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21 March 2018

## 2018 Term Dates

<b>Term 1</b>	22 January 2018 – 29 March 2018
<b>Term 2</b>	17 April 2018 – 29 June 2018
<b>Term 3</b>	16 July 2018 – 21 September 2018
<b>Term 4</b>	8 October 2018 – 7 December 2018

## News from the Principal



**Mr Lee MacMaster**

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Friends of the St Andrew's College Community,

As I sit down to reflect and write this newsletter towards the end of term, I look back on a wonderful term full of opportunity for each student in the College. Term One can always be tough going initially as we return from an extended holiday break and try to get moving again. I have to say that our College is an amazing place with so much quality work going on every day. As I said, each day is full of opportunities for our students, and it is the students who decide to grab these opportunities and do something constructive with them are the students that forge ahead and kick lots of goals!

At a recent Junior Years Assembly, I spoke about the inspirational words I heard from a cricket coach when I was growing up that made so much difference in my life. He said to me at the age of 14, "If it is to be, it is up to me." Those powerful ten two-letter words linked together in a sentence have inspired me every single day to do my best and to ensure I am making the necessary contributions rather than waiting for others to do things for me or to me. As we complete Term 1 over the next two weeks, it is important that our students

across Prep to Year 12 are honest about their efforts and commitment at school. I know some students find school tough going, while for many others, school is a great place to come five days a week and a place they thoroughly enjoy. What is important is a constant effort, a willingness to keep on improving, and a desire to be the best person you can be. We cannot ask more than that!

### Easter

The current period of Lent (since Ash Wednesday on 14 March) draws to a conclusion on the evening of Holy Thursday (Thursday 29 March). We begin Holy Week (on Sunday 25 March) with the triumphal procession of Palm Sunday, when Christ entered Jerusalem, and the people laid palms on the road before Him. Five days later, on Good Friday, some of those same people were likely among those who cried, "Crucify Him!"

During these last few weeks of Lent and over the Easter period, especially during the Holy or Paschal Triduum, beginning with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, we should redouble our efforts with prayer and fasting, so that we may be worthy to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday.

Easter is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. For Catholics, Easter Sunday comes at the end of the Lenten period, a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Through spiritual struggle and self-denial, we have prepared ourselves to die spiritually with Christ on Good Friday, the day of His Crucifixion, so that we can rise again with Him in new life on Easter Sunday.

Easter is a time to think about your faith. Not the seeing, but the believing. There's a quote I love: 'Faith is seeing light with your heart when your eyes see only darkness.'

A reminder about Easter Liturgies / Masses in the Parish – Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper -7pm @ Holy Cross, Trinity Park; Good Friday – Stations of the Cross @ Freshwater – 9am; 10am @ Stratford; 11:30am @ Holy Cross, Trinity Park; Passion of the Lord @ Holy Cross, Trinity Park – 3pm; Easter Vigil Mass – 7pm @ Holy Cross, Trinity Park; Easter

Sunday – 7am @ Freshwater; 8:30am @ Holy Cross; 10am @ St Andrew's; and, 10:30am @ Stratford.

We would love to see a large gathering of our staff, students and their families at our Easter Sunday Mass at the College (All Saints' Chapel) on Sunday 1 April at 10am. Please come along and share the Mass and some Easter eggs to follow!

## Feedback

Once again during Term 2, I am asking parents and students to come and talk to me and to voice their opinions about how the College is going and what you would like to see further improved. I urge you to find ten to fifteen minutes or longer to come and meet with me. I value your feedback and would love to have the chance to discuss the College with you. I will be available for meetings until 5:30pm each evening. Please make an appointment with Mrs Liz Clarke – PA to the Principal on 4039 5200. Alternatively, you are always welcome to call me at the College or to forward an email.

## Docemus Awards / Spirit of Catholic Education Awards

Nominations are now being taken for the Cairns Diocese Docemus Awards and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission's Spirit of Catholic Education Awards. Both award ceremonies take place during Catholic Education Week - 29 July – 4 August 2018.

For the SOCE (Spirit of Catholic Education) Awards, Catholic school communities (staff, students, parents) are encouraged to nominate individuals in the community (staff member, parent, clergy or volunteer) who are making an outstanding contribution to the life of the community in one of the following areas:

- Initiating a program and/or activity in response to a need;
- Leading and facilitating for change and improvement;
- Demonstrating excellence in their work;
- Engaging in exceptionally life-giving relationships with students, colleagues or other members of the school community or Catholic education agency;
- Advancing Reconciliation (for consideration for the Aunty Joan Hendriks Reconciliation Award).

