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Issue 11/2009

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## From the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Service is a key word in the language of St Stephen's School. Our School motto indicates that we are about serving people and through this service we are serving God. Jesus told us to love others as much as we love ourselves. Our neighbours need this love and service and the world needs it. Some of our students have been doing just that recently in a formal way through school activities.

One group has spent time in the Kimberleys assisting Aboriginal schools and other students have just returned from time at Bethany Home in Thailand helping in the orphanage for children with disabilities. These experiences can be life changing for our young people and they are fortunate to have the opportunity to serve others in this way. Throughout our School there are many activities of service happening daily: in small groups, in classes and in Year groups.

Our staff work hard to incorporate these into our students' education and understandings about life. Your own example as a parent is also vital in demonstrating the life of serving in your community.

Two young ladies from our School, Georgia Gannon and Chloe Hewitt, were recently recognised with Youth Awards by the Joondalup Shire for their service. Although rewards or recognition are not the goal for our service, we are pleased to see outside groups acknowledge the service of our young people.

In September we will be celebrating our Thanksgiving Service. This year there will be a separate service for each campus and details are included in this copy of Dove Tales. I urge you to attend and demonstrate your pride and love for our School.

The Federal Government is providing literacy and numeracy resources to assist the schools with the largest numbers of students who have not reached the Reading or Mathematics Bench Marks in the NAPLAN testing done in May. The selection of schools is done on the number of students below the Bench Mark, not on a percentage basis. Being one of the largest schools with over 2500 students, we naturally have more students in this category, and so resources will be provided for our School. This support will commence in Term 4 and teachers of these students will determine how the resources will be used.

My ETeam and I are concerned with the student absentee rates this year, especially with the increasing number of students who are taken out of school for extra holidays during term time. This sets a student behind in their learning and gives a wrong message about the value of schooling. The impact of influenza may well be felt in classes in the coming term but this is a situation where you are encouraged to keep your child at home!

Our School Council will begin the selection process for a new Principal through the services of Lester Blades. You will notice advertisements in the newspapers during the next few weeks. An announcement will be made at the end of the year with the new Principal starting in either Semester 2 in 2010 or at the start of 2011.

As Term 3 begins we seek the support of parents to make your home environment a place of love, of contentment and calm, as well as a place where you are all supportive of hard work in school study. Keep the following reality check in mind as you observe some of the delaying tactics that may come your way once the homework routine kicks into gear!

*The average student spends 90 minutes per night on homework assignments. The time is broken down as follows:*

- 15 minutes looking for the assignment*
- 11 minutes calling a friend for the assignment*
- 23 minutes explaining why the teacher is mean and does not like children*
- 8 minutes in the bathroom*
- 10 minutes getting a snack*
- 7 minutes checking the TV schedule*
- 6 minutes telling parents that the teacher never explained the assignment*
- 10 minutes sitting at the kitchen table waiting for Mum or Dad to do the assignment*

Have a wonderful Term 3.

**We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give.**- Sir Winston Churchill

*Caryl Roberts, Principal*

## Kimberley Tour Commendation

I mentioned in my Report that a group of Year 10s had recently served in the Kimberleys. Here is a wonderful email from a stranger who met up with the group at Fitzroy Crossing. Congratulations and thank you to those students. Your parents, teachers and peers are proud of you.

*Caryl Roberts, Principal*

*“Dear Principal*

*I am currently travelling up North with my husband and was at the caravan park at Fitzroy Crossing when the group of Year 10 students from your school arrived for the night. I wish to congratulate your school on the excellent behaviour of these students, they were a credit to you, the staff in attendance and their school. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves without encroaching on the enjoyment of other park visitors and you should be very proud of them.*

*Regards, Kaye Barrett “*

# Announcements

## Secondary New Staff

We would like to welcome **Anja Cirkovic** who will be a C3 homeroom teacher and teacher of English and Media. Welcome also to **Kim Grey** who will be gradually taking the reins from **Janelle Hogben**. Kim will be teaching Science and will become a C2 homeroom teacher. **Katherine Riddle** has joined us teaching an English class. **Ben Kingwell** is acting as HOLA, Faith and Values, while Rev Hollis Wilson is on long service leave. **David Ramsey** is teaching mathematics for Semester 2. **Clayton Osborne** has joined the Year 7 team and we welcome him to our community as well. **Andrew Jenkin** is now Assistant Dean in Timae, congratulations, Andrew.

