



20 February

Issue 2/2009

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## Report from Head of Primary

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Thank you to the many people who have welcomed me back to Duncraig. I feel very privileged to be returning to the Primary School as Head and look forward to working alongside a very dedicated, professional and caring staff.

I also look forward to working with parents. Showing your child that you are interested in all aspects of their learning is critical. Share your own school experiences with them, support them with their homework (please do not do it for them), share your ideas, talk about the positives of the day, encourage them to persevere when things are not going well, teach your child to be resilient, laugh with them and let them just *have a go* at a problem.

The contribution you make to the life of the school is also important. At St Stephen's School there are many opportunities for you to do this. Research shows that children who know that a parent is involved in the life of the school are far more likely to do better. Whether you choose to help in the canteen, offer assistance in the classrooms, sort out books in the library or be an extra pair of hands on an excursion: that does not matter to your child. What does matter is that you are involved in the everyday life of the school. Your child soon knows that the school and home are in a partnership which is supportive and works together.

Here, at St Stephen's, we need your support. We need your expertise, your experience and your skills. I strongly encourage you to become involved in the P&F this year. This group is a vital part of the life of the school and will be further enhanced by your attendance at meetings. If you are not able to come to every meeting, just come when you can. Attending P&F meetings does not necessarily mean that you will leave with a job! You will leave, though, with an hour which you may claim as part of your Parent Commitment Scheme. It is never too late to become involved in the life of the school and I urge you to make this the year when you will make this happen.

In the Primary School, this year we will create as many opportunities as we can for you to come and join us. Please take these opportunities.

I wish God's many blessings on you and your family this year.

*Mrs Christine Benson, Head of the Primary School*

## Under-Age Drinking

One of the difficult decisions many parents are faced with is the question of how to manage the issue of young people and alcohol. We are always concerned when we hear stories from our students about the events that occur over weekends, particularly when under-age drinking and binge-drinking take place. Many metropolitan students from Year 10 on drink at arranged parties frequently.

As adults we understand that it is more than possible to have fun at a party without drinking. As adults we also understand that our children may be under the same pressure we might have experienced when we were young. Our children are faced with the burden of being expected to behave like their peers. Young people are also faced with the possibility of thinking that they might be more confident and relaxed if they drink.

I am sure that no parent would want their child to develop the habit of always wanting to “follow the crowd” and not have the courage to simply be themselves. I am also sure that no parent would want their child to enter adult life believing that the only way to relax and have fun is with a drink in their hand.

We need to assist our children in developing habits that will make their adult lives easier – and the habits we would like to see them teach our grandchildren. We also need to ensure that our children are safe and that the risky behaviour that goes with alcohol impaired judgment does not endanger them or their friends.

As always, remember that you are not alone. Almost every parent faces these questions and pressures from their children. Please talk to other parents, you will discover that they feel much the same way about these issues as you and I. Together we can keep our children safe.

If you wish to discuss this further and/or require some advice/support, then please make contact with your child’s Dean of House or the School Nurse.

*Mr Bruce Titlestad, Head of Secondary School*

Key Dates	
Monday 23 February	Captains Leadership Training, Swim Camp Day
Wednesday 25 February	Music Camp, Year 8 Camp
Thursday 26 February	Music Camp, Year 8 Camp
Friday 27 February	Music Camp, Year 8 Camp
Monday 2 March	LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY
Wednesday 4 March	Year 7 Camp
Thursday 5 March	Year 12 Biology Camp, Year 7 Camp
Friday 6 March	Primary Wet Carnival, Year 12 Biology Camp, Year 7 Camp, Dove Tales

## 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.

## Secondary Assistance Scheme

Parents/Guardians who hold a Centrelink Family Health Care Card, Centrelink Pension Concession Card or Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card who have student/s in Years 8-12 can claim the allowance up to and including the year the student turns 16 years of age. Note: Card held must be current in first term of school year. The allowance consists of two components:

- \$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent.
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school.

