

St Joseph's Primary School

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WALGETT, NSW 2832

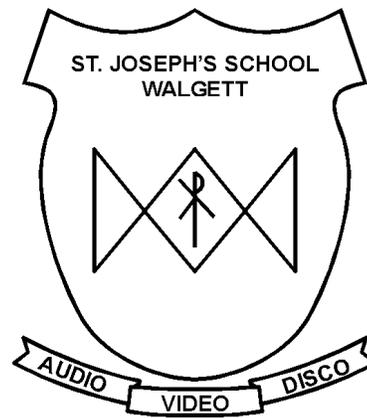
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Parish Priest: Fr Paul Mahony

Parish: St Mary's, Walgett

Principal: Tony Spiller



Annual School Report 2007

Mission/Vision Statement

We the community of St Joseph's Primary School Walgett believe that: "This is what Yahweh asks of us, only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah:6.8).

This request directs us to provide an excellent, well-rounded Primary education founded on Catholic values and beliefs. These values are founded in the person of Jesus Christ - that we "may have life, and have it to the full." The vision cultivates community and identity. It is achieved by fostering constructive relationships within the school and wider community and by upholding a safe, cohesive, welcoming and nurturing environment for all.

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 2007 and gives information about 2008 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. The validated report will be available on the CSO website early in the 2008 school year. The school's Diocesan Education Consultant 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

St Joseph's Primary School was begun in 1896 by the Josephite Sisters. 2007 was a year of adjustments, being the first year that the principal has been other than one belonging to a religious order, the last principal being a Christian Brother.

We welcomed three new Advanced Placement teachers to the school in 2007. The teachers at St Joseph's have demonstrated great competency and dedication. They have helped to create a terrific school spirit. This spirit is commented upon by all who spend time at St Joseph's and work with the children. We are grateful for the many volunteers and support staff who bring their skills and generosity to our Reading and Sport programs and assist in the Tuck Shop which operates every day. The School Counsellor particularly has made a difference for the school. The counsellor has brought commitment and outstanding competence to this important role. 2008 will see St Joseph's with a new experienced male teacher in Year 6, and a competent leader performing the Assistant Principal's role. We are grateful for the last Assistant Principal's contributions.

The death of Walgett's Parish Priest Father P.J. O'Neil, halfway through the year was a great loss for the community and the school. The Catholic

Faith culture is what distinguishes a Catholic school and makes it special and unique. Father P.J. left a community that has consequently been depleted in its Catholic identity. We are fortunate to be able to reclaim some of our loss with the arrival of Father Paul Mahony, Walgett's new Parish Priest. St Joseph's looks forward with excitement to Father Paul's involvement with the school.

The children have been provided with a great range of extra activities this year, by tireless teachers and parents. All children have participated in some of these activities. Not the least of these activities has been the Moorambilla Regional Choir. St Joseph's has performed exceptionally well, at very high levels of competition in Swimming, Rugby League and Netball. This year several new initiatives were introduced. We began a Student Representative Council, a St Vincent de Paul Conference (Mini Vinnies) and a School Choir. We were also successful in our application to the Federal Government for funding for a school Chaplaincy Program. We conducted an important Values Forum which has helped to affirm our identity and provided a valuable spring board for ongoing development in 2008.

The comprehensive building - refurbishment program is now proposed to commence in March 2008. Near the end of the year we will have two new classrooms, and five others refurbished all with interactive whiteboards installed. We are grateful to the C.S.O. for persisting with the project and bringing it to commencement phase.

2007 has seen the school P & F and the School Board make valuable, inspired, community-building decisions. Thank you.

I would like to congratulate all the children for working hard in 2007. The Basic Skills Test results show significant improvement from Year 3 to year 5 and make St Joseph's very competitive. The community is proud especially of the many students who received awards at the Presentation Night. We farewelled a large year 6 cohort. Nearly all gained admission to boarding schools of their choice, thanks to the tireless efforts of our Josephite Parish Assistant.

We look forward with excitement to the 2008 school year when we will continue to celebrate and consolidate our achievements, and to build upon a great school spirit.