The Docemus Awards acknowledge and celebrate the exceptional commitment, achievement and contribution to Catholic Education of staff and volunteers. The categories are:

- Primary teacher
- Secondary teacher
- School officer
- Leadership
- Volunteer supporter
- Lifelong contribution

The SOCE Award nomination form can be used to nominate someone for EITHER OR BOTH Awards, by indicating on the cover sheet. Nominations (for both awards) close on Friday 11 May. The nomination form is available below and on the Cairns Catholic Education website's CEW page.

[https://www.cns.catholic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/SOCE\\_and\\_DOCEMUS\\_Awards\\_Nomination\\_Form.pdf](https://www.cns.catholic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/SOCE_and_DOCEMUS_Awards_Nomination_Form.pdf)

I will also leave some nomination forms at the College Front Office in L Block. I encourage student, College Board, P&F and parent nominations for these prestigious awards.

## ANZAC Services

A reminder that on Wednesday 25 April, ANZAC Day (Week 2 – Term 2), the College will join in the ANZAC March at Stratford. The College will be looking for strong representation at the morning march at Stratford (arrive at 6:45am and assemble outside Stratford Post Office for a 7am start – full College formal uniform please). It would be wonderful to have as many students as possible attend the Stratford March to show strong support for our fallen war veterans, their families and for our current military personnel who continue to serve and represent Australia, keeping us all safe.

The College will commemorate our tribute to Anzac Day with a special service at 11am on Tuesday 24 April in O Block. All students and staff will attend. Parents, carers and friends of the College are most welcome to attend this commemoration service also.

## Staff News

Congratulations, thank you and best wishes to the following staff and students at the College: -

- Mr David Meyer and the College Finance Team for our successful financial Audit process and for the presentation of the College Budget for 2018 to the Diocesan Finance Committee.
- Mrs Kate Maccoll and Mr Luke Felstead for their hard work and leadership of the new Schoolbox LMS) / Digital Learning Environment platform which the College is adopting and rolling out over the next three years. It is certainly exciting what can be achieved in the future through the deployment of the Schoolbox system.
- Our three Senior Years Coordinators, Mr Christopher, Mrs Symes and Mrs Sole and the teachers of Years 10, 11 & 12 who supported the students with the Generation Next online conferences over the past two Fridays.
- Congratulations to all our female staff on International Women's Day recently. Mrs Jo Lawson, Mrs Leanne Webster, Mrs Maureen Cameron and Mrs Deb Kearney and our Senior Years Student Leaders attended the International Women's Day breakfast in Cairns recently. Congratulations to Mrs Maureen Cameron on her 'big' award; and, to Mrs Deb Kearney and student, Tayla Gunton (Year 9) on their nominations! We are very proud of all of you!!
- Miss Adrienne Hill for kicking off the new Drone Club with our students. Well done Miss Hill and thank her for her generosity of time and support for our students.
- Mrs Wendy Tisbury, our Leader of Learning! Mrs Tisbury's leadership of the PLT (Professional Learning

Team) program is excellent. Thank you also to the PLT leaders and team members for the quality work that is taking place in each of the PLTs. We have 18 different 'action-learning' projects on the move, and the recommendations from each group will greatly enhance the capacity of the College to deliver quality outcomes for our community.

- Our staff members who are undertaking important QCAA (Queensland Curriculum & Assessment Authority) and Catholic Education Service Network professional learning to ensure they are ready to implement the new QCCA curriculum and assessment requirements for Year 11, 2019.
- Our Queen's Baton Relay participants from last Friday and Saturday – students - Emma Simpson, Arya Howarth-Dennis, Tayla Gunton and Tasha Linklater, and staff member, Mrs Kate Maccoll.
- Our staff and students in Year 6, Year 7 and Year 9 involved in the Year 6 Camp at Mungalli Falls, the Year 7 Retreat at Genazzano and the Year 9 Camp at Tinaroo in Week 9.
- Our Year 11 and Year 12 staff and students as they finalise their preparations for their block exams which commence on Friday 23 March.
- Mrs Amanda Stephen, our Indigenous Education Officer, our Indigenous families and our community as we remembered and reflected on National Closing the Gap Day on Thursday 15 March.
- Our amazing students and staff who took part in 'Shave for a Cure' on Thursday 15 March. A great cause – over \$17,000 raised through shaving, waxing and colouring.
- Our Prep to Year 5 students and staff, our Junior Years SRC members and Mrs Alison von Dietze, Mrs Justine Goldfinch and the Year 10 'filming' students for the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence activities last Friday. Great to support this day and show what St Andrew's promotes – kindness, compassion, love and care for each other.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5NYg5KKJWXk>

## Project Updates

I would like to bring you up to date on some building projects around the College: -

- The Performing Arts Theatre (All Saints' Theatre) is currently due for completion by Hutchinson Builders by the end of April (weather permitting!). So far there has been 38 days extension granted to the builders for wet weather, etc. After Hutchinson's have completed the construction component of the Theatre, another company (Starena) will install the 660 seats, and another company (AXL) will install the sound, lighting, AV components in the Theatre. Realistically we are looking at the start of June before the building is handed over to us. I will keep you posted!