## Congratulations

Jason Doust, Year 11, was selected to represent WA at the Australian National Gymnastics Competition in early July. Jason was placed 3rd on Pommel. We congratulate him on his achievements.

Dominic Bechard, Year 7, was selected to represent Western Australia in the 2009 State Schools Bruce Cup Tennis Team.

Key Dates	
Monday 27 July	Secondary Captains Nominations Open
Tuesday 28 July	Yr 11/12, 2010 Subject Information Evening, English Senior School Seminars
Wednesday 29 July	VET
Friday 31 July	NIPPSA Cross Country
Monday 3 August	HSC Healthy Balanced Lifestyle month
Tuesday 4 August	English Senior Schools Seminars
Wednesday 5 August	French Alliance Exam
Thursday 6 August	French Alliance Exam, Australian Maths Competition
Friday 7 August	Primary Disco

## **P&F Catering Committee**

The P&F Catering Committee is a merry group of ladies who serve tea and snacks at the school music concerts and the occasionally at other school functions.

A coordinator is needed to order the food required, to keep the P&F cupboard stocked with coffee etc and to organise ladies from the roster list.

This is a great fun job and does not require a lot of time. The present coordinator will be happy to mentor anyone for the remainder of this year. If this sounds like the job for you, please phone Melinda Mosenthal on 9401 6819.

## **Music Notes**

### **Inter-house Music Festival**

The Festival will be held on Tuesday 18 August – Week 5. Students from all year levels are encouraged to participate as soloists and in duets and other small groups. Details and application forms will be available in Week 2 and must be handed in by Wednesday 12 August so that timetables for the day can be finalised.

### **Term 3 Concert**

Our Concert this Term will be held on Friday 28 August. This concert will involve the senior ensembles. High School students who are involved will be required to wear performance uniform. Please check with the music staff if you have any questions.

### **Chamber Choir**

Miss Teh's Chamber Choir will participate in the Duncraig Uniting Church service on Sunday 30 August. Miss Teh will contact parents of the students involved with details of this performance.

### **WA Schools Band Festival**

**Concert Band** and **Wind Ensemble** will perform in the WA Schools Band Festival this term, to be held at Perth Modern School. Wind Ensemble will perform at 12 noon on Saturday 15 August and Concert Band will perform at 2pm on Sunday 16 August. Further details will be sent home shortly.

### **WA Schools Orchestra Festival**

High School Orchestra and Middle School Orchestra will perform in the String Orchestra Festival at Perth Modern School. Both orchestras are performing in the session which runs from 12:30pm till 6:00pm on Saturday 8 August. Middle School Orchestra performs at 2:40pm and High School Orchestra at 3:55pm. Further details will be sent home shortly.

### **The Idea of North**

This world-acclaimed vocal group will present a concert in our School Theatre on Thursday 22 October at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$30.00 and will be available for purchase from the High School office from **Monday 3 August**. Tickets will sell out very quickly, so be sure to purchase yours early!

### **Thanksgiving Service**

Our Thanksgiving service will be held on Thursday 10 September. Concert Band, St Stephen's Singers and Chamber Choir will all be involved in performances during the evening.

## **Nomination for a NEiTA Award**

Congratulations to Mrs Diana Brown who has been nominated for a National Excellence in Teaching Award. Thank you to the parents who have nominated Mrs Brown for this special award.

## **Duty Of Care**

Parents are reminded that staff members are not on duty until after 8:10am. 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. Students must keep to footpaths and use the walk crossings on the driveway. Please teach your child to be road wise if waiting to be collected by car or walking home.

