



2014

Annual Report

St Anne's Primary School, North Albury

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The School

Our school motto "To Live in Love and Truth" is a daily reminder of the values we try to exemplify in all we do throughout the school year.

Our Vision and Mission Statement also acts as a gauge to challenge us to foster and develop those Gospel values which underpin the mission of our Catholic Culture.

Catholic Identity

Religious Education:

St Anne's Primary School aims to develop each student's understanding of their faith and to support the effort of their parents in continuing this faith journey. We also endeavour to nourish the faith journey of adults within the school community. To achieve this, all members of our school community are invited to actively participate in a range of experiences where they may deepen their own faith.

The Religious Education Curriculum that we follow is based on *Sharing Our Story*.

In 2014 Religious Education has been life giving to our school and Parish community.

2014 saw the Staff of St Anne's begin to implement the three components of FaithStory, Witness and Vocation, a program introduced by the Catholic Schools Office. The purpose of the program "is to interpret the unfolding Christian story for today in a way that honours our legacy of faith and shapes us as a community which reflects God's presence and purpose." FaithStory and Witness assists in integrating staff into the Catholic educational community and highlights:

- The Faith Story of our school
- The role staff have as witnesses to Christ and of evangelisation
- The Vocation of all who work in Catholic education

This has allowed us to explore closely the history of our school and appreciate the legacy that those before us have left.

Sacramental Programs

The Sacrament of First Eucharist was celebrated by our Year 3 students, along with 7 students from our Parish on Sunday 22nd June at Sacred Heart Church. Bishop Hanna

celebrated the Mass of Confirmation for our Year 6 students on Saturday 23rd August. First Reconciliation with Year 2, was celebrated later this year, on Tuesday 14th October. These sacramental programs comprised of the parents, our local parish of Sacred Heart and our school. This sharing of developing the student's faith is well supported by our parents, teachers and Parish community.

Special Celebrations and Masses

Throughout 2014 our School and Parish community celebrated a number of Masses, Liturgies and events following the calendar of the Liturgical year and in recognition of significant days in the school's life. Some of these included:

- Beginning of School Year Mass. Here we welcomed new members to our school community (parents, students and teachers). We state our Prayer of Commitment and the new school leaders are presented with their badges.
- Albury Schools Deanery Mass
- Ash Wednesday, the events of Holy Week-
- ANZAC Day prayer.
- Mother's Day Mass
- First Reconciliation
- First Holy Eucharist.
- Feast of the Sacred Heart.
- Feasts of Saints Anne and Joachim. A Mass in our School Hall and morning tea
- Confirmation. Reflection Day, visit by Bishop Hanna and a Mass of celebration.
- Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption.
- Mercy Day Mass and morning tea with the Sisters of Mercy
- Remembrance Day Liturgy.
- Gift Giving Mass. Food and toy donations collected at this Mass for the work of St Vincent de Paul in our area.
- Year 6 Graduation Mass.

Mission Effort

Outreach through prayer and almsgiving are important parts of St Anne's community. They are practical demonstrations of our commitment to help others through service. Our efforts this year have focused on Project Compassion, the work of Catholic Missions and

the work of St Vincent de Paul. The Year 6 children also ran some fundraising activities/stalls throughout the year which raised additional money for these causes. We are very grateful for the generous contributions our families donate.

A Message from key School Bodies

St Anne's Primary School AGM 2014 Chairperson Report 2014

The first meeting for the year was held on Wednesday 26th February and it was a pleasure to welcome Janelle Ward and Mick Redfern as new members to the School Council. Ian Aldrich was re-elected to the council to join Michelle Milthorpe and Jennifer Hodges as parent representatives, along with Bede Hart, Cassandra Jones, Elecia Turner and Father Kevin Flanagan to form the St Anne's School Council for 2014.

Early in 2014 a survey of parents was undertaken to ascertain how the fundraising money should be spent to assist the school. Over 25% of families in our school took part in our Fundraising survey. These responses, along with the staff's requirements, indicated that there is a strong desire that fund raising be continued to be spent on technology. Technology continues to be a relevant tool to assist with our children's education. The other area that families would like to see our hard earned money spent on is outdoor learning. This includes items such as an edible garden, furniture and structured activities. Suitable classroom furniture is also an important priority to support the learning environment. Once again we have been very fortunate to have many generous parents and carers who have been able to donate their time and expertise to assist the school. This may have been in the form of volunteering in the classroom, helping in the canteen, Fete donations and attendance, or being involved in one of the Parent Interest Groups. The support provided by parents and carers helps to make St Anne's the nurturing environment that it is. Thank you to all who have been able to participate and support the work of teachers, staff and students.

