

# St Joseph's Primary School

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Parish Priest: Father Roel Llave

Parish: St Brigid's, Quirindi

Principal: Mr John Clery



## Annual School Report 2011

### Mission/Vision Statement

We, the Quirindi St Joseph's School family, strive to promote the holistic growth and development of each child, through meaningful relationships with God and each other. At St Joseph's we endeavour to:- Create and nurture an environment that embraces Christian values as reflected in the Gospel; Recognise the uniqueness of each child and through a variety of learning experiences, develop their potential, acknowledge their gifts and prepare them for life; Provide excellence in all curriculum areas, with the Catholic ethos being paramount in the child's education; Through positive reinforcement, encourage the child to take responsibility for decisions made, within a secure and caring environment. Our School Mission Statement reflects this: "St Joseph's School is committed to providing Catholic Education embodying the Gospel values of love, faith, respect, friendship, forgiveness, peace, justice and acceptance. Thus we invite all to 'Come! Share the Spirit!'

### About this Report

St Joseph's Primary School is registered by the Board of Studies (NSW) and managed by the Catholic Schools Office, Armidale, the 'approved authority' for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the NSW Education Act 1990. The annual report provides parents and the wider school community with fair, accurate and objective information about various aspects of school performance and development. The report describes achievement of school development priorities in 2011 and gives information about 2012 priorities. This Report complements and is supplementary to school newsletters and other regular communications. This Report is sent to the Catholic Schools Office, Armidale for validation with the requirements of the Education Act 1990 before being forwarded to the Board of Studies. Following its submission to the NSW Board of Studies the report will be presented to the parent body and be available on the CSO website by 30 June 2012. The school Regional Supervisor also validates that the school has in place appropriate processes to ensure compliance with all NSW Board of Studies requirements for Registration.

### Principal's Message

The St Joseph's School community can look back with great pride on all that has been accomplished in 2011. It has been a year of many highlights which has seen St Joseph's grow and allow us to look forward with great optimism. Literacy has been a key focus again for 2011 as part of St Joseph's National Partnerships program. This has involved a whole school approach to reading with our Leading Teacher guiding us in the Focus on Reading Program. The staff and students again responded enthusiastically and adopted the strategies presented openly and with gusto. The MULTILit program, for students needing a one to one basis to facilitate their progress in reading, has again been a great success story of 2011. I thank our wonderful volunteer tutors for this program. An uninterrupted block of lessons in the morning session ensured learning was not interrupted by other extracurricular activities which frequently arise in schools. Consequently, well planned Literacy programs were implemented thoroughly. With the help of National Partnership funding classes were structured into stages and catered for smaller class groups in literacy. Smaller class sizes enabled teachers to revise, teach and extend all students at their own level of need. The success of St Joseph's

National Partnership (Literacy) was highlighted with the tremendous growth our students displayed in their NAPLAN results for 2011. St Joseph's adopted a research and data based approach in 2011 that allows us to identify and address areas of concern in our literacy and numeracy programs, with a focus of individualising the learning of students.

In attempt to bring the St Joseph's Parish and School community closer together a children's focus was developed at one Sunday morning Parish Mass in term 4. This proved to be an enormous success thanks to the support of St Joseph's parents. It has been wonderful to see the church full of children on a Sunday morning and hear the older parishioners speak of a return to the good old days.

2011 has seen three very successful sacramental programs run at St Joseph's. Our Catholic Year 2 children received the Sacrament of Penance, First Reconciliation on the 7th September. Our Catholic Year 3 children celebrated their First Holy Communion on Sunday 19th June, while the Sacrament of Confirmation was bestowed on our Catholic Year 5 and 6 children by the Bishop on Saturday 12th November. Thank you to the teachers, Parish catechists and parents for preparing and supporting the children through this very special time. Thank you also to our Parish Priest for his support and encouragement in making these programs such a great success.