## Peanut and Nut Allergies

A number of students attending St Stephen's are severely allergic to peanuts and/or other nuts (eg cashews, pine nuts, hazelnuts). Exposure (consumption, smelling and/or touching any residue left on balls, rails, etc.) can lead to anaphylaxis, a life threatening allergic reaction.

Therefore, while the school appreciates that for some children finding an alternative spread to peanut paste or nut spreads is difficult, **please do not allow your child to bring food containing peanuts, peanut paste or nut spreads to school.** (Please note we do not expect you to ban all foods that state "may contain traces of peanuts".) Due to the number of students with severe tree nut allergies we also **discourage** their consumption at school.

There will be no punitive action taken should your child be found to have these foods but they will be asked to wash their hands and have a drink following their meal. It will be explained to them why the request is being made and why we discourage the consumption of nuts and nut pastes at our school.

As a community we aim to make the school as safe as is feasibly possible for all our students. If you have any questions, please feel free to direct them to the school nurse. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter. A copy of the school's *Guidelines on Managing Students with Anaphylaxis at St Stephen's School* can be obtained on request or from the School Handbook.

## Absences

*Unexpected absences* – Primary and Secondary parents are requested to phone the School Offices on the morning of an unexpected absence. Primary Office 9246 3466 and Secondary Office 9243 2409. A note is then required from a parent or guardian to explain any absence of a day or longer, on the day the student returns to school.

*Anticipated absences – Primary.* If for any reason a student has to leave the school during the day a note in the Primary Student Diary is required and shown to the teacher. Parents are required to come to the Primary Office to sign their child out for an appointment and to sign them in on their return or to sign them out if they are not returning to school that day.

*Anticipated absences – Secondary:* If for any reason a student has to leave the school during the day a note in the Secondary Work Record is required. Secondary students must follow the following procedure. Notes are to be shown to the Homeroom teacher in the morning Homeroom. If the note is to explain an early departure from the school, the note will be signed by the Homeroom teacher, shown to the teacher of the class they are leaving and shown at the Main Administration Office as the student leaves the school.

Parents are then requested to collect students from the Main Administration Office. When students return to school after a temporary absence, they must enter through the Main Administration area to advise office staff of their return.

Secondary students who arrive at school after 8:45am must enter through the Main Administration Office with a written explanation for their lateness. Students will be issued with a late slip for entry into class.

*Extended absences during the school term.*

Please note that when a student is ill or in hospital, the school does its utmost to support students in this situation. Please liaise with the Dean of your child's House.

We strongly discourage parents from taking their children on holiday during term time. This is of particular significance in Years 10 –12 where missed time is very difficult to make up. Students are responsible for catching up work on their return.

## TERM 3 and 4 DATES 2009

Term 3	Wed 22 July Friday 25 September	P-12 Start End Term 3
Term 4	Tuesday 13 October Friday 4 December	P-12 Start End Term



**A SPECIAL INVITATION  
DUNCRAIG THANKSGIVING SERVICE  
THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Our Thanksgiving Service is always an important annual event in the life of our School.

It is our opportunity to come together as staff, students and parents to celebrate our community at Duncraig and to thank God for all that we enjoy in this wonderful School.

This year Ms Benson, Mr Titlestad, Mr Campbell and I invite each family to join in the great occasion of the Duncraig Thanksgiving Service to be held at the Christian City Church in Hepburn Heights at 7pm on Thursday 10 September.

This is a free event and one not to be missed so book your tickets early by returning the tear-off slip below as indicated. A ticket is not required for any student who is performing on the night.

This is a formal evening and all students must wear their winter school uniform, including the blazer for Secondary students from Years 8 to 12.

I look forward to seeing all our families at this event as we celebrate 'The Joy of Belonging' and show our pride and love for St Stephen's School Duncraig.

Mrs Caryl Roberts  
**Principal**

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**DUNCRAIG THANKSGIVING SERVICE 2009**

Please complete and return this section of the form to the **Primary or Secondary Office** where a box will be located marked **THANKSGIVING**.

