



4 September, 2009

Issue 14, 2009

What's in this issue

Comment

Whole School Information

- Key Dates
- Thanksgiving
- Congratulations!
- Quiz Night
- Visual Arts Exhibition 2009
- Coffee Connect
- School Crossing
- Young Bloods Program
- Tour Morning Duncraig Campus
- Men with a mission
- Reduce, reuse, recycle
- 40hr Famine

Primary

- Primary Swimming Lessons
- Bicycles, Scooters & Helmets
- Primary Chess Club

Secondary

- Yr 12 Drama Evening
- Exam Supervision
- Yr 12 Art Exhibition
- Homeroom Maths Week Quiz

Community News

- St Stephen's Uniting Church
- The Uniting Church Connection
- Tapping Dental Therapy Centre
- UnitingCare Winter Appeal
- Karate
- Academic Task Force
- This fortnight's Bible reading

School Information

- Office hours
- Uniform Shop hours
- Term Dates 2009
- Term Dates 2010
- Thanksgiving Service
- Secondary Presentation Evening
- Primary Celebration and Awards Night
- Canteen Roster
- Careers Information
- Michael Grose Parenting Ideas

Good News! \$3 million from Hon Julia Gillard

I am very pleased to announce the approval for our School to receive \$3 million out of the Building Education Revolution from the Labor Government to assist in the building of an Early Centre on our land at Hepburn Heights. Our original plans for the early years of education at St Stephen's School had been put on hold through financial pressures.

Decrease in Government Funding

The media sends out convincing but often misleading information about the money independent schools receive. It gives the impression that schools like ours are wealthy because we get so much more money from the Federal and State Governments than what state schools are given.

The truth is different

As you read in last week's Dove Tales, the average government recurrent funding per student in 2006/2007 was \$5 810 for Independent schools compared with \$11 874 for Government schools.

The problem we face now is that this funding from the governments is not being maintained; it is actually being reduced.

You may be interested in how things have changed between 2003 and 2008.

2003 our Grant Income was 67% of our total income; in 2008 it was 57%

This trend is continuing. Government funding is decreasing but our costs are increasing. It has to affect our fees.

2003 our fee income was 31% of our total income, in 2008 it was 39%

One of our largest costs is staff salaries which we maintain at just above the State Teachers' Award.

2003 our teacher salary costs were 49% of our expenses; in 2008 they were 59%

2003 our total expenses per student were \$6423; in 2008 they rose to \$10 828 (it is interesting to note that in 2003-2004 the average total government expenditure per student in state schools was just over \$10 000)

2003 our student/teacher ratio in Primary was 19.4; in 2008 it was 17.4

2003 our student/teacher ratio in Secondary was 14.1; in 2008 it was 12.1

Thanksgiving Services

Please show your support of our School and do your best to attend your campus Thanksgiving Service at 7pm:

Duncraig: Thursday September 10

Carramar: Friday September 11

BELONGING: 'God's Spirit joins himself to our spirits to declare that we are God's children.' Romans 8:16. Come along and be part of our School's celebration ***'that we might be a true family'.*** (from a Thanksgiving song)

Caryl Roberts
Principal

Whole School Information

Key Dates 2009			
Mon 7 - Tues 8 Sep Wed 9 Sep - 11 Sep Mon 7 Sep - Fri 11 Sep	TAFE Counselling TISC Counselling Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 2, 4	Fri 18 Sep	Yr 1 Sleepover Secondary Interschool Athletics Carnival Arts at lunch
Fri 11 Sep	Thanksgiving Service (Sports Centre)	Mon 21 Sep - Fri 25 Sep Mon 21 Sep - Fri 25 Sep	Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 5, 6 French Tour
Mon 14 Sep - Fri 18 Sep Mon 14 Sep	Primary Swimming Lessons Yr 5, 6 Yr 12 Drama Evening	Mon 21 Sep - Thu 24 Sep	P - 12 Art Exhibition
Wed 16 Sep	VET	Mon 21 Sep	Yr 11 History - Holocaust Centre
Thu 17 Sep - Fri 18 Sep	Volleyball Tournament	Fri 25 Sep	<i>Dove Tales</i>

Last chance to get 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.

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 _____

There is no cost for tickets, but please do not order more tickets than you need.

Whole School Information (cont)

Congratulations

Recently *Elisha Orr Yr 11* participated in the heats for the Apex Teenage Fashion Awards and succeeded in making it to the state finals which will be held at the Hyatt Hotel on Sunday 20th September. We wish her all the very best.