2011 saw the opening of the new St Joseph's library under the Australian Government's BER program. This is St Joseph's first purpose built library and a welcome addition to the schools facilities.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, parents and students for their efforts and dedication throughout 2011. As a school community we can look back and evaluate 2011 as a very successful year and we invite all to: "Come share the Spirit" in 2012.

## **Parental Involvement**

This year has been a very positive year for our school. We welcomed our new principal Mr John Clery who has a very positive outlook, is motivated, energetic and gets things done. During term one we also welcomed Miss Kylie Murray, now Mrs Milne, who has been a great asset to our school. She did a wonderful job in organising the Calcutta fundraiser for the Pain family. Thank you to Mrs Higgins for filling in until Mrs Milne commenced duties. An invitation for board members was received to attend this year's Conference and AGM of the Bishops commission for Catholic Schools in Inverell on the 14th of May. Mr Clery attended his first conference and found it to be very beneficial. The school audit was held on the 7th June with the result being very

positive. The local pre-school once again visited for NAIDOC celebrations which was very positive. The school readiness ran again this year with a class of 11. The students enjoyed their time at big school. To everyone's delight it was announced that staffing will remain the same for the 2012 school year. The school survey was held for staff, children and parents with the results being exceptionally positive. The school has seen many things happen this year: the opening of the new library, the installing of the new blinds to help cut glare on white board and smart board, the pavers have been laid and look great and the oval has had a makeover and we pray it continues to rain for the kikuyu.

## **Student Leadership**

2011 has been a year to remember! This year has had many significant events such as; The Year 3/4/5/6 excursion to Lake Keepit; the whole school excursion to Tamworth, where we visited Kid Zone, Pizza Hut and the Theatre. We have been involved in some extreme sporting events throughout the year, like; the Diocesan Athletics Carnival, Diocesan Cross Country Carnival, Diocesan, Polding, Sate and Nationals Swimming Carnivals and horse sports. Being a school captain has been a great honour. To those who are going to be school captains in 2012, we wish you the best of luck. Good luck to all the Infants children moving into the Primary and the new Kindergartens.

## **School Profile**

### **School History**

Catholic Education began in Quirindi in January 1885 with the arrival from Lochinvar of three Federation sisters of the order of St Joseph's to establish a school. Quirindi was then in the Gunnedah Parish in the Diocese of Maitland. In 1887 following the reorganisation of Diocesan boundaries, Quirindi was incorporated into the Armidale Diocese and the Sisters from Lochinvar withdrew and returned to Maitland. In 1888, following a request to Mother Mary MacKillop from Bishop Torreggiani, a community of four sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart was established in Quirindi to conduct a school with an enrolment of 67 children. Blessed Mary MacKillop was present at the opening and blessing of the new convent in 1895. In more recent times, St Joseph's School has enjoyed an extensive refurbishment and capital works program, revitalising our facilities and enhancing the student's learning environment. Our new library was completed in 2010, in time for our celebrations commemorating 125 years of Catholic Education in Quirindi.

## Location/Drawing Area

St Joseph's School is located in Quirindi, which is best known as the gateway to North-West New South Wales. Quirindi is a township of approximately 3000 nestled in a valley and surrounded by picturesque hills. The name Quirindi, which is derived from the Kamilaroi Aboriginal language, means 'nest in the hills.' The town and its surrounding region are blessed by some of the richest soil in Australia, the Liverpool Plains. Quirindi is primarily a farming community with a balanced mix of beef, grain and cereal cropping. In recent times, Quirindi has become a popular destination for those moving into retirement.

## Enrolment Policy

St Joseph's Primary School follows the Bishop's Commission for Catholic Schools policy Enrolment of Students in Catholic Systemic Schools in the Diocese of Armidale 2002. This document can be obtained from the school office or is available on the Catholic Schools Office web site: <http://www.arm.catholic.edu.au>.