Name of Eldest Student	Year Level	Home Room
Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date	Number of Tickets Required

### Semester 2 Primary School Leaders

Congratulations to the following students on their election as leaders in the Primary School for Semester 2. Primary Captains for this semester are: Tom Meagher and Jane Fleay (Alethea), Joshua Oliver and Amie Jurilj (Carana) and Matthew Hughes and Saskia Harman (Timae). Student Affairs representatives are Tom Bissell and Sarah Gryg (Alethea), Toby Wood and Rinna Porter (Carana) and Joshua Page and Emily Zadow (Timae). We thank the Semester 1 leaders for the work they have done in the Primary School and look forward to working with our new leaders in Semester 2.

### Duncraig Primary French News

This Term in Week 4 on Friday 14 August we shall be celebrating French day at Duncraig Primary. Students will be involved in 20 minutes craft and 20 minutes sports sessions to do with French culture. They will also be able to order a croque monsieur (toasted ham & cheese) or croque madame (toasted cheese). These activities start after recess at 11.00 and include lunch time from 1:40 to 2:00pm. If any parents would like to assist with this fun day for any length of time or any activity, please contact Madame Lloyd through Primary reception 9246 3466.

### Primary School Sport

We had fantastic weather for our inter house cross country held on the last day of term.

All students from Pre-primary to Year 6 competed for their House and managed to finish the course with a smile on their face.

Many thanks to all the parents and staff for making this such a successful event.

Overall results:

1st Timae - 519

2nd Carana - 504

3rd Alethea - 424

Individual winners

Year 3 Girls - Pheobe Russell - Champion. Lauren Watson - Runner Up

Year 3 Boys - Cale Jurilj - Champion. Cooper Winstanley - Runner Up

Year 4 Girls - Lauren Godwin - Champion- Zoe Kestel - Runner Up

Year 4 Boys - Zac Jurilj - Champion -Xavier Peacock - Runner Up

Year 5 Girls - Olivia Mariano - Champion. Neesha Ravendran -Runner Up

Year 5 Boys - Liam Watson -Champion. Lachaln McAlpine -Runner Up

Year 6 Girls - Amy Jurilj - Champion.Chantalle Herman - Runner Up

Year 6 Boys -Tom Bissell - Champion. Connor Firkins - Runner Up

NIPSSA Inter School Cross Country will be held on Friday 31 July at Mawson Park.

## Secondary

### Year 12 Students and Parents

Parents and Students will be receiving by mail soon, two documents from the Curriculum Council. The CC have had recent legal advice that they must obtain signed permission in hard copy to allow students' academic results and other information to be accessed/published where appropriate. Please fill out the documents and sign as indicated by my covering letter to you and return them to Administration by 31 July. It is important that the documents are not bent or folded or faxed. With thanks for your anticipated cooperation with this matter.

*Mrs Dawn Clements, Deputy - Learning and Curriculum*

### Year 11 and Year 10 Parents and Students

The subject information evening to be held on Tuesday 28 July will begin in the theatre at 7:00pm for Year 10, 2009 and 7:45pm for Year 11, 2009. The evening will finish for both year groups at 9:35pm. After the initial meeting in the theatre, students and parents will have the opportunity to attend the faculty presentations about specific senior school subjects and their content, being offered at different venues which will be indicated on the program you will receive on the night. This is an important evening to help students understand graduation requirements and obtain information regarding their selection of courses for senior school 2010.

We look forward to seeing you there.

*Mrs Dawn Clements, Deputy - Learning and Curriculum*

## Year 10 and 11 Students

Year 10 and 11 students are reminded that they each have an interview with either Mrs Darby or Mrs Turner following the information evening, with interviews beginning Wednesday 29 July. Lists of the times are available in each of the houses or from Mrs Darby or Mrs Turner. If a time is not convenient, we ask that the Student finds someone to swap with. Students should bring a copy of their report with them to their interview in the Student Services Building.