The FUNdraising Committee has again worked tirelessly to provide the school community with opportunities to socialise and raise money for the school – usually at the same time. The beginning of the 2014 school year saw a welcome BBQ which was well attended and provided an opportunity for those families new to the school to meet others. Mother's Day morning Tea and a

Father's Day breakfast were also well attended and appreciated by those who were able to join in. The major fundraiser for the school is the annual Fete, and this year's surpassed all expectations. More than 100 people gave of their time to assist with the Fete. Congratulations to the Fete sub-committee who were able to coordinate this event. Planning is already underway for the 2015 Fete, which will no doubt be bigger and better than ever. The FUNdraising Committee, under the guidance of Jane Murtagh, are to be congratulated with their efforts and dedication to ensuring that the staff of St Anne's have the facilities and resources that are required to educate our children.

The Coordinator of the Pastoral Wellbeing Group Annie Gould, along with Janelle Ward, have quietly and efficiently led the Pastoral Care Committee to be there when required by anyone in our school community. We are grateful to those who provide support to those in need and I thank all those involved in the Pastoral Care Committee for the work that they do.

Our Gardening Committee and the school grounds have continued to blossom under the stewardship of Tina Hobbs. I continue to be amazed at the vision and dedication that this group has. New areas of gardens have been created and children have been involved in planting and weeding. The addition of the Harvest stall at the Fete was also an outstanding success. Thank you to those who give up their time and make the grounds a beautiful environment for the whole of the St Anne's community to enjoy.

The Maintenance Committee continue to be guided by the Maintenance Schedule previously established. Mick Redfern is to be commended for his can-do attitude. Working his way through the priority list has seen the painting of posts, guttering and fascia and the replacement of doors to ensure our capital assets are well maintained. Thank you to all who have contributed to the maintenance committee this year.

ICT continues to be a tool that can be used to assist with learning. During the year 60 Chrome Books were purchased. This additional hardware has resulted in allowing on average one device between two students across the school. The ICT strategic plan will be revisited early next year to ensure that the staff and students have access to appropriate hardware, software and training to allow engagement in meaningful learning activities.

During the year NSW Government Grants were applied for through Eco Schools and School Gardens. Through the NSW Department of Environment and Heritage, St Anne's was successful in obtaining a \$2,500 grant for the "Recycling Warriors" project (for waste reduction). Congratulations to Natalie King for her hard work in writing the successful application. Environmental sustainability and edible gardens have been identified as areas that the parent body are interested in developing, and so it is envisaged that targeted grants will again be applied for in 2015.

This year the School Council developed a Strategic Plan to provide a framework for the support of the school in the areas of:

- Capital Works and Maintenance;
- Regeneration and Innovation;
- Community and Culture;
- Information Management; and
- Financial Stewardship

A copy of the Strategic Goals for 2015 will be placed on the St Anne's School website.

St Anne's is fortunate to employ dedicated caring and professional staff. Tina Hobbs our school secretary is the smiling and welcoming face of the school. No job is too big for Tina, and she tackles all tasks with enthusiasm. Thank you Tina for your time and patience this year. Tina has been ably assisted by Anita Carpenter, who also runs the Uniform Shop. Thank you Anita for ensuring our students can be dressed in a uniform that they can be proud of. Jenny Zanardo our canteen supervisor, continues to provide options for busy families. Thank you to Jenny and the amazing volunteers who keep our canteen running.

Michelle Milthorpe has decided to step down from membership of the School Council at the end of her term. Thank you Michelle for your thoughtful and considered opinion and contribution to the council over the last two years. I wish you all the best and hope that you will remain actively involved in the school.

Finally, may I take the opportunity to wish you and your family a happy and holy Christmas. It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. Let us continue to provide all members of the St Anne's community with a supporting and loving village where they can strive to be the best that they can be. I look forward to working with you in 2015.