## TERM DATES 2009

<i>Term 1</i>	Friday 30 January Thursday 9 April	P-12 Start End Term 1
<i>Term 2</i>	Wednesday 29 April Friday 3 July	P-12 Start End Term 2
<i>Term 3</i>	Wed 22 July Friday 25 September	P-12 Start End Term 3
<i>Term 4</i>	Tuesday 13 October Friday 4 December	P-12 Start End Term

## Any Old Fridges???

If you have an old fridge that works and is relatively clean, we have a good home for it. The Year 12 fridge in their tea room has died and they would love a replacement. If you are feeling generous please contact Jill Holdman 0417 172219 and she will organise to pick it up. Thank you.

*Phil Timms, Dean of Timae*

## Art Department

If anyone has access to old/unused/discarded architectural planning drawings or mapping drawings etc that could be used by the art department could you contact Bronwyn Schultz or Claire Davenhall on 92432117/ 92432102 or email [schultb@ststephens.wa.edu.au](mailto:schultb@ststephens.wa.edu.au)

## Thanksgiving 2009

The annual Thanksgiving service for 2009 will be held on Thursday 10 September at Christian City Church, Hepburn Heights.

## On-line Access

**For on-line access to school policies and procedures, go to:**

<http://www.ststephens.wa.edu.au/handbook/> (User name: parents Password: tco99)

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school for a copy of a specific policy or ask to access the policy using a computer at school. The above information is also included in the Student Work Record.

## Carana Fundraiser Quiz Night

When: Friday 27 March 2009 at 7:00pm  
Where: Cousins Hall Duncraig Campus  
In aid of: A Uniting Care initiative supporting AIDS orphans in Mwandia, Africa  
Table size: eight persons  
Bookings: Collinson Library

Lots of fun, laughter and prizes.

## Can a Mum help?

Can you help with transport? Needed a mum to do afternoon pickups, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and alternate Mondays. For two girls in Kingsley (Hepburn Ave End). Will assist with costs. Please call Kerri on 9409 3145

## On-line Databases

St Stephen's School has subscriptions to a number of on-line databases including Encyclopedia Britannica, Worldbook, Macquarie Encyclopedia, The West Australian, a magazine database and Weblinks, a carefully selected list of websites. It also has Atomic Learning, an extensive list of mini lessons for learning about a range of software applications like Excel. Our students use these through the school intranet when searching for appropriate information.

Students can also access these from home to assist with schoolwork carried out at home. Please visit:

[www.ststephens.wa.edu.au/onlinedbs](http://www.ststephens.wa.edu.au/onlinedbs)

User name: sss

Password: library

Using these as sources of information can often be more productive than searching the Internet through a search engine.

*Sue Stopher, Primary Library*

## Primary Art Room

The Primary Art Room is after any unwanted wall paper (scraps, samples, leftovers etc) for the students' new art project. If you have any could you please drop it off in the Primary Art Room. Thank you.

*Alyce Tilley, Primary Art Technician*

## Students Arriving Early At School

There are a number of Primary School students who are arriving at school very early in the mornings. Please note that there is no staff supervision of students before 8:10 am. We request that children arrive between 8:10 and 8:30 am when they will be supervised. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Primary Sport

Just a reminder that the Wet Carnival will be held at Joondalup Arena on Friday 6 March starting at 9:30 am. Students will need to bring their bathers or wear them underneath their sports uniform on that day. A letter will be sent during that week outlining the program for the day and details of parental duties.

Weet-Bix Try-athlon

St Stephen School was well represented on Sunday 8 February in the 7-11 age group category. Despite the daunting task of swimming in the Swan River, cycling around the Esplanade and then running around Langley Park, I am pleased to say all students finished with a smile!

## Tips and Ideas for Parents

Mrs Kate Hilder will be running an informal group on Tips and Ideas for Parents of children up to eight. for four Tuesdays in March.

Where: In the Year 1 classroom  
When: Tuesday 3, 10, 17, 24 March  
Time: 2:00pm-3:00pm

All parents are welcome.

Come along and share a coffee and chat about all sorts of things from eating habits to resilience!