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.

Secondary Mixed Media, Art Major and Minor classes and the energetic work of Primary Art students all contribute 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 event an enjoyable experience for the whole family.

Coffee Connect on Friday Mornings

Would you like to meet other parents of the St Stephen's Carramar School family? You are welcome to come and connect (join us) every Friday morning from 8am in the Primary LOTE Room for coffee and a chat. This will take place every Friday, same place, same time during the school term.

Parents of all school years are welcome. If you wish to know more contact Tracey or Anne in the Primary Office on 9306 7111. We look forward to seeing you there!

School Crossing

The new crossway on St Stephens Crescent is working extremely well with positive feedback that our students are well mannered, patient and following instructions from the traffic warden. Please ensure you and your children use the crossing if you cross St Stephens Crescent.

Young Bloods Program

We have 9 senior students registered for the Australian Red Cross Blood Service "Young Bloods" program. Their first donation will be on 3 September at Whitfords. *Harsh Joshi, Morgan Bewick, Matthew French, Kurt Clement, Sarah Nelson, Sarah Lord, Natasha Krzus, Kristen Robertson and Briony Whyte.*

Tour Morning

There will be a tour of St Stephen's School, Duncraig Campus, on Wednesday 9 September at 9am.

Whole School Information (cont)

Men with a Mission: Fathering for our daughters

St Stephen's School has a particular program for our men, especially our Dads. It is called "Men with a Mission" and meets about every six weeks or so and presents sessions particularly aimed at men's interests. The next meeting is about fathering daughters. As the father is the first and most important male role model in a girl's life, the next session is of great importance.

Dr Bruce Robinson returns after a 3 year absence and tells us how important fathers are to their daughters. His book "**Daughters and their Dads**" follows his popular "Fathering in the fast lane". Read some of the comments from past attendees to his seminars:

"His delivery is humorous, relaxed, engaging, easy to listen to and focussed." NG. Mens Counsellor. Perth

"That was the best talk I have ever heard on any subject. Thank you. My wife enjoyed it too and said she was glad I was there to listen to it". John Alvarez. Surgeon. Perth.

"That was an incredible talk. The best talk of the whole conference."

"That talk was so moving, so inspiring - and so funny".

"That talk was so good. It was wonderful"

Comments from the Society of Hospital Pharmacists Annual Scientific Conference, Canberra, November 2003.

DATE: Wednesday 16th September 2009

VENUE: Glengarry Tavern, Warwick Road, Duncraig

TIME: 6:30pm for Dinner
7:30pm for Speaker

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

For further information/Contact:

Brian Plowman (9306 7363)

Roderick Wood (9306 7104)

Glenn Chinen (9243 2135)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Have you remembered that the school now has a battery recycling collection point where used batteries (not car batteries!) can be deposited for eventual collection and disposal.

Used and unwanted batteries can now be left in the recycling bin located in the entrance to the school library.

We encourage parents to make this part of the ongoing waste management strategy implemented in your home ...

40hr Famine

The signs are very good for us having another great collection for World Vision this year. All books are now due back! Homeroom teachers are going to be putting more pressure on students to account for their books and get them and the money collected in to school. Students please discuss with your Homeroom the nature of the delay in doing this if there are reasons outside of your control. **The school's deadline is Monday 14 September.**

Primary

Primary Swimming Lessons continue for Years 5 and 6

Years 5 and 6 from 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. 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.

Bicycles, Scooters and Helmets

If your child rides to school would you please remind them of the importance of wearing their helmet correctly. Recently a number of students have been seen riding to and from school without helmets. The safety of your child is paramount and we ask for your support in ensuring your child obeys the rules of the road and wears a helmet.

Primary Chess Club Goes for Gold!

We had 14 students enter from Primary Carramar Campus in the Interschool Championships for the Joondalup Zone Chess Kids Competition that was hosted here in our Primary Forum.

We had 6 Gold Medal winners: *Beau Wenn-Payne Yr 6, Jordan Harun Yr 6, Marnin Stobbe Yr 5, Russell Goh Yr 6, Daniel Holland Yr 4 and Christian Goh Yr 6.*

Beau and Jordan were the top 2 scorers in the competition.

We will take a group to the State finals in October 23. Chess Club meets every Wednesday after school for all primary students in our school who wish to play chess and have some fun.

