

St Joseph's Primary MUNGINDI
Annual School Report to the Community

2017



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Principal

Mrs Deborah Harrison

ABOUT THIS REPORT

St Joseph's Primary is registered by the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA). The Catholic Schools Office, Armidale is the 'approved authority' for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the Education Act 1990 (NSW).

The *Annual School Report to the Community* provides parents and the wider School community with fair, reliable and objective information about School performance measures and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education. The *Report* also outlines information about initiatives and developments of major interest and importance during the year and the achievements arising from the implementation of the School's Annual Improvement Plan.

The *Report* demonstrates accountability to regulatory bodies, the School community and the Catholic Schools Office, Armidale. This *Report* has been approved by the Catholic Schools Office, Armidale in consultation with the **School** Consultant who monitors that the School has appropriate processes in place to ensure compliance with all NESA requirements for Registration and Accreditation.

This *Report* complements and is supplementary to School newsletters and other regular communications. Further information about the School may be obtained by contacting the School or by visiting the School's website.

Principal's Message

Over the past three years, we at St. Joseph's have been implementing the change process towards developing a Catholic Professional Learning Community. (PLC) Our shared vision is our *commitment to working collaboratively in order to achieve better results for the students*" (DuFour 2013). deepening of our understanding of excellence in teacher classroom practice, teacher collaboration and use of data.

As a Catholic school we embed the 4 Core Catholic Principle's and Values across all key learning areas. As part of our pastoral care policy we implement The You Can Do It program.

We have continued to focus on Improving Year 6 performance in R.E test, with our students achieving credits and one participation.

Data drives our teaching and learning at St. Joseph's. NAPLAN results in 2017 put our students in the top two bands in literacy and numeracy in Year 3.

Student application of knowledge and skills taught demonstrating high level of proficiency.

We to continue to embed our Vision for Learning statement at St. Joseph's as a part of daily life for teachers, students, parents and community.

Parent Body Message

2017 has been a very successful year for St Joseph's, Mungindi. The board has overseen the introduction and monitoring of benchmarking for all students, which I think has been a very successful strategy from a governing aspect to give us faith that no child is being missed or left behind in our desire for everyone at St Joseph's to benefit from a great education.

Thank you to the support of the Catholic Schools Office Armidale in 2017. All make appearances throughout the year and give the Educators and the Parents of this school wonderful and insightful support.

I would like to highlight the massive work that the P&F does for this school. They will have spent over \$30,000 this year in all facets of our school – sporting, education, community and pastoral. They do an enormous amount of the heavy lifting when it comes to the students of our school .Their desire to see our children have amazing opportunities and get those initiatives off the

ground, is a wonderful testament to the families that we currently have here.

Thank you to everyone who has given their time to attend Board Meetings in 2017. Mr. Anthony Barlow

Student Body Message

What a journey, primary school has been. It's hard to believe that we Yr 6 kids were all in nappies just ten years ago and that many of us shed tears on our first day in Kindergarten. Now we're all grown up, nearly teenagers and some of us are beginning to argue with our parents and siblings, wanting to run our own lives.

I know that I will never forget the many memories that I have of St Joseph's School - right back from when I started Kindergarten.

My favourite memory from this year is all the fun I've had with my wonderful friends. Now we're all looking forward to going to High School. We may not see each other very much anymore but we will make lots of new friends and learn wonderful new things.

In conclusion, I would like to thank my family and especially my parents for putting up with me and sending me to such a wonderful school. I would also like to thank Mrs H, the P and F and all of our teachers for providing us with a wonderful education.

Thank you Summa Eyles St. Joseph's School Captain 2017

Bradley Cooper St. Joseph's School Captain 2017

SECTION TWO: SCHOOL FEATURES

St Joseph's Primary is a Catholic systemic Co-educational School located in MUNGINDI.