## Student Enrolment

Year	Boys	Girls	Total
2009	31	25	56
2010	27	21	48
2011	21	23	44

## Student Mobility

During the 2011 school year St Joseph's has had 8 children enrol while five children have left St Joseph's. Four of these departures were due to the family relocating away from Quirindi and one moved to another school in the Quirindi district.

## Student Attendance

Average daily attendance for 2011

Kindergarten	%
Year 1	%
Year 2	%
Year 3	%
Year 4	%
Year 5	%
Year 6	%
All students	%

## Management of Non-Attendance

In line with the St Joseph's 'Attendance and Role Marking Policy', the parents of students who have failed to arrive at school for three consecutive days without notice will be contacted. Non-attendance is also followed up by letters to parents, extra phone calls and where necessary face to face meeting to deal with higher levels of absenteeism.

## Staff Profile

The staff of 10 consisted of five teachers and five ancillary staff. These included: a teaching Principal / Religious Education Coordinator/ Additional Needs teacher; one full time classroom teachers; three part-time teaching staff; a secretary; three education assistants and a cleaner. The teaching experience of staff ranges from 1 to more than 30 years. One teacher holds a Graduate Certificate in Special Education and another holds a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education. One educational assistant resigned at the end of Term 3.

The average daily staff attendance rate for 2011 was 94.54%.

## Teacher Standards

Teacher qualifications fall into 1 of 3 categories for all teaching staff responsible for delivering the curriculum.

Teaching qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised by AEI - NOOSR\* 100%

Have qualifications as a graduate from a higher education institution within Australia within AEI-NOOSR\* guidelines but lack formal teacher qualifications 0%

Do not have qualifications as above but have relevant successful teaching experience or appropriate knowledge relevant to the teaching context 0%

\* Australian Education Institution - National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition

Percentage of teachers accredited to teach Religious Education 80

Percentage of teachers undertaking accreditation to teach Religious Education 20

## Staff Professional Learning

The school as a learning community encourages all staff to continue to invest in their learning. Some of the professional development undertaken by the staff in 2011 included: ICT and Technology, NAPLAN Data Analysis, Additional Needs Training, National Partnership Team Leadership Development, School Audit Preparation, Phonemic Awareness, NSWIT Supervisors Day, Focus on Reading, Twilight Spirituality reflections, EPI Pen Training, "Celebrating Success, Embedding Change"- National Partnership Conference, Non Violence Intervention training and Bolus training.

## Catholic Identity

### Religious Education Program

St Joseph's Primary School follows the Armidale Diocesan Religious Education Curriculum and uses the student text To Know, Worship and Love as authorised by the Bishop of Armidale, Luc Matthys.

### Liturgical Life

The liturgical life of the school is healthy and active, with children having numerous opportunities to celebrate the Eucharist at whole school each fortnight. St Joseph's School is for many students and families the main link they have with the Catholic Church. As a result, the school strives to ensure that the students had regular exposure to prayer, liturgy, the Mass and the Sacraments

St Joseph's celebrated the commencement of the 2011 school year with a School Mass. Additional Masses and liturgical celebrations were enhanced throughout the year by utilising the talents of the staff and students. Parents are always invited to join us.

2011 has seen three very successful sacramental programs run at St Joseph's. Our Catholic Year 2 children received the Sacrament of Penance, First Reconciliation on the 7th September. Our Catholic Year 3 children celebrated their First Holy Communion on Sunday 19th June, while the Sacrament of Confirmation was bestowed on our Catholic Year 5 and 6 children by the Bishop on Saturday 12th November. Thank you to the teachers, Parish catechists and parents for preparing and supporting the children through this very special time. Thank you also to our Parish Priest for his support and encouragement in making these programs such a great success.

A highlight for St Joseph's this year was the introduction of a children's focus at one Sunday

morning Parish Mass in Term 4. This provided the chance for both the Parish and school to come together and celebrate the Eucharist. The initiative was so successful due to the support of the St Joseph's parents.

