



2014

Annual Report

St Peter's Primary School, Coleambally

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The School

Welcome to the St Peter's Annual Report for 2014. This annual report is written for the 2014 school year and provides an accurate account of what occurred at St Peter's Primary School during this time.

St Peter's is a small school of around 50 students who travel from the Darlington Point and Coleambally areas. The school was opened in 1970 and it is proud of its friendly and welcoming children.

Catholic Identity

School Vision Statement

St Peter's School is a community of faith built on the rock of Gospel Values empowering the individual to contribute positively to an ever changing world.

Patron and Logo

Our school is named after St Peter who was one of Jesus' disciples and the first pope. Our school song "I Am Your Rock" is a conversation between Jesus and Peter written for the school by Andrew Chinn.

Our school motto, "Way, Truth and Life" is something we try to instil within the school community.

Religious Education

Religious Education is a vital part of the curriculum at St Peter's and all classes participate daily in the Diocesan Religious Education Program "Sharing Our Story". This program was supplemented by regular school masses, priest visits and prayer services.

Sacramental programs were the main focus for the Year 3 class with their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion both occurring in the same week in September. The students and Mr Smith put a lot of time and effort into preparation for these sacraments and were joined by family and friends to celebrate these special occasions.

In October Bishop Hanna visited the parish to confirm our Year 5/6 candidates and other young parish members. The students put in a considerable amount of time and effort into the sacrament and carried themselves very well during the Confirmation Mass.

Parish Involvement

Our First Sunday of the Month Masses are organised by the staff, with children volunteering for readings, prayers of the

faithful, offertory and altar serving. Those who take enjoy being given the opportunity to participate in the Mass at the parish level.

Cypress View Adopt-a-Grandparent

During 2014 the Year 5/6 class were involved in an Adopt-a-Grandparent program which saw them visit the residents of Cypress View Lodge three times each term. The children sat and chatted to the residents, played cards or games with them and shared some morning tea. Both the children and the residents look forward to the visits and get a lot out of them.

A Message from key School Bodies

It is with great pride that I complete my term as chairperson of St Peter's School Council. In what has been another busy year for the school and greater community the School Council was able to assist with many activities whilst overseeing a fiscally responsible school budget and balance sheet.

Some of the achievements of the School Council for the 2014 school year include: maintaining the schools grounds and infrastructure through working bees, mowing roster and scheduled maintenance, sourcing funding assistance for the Yr 5/6 excursion, providing additional funding for teaching aides and tendering for and growing a wheat crop at the Murrumbidgee Shire Demonstration Farm.

We must endeavour to remain a viable alternative for schooling and look to increase enrolments in both the short and long term.

Finally a big thank you to the school community and all fellow School Council members. Thank you to the staff for contributions during the year and congratulations to Mrs Viv on her 40 years of service to the school.

Students, staff and buildings will always be here but it is how the greater school community contribute to our school that will make it a desirable destination for future generations.

Danny Graham
Chairperson
St Peter's School Council

Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

All Year 3 children met the national minimum standard in all the Literacy of Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation. All Year 3 children met the national minimum standard in all the Numeracy areas of Number, Patterns and Algebra and Data, Measurement, Space and Geometry. In Year 3 the majority of students were proficient in all areas of Literacy and Numeracy.

All Year 5 children met the national minimum standard in all areas of Numeracy and a high percentage of them met the standard in Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation and. In Year 5 60% or more of students were proficient in Reading, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy. All Year 5 children made the expected growth in Reading Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy.

Professional Learning

The staff has been active this year in their pursuit of professional improvement with the whole staff participating in the writing of the St Peter's Faith Story documenting our relatively short history as a school.

All teachers attended an in-service on the new Science and Technology syllabus in Term 3 and were part of the writing of a new scope and sequence and assessment plan.

The principal participated in the Small Schools Leadership Program run by the Queensland Education Leadership Institute over 4 phases during the first 3 terms.

One teacher attended the REC retreat as well as attending regular Religious Education Coordinator meetings while another attended regular Reading Recovery and Early Years network meetings throughout the year.

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
4	0	4

Workforce Composition

During 2014 the school employed 3 full time teachers, 1 part-time teacher, 1 secretary, 2 part time teacher assistants and a cleaner.

Student Attendance

Student attendance rates for each Year level and the whole school

Year	Attendance %
Kinder	97%
Year 1	93%
Year 2	95%
Year 3	91%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	93%

Student Non-Attendance

Student non-attendance is managed by the school with absences followed up by class teacher and then the principal. Partial and full day absences are reported to the school by parents via notes or a phone call.