## Primary Chess Club

The Primary Chess Club meets every Wednesday in the Primary Library from 3:15- 4:00pm. Our chess players range in age from six to eleven. We welcome mentoring and coaching from older students, past students, parents and extended family. There is no need to make a weekly commitment - even a one-off visit helps our students to develop chess skills. If you would like to offer your skills, please contact Shirley Houston on 9246 3466.

## Congratulations

Jane Fleay and Amy Jurilj, Year 6, won a silver medals in the 4x400m relay and a bronze in the 4x100m relay.  
Cale Jurilj, Year 3, won a silver medal in the 4x100m and a bronze in the 4x200m relay at the recent State Athletics Relay Championships.

## Faith & Values Web-Based Program Access

The Faith & Values programs for Years 8-12 is accessible and available through a website. Simply click on the link below and then bookmark it for future reference:

[http://web.me.com/holliswilson/F\\_V\\_Program/pages/1.html](http://web.me.com/holliswilson/F_V_Program/pages/1.html)

You will be directed to the main page. Each triangle and circle on the left hand side is a clickable icon that will direct you to the page you are interested in.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of the site or its content, please contact Rev'd Hollis Wilson at 9243.2160 or [wilsonh@ststephens.wa.edu.au](mailto:wilsonh@ststephens.wa.edu.au)

*Revd Hollis Wilson, Head of the Faith & Values Learning Area*

## ACC Swim Team

Congratulations to those students who have made the ACC Interschool Swim Team.

## Change of Subjects

A reminder that the last date for change of subjects is 12 March for Year 11 and 12 students.

Students who have been to see Mrs Darby (Year 11 and 12) or Mrs Marshall (Year 9 and 10) and have a change of subject form that they are collecting staff signatures on are reminded that they must return the form to Mrs Marshall to collect an authority to move classes and two copies of their new timetable (one of which must go to their homeroom teacher) before they move class. If any students have these forms and have moved classes they must see Mrs Marshall immediately, particularly if they are in Year 11 or 12 as we need correct records to report to Curriculum Council.

## Proficiency in Spoken English and Release of Exam Results and Awards for Publication

All Year 12s, please return your form to Administration by Friday 27 February. These forms were posted to all Year 12 students. If these forms are not returned then Exam results and awards received will not be published in the West Australian.

## Special Examination Arrangements – Years 11 And 12

St Stephen's School wants each student to perform in their examinations to the best of their ability.

Students who have a medical and/or physical disability, illness and/or specific learning disability that could disadvantage them in demonstrating their knowledge, skills and understanding in timed assessments may apply for Special Examination Arrangements (this may include extra time, resting time, use of laptop, scribe).

These applications must be made in accordance with Curriculum Council Policy, circular code 99/2/22 "Special Examination Arrangements – TEE". A copy of this document is available from Ms Davies in INSPIRE as is the application form.

For all internal examinations (ie St Stephen's end of semester examinations) applications on the aforementioned application form must be forwarded along with the appropriate support documentation (medical and/or psychological reports) to Ms Davies by the end of term 1 each year so that it can be considered for approval so that proper supervision arrangements can be made if approval is granted.

Please note that for the actual Tertiary Entrance Examinations the Curriculum Council decides who is eligible for Special Arrangements on an individual basis. Application close this year at the end of May.

All students who are granted Special Examination Arrangements for these external examinations sit their examinations at a venue other than St Stephen's eg Tuart College.

If you have any questions or require clarification please contact Ms Davies in INSPIRE on 9243 2401 or email

[daviesd@ststephens.wa.edu.au](mailto:daviesd@ststephens.wa.edu.au)

We need several parents to help with creating audio versions of some of our print novels. If you can help please contact Ms Debbie Davies on 9243 2401.

## Mathematics Club

The school Mathematics Club runs each Wednesday afternoon commencing at 3:20pm in A6. All students are welcome. Places are limited, and priority is given to senior students. Sessions will also be run on an alternate day for TAFE students on an ad-hoc basis where there is sufficient student interest.