- New shelters (shade and rain) will be built in the Northern Carpark area over the upcoming Easter holidays. The shelters will cover the two Stop, Drop and Go zones, the areas adjacent to the main crossing and the Stop Drop and Go zone existing shelter, and the three bus zones where students line up for buses. This project has been achieved through the hard work of the P&F (providing 50% of the funding).
- A new Junior Years playground area is being installed over the Easter holidays behind the Year 2 classrooms. The new playground will replace the old-style playground. Thanks to Mrs Kym Bennett and her team for finalising the design for this project.
- Stage 14 design work will commence shortly on at least two new Science laboratories plus Prep Room and at least two new GLA Spaces for the Middle / Senior Years. CA Architects have been selected for this project. A design brief team from the College will meet soon with the Architects to progress the design of the project. It is anticipated that this project will be completed in time for the commencement of the 2019 academic year.
- Mr Brad Greene will be working with an architect on the design and construction of new shade and outdoor structures for the Senior Years students. Mr Greene will be able to provide more information on this project after consulting with the architect over the next few weeks.
- Mr Luke Felstead will be further discussing a Middle Years playground / outdoor gym equipment area with the architect shortly.

I hope to re-engage the developer, Catholic Education Services Cairns and Cairns Regional Council for the Aquatic Centre / Swimming Pool before the end of this term. I will keep you all updated on the progress of this project.

## All Saints' Theatre

As we inch closer to the completion date of our new All Saints' Theatre, we would like to thank the many families who have shown an interest in donating a seat. With state of the art facilities, this venue is already attracting interest from the broader community.

**All Saints' Theatre**

**Donate a Seat!**

An opportunity exists for our College families to donate a seat in our new Theatre!

All Saints' Theatre at St Andrew's Catholic College is nearing completion (mid-May, 2018) and will become an outstanding venue for a broad range of College and community events. All Saints' Theatre will have state of the art facilities, including the 600 seats which our community will use during performances, productions, assemblies, and the list goes on!

We would love our College families to have the opportunity to donate a seat (or two) in the Theatre and have their names recorded on a special plaque in the Theatre Foyer.

Gifts may be made as follows - **Gold @ \$500**, **Silver @ \$400**, and **Bronze @ \$300**. St Andrew's Catholic College School Building Fund is an approved Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) with the Australian Taxation Office. Gifts to an approved DGR are tax deductible to the donor.

**If you are interested in supporting the College and would like to donate a seat in our new Theatre, please contact the College Office - 4039 5200 or at - secretary@standrewscc.qld.edu.au**

We look forward to the support of our College community in donating a seat in our new All Saints' Theatre.

- Completion of the core suite of College Policies and Procedures

In addition to these major College Goals in 2018, each sector of the College (Junior Years; Middle Years and Senior Years) are developing and working towards sector-based goals which have been generated through consultation with staff early this year.

## College Updates

Congratulations to the large number of students across Prep to Year 12 who will achieve 'Unbroken Attendance' Awards for Term 1. All students who achieve this excellent record of attendance will be presented with a certificate for inclusion in their portfolio. Similarly, I congratulate all our Prep – 12 St Andrew's Effort and Application award recipients for Term 1. It is wonderful to make awards to nearly 300 students across the College for their consistency of effort, application, punctuality, homework completion and diligence during Term 1.

Parents and carers of students in Years 6 – 12 will receive (available via the Parent Portal) their Term 1 Interim Report during the upcoming holiday break. I hope you take the opportunity to sit with your son/daughter and discuss their progress and to set some goals for their education for the term ahead. I take this opportunity to congratulate the students who have reached their personal learning goals through their hard work and dedication. It is a credit to the students who work hard and value their learning opportunities. For the students who have not reached their goals, a fresh approach to learning in Term 2 may be required. A reminder that the Parent – Teacher – Student Interviews for all Middle Years and Senior Years students will be held on Tuesday 24 April from 3pm to 7pm at the College. Appointments with teachers can be booked through the Parent Teacher Online portal. Please do not miss this opportunity to discuss your child's progress and to help them set learning goals and intentions for the future.