Parental Involvement

The School Board has accomplished many things this year. It has been a wonderful, yet challenging year. The School Board has worked in partnership with the Principal as the educational leader to

provide a parents' voice in the education of their children. The Board works closely with the P & F Association whose President is an active Board member.

The School Board is really looking forward to the new building project starting next year. The staff, students and community are also excited about the up and coming building project. The students will be comfortable and cool as each classroom will have a refrigerated cooling system. The new buildings will also include a special room which will be our Information Technology room. This will ensure that our students are well catered for in this department, as I.T. is a big part of the future. Each classroom will also have a special room that will allow the students to receive tuition without any disruptions.

The School Board has seen the Chaplaincy Program develop which will be also very good for the school. This program will start at the beginning of the new year. The Board is very excited about our new parish priest who will be joining us in the new year. We welcome Father Paul Mahony sm. We also participated in the Values Forum which involved looking at St Joseph's Vision and Mission statements. This saw all the student, staff and community members come together and give their opinions and ideas to lead the school into the future.

Chairperson St Joseph's School Board

Student Leadership

As a leader of St Joseph's school in 2007 I would like to thank the school for 7 great years. I have many great memories such as cricket matches on the oval with the principal, many school excursions, representing the school for various sports, school masses with Fr P.J. and just hanging around with my friends.

I have good memories of all my teachers and they have taught me a lot. It is sad to see the Year 6 teacher leave our school as she has been a great teacher and a very good Assistant Principal. I am very happy to know that our other year 6 teacher is taking over from her.

Year 6 has been an especially good year with St Joseph's doing well in many things such as the Ricky Walford Shield and the Science and Engineering Challenge in Narrabri. We also had many good matches against the Primary School in touch footy, rugby league and cricket. It was good to beat them in the Ricky Walford Shield as it has been a long time since that has happened. The girls also won their Netball games.

I will always hear about what is happening at St Joseph's as my brothers and sisters will keep me up to date. I would like to wish Year 6 and all the

teachers and students at St Joseph's good luck in 2008 and thank you for giving me a great start in life. I am sad to leave, but excited to be moving on to a new school.

Thanks,

Boy School Captain

School Profile

School History

The Sisters of St Joseph's Perthville (Black Josephites) opened St Joseph's convent in 1896. At this time Walgett was in the Bathurst Diocese. The Superior of the community of four sisters was Sr. Immaculata.

In 1901, Walgett was transferred to the Armidale Diocese and the Sisters of St Joseph returned to Perthville. On the 13th January 1902 Sisters Anastasia, Fibar, Rosalie and Antonia came from Mount Street, North Sydney and so began the 93 years of the Brown Josephites in Walgett.

After a 93 year history the Sisters of St Joseph withdrew from the running of St Joseph's Primary School and the Christian Brothers took over in 1995. The first community consisted of three Brothers, Ray Dowding, John Giaccon and Ray Walker.

The traditional custodians of the area are the Gamilaraay/Yuwalaraay people, many of whom live in town and surrounding districts. 60% of the school students are Aboriginal.

The school consists of seven buildings including a new library and computer laboratory. This building replaced the original church, which had been used as the library, as it was destroyed by fire in 2002.

Location/Drawing Area

St Joseph's Primary School is situated at the Western most point of the Armidale Diocese. Walgett is located in the North West slopes and plains of NSW at the junction of the Namoi and Barwon Rivers. Walgett is three hours drive from Dubbo, eight hours from Sydney and five hours from Armidale where our Catholic Schools Office is located.

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
2005	87	104	191
2006	84	87	171
2007	82	97	179

Student Mobility

We welcomed 10 new students during 2007, and 18 children left during the year.

Student Attendance

The average daily attendance for 2007 was 85.1%.

Structuring of Classes

In 2007 our students were accommodated in 8 classes: Kindergarten, K/1, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.

The 62 children in Kindergarten and Year 1 were divided into three classes: K, K/1 and Year 1 – each having approximately 20 students.

Staff Profile

There are 11 teachers at St Joseph's (including the principal); 3 executive staff members (including the principal), 8 classroom teachers, 1 Special Ed. Teacher, 1 librarian.