## Careers Information

Murdoch University are holding the following events that may interest Years 10 - 12 but students need to register for these.

Learn How to Manage a Rock Band

Sunday 26 July 9:30am-2:00pm - Lunch Provided!

Learn what it takes to manage a rock band! Students can get involved in all aspects of managing a band, learning about events management, copywriting laws and regulations, as well as what happens with the money and who actually owns the music! This is a great opportunity for interested students to come to Murdoch and have a fun-filled day learning about business with the Business School. This event is for Years 10 to 12 students and is about letting you know what we do here in the Business School.

To register: contact Chelsea Little 9360 6279 or [C.Little@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:C.Little@murdoch.edu.au)

Be an Engineering & Science Student for a Day

Sunday 2nd August 9:00am - 2:30pm Lunch Provided!

Explore the wonders of Science and Engineering in this one day interactive experience. Learn how to program robots, find out about gold panning and solar energy, take a tour of the engineering pilot plant and much more. You'll discover the many career opportunities open to you when study degrees in Engineering, Sustainable Energy Management, Physics and Nanotechnology.

To register: contact Jo Hulme on 9360 6078 or [J.Hulme@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:J.Hulme@murdoch.edu.au)

Apprenticeships Available

WESTRAC have advertised the following apprenticeships in The West Australian available for 2010.

More information available from Mrs Darby or [www.westrac.com.au](http://www.westrac.com.au)

Heavy Vehicle Mechanics( Plant)

Boilermaker Welders

Automotive Technicians

Fitter Machinist

1st Class machinist

University Open Days

A reminder about open days at University.

ECU Mt Lawley and WAAPA 2 August

UWA August 9th

Curtin and Notre Dame 16 August

Murdoch 30 August

## Canteen

### National Health Bones week August 2- August 8

To celebrate Healthy Bones Week, we will be offering a meal deal to all our primary school students for everyday from 3-7 August.

For \$3 **The Dairy Meal Deal** includes:

225ml Hi Lo milk

Yogo (chocolate or strawberry)

A toasted sandwich.

Fillings either: cheese, cheese and ham or cheese and chicken. A sticker included.

Sorry no other variations available.

Order the normal way with Dairy Meal Deal and flavour choice written on the bag.

We are undertaking this initiative to engage and educate students about the important role of calcium rich foods, such as dairy, in the development and maintenance of healthy bones.

### Competition

Dairy Australia are having Australia's Best Bone Building Competition. Students must write a 25 word entry on why their canteen is the Best Bone building canteen. There are many exciting prizes, so encourage students to enter. Visit [www.healthybones.com.au](http://www.healthybones.com.au) to enter.

*Sheryn Aubrey, Canteen Manager*

### Canteen Roster

Date	8:30 -11:30	11:00 - 2:00
Monday 27 July	Help Needed	Help Needed
Tuesday 28 July	K Cox J Hardie	L Dalton
Wednesday 29 July	P Glavinas G Brune	G Dunn
Thursday 30 July	B Kats	Help Needed
Friday 31 July	L Hall K Hewitt	M Major Help Needed
Monday 3 August	L Kerspian A Peacock	Yen
Tuesday 4 August	J Power	B Blythe
Wednesday 5 August	J McCallister K Morrish	
Thursday 6 August	W Hatfield	T Knox E Wilson
Friday 7 August	J Fraser F Reed	L Hall C Tambakis

### Community News

Wanneroo GIANTS Baseball Club Registration Days are Saturday 1 and 8 August from 1:00pm until 4:00pm at Skeit Rd, Madeley (Kingsway Sporting Complex) and is open for boys and girls from 8 years upwards. For further information phone 08 9304 2108 / 0422 115 534

Karate at St Stephen's School - Karate is a great way for people of all ages to get fit, have fun and develop self confidence. Come and learn authentic Karate in a safe and professional environment. For more information visit [www.karatewa.com](http://www.karatewa.com) or phone Ben on 9243 3554.