*Dr West*

We are unable to supply Playbubbles to the Primary School as this product has been deleted. Fuze Tropical and Raspberry is available for \$2:00.

### Help Needed

Year ten students are invited to put their names on the lunch roster to help give out ordered lunches from 12:40pm Monday-Friday. The hours can be counted towards your community service hours. Please see Mrs Aubrey in the canteen.

Parent help is required on Mondays and Fridays from 12:00-3:00pm and every day from 11:00-2:00pm.

### Water Competition

We are currently running a water competition from Year 3-6 and a quiz for Year 7s. Entry forms are in your lunch baskets.

# Canteen Roster

<b>Date</b>	<b>8:30 – 11:30</b>	<b>11:00 – 2:00</b>
Monday 23 February	N Stewart V Norriss	R VanRooyen
Tuesday 24 February	K Batty J Hardie	HELP NEEDED
Wednesday 25 February	HELP NEEDED	J Stewart R Poultney
Thursday 26 February	C Campbell W Hatfield	T Knox E Wilson M Adair
Friday 27 February	L Hall	HELP NEEDED
Monday 2 March	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	
Tuesday 3 March	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Wednesday 4 March	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Thursday 5 March	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Friday 6 March	J Cutter	HELP NEEDED

# Community Notices

## Duncraig Uniting Church

Duncraig Uniting Church will hold an Ash Wednesday Worship Service on 25 February, 7:30pm at the Church Centre, 29 Wandoo Road, Duncraig. The service will observe the early church tradition of the imposition of ashes. You are cordially invited to join us for this worship service which will mark the beginning of Lent.

## North Coast Raiders

Hockey Fun at North Coast Raiders, Registration day - Saturday 21 February 10:00am-2:00pm. Wendling Road, Charles Riley Reserve, North Beach.

All ages groups welcome - from 5 -18 years old. Contact Sheila Klimczyk - 9246 7145 or 0432 744 184.

## Student Exchange

Anyone who is interested in hosting an overseas student is asked to visit [www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au) or [info@studentexchange.org.au](mailto:info@studentexchange.org.au)

## Tuart Hill Basketball Club

Tuart Hill Basketball Club are currently seeking boys and girls aged between 6-19 years for their winter basketball competition held at Perry Lakes Basketball stadium on Saturdays. Please contact Helen Fisher on 9448 6238 for more information.

## North Coast Tri Club

North Coast Tri Club-Have-A-Go Triathlon for 7-15 year olds at Craigie Leisure Centre, Sunday 8 March. Registration 7:15am, race briefing 7:45am, start 8:00am if you are interested email [triathlon@northcoastricclub.org.au](mailto:triathlon@northcoastricclub.org.au)

## Karate

Karate is now back in full swing for 2009. It is never too late to start! Beginners and experienced people are welcome to come and check our program. Quality experienced instruction is offered in an exciting and fun environment. Separate junior and teen/adult classes are offered. Phone Ben on 92433554 for more information.

## Easter Camp

Easter Camp is on again from the 9-13 April; this year there will be some differences. We are opening the age group up to cater from Year 8 to Age 23. To cater to this wider age group the camp will be in two different streams each with their own speaker. This means that everything is aimed at the right level and your child will be mixing with people their own age. We have moved to the new location of Woodman Point. This campsite has new activities to try out and best of all its right next to the beach. The weekend is packed with fun as well as time to relax. This is a chance for your child to meet youth from other school and churches.

If you're interested and want more information, please check out the Uniting Church website [www.wa.uca.org.au/](http://www.wa.uca.org.au/) click on the Uniting Youth tab up the top, then scroll down until you see Easter Camp 2009 – Ark it Up! Or you can call the Uniting Church Centre on 9260 9800

## Netball Umpire

Netball umpire is wanted for a group of Year 10 girls (ex doves) who are staying together as a team and registering independently. We are desperate for a full time or part time umpire and will pay top dollar. Contact Sue on 0439 795 088 or Terri on 0417 976781. The girls are Year 10s, not Year 7s as was in this advertisement last Dove Tales.