Years of teaching experience: 3 teachers have 25 years experience, 3 teachers have 5 – 10 years experience, 2 teachers have 2 years experience and three teachers are in their first year of teaching.

There were 7 ½ specialist support staff. This includes 3 ½ Aboriginal Assistants and 2 Aboriginal Language teachers.

Each staff member took part in Staff Development Days, on average 2 per term. All these days dealt with professional development topics and individual inservice days – relevant to individual teachers.

The average daily staff attendance rate for 2007 was 96.7%.

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 %

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

* Australian Education Institution - National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition

Staff Professional Learning

Diocesan Meetings/Workshops/Conferences: Religious Education Coordinator, Assistant Principal, Principal;

K-2, Religious Education Storytelling Training;

New Teachers' Accreditation Project workshop;

Count Me in Two training;

National Safe Schools Conference;

Assistant Principals Retreat;

Challenging Thinking Workshop;

Musica Viva Workshop;

Reporting and Assessment Workshop;

REC Appraisal;

REC Catholic Schools Office Meetings;

REC Conference;

WYD Spirituality and Catechism Conference;

PART Training;

Computer Program Training;

Assessment and Grading Workshop;

Behavioural Management Workshops;

Engaging Learning Workshops;

Values Forum;

One Day - Reflection/Retreat;

iKi Magic P.D.H.P.E. Training;

The average expenditure per teacher on professional learning for 2007 was \$1606.

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

St Joseph's School is part of St Mary's Parish, Walgett and is located across the street from the Parish Church. The Religious Education co-ordinator prepares a detailed Liturgical Calendar for each Term well in advance of events. This is planned in collaboration with the Parish Priest and Parish Worker.

All students have the opportunity to take part in Mass, Services of the Word and Reconciliation on a regular basis. At the school assembly on Monday to Wednesday and Friday, a teacher leads the school community in prayer and each Thursday student leaders lead the school community in prayer. Teachers pray with their students each day in their classrooms and each classroom has a prayer focus area. During each term throughout the year, every class has the opportunity to attend Reconciliation and to celebrate a class Mass. Parents, friends and family members are invited to attend these Masses.

The school community celebrates special feast days and liturgical events with Mass or Liturgies, eg. Opening School Mass, St Patrick's Day, Feast of St Joseph, Feast of the Sacred Heart.

In 2007 the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist were not held due to the Death of Father PJ O'Neill CSsR. These sacraments will be received by the children in 2008.

Staff and Student Faith Formation

Students receive a Religious Education lesson each day and are provided with prayer time and reflective opportunities. Teaching staff are encouraged to participate in retreats held in the Diocese. During fourth term 2007, staff participated in a reflection/retreat day at Nolans on the Barwon run by Sr. Colleen O'Sullivan rsj. The day was very productive. This reflection day led into our Values Forum held the following day.

At staff meetings and on one designated time per week, each staff member takes a turn to lead a prayer. St Joseph's subscribes to "Living Faith" a daily Catholic devotions booklet. Each staff member receives a copy of this booklet. Staff members are encouraged to participate in Sunday mass and afternoon mass.

Year 6 Religious Education Test

	Diocesan (%)	This School (%)
Average score 2005	63.1	59
Average score 2006	66.5	72
Average score 2007	69.6	68.3

Social Justice

Justice is part of the school's Mission Statement. The school tries to model justice through its staff as role models.

During the year, St Joseph's teachers received some training in Restorative Justice techniques by the Armidale Catholic Schools Office.

The school raises funds for Project Compassion and children's missions.

Parish Links

St Joseph's has a good association with the local parish with students and staff participating in Sunday liturgies as readers and singers. The students from St Joseph's form guards of honour at the funerals of those in the parish who have been connected to the school. We also fly the Australian and Aboriginal flags at half mast.

Outside of school and Sunday liturgies, the parish priest is a welcome and regular visitor to the school to talk to and be with staff and students. This is very much appreciated by both students and staff.