**A reminder that Term 1 classes conclude on Thursday 29 March at 2:40pm for our Prep – Year 10 students.** All students are expected to attend classes until the end of the term. Year 11 and Year 12 students have their block exams in the final week of term and will conclude after their final scheduled exam. Term 2 classes commence on Tuesday 17 April (a reminder that Monday 16 April is a Pupil-Free Day). The ANZAC Day public holiday will be held on Wednesday 25 April.

I wish you God's blessings always.

**Lee MacMaster**  
**Principal**

Families have the opportunity to 'donate a seat' by way of a gift made as follows: Gold @ \$500; Silver @ \$400; and, Bronze @ \$300.

All donations can be made via EFT direct to the following account:

**Account Name:** St Andrew's Catholic College  
**BSB:** 084 352  
**Account Number:** 0000 10661  
**Description:** Name – Seat Donation

Alternatively, you can supply the College with your credit card details over the phone, or pay at Front Reception.

A receipt for tax purposes will be forwarded to you shortly.

Our community is looking forward to the completion of our theatre and the many performances, productions and assemblies to be held. Many thanks for your support in this important project for the College.

## School Annual Improvement Plan

The School Annual Improvement Plan for 2018 is being continually shaped. As at 16 March, the following significant goals have emerged for the year ahead: -

- Continuation of and further development of the Staff Professional Learning Team structures
- Adoption of the Diverse Learners Model across P – 12
- Adoption of the School Box Innovative Digital Learning Environment
- Review of the current College Timetable
- Preparation for the new Senior Curriculum, Assessment and Certification requirements which commence in Year 11, 2019

## Deputy Principal – Junior Years



**Mrs Kym Bennett**

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing start to the academic year! Sincere thanks for the care, support and collaboration you have given throughout Term 1. We couldn't have done it without you!

During the first four weeks of term, our college photos have been taken, the Year 4 and 5 swimming program has been implemented, Year 4 classes have visited the Cairns Regional Council waste and recycling facilities and our very successful Parent Information Nights were conducted. I have had a lot of positive feedback about these presentations. Many parents spoke about how many of their questions were very often anticipated and subsequently answered by the teachers during these information sessions. Please continue to keep these channels of communication between teachers and parents open throughout the remainder of the 2018 school year.

It has been a fantastic start to the year. One of my favourite events at the commencement of the year was our Commissioning Mass. The Mass was a time to come together as a whole College community to celebrate Eucharist and to pray for God's blessings throughout the academic year. We prayed especially for our student leaders, as they began their new roles for 2018. In the weeks following, we have also had the opportunity to congratulate our House Vice-captains at recent assemblies. We wish these children all our very best wishes and our full support, as they perform their duties as student leaders.

Since our last newsletter, we have been very busy in the Junior Years, particularly in the Junior Years library.

### World Read Aloud Day

A special thank you to Mrs Reid and the library staff for hosting World Read Aloud Day in the Junior Years. It is always a beautiful scene watching the youngest students in our College so eager to read to an audience. The enthusiasm for books and reading aloud was infectious. The best way to start and end each day is definitely with a book!!!



### Library Display

Special thanks also to Mrs Reid and her team for the new Mini Reading Challenge. This should encourage us to continue reading over the Easter break! Have you been in to see the

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory display? Next time you are in the College grounds pop in! You will be amazed at the team's efforts. The displays are amazing. You might even witness someone winning a Golden ticket! I was lucky enough to be there when Sienna won hers last week!



### Writer in Residence

Our Years 3, 4 and 5 students were treated to an outstanding Writer in Residence program in the library last week. Acclaimed author, Alesah Darlison spent a week sharing her tips and advice for improving their story writing skills. This was a great opportunity for our students to watch an author as she created fascinating settings, charming characters and engaging plotlines. Alesah then guided the students in exploring their own creativity and using their imaginations to write. Huge thanks to Mrs Verdi Read for organising the author visit. We must also express our sincere gratitude to Alesah for her energy and enthusiasm across the week. The students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



### P&F Movie Night

Thank you for supporting the Movie Night held by the P & F recently. Despite a week of very heavy rain, we hosted a large crowd of Junior Years families in K Block. It was terrific to see our families come together to share a pizza dinner and a movie. A very special thank you to the P&F volunteers for organising the event, and also for donating the DVD to the Junior Library. Moana was a hit! I look forward to seeing our families gather for other events arranged by the P&F throughout the year.