St Joseph's Primary School is located in rural North Western NSW. It is best known as a border town that functions on two time zones between October and March. Half of the town is in NSW the other half is in QLD. The Sisters of Mercy were responsible for the opening of St Joseph's (originally called St Brigid's) in 1924. For over 50 years it also functioned as a 'Boarding School' catering for the needs of the isolated children of the area. In 1980, the Sisters of Mercy left the parish and were replaced by the Little company of Mary Sisters who ran the boarding school until its closure in 1983. Today rural children travel to school by bus and private vehicle.

The Sisters of Saint Joseph came to Mungindi in 1984 and assisted Fr Dowd run the parish. The Sisters helped out in the school with Religious education particularly with the Sacramental program. Today the school is administered by lay staff with a strong association with the Sisters of St Joseph who manage the Parish. Sr. Jan Baker has a strong pastoral presence in the school community. The Parish Priest from Moree regularly celebrates Mass at the Church.

SECTION THREE: STUDENT PROFILE

Student Enrolment

The School caters for students in Kindergarten to Year 6. Students attending this School come from a variety of backgrounds. The following information describes the student profile for 2017:

Girls	Boys	LBOTE*	Total Students
17	21	2	38

* Language Background Other than English

Enrolment Policy

The Diocese of Armidale adheres to the policy as endorsed by the Bishops Commission for Catholic Schools 'Enrolment of Students in the Catholic Systemic Schools of the Diocese of Armidale'. The Catholic Schools Office Armidale monitors the implementation of this policy. The policy has been developed in the context of government and system requirements. Children from families who are prepared to support the ethos and values of the Catholic Church may be considered eligible for enrolment. A pastoral approach is adopted for parents experiencing genuine difficulty with the payment of fees.

This school does not have any enrolment policies or support documents in addition to the Bishop's Commission for Catholic Schools 'Enrolment Policy' for schools in the Diocese of Armidale. This policy is available on the Armidale Catholic Schools Office website at;

<http://www.arm.catholic.edu.au>

Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for 2017 was 78.43%. Attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group	
Kindergarten	73.00%
Year 1	77.00%
Year 2	78.00%
Year 3	78.00%
Year 4	74.00%
Year 5	75.00%
Year 6	94.00%

Managing Student Non-Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. The School, in partnership with parents, is responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, School staff, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

School staff, under the Principal's leadership, support the regular attendance of students by:

- providing a caring teaching and learning environment which fosters students' sense of wellbeing and belonging to the school community;
- monitoring engagement of individual students in their learning and identifying strategies to enhance engagement;
- maintaining accurate records of student attendance;
- recognising and rewarding excellent and improved student attendance;
- implementing programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise.

The Principal is responsible for supporting the regular attendance of students by ensuring that:

- parents and students are regularly informed of attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance;
- all cases of unsatisfactory attendance and part or full day absences from school are investigated promptly and that appropriate intervention strategies are implemented;
- intervention strategies for students with unsatisfactory attendance may include academic case management, social case management, referral to counselling and parent/carer involvement;
- the Director of Catholic Schools or designated Catholic Schools Office Armidale officer is provided with regular information about students for whom chronic non-attendance is an issue and for whom previous strategies have failed to restore regular attendance.

When the Catholic Schools Office Armidale is notified of a student for whom chronic non-attendance is an issue and previous strategies have failed the Principal and the School Consultant will convene a meeting with the family, the student, and other agencies, if required, to develop a Return to School Plan.

SECTION FOUR: STAFFING PROFILE

The following information describes the staffing profile for 2017:

Total Teaching Staff*	Total Non-Teaching Staff	Combined Total
5	4	9

* This number includes 2 full-time teachers and 3 part-time teachers.

Percentage of staff who are Indigenous	12%
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Professional Learning

The ongoing professional development of each staff member is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including whole school staff days, subject specific in services, meetings and conferences and a range of professional learning programs provided by the Catholic Schools Office Armidale. The School takes responsibility for planning, implementing, evaluating and tracking of its staff professional learning and individual staff members take responsibility for their ongoing professional development. All teachers have been involved in professional learning opportunities during the year related to improving student outcomes.