At the end of the year a "Mini Vinnies", St Vincent de Paul Conference was inaugurated at the school. This conference is still in its infancy, and will be put into action early in the 2008 school year.

St Joseph's has parish representatives as school board members and P&F members including the Parish Priest and Parish Associate.

Respect and Responsibility

At St Joseph's we promote acceptance of others and promote the Gospel values. The students are congratulated on their manners and how they wear their uniform with pride. The teachers, parents and

visitors are shown respect, and in turn, show respect to the students.

The Values Forum conducted in 2007 produced a set of values founded on the Gospel which guide the functioning of St Joseph's.

We encourage students to take responsibility for their actions and words.

Throughout the year a number of services, promoting the importance of community involvement, were attended by the students. Students take pride in being involved in community events such as: the World Day of Prayer, Anzac Day Service, Remembrance Day Service, NAIDOC Week, and in Reconciliation and Welcoming Dances.

In 2007 a Students Representative Council (SRC) was formed. Staff and students elected a boy and girl from each class to form an SRC. The school SRC will develop leadership and enable SRC members to be involved in the functioning of the school. During SRC meetings, we discuss and implement ideas that will foster a caring and nurturing environment, community building and the pursuit of excellence.

The school also participated in the CROC Festival programme of events, in order to foster a spirit of respect for Aboriginal Australians and their culture.

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

LITERACY / NUMERACY: The Literacy Numeracy plan directs a focus on areas needing development. These areas are identified using results of the B.S.T. from the previous year.

SPELLING PROGRAM: We have implemented a whole-school approach to spelling. The outcomes of this program have been assessed. This assessment demonstrates substantial improvement in spelling outcomes across the school, including some outstanding individual performances.

SCIENCE and ENGINEERING: This year our Year 6 children attended the Science and Engineering Challenge held in Narrabri. The Science and Engineering Challenge, or the "Challenge" as it is better known, is an outreach program conducted by the University of Newcastle and supported by Rotary International. The Challenge gives Primary

and Secondary school students the opportunity to engage in a number of exciting activities related to science, technology and engineering. It was a WONDERFUL opportunity for our children to be involved in educational activities that are usually only available to schools in major cities.

SCIENCE and COMPUTING: St Joseph's is very fortunate to have been invited to participate in the SiMERR (The National Centre of Science, Information and Communication Technology and Mathematic Education for Rural and Regional Australia) program run by the University of New England, Faculty of Education, Health and Professional Studies. SiMERR Australia works with schools in rural, regional and remote communities to achieve improved educational outcomes for all students in the areas of Science, ICT and Mathematics. We will be working with selected schools in remote areas including Western Australia, Northern Territory and Tasmania.

The specific project in which we are involved, is entitled "Social Computing Enhancing Learning in Remote Australia". Social Computing tools are especially valuable for schools such as ours that are located in remote areas of Australia.

As our first project we used the "blog" (WeBlog) tool with our Year 1 students. 'Zoe', our toy joey, loves having adventures and having her photo taken. Each week two children from Year 1 take Zoe home over night for some fun and excitement. Joey can't write so the children write the stories of her adventures and post blogs to the Joey Adventures website. <http://stjoeys.edublogs.org>

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY: This year our computing department received a welcome boost from the installation of a wireless network system throughout the school campus. We look forward to the installation of Interactive WhiteBoard technology in each classroom in 2008.

QUALITY LEARNING PROGRAM: The school staff participated in further stages of the Quality Learning Program which provides tools to encourage our students to become independent thinkers and learners. It also provided valuable strategies for whole school planning.

ADDITIONAL NEEDS: All students are supported by an Additional Needs teacher, along with an Aboriginal Education Assistant. Aides to assist integrated students and additional teachers are used to implement specially funded programs (In Class Tuition, PSPI etc).

ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM: Our LOTE subject is local Aboriginal language (Yuwaalaraay).

BOUNCE BACK: A social skills (resilience) program "Bounce Back" was run in the school during the

whole year with a common focus across the whole school each week.