### Crazy Hair Day Fundraiser

Thank you so much for the tremendous support shown in our recent Crazy Hair Day fundraiser. Along with the Middle and Senior Years, and their Be Brave and Shave activities, we managed to raise an amazing amount of money for the Leukaemia Foundation – totalling over \$ 17, 000. More than 400 Junior Years students coloured their hair! This is an amazing effort. Thank you for your generosity. And special thanks to the Year 12 students that came to our eating areas to colour our hair!



## Prep 'P' Day

This week the Prep classes participated in a Prince, Princess and Pirate Day. The students have been learning about the letters of the alphabet, and this week will have a particular focus on the letter "P". It is very exciting to see the joy in our Prep students faces as they learn new things each and every day of school. They have made a ton of new friends and are quite at home in their classrooms now!



## Parent Teacher Interviews

This week we will also host our Parent Teacher Interviews. Each family are invited to meet with their children's teachers to discuss their progress throughout Term 1. I hope your meetings are informative, and that you and your children are able to set some learning goals for Term 2. Next term you will receive a written report of your child's academic, social and emotional progress. Please take the time to discuss your child's learning so far this year, and speak to them about how you can support them as they work to improve their outcomes next term.

## Growth Mindset

At St Andrew's Catholic College we believe that with effort, practice, and persistence, you can improve your academic performance. We aim to teach students to develop a growth mindset.

People with a fixed mindset believe that intelligence and talents are predisposed. They believe you are either born with skills and talents or not. Thanks to the fantastic work of Carol Dweck, we now know that not only is a growth mindset advantageous, but essential for our kids! Students with a growth mindset consistently achieve better results than students with a fixed mindset.

## HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP FOSTER A GROWTH MINDSET IN YOUR CHILDREN:

1. Pay attention and verbally praise kids for hard work, persistence, rising to a challenge or learning from a mistake. Do not praise children for being "smart", "brilliant" or "gifted". Instead, focus your attention on the effort given to a task. Like us, children love to have their efforts recognised!
2. Be a growth mindset role model. Make sure you're sending the right message – maybe you might even consider take on something new! Show your children that it takes work to master a new skill. Ensure your students finish any sentence about something they

are currently unable to do with the word "yet"! "I can't do my long division sums...yet!"

3. Encourage your child to forget about taking the easy road. Little learning happens if the route is easy. Instead, encourage your child to embrace challenges. Challenges "grow the brain", and work the muscle, even if we don't get the right answer!
4. Remember growth mindset isn't just learning at school. Growth mindset can be applied to all areas of life Having trouble learning any new skill? Then ask an expert about the next step you need to take for improvement.
5. Discourage comparison with peers. Children may be envious of students they perceive to be more successful. Talk to your child about what he or she can learn from others. While skills may come more easily to some children, most often there's a lot of practice, persistence, and hard work which leads to success.

I hope you will find this information useful in your discussions with your children and their teachers at the end of term.

As the term draws to a close, we have the last two weeks to continue to fundraise for Caritas. If you still have a Project Compassion box in your home, please send your donations in to school next week. We are hoping to bank the last of our donations, and send the cheque to Caritas as soon as possible. We thank you for supporting this whole college focus on Lenten almsgiving. If each child in Junior Years can give \$2, then we can raise more than \$1,300 for Project Compassion.



## PROJECT COMPASSION FOR A JUST FUTURE

Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year, you are empowering young people to build a just future for themselves, their families and their communities.

A Just Future starts with your support! Donate now.

YEAR OF YOUTH 2013



Caritas AUSTRALIA

The Catholic agency for international aid and development

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

www.caritas.org.au • 1800 024 413 • #projectcompassion

We have two major sporting events to finish the term, with the Year 4 and 5 Swimming Carnival this week, and our Junior Years Cross Country Carnival on next Thursday. I hope you were able to join us for these exciting events. I look forward to sharing some photos of these exciting events in our next newsletter.

Next term, our Year 3 and Year 5 students will sit the annual NAPLAN tests. This year the tests are held on 15 – 17 May. It will be very important that we families try to limit student absences at these particular times. More information will be provided to families of the Year 3 and Year 5 students closer to these dates.

	Tues 15 May 2018	Wed 16 May 2018	Thurs 17 May 2018	Fri 18 May 2018
<b>Year 3</b>	Language conventions 40 minutes  Writing 40 minutes	Reading 45 minutes	Numeracy 45 minutes	Catch up tests
<b>Year 5</b>	Language conventions 40 minutes  Writing 40 minutes	Reading 50 minutes	Numeracy 50 minutes	Catch up tests

Congratulations to MacKillop, Ozanam and Hollows Houses for winning the House Cup this term.

