

2014

Annual Report

St Joseph's Primary School, Jerilderie

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Our School

St Joseph's School Jerilderie is a proud, rural Catholic School located in the Riverina. Our school has had many highlights throughout this year and this annual report is an account of the many areas addressed, attainments made and the achievements of our students, staff and school community.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Jerilderie is a small school servicing the town of Jerilderie and surrounding farming area. It is one of 27 Primary Schools and 5 Secondary Schools in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga. St Joseph's is a co-educational Primary School providing opportunities for children from Kindergarten to Year 6. St Joseph's is a parish school supported by the St Joseph's Parish of Jerilderie.

It is with pleasure that I present the 2014 Annual Report for St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Jerilderie.

Catholic Identity

Our School Motto is - 'Wisdom through truth and love'

Our Vision is - St. Joseph's is a welcoming community underpinned by Gospel Values which promotes Learning for Life, Learning from Life, Learning as Life.

Our Catholic faith is an integral part of life in our school community. In addition to daily Religious Education lessons in the classrooms, we work to develop in each child a natural relationship with God and a life lived according to Gospel values. We continue to work on building up resources for "Sharing Our Story" and use the "To Know, Worship and Love" resource along with Making Jesus Real in all classrooms.

Our Sacramental programs are a source of celebration as the children progress on their faith journey. The students in Years Five and Six received the sacrament of Confirmation this year. This year our sacramental programs were run by teachers with the support of Father Blaise Kurek, our parish priest. All children attend our special school Masses and classroom liturgies regularly each term, with each grade taking a turn to lead the Mass or liturgy.

Liturgies, apart from Masses, are often held to celebrate and commemorate special times or events such as Lent, Easter, Anzac Day & St. Joseph's Feast Day. The Diocesan "Making Jesus Real" was also successfully used throughout the school.

The students of St. Joseph's contributed over \$800 to the various mission events during 2014, particularly Caritas. Mission Week activities and other special events were on the calendar in 2014. It is through such events as these

that our students gain an understanding of the disparity between nations and in their way contribute support and awareness of the problems that exist in our world.

A Message from key School Bodies

This year the School Council, in particular the Chairperson, Lisa Brackenrig, have been a strong support to the principal and staff at the school. Upon the enrolment of a child into our school, each family becomes a member of our School Council. The purpose of the council is to provide advice and support on matters of education, operation, disseminate information, finance, buildings & equipment, organisational items, school policy and procedures, and community issues. By allowing all families to be a member of our council, this provides them with a direct say in the operation of our school. The School Council runs the main fundraisers for the school each year: The Combined Schools Fete and Debutant Ball. Our School Council is very involved in the local community in supporting many activities in the town of Jerilderie.

Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

At St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School Jerilderie, students in Years 3 and 5 participated in NAPLAN Testing in 2014. The school was pleased with the achievements of the students with some excellent individual results. The school analyses the NAPLAN data each year and use the analysis information to pin point areas of collective and individual weakness and strength. Teachers incorporate this data to inform their learning and teaching practices for the upcoming year.

Professional Learning

Staff at St Joseph's Primary School view themselves as lifelong learners and value the role Professional Learning plays in preparing teachers for the rigours of school life. Teachers have undertaken a number of days of professional learning about the Australian Curriculum in NSW. In 2014, staff have also attended NAPLAN data unpacking workshops, in services on Autism, First Steps in Number training, Literacy and Numeracy workshops, Best Start training, Growth Coaching workshops, SENA testing training and professional development related to Curriculum policies as run by CSO Staff and members of the school staff. St Joseph's School was part of a National Partnership Project - State Action Plan.

Teaching Staff

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

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

A	B	C	TOTAL
4	0	0	4

Workforce Composition

We are privileged to have a staff that is both very experienced and fully qualified. Staff changes in 2014 have resulted in a mixed composition of teaching staff.

We also have four teacher assistants who work in the classrooms to support the teacher and students.

Student Attendance

Student attendance rates for each Year level and the whole school

Year	Attendance %
Kinder	92%
Year 1	95%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	89%
Year 5	94%
Year 6	93%

Student Non-Attendance

The roll is marked daily by the class teacher. Absences are marked on the roll and then followed up by a letter to parents and the roll is then amended. The school secretary adds the attendance data electronically onto SAS. In the case of extended absences, parents/guardians are contacted by telephone.