## Staff and Student Faith Formation

The "Catholic Schools at a Crossroad" document was used as a reference to guide decision making at School and Board level. Copies of current Catholic publications, such as "Inform" are made available for staff to read and discuss informally.

St Joseph's Staff Development Day in Term 4 2011 was devoted to familiarising staff with the New Missal, using the 'Become One Body, One Spirit in Christ' resource, which has been introduced in 2011.

Prayer reflection and Retreat opportunities were offered to staff and students during 2011. The variety of prayer services and experiences provided children with many opportunities for Faith formation. Prayer celebrations were included as part of every Religious Education unit in addition to whole school prayer services. All staff were invited to participate in the Staff Retreat Days offered through the Catholic Schools Office along with staff, parent and parish community being invited to and participated in a Twilight reflection program conducted by Diocesan Spirituality Team.

### Year 6 Religious Education Test

Average score	Diocesan (%)	This School (%)
2009	73.2	76
2010	70.0	74.2
2011	69	72

## Social Justice

St Joseph's School community supported a range of fund raising activities including Project Compassion and Children's Mission and the Pakistan Flood Appeal. Student Leaders accepted responsibility to coordinate some of these projects through the year, while other classes took on the others, which allowed students the opportunity to develop and exercise their leadership skills.

Throughout the year students from St Joseph's were involved in fund raising activities for Children's Mission, Caritas and St Vincent de Paul. At various stages throughout the year students' attention was drawn to social issues throughout the world, this was particularly evident during Mission Week, NAIDOC Week and on Harmony Day. The St Joseph's School Community also supported a local family after their house was tragically lost in a fire. As well as donating

money, food, clothes and furniture a Melbourne Cup Calcutta fundraiser was hosted by St Joseph's for the family. This helped raise over \$6500. Students, parents, and staff also supported the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal by donating nonperishable food, blankets and a gold coin donation. Social Justice Units form an integral part of the RE curriculum in the school.

## **Parish Links**

St Joseph's School and St Brigid's Parish work hand in hand in a variety of aspects of school and Parish life. Members of the parish are represented on the School Board and regularly attend PT&F meetings, where they present a Parish Report. The Principal is also a member of the Parish Pastoral Council and is involved in making decisions and planning for the future of the Parish. Staff are active members of the Parish and are key members of the Parish Sacramental Team, involved in all Parish sacramental programs. Staff are involved in Church and Parish activities with teachers encouraged to join the roster for proclaiming the word and/or become Eucharistic Ministers. Our Parish Priest visits our classrooms regularly to talk with the students.

In 2011 St Joseph's School and St Brigid's Parish formed an even stronger association with the introduction of a children's focus at a Parish Mass. This was well received and supported by parents and members of the Parish.

St Joseph's once again welcomed volunteers from our Parish community who generously gave their time to help with our Reading Tutor program.

## **Respect and Responsibility**

St Joseph's School addressed the areas of Respect and Responsibility in a number of ways. These included: a Peer Buddy system, with our Year 6 students acting as a buddy for our Kindergarten students, a proactive Student Representative Council and classroom Codes of Cooperation. The St Joseph's Vision and Mission Statement was displayed in every classroom and other prominent places around the school. Students were constantly exposed to values and expectations through our pastoral care and discipline procedures.

Throughout 2011 the school played an active role in the Quirindi community by supporting services such as St Vincent de Paul. Nonperishable items were donated and money was raised for the annual winter appeal.

The school took an active part in the community Anzac Day service by marching through town. The Quirindi Show is a highlight of the local community

and the school made a substantial contribution to the exhibitions and the events.

## **School Curriculum**

St Joseph's Primary School follows the Board of Studies syllabus for each subject offered (as required for registration under the Education Act 1990) and implements the curriculum requirements of the Catholic Schools Office.

### **Features of the School Curriculum**

St Joseph's School is committed to providing an education that meets the needs of all students. This is achieved through the delivery of a curriculum that is focused on Literacy and Numeracy, with adjustments made to cater for individual differences. St Joseph's aims to help each child reach their full potential and become life long learners.