The School held the equivalent of five staff development days this year with areas of focus as follows:

Term 1	Seven Steps to Successful Writing
Term 2	PARAMTERS 1-14 Vision for Learning/ Core Catholic Principles and Values
Term 3	Lyn Sharratt: Collaborative Inquiry Initiative
Term 4	Paramter 8; Collaborative marking

Staff had the opportunity to continue their development in understanding of the Core Catholic Principles and Values through the presentation of guest speakers.

The new Mathematics syllabus Professional Learning day provided teachers time to re-evaluate scope and sequences to improve their pedagogy across the strands in Mathematics.

Continue to implement the 14 parameters at St. Joseph's Mungindi.

Teacher Standards

The following table sets out the number of teachers who fall into each of the categories determined by NESAs:

Teacher Qualifications		Number of Teachers
1	Those having formal qualifications from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent.	5
2	Those having graduate qualifications but not a formal teaching qualification from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent.	0

SECTION FIVE: CATHOLIC LIFE AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

During 2017 St Joseph's continued to focus on Catholic Identity and to provide opportunities for students, staff, parents and members of the community to celebrate. Fr Abmar, Fr Christopher and Sr. Jan Baker provided guidance and made themselves readily available to help the school have a full and meaningful Liturgical life. Sr Jan was very supportive in the planning and celebration in many facets of school life. Her spiritual guidance for students, staff and parents is invaluable.

The sacramental program was well supported and delivered throughout the year and there was a strong focus on the prayer life of the school. All staff are encouraged to attend weekly Liturgies and Mass. The staff also attended twilight prayer led by the CSO Spirituality team and participated in the Core Catholic Principles and Values focusing the Fidelity in Relationships. The principal was REC this year and participated in Diocesan meetings showcasing how we embed the Core Catholic Principles and Values into our key learning areas.

Students in Years 6 in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Armidale undertake the Diocesan Religious Education (RE) Test annually. The test consists of fifty multiple-choice questions. Results of the test are analysed by teachers and are used to inform teaching and learning in Religious Education.

Our School's average result (as a mark out of 50)	
Year 6	28.40

SECTION SIX: CURRICULUM

The school provides an educational program based on, and taught in accordance with the NESA syllabuses for Primary Education. The Key Learning Areas (KLAs) are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Human Society and its Environment, Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education. In addition, the school implements the curriculum requirements of the Catholic Schools Office Armidale.

In all the Key Learning Areas teachers have planned their teaching in Scope and Sequence documents, Programs of Teaching and Assessment Tasks. Parents are reported to with two written reports each year and through interviews. The individual needs of each student is a key focus and teachers adapt programs, teaching strategies, and resources to match these needs. The school has a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy. All Yr 3 and Yr 5 students take part in the NAPLAN testing program. Students from Year 3-6 participate in The ACER Progressive Achievement Tests in Reading Fourth Edition (PAT Reading). A test for measuring and tracking student achievement in reading comprehension, word knowledge and spelling. It provides teachers with objective information for setting realistic learning goals and planning effective programs. Students participate in the ACER *Progressive Achievement Tests in Mathematics (PATMaths)*. This test is an Australian test designed to provide objective, norm-referenced information to teachers about the level of achievement attained by their students in the skills and understanding of mathematics. The school has a strong technology base with good quality hardware, a wireless array throughout the school, a variety of devices and a commitment to teacher education on the use and integration of technology.

St Joseph's has under the NSW Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan (LNAP), received an proportionate allocation of teacher time to support and monitor the implementation of the K-2 Diocesan Learning Enhancement Strategy.

This is to improve student learning in Literacy and Numeracy with the Leader of Pedagogy setting explicit goals.

