



2014

Annual Report

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

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The School

Sacred Heart School is a multi-aged school. Sacred Heart School is a Parish School supported by the Sacred Heart Parish of Koorringal.

Sacred Heart School is committed to assisting to prepare young people for tomorrows' world by providing an education which is congruent with the Gospel values and church teachings.

Catholic Identity

Our Catholic faith is an integral part of life in our school community. In addition to daily Religious Education lessons in the classroom from the Sharing Our Story program we work to develop in each child a natural relationship with God and a life lived according to Gospel values.

Our Sacramental programs are a source of celebration as the children progress on their faith journey. Reconciliation occurs in Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4), First Communion in Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) and Confirmation in Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6).

All children attend our special school Masses three times per term, with each grade taking a turn to prepare the Mass.

Liturgies, apart from Masses, are often held to celebrate and commemorate special times or events such as Lent, Easter, Anzac Day, Advent & Sacred Heart Feast Day. Fortnightly Parish Masses are also organised by the School

A Message from key School Bodies

"Our School Council offers an opportunity for parent representatives to work with the Principal in maintaining the school in all aspects and planning together, in 5 year plans, for the further development for our children's education. It is a collaborative team, happy in its advisory role to work with the Principal in our ongoing pursuit of excellence". Chairperson

Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

Year 3

Spelling and Writing are areas explicitly targeted. Reading, Spelling and numeration areas demonstrated pleasing results.

Year 5

Again in this area Measurement and Space are a focus. Literacy was sound, but demonstrated excellent growth when compared to state.

The area to focus on is Spelling and Writing. This year through the National Partnership Program, our school has focussed on changing teacher practice. Through action research, data has been collected on student's results and analysed. Changes throughout curriculum have taken place accordingly in Writing. This will be transferred to Maths at the end of the year and into 2014.

Professional Learning

Professional Learning is ongoing at Sacred Heart School through weekly meetings, professional reading and dialogue, conferences in capital cities, workshops with consultants. 2014 had teachers involved in Inquiry and Thinking Strategies, Numeracy, refining the writing process, National Schools Partnership, Helen Timperley project and Habits of Mind.

Teaching Staff

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

- 1) have teaching qualifications from a recognised higher education institution within Australia
- 2) have qualifications from a recognised higher education institution within Australia but no formal teacher education qualifications
- 3) have relevant successful teaching experience and appropriate knowledge but no formal teacher qualifications.

A	B	C	TOTAL
100%			

Workforce Composition

1 Male
19 Female
0 Indigineous

Student Attendance

Student attendance rates for each Year level and the whole school

Year	Attendance %
Kinder	95%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	93%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	95%

Student Non-Attendance

Reports are created at office level from SAS2000. Notes are sent home to parents asking for explanations of the absence.

Enrolment Policy**CRITERIA FOR ENROLMENT**

Children from families who are prepared to be supportive of the life and teachings of the Catholic Church, to adhere to the religious practices, educational ideals and financial requirement of the school may apply for enrolment.

All details for enrolment are found on the Catholic School's website.csoww.catholic.edu.au/

Characteristics of the Student Body

Boys	Girls	Indig'	LOTE*	TOTAL
113	107	7	14	220

**Language background Other Than English*

Structure of Classes
Multi-aging in stages.

School Policies

Student Welfare and Discipline
Intelligent behaviour goes hand in hand with the teaching of Gospel values and thus creates a caring and compassionate

community where harmony of the heart and mind is nurtured.

Programs and policies are in place that ensure lifelong learning by building relationships and offering support and challenge with a focus on Art Costa's Habits of Mind. A well-being committee will be formed this year also.

Complaints and Grievances

Dealing with Complaints and Grievances

The school has adopted an approach to resolving complaints and grievances that is based on procedural fairness. It recognises that parents/caregivers and students must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory way.

Parents/students with a complaint are encouraged in the first instance to contact their class teacher. If the need then arises contact with the Principal and the Catholic Schools Office may be appropriate. Student Welfare is based on a concept of humanity and life. Our policies focus on the Human Person looking at Codes of Conduct, Bullying, Pastoral Care, Self-Esteem, Discipline, Child Abuse, Serious Offences and Harassment. These policies are continually developed within the school, based on the Catholic principles and values.

Changes to School Policies

All changes are published on the school's website. Such as Habits Of Mind. All policies are now located on a specific site.

Improvement Targets

Spelling K-6 and Writing. Also beginning Mathematics.

Programs to Support Students

Special programs exist in the school such as: Reading Recovery, Parent Helpers, the Buddy Program and Student Council. Stephanie Alexander Cooking/Gardening program, Art Classes

Children with special needs are also catered for through the use of the Individual Education Programs and Teacher Assistants.

Other programs such as Year 6 visits to Retirement Villages, Choral Festival, Eisteddfods and Excursions occur throughout the year.

It is a strong belief that Sacred Heart School

has a mission beyond the school and consequently seeks active participation within the wider community.

Curriculum Focus

Learning focus for 2013 was in four areas.

1. Literacy & Numeracy
2. Inquiry in Learning
3. Catholic Life and Identity
4. Technology

Programs to Support Learning

Reading Recovery is a part of a school commitment to Early Intervention.

It reflects the needs of the students at Sacred Heart School. It is matched according to school staffing/organization.