HOMEWORK CENTRE: This year we have established a HomeWork Centre. The Homework Centre operates once a week and caters for around 25 children and is very successful. It has improved the rate of homework completion in the school The children enjoy going to the HomeWork Centre.

FUNDING FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS: Country Areas Program (CAP) provides valuable resources such as professional development for teachers.

COMPETITIONS: Our children participated in a large range of academic competitions during the year including English, Maths, and Computing, Science. These competitions provided opportunities, especially for the high achievers, to shine.

WORKSHOPS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Many workshops have been conducted for staff development during the year.

* Religious Education and English: Infants teachers attended a workshop which showed them how to use the story-telling approach to teaching Religious Education and English.

* Language and Religious Education: Armidale Catholic Schools Office consultants attended the school to train and support teaching of Language and Religious Education programs across the school.

* Mathematics: Teachers were workshopped in Maths teaching techniques and strategies associated with the "Count Me In Too" program.

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 state-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.

Basic Skills Test

There were 21 Year 3 and 18 Year 5 students who sat for the 2007 Basic Skills Test. Year 3 is reported

in Bands 1-5; Year 5 in Bands 1-6, with Bands 5 and 6 respectively being the highest.

Year 3

Literacy: 26% of students were in Bands 1 and 2, with 5% of students in Band 5. The best performance was in *Language*, followed by *Reading* and *Writing*.

Numeracy: 50% of students were in Bands 1 and 2, with 5% of students in Band 5. The best performance was in *Number, Patterns and Algebra*, followed by *Measurement and Data, Space and Geometry*.

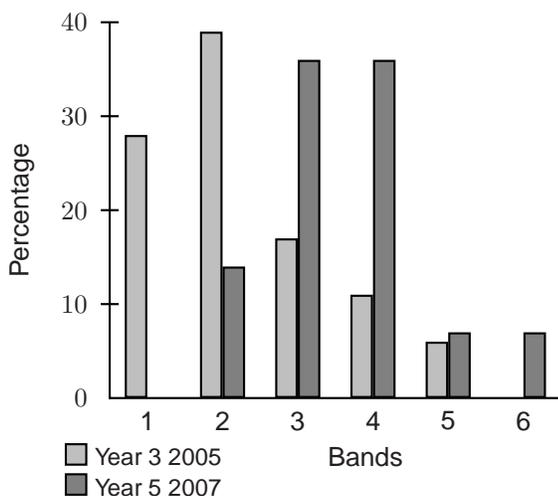
Year 5

Literacy: 14% of students were in Bands 1 and 2, with 7% of students in Bands 5 and 6. The best performance was in *Reading*, followed by *Writing* and *Language*. The percentage of students with learning growth for *Overall Literacy* greater than the expected one skill band was 33%.

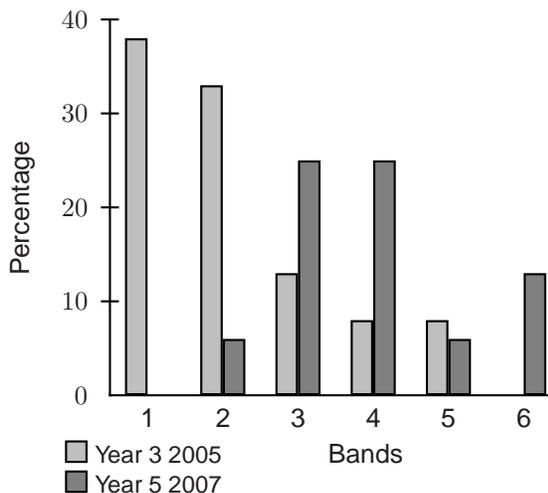
Numeracy: 31% of students were in Bands 1 and 2, with 13% of students in Bands 5 and 6. The best performance was in *Space and Geometry*, followed by *Measurement and Data* and *Number, Patterns and Algebra*. The percentage of students with learning growth for *Numeracy* greater than the expected one skill band was 50%.

Comparison of Cohort

Literacy



Numeracy



National Benchmarks

The table below indicates as a percentage the Year 3 and Year 5 of students achieving the national benchmarks.