Teaching Programs go beyond compliance to reflect best teaching practises and ensure all curricula requirements, including Aboriginal and other cultural perspective are catered for.

Students across all stages studied six Key Learning Areas in accordance with the syllabus of the Board of Studies. These being: English; Mathematics; Human Society and It's Environment; Science and Technology; Personal Development, Health and Physical Education; and, Creative Arts. Students also studied the Religious Education syllabus 'Celebrating Our Journey.'

In 2011 classes were structured to allow for smaller groups in Literacy. This enabled more one on one time with the teacher, to cater for the needs of all students through by both revision and extension. Literacy was also a blocked periods with no interruptions.

2011 saw the continuation of the school's participation in the Federal Government's Smarter Schools National Partnership for Literacy and Numeracy. This incorporated the inclusion of the Focus On Reading program for whole school improvement and the Multilit program for student intervention in literacy.

Technology continued to play a crucial role in teaching and learning to ensure St Joseph's classrooms reflected the 21st century. Each classroom has access to a smartboard, desktop computer and a digital camera. In 2011 St Joseph's invested in 11 Ipad's which all students have utilised across a variety of Key Learning Areas. All classrooms are connected to wireless broadband Internet and all computers are networked to the school server.

After consultation with teachers and the additional needs consultant, students presenting with learning difficulties were identified and additional support given throughout the year. This included the development of individual learning programs for each of these students.

Sporting opportunities continued to be offered throughout the year. This year we were represented at the Diocesan Swimming Carnivals, Diocesan Cross Country, Diocesan Winter Trials, Diocesan Athletics Carnival and Diocesan Summer Trials. Children also represented the school at local horse sports competitions.

Throughout the year Professional Development opportunities have readily been available to staff. Examples of these opportunities include: ICT and Technology, NAPLAN Data Analysis, Additional Needs Training, National Partnership Team Leadership Development, School Audit Preparation, Phonemic Awareness, NSWIT Supervisors Day, Focus on Reading, Twilight Spirituality reflections, EPI Pen Training, "Celebrating Success, Embedding Change"- National Partnership Conference, Non Violence Intervention training and Bolus training.

## Student Performance

St Joseph's Primary School uses a variety of assessment strategies at key points in the learning framework. These include teacher observation, portfolios, projects and presentations. The school also participates in the nation-wide literacy and numeracy testing program for the purposes of diagnosing individual learning needs and reviewing whole class teaching programs. Information on student progress is communicated on a regular basis and opportunities exist for external assessment results to be discussed with parents on an individual basis annually.

## Literacy and Numeracy

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) was introduced for students in Years 3 and 5 in May 2008. NAPLAN replaces the previous State-based Basic Skills Test and the results provide valuable information about student achievements in Literacy and Numeracy. Analysis of the results is used at school level to support the enhancement of Literacy and Numeracy outcomes for all students. Year 3 results are reported in Bands 1 to 6 with Band 6 representing the highest achievement and Year 5 results are reported in Bands 3 to 8 with Band 8 representing the highest achievement. **Please note: Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.**

Year 3 % in Bands		1&2	3&4	5&6
Reading	School	20	60	20
	National	14.5	38.5	45
Writing	School	34	50	17
	National	8.3	43.6	46.1
Spelling	School	17	83	0
	National	14.9	42.4	40.7
Grammar & Punctuation	School	17	83	0
	National	13.8	36	48.3
Numeracy	School	50	34	17
	National	13.8	51.1	33.2

Year 5 % in Bands		3&4	5&6	7&8
Reading	School	40	40	20
	National	20.5	48.9	28.8
Writing	School	40	60	0
	National	17.9	57.2	22.9
Spelling	School	60	40	0
	National	19.5	52.7	26
Grammar & Punctuation	School	60	20	20
	National	17.3	45.8	35.1
Numeracy	School	40	60	0
	National	17.3	56	24.9

NAPLAN 2011 has given some great direction in the areas St Joseph's will look to improve in 2012. St Joseph's adopted a research and data based approach that allows us to identify and address areas of concern in our literacy and numeracy programs, with a focus of individualising the learning of students. St Joseph's was particularly pleased with the individual student growth of our Year 5 students across all areas of literacy and numeracy.