It provides a balanced daily program that reflects the school's commitments.

The Reading Recovery teacher is responsible for maintaining appropriate records to support students in the Program.

Computers

At Sacred Heart School we use computers to support learning across the Key Learning Areas. Every classroom from Kindergarten to Year 6 have 4 computers with internet access. 16 Apple Computers on mobile trolleys and smartboards in all classrooms and 40 Ipads, chromebooks and 10 P.C.'s.

Teachers endeavour to enhance teaching and learning by using computers for a variety of tasks, with a particular focus on further developing literacy, numeracy, knowledge and research skills

Equity Programs

Programs to Support Students

Special Needs

Sacred Heart School is committed to providing education in the service of a better world, and providing all our students with reasons for living, hoping and loving.

Human Development

Based on our pedagogy of six practices – Human Development, Inquiry, Collaboration, Communication, Meaningful Learning and Self Responsibility and our philosophy of Habits of Mind. Our children learn to think intelligently

in order to solve problems. The school works long term with the Institute of Habits of Mind through professional development workshops and literature.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

To supplement and enhance our classroom lessons in the Arts we endeavour to provide students with extra-curricular experiences. There is a strong culture of music in our school. Children are given a range of opportunities to perform their skills at Eisteddfods, concerts and special school events as well as supporting charity appeals. They also provide service, through singing at Nursing Homes.

We also have a small group of musicians from Year 3—6 who learn an instrument privately and use their skills to play as a group on special occasions such as school masses and concerts for the elderly.

We also foster a love of the Arts in our children by exposing them to professional performances of music and drama at least once a term. We have excursions to the local Art Gallery, taking advantage of current exhibitions and participating in the wider community. Our school employs a specialist Art teacher.

In September each year children from Kinder—Year 6 performs at the Wagga Wagga Eisteddfod in either speech, percussion or choral groups. This has become a strong element of our school tradition.

Our children also have opportunities to perform items for school assemblies, concerts and an annual Talent Quest. All the above offer development in character, values and dispositions in our students.

Sport

It is the aim of the school that each child be introduced to the necessary skills that will enable the child to participate in school sport. All children are encouraged to participate regardless of ability.

In Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2, the children are taught elementary skills such as running, tumbling, dancing, balancing and ball handling to make them aware of their body movements and to experiment with their own

body space.

Between Year 3—6, the children are introduced to team as well as individual sports such as athletics, swimming, cross country, rugby league, AFL, netball, soccer, hockey, tennis, cricket, touch football, softball, basketball and rugby union. Within the team, the child will experience a feeling of belonging to a group and will learn the art of winning and acceptance of defeat.

An intensive swimming program over 5 weeks is undertaken during one term of each year.

Various sporting bodies offer skill clinics throughout the year where children learn skills of a specific sport by talented players or development officers.

Throughout the year children are chosen to trial for representative sport in their chosen field, therefore, giving opportunities to gifted and talented students.

The children also compete in interschool competitions such as Paul Kelly Cup (AFL), Mortimer Shield and Trent Barrett Shield (Rugby League) and Jackie Murphy netball competition.

A Gymnastics program is undertaken by all students during one term of every second year along with swimming in the alternate year.

Our children have also been involved in constructing a vegetable garden. This involves much work and culminates in harvesting and cooking healthy foods in our kitchen. This project is ongoing, getting bigger and better each year.

Community Satisfaction

The following information has been provided to the school. It has been a valuable gauge for determining the level of satisfaction the community has with our school.

Parents

My child (son or daughter) is usually happy at {Sacred Heart School}

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
98%	2%	%	%

Students

I am usually happy at Sacred Heart School}.

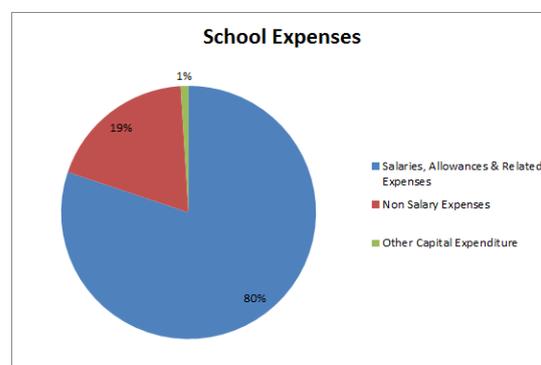
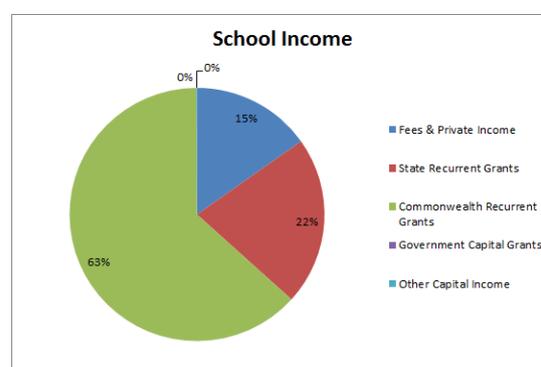
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
100%	%	%	%

Staff

I am usually happy at {Sacred Heart School}

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
100%	%	%	%

Financial Statement Summary



About This Report

Much of this report is taken from existing school documentation. The School Principal, Assistant Principal, Co-ordinators and Secretaries were involved in writing this report.