Secondary

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.

Secondary (cont)

Yr 12 Art Exhibition

Year 12 Art Exhibition will be held at the BLEND(ER) Gallery from the 20th October Tuesday until Thursday 22nd October 09.

Therefore we will be requiring some parent assistance with the manning of the gallery space during school hours. If you could be of assistance at any point, for either Wednesday 21 October or/and 22 October could you contact the Art department on 9306 7130, or Head of Arts Learning Area, Jodie Taylor, 9306 7192.

Homeroom Maths Week Quiz

Congratulations to *Michael Wise* and *Jamie Brown* from PA4 who won the year 7/8 category. *Samantha Baron*, *Bhavisha Devchand*, *Rachael Lewis*, *Kate Mallis* and *Ainsley Kelly* from CH2 won the years 9 - 12 category. Each winning homeroom received 5 cinema vouchers.

The competition consisted of a different set of questions for each day of the week. Results were very close with the lead changing frequently. Thanks to all those who entered the competition. It was a wonderful addition to our mathematics week for 2009.

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.

Academic Task Force—TEE Revision courses October holiday program

Study skills and subject courses for years 11 and 12. Venues North and South of the river. Small groups, expert teachers, individual help. For more information contact Dr Pam Bagworth or Dr Robert Hallam. Phone 9317 4421.

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

CAREERS INFORMATION

Up and Coming Events – September

CURTIN

Muresk Campus Open Day – 13 September. A great opportunity to find out more about courses available including Agribusiness, Agricultural Technology, Farm Management and Equine Management.

ECU

Mt Lawley Campus Prospective Student Evening – 9 September
Occupational Therapy Career Information Evening – 16 September

UWA

Sunset Campus Tour – 7 September, 28 September

OTHER

Abilities Career Expo – 10 September. A great opportunity to find out more about employment, further education and other post-school options for students with a disability. For more information contact Jess Hogan on 9441 1666.

Triple S Science Fair (for years 7 – 10) – 10 September, Willetton High School. More than just a careers night this event is all about science. Try some hands on activities, talks to scientists, and check out demonstrations, technology, interactive displays and more!

Introduction to Occupational Therapy at Fremantle Hospital – 30 September. A program for prospective OTs to find out about what occupational therapists do in general, and what they do specifically at Fremantle Hospital. Places are limited to 4-6 so book quickly by phoning 9431 2098 between 8:30am – 4:30pm on weekdays.

TAFE/TISC Counselling

A letter was recently sent home to all families with information about the Year 12 TAFE/TISC counselling appointments for 2009, which begin on Monday 7 September. A reminder that each student is responsible for booking their own appointment at Student Services and attendance at an appointment is compulsory for all students.

University Of Notre Dame Admissions Guide

These are now available from the Careers Office and provide information about the University Of Notre Dame's admission process and a step-by-step guide for completing the enclosed application form. *It is a must for any Year 12 student planning to put in an application to the University Of Notre Dame* as Notre Dame is a private university and their application process is separate to the TISC system.

Scholarships

The Universities often tell us they have more scholarship money to give away than applicants to award it to so again I strongly encourage all of our Year 12 students planning to apply for University studies in 2010 to visit the relevant website of each university and read through the information about the different types of scholarships available. *There are a diverse range of scholarship opportunities available to students which are awarded on a wide range of criteria and not just based on academic merit.* To help you in your search, the links for the relevant university websites are listed below.

Notre Dame - <http://www.nd.edu.au/scholarships/notredame.shtml>

UWA - <http://www.scholarships.uwa.edu.au/> (booklet also available from Careers Office)

Curtin - <http://scholarships.curtin.edu.au/>

Murdoch - <http://www.oss.murdoch.edu.au/scholarships/>

ECU - <http://www.ecu.edu.au/student/fees/scholarships/index.php>

The School is also seeking expressions of interest from students for the following scholarship opportunities for which eligibility is based on the School's recommendation of students.

Any Year 12 student who is on a 'B' average or better and planning to put ECU as their first preference

Any Year 12 student planning to put Curtin as their first preference, who can demonstrate leadership qualities and engagement in community services, and is achieving in the top 5% of their graduating year

Any Year 12 student planning to put Curtin as their first or second preference who believes they are deserving of a scholarship based on one or more of the following criteria – academic merit, improvement in studies, potential to achieve at university, adverse personal circumstances, financial hardship.