## National Minimum Standards

The lowest Band for each year (Band 1 in Year 3 and Band 3 in Year 5) represents students who are achieving BELOW the National Minimum Standard (NMS) in each aspect of NAPLAN. Students in the second Band for each year (Band 2 in Year 3 and Band 4 in Year 5) represent students who are achieving at the NMS. Students in all other Bands are achieving ABOVE the NMS.

The percentages of students in this school achieving the national minimum standard are reported below.

		Year 3	Year 5
Reading	School	0	20
	National	92.8	91.5
Writing	School	17	40
	National	95.3	92.5
Spelling	School	17	40
	National	92.8	91.3
Grammar & Punctuation	School	17	40
	National	93.1	92
Numeracy	School	0	20
	National	95.6	94.4

The school is pleased with the growth displayed by children in Year 5, but will obviously continue to work with any student who is still experiencing difficulty. Unfortunately when these figures are displayed they do not take into account children with additional needs.

The school uses the NAPLAN data as a diagnostic tool to inform our teaching and learning and the needs of individual students. We have also adopted a research and data based approach that allows us to identify and address areas of concern in our literacy and numeracy program, with a focus of individualising the learning students.

## **School Policy Summary**

### **Student Welfare**

St Joseph's Primary School seeks to provide a safe and supportive environment which:

- minimises risk of harm and ensures students feel secure
- supports the physical, social, academic, spiritual and emotional development of students
- provided student welfare policies and programs that develop a sense of self-worth and foster personal development

The school's Pastoral Care Policy is based on the Bishop's Commission Policy Pastoral Care In The Catholic Systemic Schools Of The Armidale Diocese.

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The school's Pastoral Care Policy is based on the Bishop's Commission Policy Pastoral Care in 'The Catholic Systemic Schools' of The Armidale Diocese.

Various pastoral care initiatives were put in place in 2011 to further build positive relationships within the school community and to enhance staff and student learning and well-being. These initiatives included professional development on developing resilience and Non-violent Crisis Intervention training. A principal's award, in conjunction with the student of the week, was introduced to the weekly assembly in 2011 to promote positive behaviour.

The full text of school and diocesan policies are available from the School Office upon request.

No changes were made to the School's Pastoral Care Policy in 2011.

### **Discipline Policy**

St Joseph's Primary School bases its Discipline Policy on the Bishop's Commission Policies Pastoral Care In The Catholic Systemic Schools Of The Armidale Diocese, Policy On Suspension, Expulsion Or Exclusion Of Students In Catholic Schools In The Diocese Of Armidale and Management Of Drug Related Issues In Catholic Schools In The Diocese Of Armidale. These policies are based on procedural fairness and are discussed with students on a regular basis. In compliance with the NSW Education Reform Act 1990, corporal punishment is banned in ALL Armidale Diocesan schools.

The full text of school and diocesan policies are available from the School Office.

The following text was added to St Joseph's School Discipline Policy in 2011: "The procedures outlined in this policy apply to the behavior of students at school, on the way to and from school and while away from the school site on school endorsed activities. They can also apply outside of school hours where there is a clear and close connection between the school and the conduct of students. This includes the use by a student of social networking sites, mobile phones and/or other technology to threaten, bully or harass another student or a staff member for school related issues."

### **Enrolment Policy**

St Joseph's Primary School bases its Enrolment Policy on the Bishop's Commission Policy Enrolment of Students In Catholic Systemic Schools in the Diocese of Armidale.

The full text of school and diocesan policies are available from the School Office.