Enrolment Policy

Applications for enrolment are encouraged at any time and forms are available from the school office to commence the enrolment process for your child. Our enrolment policy and procedure is linked directly to the Diocesan Enrolment Policy. <http://web.csoww.catholic.edu.au/>

Characteristics of the Student Body

Boys	Girls	Indig'	LOTE*	TOTAL
19	20	2	2	39

**Language background Other Than English*

Structure of Classes

In 2014 we had 3 class groupings of:
Kindergarten and Year One
Year Two and Year Three
Year Four, Year Five and Year Six

School Policies

Discipline

At St. Joseph's Jerilderie we believe that every child has the right to learn and play in a safe and happy school environment. It is expected that students respect the right of other students to learn and teachers to teach. This policy establishes a code of behaviour that encourages students to be self-disciplined and to take responsibility for their own behaviour. Parents are kept well informed of any disciplinary problems with their child(ren). As per Diocesan policy, corporal punishment is not permitted.

Student Welfare

When a child is enrolled at St Joseph's Primary School, Jerilderie, we undertake the total care of the student:

- The spiritual
- The emotional
- The social
- The physical, and
- The academic

The term Pastoral Care is used to describe an attitude and a process, and it is based upon the belief in the dignity of the person. In a school, it is expressed through:

- The development of positive relationships
- The provision of satisfying learning experiences
- The establishment of an effective network
- The provision of a stable environment where learning can occur
- The development of self-discipline and growing into responsible members of the community

The staff aim to support, assist and consult with parents and advise them of their child's progress and attainment in the above areas. It is part of the staff's duty to endeavor to address any areas that appear during the child's schooling.

Complaints and Grievances

Classroom or Playground Concern - Please discuss with

1. Class teacher or teacher on duty
2. The Principal

School Policy - Please discuss with

1. The Principal
2. School Council or Parish Priest

If a dissatisfaction remains –

Contact the Catholic Schools Office, where your concerns will be heard, then the Principal's account will be obtained and an attempt made at resolving the matter to the satisfaction of all parties.

If the issue is important enough for you to follow it up, please make an appointment with teacher/Principal so they can ensure you have their full attention.

Changes to School Policies

At St Joseph's School we regularly assess and evaluate our policies on a yearly basis. For a full, complete and updated list of policies, please contact the school.

Improvement Targets

The **main priorities** of the school's Annual Improvement Plan 2014 were:

- Continue training in the Australian Curriculum in NSW and developing relevant policies
- Scope and sequence modifications and development for Key Learning Areas
- Continued professional development in the area of literacy and numeracy, particularly Kindergarten to Year 2.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

A number of actions were undertaken by the school to promote respect and responsibility. These activities included -

- Involvement in community service activities,
- Respectful behaviour
- Specific class based activities
- School developed leadership program
- Pre-School involvement
- ANZAC Day Parade
- Book Parade
- Numerous Community service activities eg Flower Show Performance, CWA Performance,
- Making Jesus Real
- Catholic Schools Week activities with local schools
- School masses and liturgies

- Sporting events – school level, diocese level and NSW State level

6 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 St Joseph's School Jerilderie

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
82%	18%	0%	0%

Students

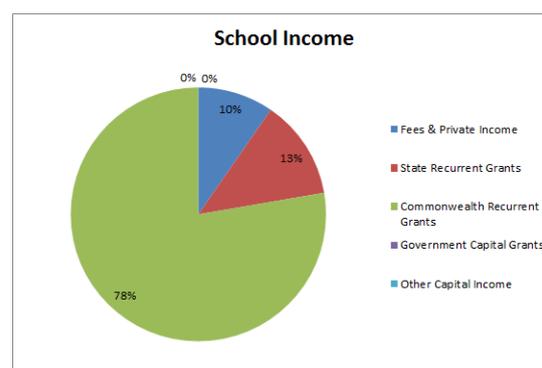
I am usually happy at St Joseph's School Jerilderie

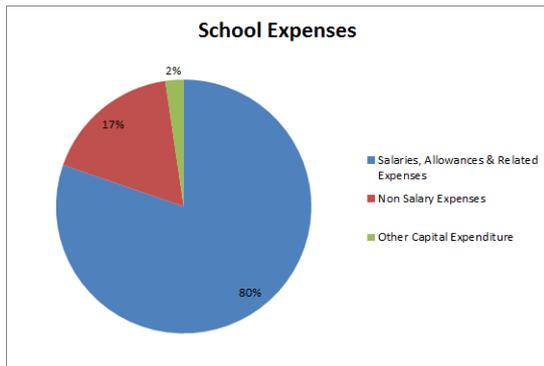
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
60%	38%	2%	0%

Staff

I am usually happy at St Joseph's School Jerilderie

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
100%	0%	0%	0%

Financial Statement Summary



About This Report

This report was written by Amanda Catena (Principal 2014), in conjunction with the input from the relevant school stakeholders. It is a requirement of our registration as a Non-Government School and is aimed at informing parents and our community about our school. If you would like any further information about St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, please contact the principal using the details on the front page of this report.