St. Joseph's School is developing the culture to become a true professional learning community focusing on student achievement.

Note: Year 3 is below the student number reporting threshold for NAPLAN.

SECTION SEVEN: STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN STATE-WIDE TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN assessment results provide valuable information about student achievements in literacy and numeracy. An analysis of these results assists School planning and is used to support teaching and learning programs.

The tables below show the percentages of students who achieved particular skill bands in numeracy and the aspects of literacy. The School results shown are compared to students nationally. Literacy is reported in four content strands (aspects): Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation. Numeracy is reported as a single content strand.

NAPLAN RESULTS 2017		% of students in the top 2 bands		% of students in the bottom 2 bands	
		School	Australia	School	Australia
Year 3	Reading	0.00%	51.60%	0.00%	10.00%
	Writing	0.00%	44.60%	0.00%	7.50%
	Spelling	0.00%	45.60%	0.00%	13.10%
	Grammar	0.00%	55.50%	0.00%	10.50%
	Numeracy	0.00%	39.80%	0.00%	11.40%

NAPLAN RESULTS 2017		% of students in the top 2 bands		% of students in the bottom 2 bands	
		School	Australia	School	Australia
Year 5	Reading	67.00%	37.00%	0.00%	14.60%
	Writing	17.00%	15.80%	0.00%	19.40%
	Spelling	17.00%	34.30%	0.00%	14.10%
	Grammar	35.00%	35.40%	0.00%	17.50%
	Numeracy	0.00%	27.90%	17.00%	14.60%

Student Welfare Policy

The school and its teachers owe a common law duty of care to take reasonable steps to protect students from any injury that may be reasonably foreseen. This requires teachers and principals not just to react to situations as they arise but to engage in appropriate risk management to reduce the risk of injury.

No changes were made to our Pastoral Care Policy this year.

All staff complete the mandatory e-modules on Child Protection. Staff complete their First aid and CPR course every year to ensure the safety and well-being of all.

The full text of the School's Pastoral Care Policy may be accessed on the School's website or at the administration office.

Discipline Policy

Corporal punishment is expressly prohibited in this School. The School does not sanction administration of corporal punishment by School persons and non-School persons, including parents, to enforce discipline in the School.

St. Joseph's implement the You Can Do It program. The core purpose is the development of young people's social and emotional capabilities, including: Confidence (academic, social), Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along, and Emotional Resilience. Central to the development of these 5 foundations is instilling in young people 12 Habits of the Mind that support and nourish the 5 foundations, including Accepting Myself, Taking Risks, Setting Goals, Planning My Time, Being Tolerant of Others, Thinking First, Playing by the Rules, and Social Responsibility (includes the values of respect, responsibility, caring, fairness and honesty).

BART is the Behaviour Analysis & Reporting Tool which has been developed by the Catholic Education Office to record, track and analyse student behaviour. At St. Joseph's students positive behaviour is reinforced and affirmation is recorded in BART.

No changes were made to our Pastoral Care Policy this year.

The full text of the School's Student Discipline Policy may be accessed on the School's website or at the administration office.

Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy

The Catholic Schools Office, Armidale has established a *Student Anti-Bullying Policy* which is implemented by our school and all systemic schools in the Diocese. It provides a framework for school communities to work together to prevent and address issues of student bullying, in order to build respectful relationships that respond effectively and sensitively to the needs of each person. The Catholic Schools Office (CSO) monitors the implementation of this policy. No changes were made to the policy this year.

The full text of the *Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy* may be accessed on the School's website, the administration office or at the CSO website.

Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy

The Diocese of Armidale has established a *Staff Grievance Policy* which is implemented by our school in the Diocese. Each school also has an individual Grievance Policy and Procedure for dealing with matters at a school level. The rationale for these policies is that within the reality of the schooling experience, it is recognised that, from time to time, misunderstandings and differences of opinion will occur, and that these need to be resolved satisfactorily. Addressing such matters within a framework of dignity, respect and truth can provide powerful opportunities to model the love of Christ in the reality of our contemporary world. The Catholic Schools Office monitors the implementation of these policy. No changes were made to the policy this year.