Jennifer Hodges (Chairperson)

03.12.2014

Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

	Reading		Persuasive Writing	
Year 3	418 400 - 436		411 396 - 426	
	SIM 430 421 - 439	ALL 418	SIM 409 401 - 417	ALL 402
Year 5	510 491 - 528		481 463 - 498	
	SIM 511 502 - 519	ALL 501	SIM 475 466 - 483	ALL 468

Spelling		Grammar and Punctuation		Numeracy	
389 372 - 405		410 391 - 429		387 372 - 403	
SIM 417 409 - 426	ALL 412	SIM 436 426 - 446	ALL 426	SIM 411 403 - 420	ALL 402
490 472 - 507		503 483 - 523		487 471 - 503	
SIM 501 493 - 509	ALL 498	SIM 512 502 - 521	ALL 504	SIM 495 487 - 503	ALL 488

Professional Learning

The Annual Plan is reviewed and assessed by staff each year. The evaluation takes into account all components of the Annual Plan: Vision and Mission; School Programs and Operations; Policies and Curricula; Leadership Administration and Management; Professional Growth; Resources and Facilities. At the conclusion of this evaluation the Annual Plan is then developed for the coming years. During this year priority was given to three areas of the Diocesan Strategic Plan. These areas included i) Catholic Identity and Religious Education; ii) Student Learning and iii) Pedagogy. All teachers revisited and rewrote their Professional Learning Plans in line with The National Teaching Standards. St Anne's School continued their professional learning through the Inquiry Learning Project led by Helen Timperley and Linda Bendikson. These ladies are well-known for their work and research into school improvement. They are Professors from the Faculty of Education, The University of Auckland. They are working with the Leadership Team here at St Anne's who will work with the staff to improve learning outcomes of the students using the Spirals of Inquiry for Equity and Quality (Timperley, Kaser & Halbert, 2012).

Teachers have also been involved in many Professional Development opportunities including such areas as Religious Education, Information Technology, Literacy and Numeracy. Kinder teachers have instigated the Best Start approach as part of transition to school.

Ongoing Professional Learning for staff has been an important focus in our planning for the needs of the St Anne's School community.

Teaching Staff

The NSW government requires that this report detail the number of teachers in the following categories:

A) having teacher education qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines, or

B) having a bachelor degree from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lacking formal teacher education qualifications.

A	B	TOTAL
18	0	18

Workforce Composition

We have eighteen teaching staff. We also have four teacher assistants, two clerical staff, one canteen supervisor and one cleaner

Student Attendance

Student attendance rates for each Year level and the whole school

Year	Attendance %
Kinder	94%
Year 1	94%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	93%
Year 6	93%

Student Non-Attendance

Students are expected to attend school between the hours of 8.55am and 3.10pm. Students who arrive at school after 8.55am are required to attend the office with their guardian to be signed in. This sign in slip is then provided to the classroom teacher who will note the details on the class roll. Students who depart earlier than 3.10pm will need to be signed out at the office and a note provided of the time of departure. Formal supervision of children is only provided 30 minutes before school commences and until the last bus departs. If any child is absent from school a note is required. If children miss a number of days the Principal will follow up by making contact with the family.

Enrolment Policy

As per CSO guidelines, refer to www.csowww.catholic.edu.au

Characteristics of the Student Body

Boys	Girls	Indig'	LOTE*	TOTAL
153	190	5	4	343

**Language background Other Than English*

Structure of Classes

All classes are co-educational. There are two for each level from Kindergarten to Year 4. Our Year5/6 classes are stage based adding variety to our curriculum and creating a sense of responsibility for personal learning.

School Policies

Student Welfare

In keeping with St Anne's Vision and Mission statements where we promote the respect and dignity of each person, our Student Welfare Policy empowers the St Anne's community to achieve its stated aims. Through clearly defined 'fair' rules and consequences for breach of these rules, students are provided with clear boundaries for their behavior. Students are encouraged to develop a sense of self-responsibility for their choices and words.

At St Anne's School, we endeavour to focus on and encourage the positive behavior displayed by all students. Through emphasizing positive behavior, applying consequences for unacceptable behaviour, and developing ownership of one's own actions, we hope to provide students with the skills, moral development and values that will

make them just and compassionate members of our wider community.

Corporal punishment is not administered in our school.

The St Anne's Welfare and Social Justice Policy intends to develop a whole school approach to assist the community in the development of a school climate where:

- We all have the right to feel safe all the time
- That every person deserves to be treated with integrity and respect.

Varied methods such as Buddy System, Peer Support, Making Jesus Real and Values Education are positive approaches used in the school to help counteract anti-social behavior. We, as a community, continue to develop the skills and beliefs related to Restorative Practices within our students. Teachers providing support when needed.

