway to continually check the ECU website or contact the ECU Prospective Student Centre on 134 328 in order to keep up-to-date with any changes.

Gap Year Opportunity

Thinking about taking a gap year? Antipodeans Abroad are holding a free information night on 27 August at 6.30pm in the Pilbara Room of the State Library of Western Australia, 25 Francis Street Perth. Bookings are essential - to register to attend, visit www.antipodeans.com.au. Students who are unable to attend can call 02 9413 1522 for a free DVD and Information Pack.