The full text of the individual policies may be accessed on the School's website, the administration office or at the CSO website.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

St. Joseph's School teaches students the principle of responsibility for their own actions and respect to others. This is supported by our Emmaus Journey and You Can Do It program.

Staff are expected to be examples and models of this behaviour.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) is a student body elected from students themselves. Through the SRC, students can present their needs to teachers and administration. It is also a beneficial training ground where these leaders of tomorrow can work together to accomplish goals.

Students, especially our school leaders are encouraged to take responsibility by fulfilling certain tasks throughout the year.

Experience shows that students love to participate, help and assume a level of responsibility from K-6. School and class rules are set by teachers with input from students themselves and embedded in these rules is respect for others.

Each year, the School develops an Annual Improvement Plan indicating the intended key improvements for student learning outcomes. The plan is drawn from the School's Strategic Improvement Plan and informed by the Catholic School's Office Annual Improvement Plan. The School engages in an annual evidence-based evaluation of its effectiveness against these external standards in collaboration with the Schools Consultant.

Key Improvements Achieved in 2017

The 2017 school year saw a continuing focus on data collection in literacy and numeracy as the driver for data walls and Professional Learning Teams. From the data PLT teams developed case management for student support and extension in class. Writing results from 2016 NAPLAN data indicated an area requiring improvement. The professional development and K-6 implementation of the writing program Seven Steps was introduced on a daily basis every morning in term 1. MiniLit and Reading Tutor Program were implemented enhancing the reading and comprehension skills of students in K-6. Teachers and paraprofessionals led to the success of these intervention programs through maintaining uninterrupted instruction time. Student reading growth improved across the school with ongoing development of our school's Guided Reading and Writing Program.

Priority Key Improvements for 2018

For 2017 a whole school initiative in writing to improve student performance at a school, state and national level. Staff professional development is a priority to ensure the implementation of whole school initiatives to achieve student success. Continue developing the K-2 best practice and improve student learning through additional staffing and the leadership and support from the Leadership team in Literacy and Numeracy.

Building teacher capacity through learning walks and talks is important to support teachers in multi staged classrooms.

An emphasis on higher order thinking questioning is essential to provide our students with the thinking skills required to prepare for the 21st century.

The opinions and ideas of parents, students and teachers are valued and sought. Their suggestions are incorporated into planning for and achieving improved outcomes for students. This year, the School has used a variety of processes to gain information about the level of satisfaction with the School from parents, students and teachers.

Parent Satisfaction

An independent organisation was engaged to survey parents with regards to their level of satisfaction within the key areas of Catholic Ethos, Leadership, General, Teaching and Learning, Resources and the Improvement Process. All areas received good feedback.

16 of the 21 parents completed the survey (76% completion rate is considered excellent).

Student Satisfaction

An independent organisation was engaged to survey teachers with regards to their level of satisfaction within the key areas of Catholic Ethos, Leadership, Staff Engagement, Resources and the Improvement Process. Most areas received excellent feedback, while the area of Catholic Ethos received good feedback.

20 of the 38 students completed the survey (53% completion rate is considered excellent).