	Chisholm	MacKillop	Ozanam	Hollows	Class With the Highest Points this Week
Week 2	593	615	538	542	Year 5-1 Mr Lee
Week 3	441	497	630	399	Year 5-3 Miss Harrison
Week 4	548	645	583	503	Year 1-2 Mrs O'Hara
Week 5	550	661	661	767	Year 3-4 Mrs De Rose
Week 6	741	787	740	929	Year 3-5 Mrs Bozzo
Week 7	741	857	747	813	Year 2-3 Mrs Mullan

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every family a safe, happy and relaxing holiday. May the blessings of the Lord guide you, protect you and be with you at Easter and always. May the risen Lord fill your hearts with peace, joy and love. Happy Easter!



Thank you for your continued support.

**Mrs Kym Bennett**  
**Deputy Principal – Head of Junior Years**

## Deputy Principal – Middle Years



**Mr Lucas Felstead**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkjtCDdD1Bk>

Take care.

**Mr Lucas Felstead**  
**Deputy Principal – Head of Middle Years**

## Deputy Principal – Senior Years



### The Cost of Private Schooling

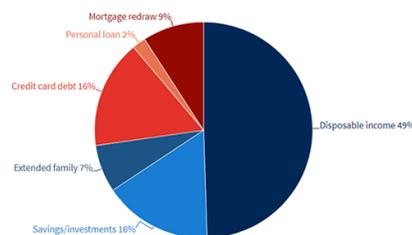
It is amazing to think that 1-3 children in Australia are educated in the private sector and in fact in the big capitals this jumps up to around 45% of all enrolments. We certainly buck the trend in relation to all other OCED countries, with only 6% of schools privately funded in the UK and NZ, 7% in Canada and 9% in the US.

**Mr Brad Greene**

Such a schooling culture means that parents fork out around \$10 billion dollars a year across Australia for school tuition. Research from Edstart showed that only half of all families with children at private schools can meet the fees from their disposable income. The rest are drawing down on savings or taking on debt.

#### Feeling the private school pinch

How parents pay for private school fees



SOURCE: EDSTART (SAMPLE OF 500 FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AT PRIVATE SCHOOLS, JULY 2017).

### Reasons for Private Schooling?

So, the big question is (and there is a Doctrine just waiting to be written), why do parents sacrifice so much for their child's education, seeing that in the big cities it will put them back around \$35,000 pa (and that is just school fees – not uniforms, excursions and so on.)

The key players seem to be a religious affiliation, holistic approach to the student, flexible pathways, family tradition and that privately funded schools tend to do well on performance metrics like NAPLAN and OP/ATAR results.

In fact, analysis of students' Tertiary Entrance Aggregate, from which ATAR is derived, revealed substantial effects of school sector. Students from Catholic and independent schools performed at 0.24 and 0.38 standard deviations higher than their peers in the government sector, again once accounting for the effects of socioeconomic status, prior achievement, gender and language background. There are those that also argue that what parents are really purchasing is not academic results but rather networks – the people that the students will know going out of high school that could help them in future careers.

It is true to say that results drive parent engagement, but is it the only reason as to why parents may send their child to St Andrew's? One would hope not! In his recent bestseller, *The Road to Character*, author David Brooks talked about the value of character being a commitment to family, faith and community. "About once a month, I run across a person who radiates an inner light," he writes. "These people can be in any walk of life. They seem deeply good ... They listen well... They make you feel funny and valued. They are not thinking about themselves at all... These people have achieved an unfakeable inner virtue, built slowly from specific moral and spiritual accomplishments."

This authenticity is the thing that parents believe they receive from a College such as St Andrew's – they look at the teachers as partners, who teach the same values in the confines of the classroom as they teach at home. That they provide the students with the freedom to explore, engage and be tolerant and supportive of human rights. Some interesting things to ponder!

## WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

One major reason we could hypothesise why parents send their child to St Andrew's is the sense of belonging and community engagement. No greater witness to such outreach can be seen than 'The World's Greatest Shave.' This legacy that started way back in 2009 with the first Year 12 cohort has bloomed into a mega-event. It is one of the few true outreach events that is driven by the students and involves all three sectors of the College. This year, the College raised a staggering \$17,00!