No changes were made to the School's Enrolment Policies in 2011.

### **Complaints and Grievance Resolution Policy**

St Joseph's Primary School procedures for resolving concerns and complaints is based on the Bishop's Commission Policy Complaints & Suggestions Policy for the Diocese of Armidale. This policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that members of the school community must have access to

processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive, conciliatory environment. The full text of school and diocesan policies are available from the School Office.

## **Parent, Student and Staff Satisfaction**

Surveys have reaffirmed that St Joseph's has achieved an enormous amount in 2011 and can be extremely proud of many aspects of our school. St Joseph's provides educational services to students from 30 families. 72.2% of families responded to the survey. The school community is very impressed with the open door policy and inviting nature of our school. They feel comfortable talking to teachers and the principal about any concerns they may have. The school community feels they are listened to and where necessary action has been taken. Like any school there are areas St Joseph's can seek to improve in 2012. Parents are concerned about losing a staff member if our student numbers do not continue to grow.

## **School Review and Development**

### **Annual School Priorities 2011**

St Joseph's Quirindi staff for 2011 outlined four major areas of focus for annual priorities in 2011. These being; 1. A major focus on Literacy with the creation an uninterrupted block of learning. 2. St Joseph's to bring our school and parish closer together. 3. The final year of St Joseph's SSNP (Literacy and Numeracy) provided the best opportunities for St Joseph's students and staff. 4. School Policies and Procedures were reviewed regularly to reflect and guide current practices.

### **Projected School Priorities 2012**

School Priorities for 2012 include:

- Support all students to meet the Kindergarten-Year 2 literacy and numeracy targets and always seek to improve the performance of St Joseph's NAPLAN results.
- Although St Joseph's has finished its SSNP (Literacy and Numeracy) partnership with the Federal Government, the school believes it is very important to continue the "Multilit" program. The program supports students experiencing difficulty in reading and has been very well received by the school community. The school will not be able to afford to run the program in the same capacity, but sees it as imperative to still provide this program to

- our struggling children.
- The implementation of the TAC-P program: This is an oral language program which has had tremendous reviews and outcomes from another school in the diocese. Money from the schools Literacy and Numeracy plan has been budgeted for the kindergarten teacher to work with a diocesan colleague to gain a stronger understanding of the program, to test St Joseph's children and to have the student's results analyzed by a speech pathologist.
- With St Joseph's selecting to focus on literacy as part of the SSNP, it is time to place a larger emphasis on Numeracy. Extra time will be spent on professional development with staff in the area of numeracy. This has also been budgeted out of the 2012 Literacy and Numeracy Plan
- The continued establishment and timetabling of protected literacy and numeracy blocks.
- The continued class structure of teaching Literacy and Numeracy in stages.
- Continued participating in a children liturgy at Sunday Parish Mass. This was introduced in term 4 2011 and St Joseph's plans to have a children's focus at one Parish Mass each term for 2012.
- The implementation of Solar Panels under the Federal Governments scheme, organised by Penny Wong. St Joseph's has applied for this grant and is confident of succeeding and installing solar paneling in 2012.
- Through providing quality education for the children of the Quirindi district the school aims to continue to grow student numbers in 2012.