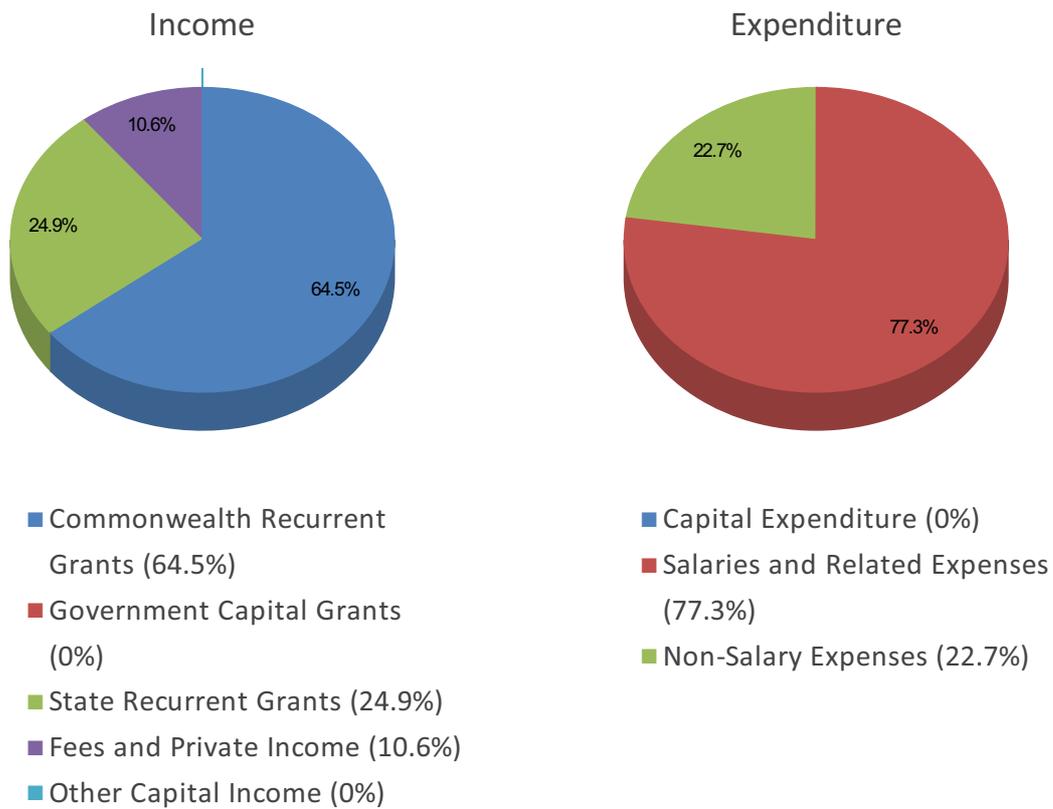
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St Joseph's Primary School (Mungindi) recorded an overall satisfaction score of 82% (4.11 out of 5).

3 of the 9 staff completed the survey (33% completion rate is considered satisfactory).

SECTION ELEVEN: FINANCIAL STATEMENT



This School Financial Information is based on the detailed information provided to the Commonwealth Government in the Commonwealth Financial Questionnaire. School Financial Information for the 2017 year is detailed below:

RECURRENT and CAPITAL INCOME	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants ¹	\$651,750
Government Capital Grants ²	\$0
State Recurrent Grants ³	\$251,432
Fees and Private Income ⁴	\$107,368
Other Capital Income ⁵	\$221
Total Income	\$1,010,771

RECURRENT and CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	
Capital Expenditure ⁶	\$236
Salaries and Related Expenses ⁷	\$749,534
Non-Salary Expenses ⁸	\$220,296
Total Expenditure	\$970,066

Notes

1. Commonwealth Recurrent Grants includes recurrent per capita grants and special purpose grants.
2. Government Capital Grants includes all capital grants received from the Commonwealth and State Governments.

3. State Recurrent Grants includes recurrent grants per capita, special purpose grants and interest subsidy grants.
4. Fees and Private Income include Diocesan and school based fees, excursions and other private income.
5. Other Capital Income includes building levy fees and capital donations used to fund Capital Expenditure.
6. Capital Expenditure includes expenditure on School Buildings, and Furniture and Equipment.
7. Salaries and Related Expenditure includes all salaries, allowances and related expenses such as superannuation and workers compensation insurance.
8. Non-Salary Expenses include all other Non-Salary Recurrent Expenditure covering resources, administration, operational expenses, utilities, repairs and maintenance.