Enrolment Policy

St Peter's has priorities for enrolment which meet the requirements of the Catholic Schools Office. These include preference being given to Catholic children whose parents live within the Parish served by the school. The school enrolment guidelines can be viewed via the school office. The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established an Enrolment Policy which is implemented in all schools. The CSO policy can be found at: www.csoww.catholic.edu.au

Characteristics of the Student Body

St Peter's finished 2014 with an enrolment of 54 students across the 3 composite classes. The class structure and numbers were as follows:

Kinder/Year 1 = 18
Year 2/3/4 = 20
Year 5/6 = 16

School Policies

Student Welfare

The school has adopted the Wagga CSO's Safe School – Child Protection Policy which is available at the school office. The school also has a number of other policies relating to student welfare including the Student Safety Policy and Supervision Policy. These are available at the school office.

Discipline

St Peter's School believes that every child has the right to learn and play in a safe and happy school environment. It is expected that students will be respectful towards others and of school and personal property, to keep hands off, to speak and act with kindness, to play safely and to wear a hat at the appropriate times.

Complaints and Grievances

The school adopts the Wagga CSO's "Complaint Handling Procedures". A copy of this is available at the school office.

Anti-Bullying

The school has a bullying and teasing policy which outlines the process followed in the event of bullying. It is available at the office upon request.

Changes to School Policies

No major changes occurred to any policies during 2014. Policies that were updated included the Professional Learning Policy, Programming Policy, Reporting Policy and the Google Apps Advice for Parents. All school policies are stored on the server and available at the office upon request.

Improvement Targets

The main priorities for 2014 were to further develop our witness and evangelisation by developing our St Peter's Faith Story and Witness, continue with the implementation of the Australian Curriculum for NSW in English and Mathematics and plan for Science and Technology, a focus on children's reading comprehension and to develop staff awareness of the content of the National Safe School Framework.

Many of our 2013 priorities were met including the consolidation of MJR across K-6, using data from Best Start to inform teaching, completion of our MORE project on feedback, and staff attending staff spirituality sessions and the Connections program.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

During Lent the children raised \$202.60 for Project Compassion through 'Casual Shorts Fridays' classroom boxes and boxes from home. In October for Catholic Mission they held a 'Crazy Sock' day and raised \$72.00.

For many years the Yr 5/6 class have embraced Making Jesus Real (MJR) making it part of their class and school life. During the year all classes had half day sessions with their teachers around an MJR theme.

In October we had a guest speaker in John Goonan from Catholic Mission come and talk to the students about their work and the divide that exists between first and third world countries.

This year the school was again involved in the town Advent Pageant to mark the coming of Christmas. We walked to the town centre via the inn where each class performed a song around the Advent or Christmas theme.

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 Peter's School.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
60%	40%	0%	0%

Students

I am usually happy at St Peter's School.

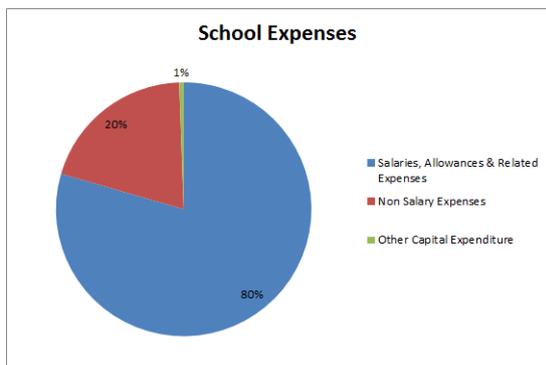
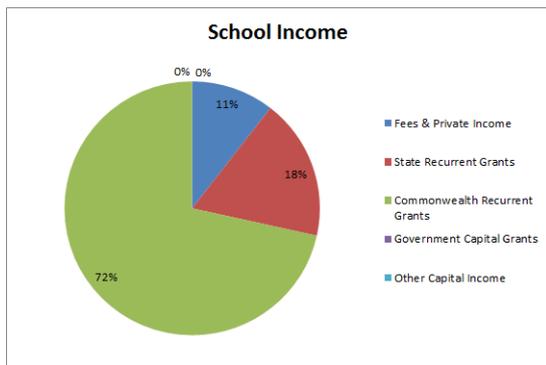
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
44%	50%	6%	0%

Staff

I am usually happy at St Peter's School.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
80%	20%	0%	0%

Financial Statement Summary



About This Report

This report was written by the staff and principal of St Peter's Primary School. The School Council report was prepared by the School Council Chairperson Mr Danny Graham.