CAREERS INFORMATION (cont)

Any Year 12 student who wishes to undertake studies at UWA and believes they possess the skills and personal qualities necessary to succeed at University.

Students wishing to be considered must register their interest with Ms Johnson in the Careers Office by 11 September.

Curtin Business School – 2010 Information Systems Student Experience

Current Year 11 students who have an interest in a career in Information Systems should consider applying for this exciting program. Students will attend Curtin University one evening a week over a twelve week period. During this time they will learn about Information Systems, work on a 'real life' industry-based case study, and be given the opportunity to network with representatives from ICT Industry companies. To be eligible to apply, students must be averaging a 'B' in Year 11 Applied Information Technology, Computing or Computer Science. Interested students are strongly encouraged to attend the Information Evening being held on 9 September at Curtin University. Contact Rupa Nair on 9266 2867 to register for this session. Additional information about the program is also available from the Careers Office.

Defence Technical Scholarships

A reminder that the closing date for these scholarships is 25 September. Information about the scholarships was published in a previous issue of Dove Tales and is available online at www.defencejobs.gov.au/dts.

University of NSW Indigenous Australian Engineering Summer School (IAESS)

The IAESS is open to Indigenous students who will be entering years 11 and 12 in 2010. The purpose of the IAESS is to introduce Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to Engineering as a university course and career. The Summer School program runs from 17 – 24 January, 2010 and is held at The University of New South Wales in Sydney. The Program is fully sponsored and participants will only be responsible for providing pocket money whilst in Sydney. For further information please contact the IAESS coordinator by email: iaess@eng.unsw.edu.au or phone 02 9385 4023. Application forms are available from the Careers Office.

Gap Year Opportunity – Ski and Snowboard Instructor Internship Program

This program provides participants with the opportunity to obtain paid employment in the United States or Canada as a trainee ski or snowboard instructor and complete an internationally recognised ski or snowboard instructing qualification. The program runs from December through to April. Participants must be 18 years of age at the commencement of the program and have the financial support to participate (the all inclusive programs costs are US\$4750 - \$7950). Interested students should visit the following website to register their interest www.easkiandsnowboard.com or phone 02 8011 4981.

INTERNET

Teenagers use the Internet like the telephone of yesteryear

Kids use it for entertainment, education and communication and not necessarily in that order. In some ways chat rooms are like milk bars and hamburger places of the past where young people could spend time without adult interference. The Net itself is not to be feared but it can become a distorted reality of your young person spends all their waking hours online.



The much-publicised risk of predators is small compared with excessive use and the consequent isolation it can lead to.

WHAT'S THE ATTRACTION?

The Internet has a myriad of attractions to young people. It is instantaneous, highly-interactive and immensely private, which are highly prized attributes for most young people. It gives them access to their mates, music and media without leaving home. It has addictive qualities we know, but that doesn't mean that a young person should become a Net addict.

HOW SHOULD PARENTS REACT?

TREAT .COM RELATIONSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES LIKE ANY OTHER.

Mocking their cyber friends and cyber activities can only drive them further into the cyber world of rebellion, and further away from the real world.

IF THE CYBER WORLD IS THE REAL WORLD for your young person as he shuns most other activities as well as people it may be time to take some action or even get some help.

INVOLVE YOURSELF IN THEIR CYBER ACTIVITIES, much as you would any other type of activity. Take the time to find out what they are doing and what they get from the activities.

NEGOTIATE ONLINE TIME ALLOCATIONS and share time online with other interested siblings. Locate the computer connected to the Internet in a public place at home so that you are accessible and also so sharing can occur.

ASK YOUR YOUNG PERSON WHAT A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF TIME MAY BE ONLINE. If they violate that limit then ask them if they have a problem. Let them think it over for a time. Perhaps you can bargain real time activities in exchange for time online.

OFFER OFFLINE ALTERNATIVES TO ENTERTAINMENT, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION. Remind them that there are offline alternatives, even if they don't use them all the time.

KEEP IN MIND

1. Be mindful of your connection with your young person so encourage him or her to talk about their online life.

2. The Internet offers many opportunities for young people to connect with each other that wouldn't ordinarily do so. It is a very positive thing, however it is healthy to maintain a balance between online and offline activities and relationships.
3. Keep an eye on your child's Net life. Without being too pushy try to ascertain what they use the Net for and set some limits for its use, much as you would for the use of the television.



Parenting *ideas*
MICHAEL GROSE