### **Major Achievements from the 2011 Annual Plan**

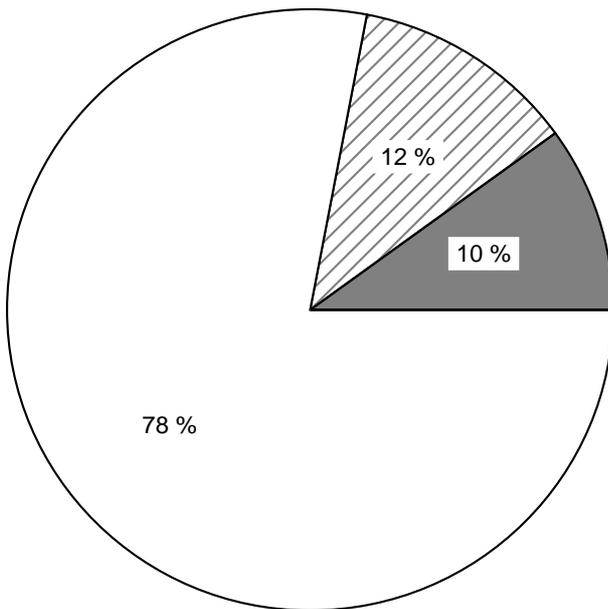
1. A major focus on Literacy with the creation an uninterrupted block of learning: This was achieved through structuring staffing and timetabling. SSNP (Literacy and Numeracy) provided an extra 0.6 of staffing. With the principal teaching each morning, this enabled the children to be taught in stages for literacy. The time before recess was then off limits. Visitors and interruptions could occur throughout the day, but not before recess
2. St Joseph's to bring our school and parish closer together: This was achieved with the implementation of a children's focus at the Saturday evening Parish Mass during term 4. Staff worked closely with our Parish Priest and parents which resulted in a great response and the church full of students for the children's Mass. The principal was also the Chairman of the Parish Pastoral Council for 2011.
3. The final year of St Joseph's SSNP (Literacy and Numeracy) provided the best opportunities for St Joseph's students and staff: With the help of National Partnership funding classes were structured into stages and catered for smaller class groups in literacy. Smaller class sizes enabled teachers to revise, teach and extend all students at their own level of need. The success of St Joseph's National Partnership (Literacy) was highlighted with the tremendous growth our students

displayed in their NAPLAN results for 2011. MultiLIT continue to be a very popular program among staff and parents at St Joseph's in 2011. National Partnerships also enable the school to purchase 11 new Ipad's which have been a great resource to all Key Learning Areas. 4. School Policies and Procedures were reviewed regularly to reflect and guide current practices: With the School being audited by the NSW Board of Studies in 2011 it

provided the perfect opportunity to sit down and go through in great detail all policies and procedures. A few policies were changed quite dramatically while the majority still are very relevant to the needs of today's students. During this time the staff also took the opportunity to create a Staff handbook. This has, and will continue to be a very effective starting point for all new staff members at St Joseph's.

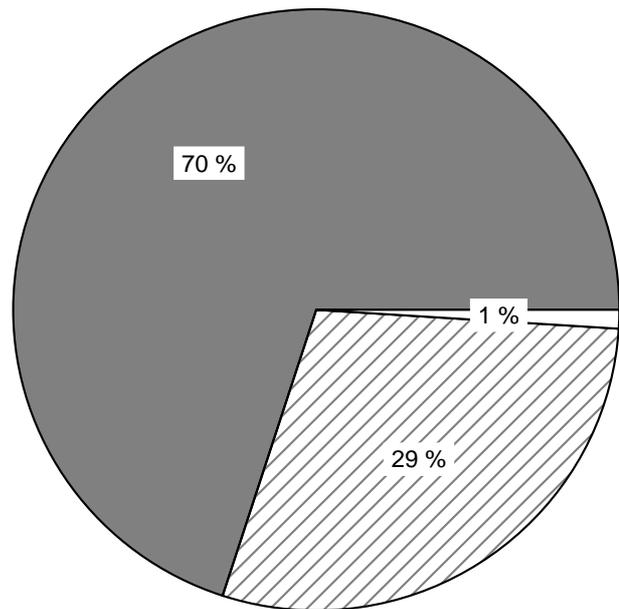
## Financial Statement

### Income



- fees and private income
- ▨ state recurrent grants
- commonwealth recurrent grants
- ▩ government capital grants
- ▧ other capital income

### Expenditure



- salaries, allowances and related expenses
- ▨ non-salary expenses
- capital expenditure

The information in this report has been verified and the priorities endorsed by the Director of Catholic Schools and the school Regional Supervisor.