Behaviour Management

Being a Catholic School we seek to educate the whole child. From this and in keeping with good teaching we seek to keep our behaviour management positive. We take as our model Jesus the Teacher, whose teachings and gentleness brought life and growth to people.

Our Behaviour Management Policy clearly defines 'fair' norms and consequences for any breach of these rules where students are provided with clear boundaries for their own behaviour.

Complaints and Grievances

St Anne's is a community based on respect. We see ourselves working closely with parents to achieve the best possible outcome for students.

If a parent has any concerns we encourage them to contact their child's teacher to organize a meeting. The parents may choose to contact the Principal if they feel the matter is of a serious concern.

At all times the dignity of the individual is to be respected.

Dealing with complaints and suggestions and by following well developed procedures helps build a safe and supportive environment as it;

- Encourages early intervention in issues before they damage working relationships
- Ensures that behaviours destructive to positive relationships (such as bullying, harassment and discrimination) are identified as being unacceptable and are appropriately managed

- Ensures that complaints are dealt with consistently
- Enables a school community to identify patterns of unacceptable conduct and enables prevention strategies to be developed and implemented
- Encourages individuals, with support, to resolve issues directly without third party intervention, and reduce the likelihood that external agencies will need to be involved.

Anti-Bullying

As per Diocesan policy, refer to www.csoww.catholic.edu.au

Changes to School Policies

We held Professional Development in relation to the National Curriculum. We developed a Scope and Sequence in Maths to help support the implementation of the new Maths Syllabus in 2014.

Improvement Targets

Technology – The School Council in conjunction with the staff and Principal have developed a school ICT Plan. This plan aims at professional growth for teachers. The purchase of laptops for teachers. The purchase and renewal program to provide students with five netbooks and five iPads per classroom. These are used regularly in classroom activities planned by the teachers and inclusive of the Key Learning Areas.

Review of Maths Scope and Sequence in preparation for the introduction of the National Curriculum.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

- A strong emphasis on living our Agreed Relationships Statement.
- The school catered for children suffering from grief or loss through providing the opportunity for students to be involved with the Seasons for Growth and Jigsaw programs.
- The school was fortunate to receive funding under the Federal Government's Chaplaincy Program. This was a popular and positive initiative in helping to provide

support for the wellbeing of our students and families.

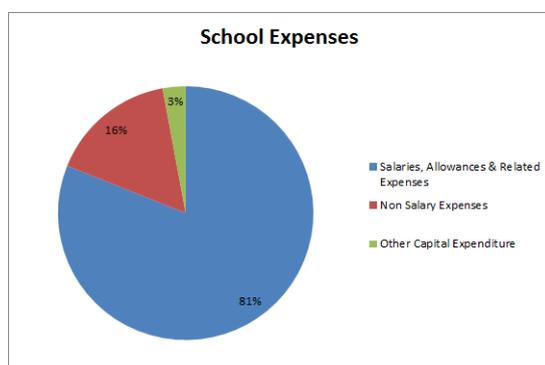
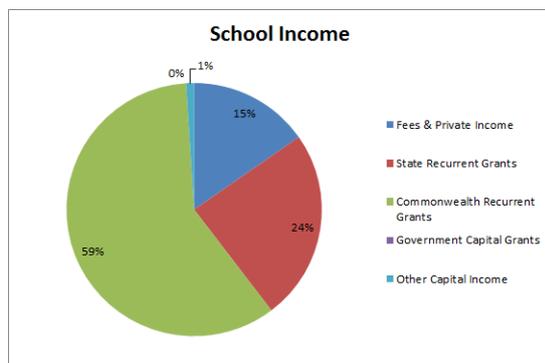
Community Satisfaction

Our school consists of an elected School Council of parent representatives, staff representative, Principal and Parish Priest. This School Council meets monthly to discuss relevant school issues.

As well we have 'teams' of interest groups which are open to all parents. Such teams include maintenance, pastoral, health, gardening, social, fundraising and fete. Members of our School Council regularly keep in contact with these teams to keep updated on requirements or needs.

We have received very positive feedback from parents about their satisfaction in regard to the education and facilities of our school. St Anne's prides itself on being family school and our feedback supports our belief that parents are heavily involved in our school and their child's progress.

Financial Statement Summary



About This Report

This report was compiled with input from a number of people. Some of these include Principal, School Council Chairperson, Religious Education Co-ordinator and the Student Council.