### St Andrew's Catholic College students surpass fundraising goal for World's Greatest Shave

*Image Credit: The Cairns Post, 2018*

<http://www.cairnspost.com.au/news/st-andrews-catholic-college-students-surpass-fundraising-goal-for-worlds-greatest-shave/news-story/c1ee48c7fb263135b9b10be0b34e7491>

The Junior Years line up with plastic sheets covering their body and goggles giving them a bug-eyed look, while the Senior Years spray a kaleidoscope of colour throughout their hair. Middle and Senior Years students hear the buzz of clippers and see the avalanche of hair fall to the ground and the unique feeling of the humid air massaging their scalp. In the distance, a cauldron of bubbling wax awaits elongated hair follicles that have never tasted the pull of the wax and lungs that bellow like a newborn babe.

All of this happens to raise awareness and money to fight the scourge of Leukaemia that is the third biggest cause of death across Australia, claiming more lives each year than breast or skin cancer. If you ever wonder where does this money go? Does it get swallowed up in administration costs? In 2017, \$2.23 million was invested in blood cancer research projects, 727 families received over 54,000 nights of free accommodation located near treatment centres and free patient transport vehicles that travelled more than 1,555,000 across 38,492 trips transporting passengers to hospitals and other appointments. Now that is money well spent indeed!

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M\\_w57uubJEQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_w57uubJEQ)

## Examination Block

Nine weeks have evaporated, and we now see ourselves entering another examination block. A reminder that all Year 11 and 12 students will complete an examination block. This examination block will commence on Friday 23 March and conclude on Thursday 29 March. All students must attend the examination period. If a student fails to attend they will need a Doctor's certificate and the examination will be re-scheduled. If a student fails to attend and does not submit a doctor's certificate, then their grade will be graded as an N and a semester of learning for that subject will be deducted from their learning account thus in all likelihood making the student OP ineligible and/or unable to attain a Queensland Certificate of Education. All students must attend in full formal College uniform. (Year 12 may wear their Senior Jersey). No sports uniform is to be worn during the examination period. If students wish to attend the College to study or meet with a teacher, they must attend in full formal uniform. If they fail to wear the full formal uniform, they will be asked to go home. Likewise, if a student attends the examination in the incorrect uniform, they will be denied access to the examination until the uniform issue is corrected. Please support the College in these areas.

Please note that the Semester 1 examination block will be held in Week 10 of Term 2 (it is an eleven-week term) and all Senior Years students will be involved in the examination block. Please do not book early flights or ask for an exemption from the examination period as the Principal will only give it in the most extreme of circumstances.

With the new external examination system coming into effect soon only QCAA will be able to provide special provisions for students.

Until next time,

**Mr Brad Greene**  
**Deputy Principal – Head of Senior Years**

## From the Assistant Principals – Religious Education



*Mrs Gerri Simpson Mr Michael Aitken Mrs Leanne Webster*

Since we last wrote to you, we have had Year 2-2 lead a Prayer Assembly for the Junior Years Students on the topic of making a fresh start (Lent). We have also had Year 5-3 lead their final Prayer Assembly for the Junior Years students on the theme of St Patrick. Congratulations to Miss Harrison for organising the students to lead this Prayer Assembly.

This Week Year 3-2 will lead a Palm Sunday themed Prayer Assembly for the Junior Years Students thanks to Ms Chalmers.

We will end this term with a combined Prep to Year 10 Holy Week Liturgy. Thank you to Mrs Mason who has organised her Year 10 drama students to do an enactment of the Stations of the Cross.

On Tuesday 20 March from 6pm in the Junior Years Library e-Classroom, there will be a Mothers and Daughters Puberty talk. The talk is aimed at mums and their daughters in Years 3-6, however, if you think your daughter would benefit from this talk and she is in another year level, please feel free to join us.

Project Compassion collections have now reached just over \$2,000 for the College, which is a significant effort. A reminder that this fundraising will run until the end of the term, if you haven't returned your Project Compassion box yet there is still time.

On Thursday 15 March we held our first Sacramental program meeting for this year. If you missed the information session but you would like your child to make their first Holy Communion and Confirmation this year there is still time. Please complete the enrolment form and purchase a booklet from the College front office. There will be group meetings at St Andrew's on a Tuesday and Thursday in Term 2, from Week 1 if you and your child would like to work as part of a group to complete the program.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us or Elena Bozzo, Northern Beaches Sacrament Coordinator, for more information.

**Mrs Gerri Simpson**  
**Assistant Principal Religious Education Junior Years**

**Mr Michael Aitken**  
**Assistant Principal Religious Education Middle Years**

**Mrs Leanne Webster**  
**Assistant Principal Religious Education Senior Years**

## Tuckshop



**Mrs Lynne McInnes**

Remember; our preferred way of ordering is FlexiSchools. It is the most updated and most efficient and hassle free way to order. This is available to students and staff. Cut off is 8am on day of order.

