



2015

Annual Report

St Patrick's Parish School, ALBURY

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The School

St Patrick's Parish School is located in central Albury. At the last census we had an enrolment of 459 students.

We have a very dedicated staff who are committed to providing quality educational experiences for the students in their care.

We have a very active group of parents on our School Council. This group meets once a month, to assist in an advisory capacity in the functioning of the school. Our parents are always very welcome at school. They are invited to attend all functions that take place at school.

Each class has a class parent whose role it is to liaise between home and school, organize social gatherings, assist with the annual fete and to welcome new families to our community.

We also have a very active Student Council. This council is elected by the students. Each year the Year 5 students participate in a Leadership Program to assist them to identify the qualities required for effective leadership.

Catholic Identity

"My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be sure that we are children of truth."(1John3:18-19).

The vision of St Patrick's School is to be a community which bears witness to Gospel values and celebrates our Faith traditions. It will be committed to the development of the whole child – a child who is principled. Each year the staff revisits our school's Vision and Mission statement to ensure that it is alive and active in our community.

Our Religious Education Program is taken from the Diocesan Syllabus Sharing our Story. Religious Education occurs on a daily basis at St Patrick's and Gospel values underpin all that happens within the school community. Each year the students in Year 2 are prepared to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Year 3 students receive Eucharist for the first time and the Year 6 students receive the

Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Hanna visits classes during Parish visits.

During 2015 we continued our Making Jesus Real groups through Let's Get Together. It is great to have a common theme and MJR language throughout the school. Thanks to Jane Fawcett (REC) and the Year 6 teachers and students for driving this very valuable program.

We continued to build the Parish and School link with the help of Father Joel, Father Stephen and Father Sean. Prior to each of the Sacramental services Father Joel conducted information sessions for parents and students in the Church. This was done to strengthen the links and significance of the Sacraments the students were receiving. All sessions were very well attended and very worthwhile. Father Joel also shared a meal with those receiving the Sacraments.

Each year we commit to fundraising for those less fortunate than we are. The Student Council, led by Mrs Fawcett conducted a number of activities throughout the year. The money raised was distributed between Caritas, Cambodia Soup Kitchen, St Vincent de Paul, Catholic Missions and the Children First Foundation. In total the students raised over \$6,000 dollars. Our Minni Vinnies group was also involved in activities. They conducted cake stalls and organized donations of goods for St Vincent de Paul, particularly over the Winter months. Staff continued to assist at the Children First house at Kilmore over several weekends.

A Message from key School Bodies

Another great year for the school community in every sense has drawn to an end. Council has overseen and been part of some fantastic work in and around the school and it has been great to be part of the changes.

The Fete Committee took the brave step to move to a twilight fete and all the hard work paid off in spades. The Fete was very well attended and a huge amount of work went into making the change successful. It re-invigorated the school community and provided a great boost of colour and fun to the

school. The final release of the School website went public as did the App which has also proven a great success. It is providing better communications for families and students as well as a hub of information for the wider community. Its use with Social Media has also proven to be a great success and has been very engaging for parents. Fundraising efforts for 2015 have been solid and while there has been no major spending for this year, Council are well situated for 2016.

I am stepping down as Chairman this year and would like to thank the Council members, Marie (Principal), and her staff for their support over the past 4 years. It has been thoroughly enjoyable to contribute to the school and to work with some great people.

Bill Quinn

Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

Students in Years 3 and 5 participated in NAPLAN(National Assessment Plan for Literacy and Numeracy). These are external tests. Our results were pleasing and will be analysed and used to inform future educational practice. Analysis of results also helps to guide requirements around professional learning for staff. Parents may refer to "My School" website for further details.

Professional Learning

The staff at St Patrick's is constantly undertaking Professional Learning. We have weekly meetings during which planning and professional dialogue occurs. More formalized professional learning occurs throughout the year.

In 2015 we underwent a Curriculum Audit for Maths. This involved the staff in many hours of sorting, reading and re- writing the policy document and Scope and Sequence. All staff were involved in this process.

Staff continued training for Best Start testing and analysis, administration and analysis of Sena testing in Years 1 and 3 as well as

Observation Survey testing and administration.

Staff were also involved in the unpacking of the History Syllabus document due to be implemented in 2016.

Compliance training in CPR, WHS, First Aid and Child Protection was also undertaken.

Teaching Staff

At St Patrick's we have a highly qualified and experienced staff, who are constantly challenging themselves to develop in all areas of their profession. The table below indicates the number of staff members who fit into the following categories. All members of staff have been included. This includes teaching staff, teacher assistants, clerical staff etc.

The NSW government requires that this report detail 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
30	6	0	36

Workforce Composition

The staff at St Patrick's is made up of 29 females and 7 males. This includes teaching, support and ground staff.

Student Attendance

Student attendance rates for each Year level and the whole school.

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

Student Non-Attendance

Class rolls are marked daily and electronically using the exception method. On any occasion when students are not attending, parents or caregivers are asked to inform the school of the reason for non-attendance. Non-attendance for 5+ days, the principal is notified and contact is made with parents to explain the requirements of parents around compulsory school attendance. If the absences continue and 12-15 days of absence have accrued, Catholic Schools Office is notified. If the absences continue, parents will be sent a letter. Meetings will then take place with Catholic Schools Office personnel, parents, guardians regarding the legal requirements. If there is no improvement, documentation is then forwarded to CEC NSW and the Director General's Department.