## ANZAC Biscuits

Anzac Biscuits are on the menu till ANZAC DAY (24 April) for \$0.60 each – available for order online.

## Term 2 Menu

Please be aware we will be changing to a winter menu Term 2. Flexischools will be updated over the holidays along with the College website/Facebook page etc. The main change will be the specials and the addition of Chinese Dumplings (pork & chives), (chicken and sweet corn).

## Sports Carnivals

During the upcoming sports carnivals, we will be running a stall on the oval for the Middle Years (7 June) and Senior Years (28 May) events. If anyone is available to help we would love to hear from you. It is a very busy time for us as we maintain service for the rest of the College from O Block and run the oval stall. There will be a coffee van on the oval for parents during the Junior Years sports carnival (14 June). Students will be able to order lunches/recess online in the usual manner. Keep a watch out for our new healthy meal deals that we will trial for the Junior Years carnival only.

## Volunteers

Thank you to our new volunteers this year. It has been wonderful meeting you and

we appreciate every hour you give us. It has also been lovely seeing our previous years volunteers back for another year. Thank you for giving us your valuable time.

**Mrs Lynne McInnes**  
**Tuckshop Conveynor**

## Stay Connected



Never miss out on what's happening at the College.

- Sign up for the Parent Portal (login available via the College website)
- College Website [standrewscc.qld.edu.au](http://standrewscc.qld.edu.au)
- Download the STACC app - don't forget to sign up for push notifications
- Receive the e-newsletter via the link below
- 'Like' the College social media pages – Facebook / Twitter / Instagram (@standrewscairns). *Please note: The College does not endorse any class or year level Facebook pages.*

<https://standrewscc.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

### If you have a question for the College

**Email:** [secretary@standrewscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:secretary@standrewscc.qld.edu.au)

**Phone:** 4039 5200

\*\* email addresses for teachers are available on the College Parent Portal \*\*

## Parents & Friends News

Wow! Term One has just flown by very quickly.

The P&F have been busy with many things for the past few months.

### Movie Night

The P&F recently held a Movie Night screening the movie Moana. The weather was kind to us after all that rain, and we had a great turn out of St Andrews families. The pizza's, ice-creams and popcorn were popular, and we hope that everyone had a great night. Thank you to all of those families who did come along and support this fundraiser.

### Parent Representatives

The P&F has made excellent progress with establishing a parent representative for each year level from Prep to Year 5. A huge thank you to all of those parents who have volunteered to be a parent representative; we now have at least one person from each year level. We hope that you will find it to be a rewarding and worthwhile job and a great way to feel more connected to the College and the parent body. For those of you who do have a child in Junior Years, we hope that this will provide parents and families with a better social link with the other parents and families from your child's year level. Look out for information from your parent representative regarding upcoming social functions.

Over both last week and this week the P&F have held a morning tea for each year level to enable parents to meet their year level parent representative. We have had a fantastic turn out

to these morning teas and hope that those parents who have managed to attend have found them valuable. The P&F would welcome feedback throughout 2018 from parents about this new initiative.

### Trivia Night

The P&F is planning another Trivia Night during 2018 after the success of the one held in 2017. This will be held on the evening of Saturday 2 June 2018. Mark this date on your calendar and keep it free! It promises to be a fantastic fun-filled evening.

### 2018 Fete

Planning for the 2018 Fete scheduled for Friday 3 August continues. The Fete now has a Facebook group, so please join this group if you are a Facebook user so that you will get all of the latest up to date information.

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/838328409661382/?source\\_id=381611921963598](https://www.facebook.com/groups/838328409661382/?source_id=381611921963598)

The next Fete meeting will be held on Monday 26 March at 7pm in the Senior Years Library for anyone who is interested in coming along. The P&F would be most interested in talking to any parents who are Chefs who may be able to assist with catering on the day of the Fete.

We are also currently looking for more sponsors as well as donations of prizes that we can use in our monster raffle. Anyone who can assist, please contact us. We will be asking families to support us in many ways over coming months with donations of items (such as jars for the lucky jar stall, plants for the plant stall, lucky dip prizes etc.) so please start to think about what you may be able to do to assist.

We look forward to seeing a substantial portion of the proceeds from the last two Fetes, held in 2012 and 2016 put to great use in the coming months. The P&F have agreed to contribute a significant sum of money towards the building of shading in the Northern Carpark, and this project is scheduled to go ahead very soon.

Thank you for your ongoing support

**The P&F Team**