Enrolment Policy

St Patrick's follows the Diocesan Policy in relation to enrolment. This can be accessed via our website as well as the CSO website

Characteristics of the Student Body

Boys	Girls	Indig'	LOTE*	TOTAL
240	219	6	10	459

**Language background Other Than English*

Structure of Classes (optional)

There are 3 classes in each year level except Year 6 (2 classes) and Year 2 (2 classes). All classes are of mixed ability.

School Policies

Discipline

All school discipline policies are based upon Diocesan Policies and the full script can be viewed via the school and the CSO website. We have a discipline policy which states that Corporal Punishment is not to be used as a form of discipline. Parents are involved in the process of discipline, along with the student.

Student Welfare

Student welfare is of prime importance at St Patrick's. We value the dignity of each individual within the school community. We are committed to providing effective learning and teaching within a secure well-managed environment in partnership with parents, caregivers and the wider school community. Student welfare is a vital component of our Making Jesus Real work. A School Counsellor is also accessible during school time for 1 day per week. Seasons for Growth which is a grief and loss program ran 1 group during 2015. These were very successful. The School has a Pastoral Care & Wellbeing committee.

Complaints and Grievances

At St Patrick's we follow the CSO Complaints and grievances policy and procedures. Any complaints or grievances are directed to the principal for discussion and follow up.

Changes to School Policies

All changes made to policies allowed them to directly align with Diocesan policies. School policies are available upon request.

Improvement Targets

During 2015 our main priorities included preparation for the Curriculum audit in Maths, as well as the implementation of the new Maths and Science syllabus documents. All other syllabus documents were monitored to ensure that we were providing the best possible education for the students in our care. We have continued to work on

implementing the Learning Framework, as well as becoming familiar with the use of Google Apps for Education. In depth analysis of Naplan results was undertaken as well.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

It is a priority that all interactions between all community members are respectful. We expect that all community members show respect for each other. Both within the classes and in the playground, students are expected to act in a responsible manner and show pride in themselves and in their school. Our senior students continued their involvement with Minni Vinnies, Let's Get Together and Making Jesus Real. These programs examine the manner in which we interact with each other and are expected to become a way of life. Each year we take part in ANZAC and Remembrance Day ceremonies as well as the St Vincent de Paul appeals. Our Student Council is very active in organizing fundraising activities for the school to support those less fortunate.

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.

Community members are able to voice their levels of satisfaction through contact with the School Parent body or through direct contact with the school. Staff members are able to share their concerns or levels of satisfaction via staff meetings or direct contact with the Principal. We have open communication at St Patrick's and parents are encouraged to share their concerns.

Parents

My child (son or daughter) is usually happy at St. Patrick's Albury

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
75%	20%	5%	0%

Students

I am usually happy at St. Patrick's Albury

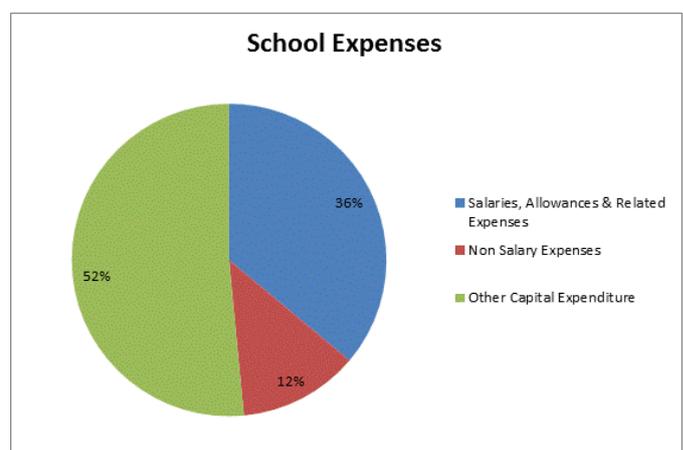
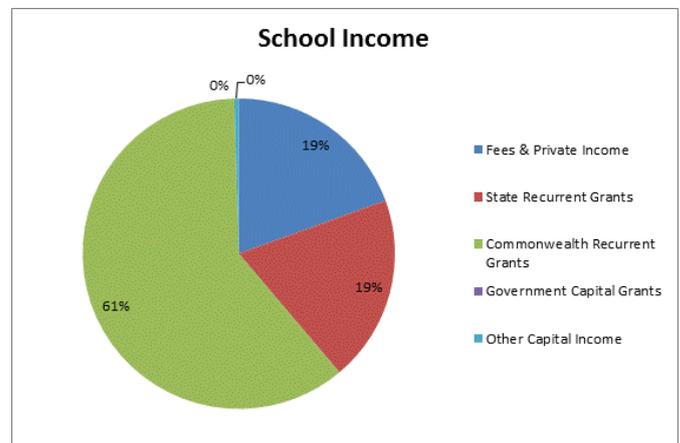
Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
80%	15%	5%	0%

Staff

I am usually happy at St. Patrick's Albury

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
90%	10%	0%	0%

Financial Statement Summary



About This Report

This report was compiled in conjunction with the School Leadership Team, School Council, Secretaries and CSO Personnel.