	Year 3 (%)		Year 5 (%)	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Reading	95	86	79	78
Writing	87	86	83	72
Numeracy	91	95	87.5	67

Note: National Benchmarks not included as they have not yet been published

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.

In 2007, St Joseph's has been running the Bounceback program which is aimed at developing

Resilience in the students. The program is synchronised across the school so that the same theme is treated each week at each stage.

The school is also running the iKi Magic program which responds to the need for respect that each individual has.

PCYC continue their involvement at St. Joseph's. The police officers give classroom lessons on bullying and harassment.

St Joseph's has formulated a set of values that will guide its policy formulation and its daily functioning. These values were developed at the Federal Government's mandatory Values Forum conducted by St Joseph's in 2007.

The full text of school and diocesan policies are available at the school office.

Planning was completed in 2007 for a thorough review and restating of St. Joseph's Pastoral Care Statement and the production of a Code of Behaviour. This is to occur in the first half of 2008 - as specified in St Joseph's 2008 Annual Development Plan.

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 CSO Website.

A review of St Joseph's Discipline Policy is incorporated into the 2008 Annual Development Plan.

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 at the school office.

Parent, Student and Staff Satisfaction

Following are the results of a satisfaction survey conducted in December 2007.

All sectors indicated that they are highly satisfied that the school helps students to know God and to understand the Catholic Faith.

The children are proud of their school and they know their rights and responsibilities. Teachers and students agree that students are challenged to maximise their learning outcomes. A proportion of parents believe that the students need to be challenged more.

The overall sense of the survey is that parents/carers, students and teachers are generally satisfied with the functioning of St. Joseph's. There are some areas requiring attention.

This survey indicates that the school should do more in the areas of:

- * meeting certain specific needs of the students;
- * providing more information in an appropriate form to parents about student's progress;
- * providing a safer and cleaner school environment for the students and teachers;
- * staff having a greater input into school decision making;
- * students feeling safer related to a need for more to be done to prevent bullying.

The students:

- * know who to go to if they have a problem;
- * believe that St Joseph's has very good teachers;
- * maintain that the school is preparing them well to advance to the next class and high school.

The St Joseph's community sees computer technology as a great strength in the school. The community agrees that the school provides adequate opportunities for parents/carers to contribute and become involved.

School Review and Development

Annual School Priorities 2007

School priorities for 2007 as identified in the 2007 Annual Development Plan include:

- * Reviewing and restating St Joseph's Vision and Mission statements;
- * Planning a schedule for school liturgical celebrations;
- * Religious Education programs being compliant with Armidale Catholic Schools Office requirements;
- * Effective supervision of new teachers for meeting requirements of the Institute of Teachers;
- * Production of a school budget that can be administered electronically;
- * Accessing relevant support services for the school;
- * Planning and implementing all required curriculum using a standard programming format;
- * Reviewing and restating St Joseph's Pastoral Care statement and Behaviour Management procedures;
- * Managing the school playground so that it is a safe, happy and constructive environment.

Projected School Priorities 2008

School priorities for 2008 as identified in the 2008 Annual Development Plan include:

- * Reviewing and restating St Joseph's Pastoral Care Statement and designing a Code of Behaviour;
- * Developing role statements for all areas of responsibility;
- * Development of teachers in different forms of prayer;
- * Development of a Minnie Vinnies conference - to help promote justice and provide service for the community and Catholic Church;
- * Review / development of procedures to ensure an effective and safe physical environment at the school;

- * Evaluating, Developing and Implementing effective communication systems in the school;

- * Refining of budget procedures including increasing school income; Involving more parents / carers in the school, especially Aboriginal parents;

- * Improving writing skills across the school;

- * Analysing BST results to inform teaching programs to improve student performance;

- * Improving the quality of the school environment so the whole community feels safe and is productive;

- * Students becoming more independent learners.

Major Achievements from the 2007 Annual Plan

- * One of the major achievements from the 2007 Annual plan was the evaluation and development of the Vision and Mission statements for St Joseph's. This was achieved by consultation with the St Joseph's school community. These statements will provide direction for the development of all future definition and planning.

- * St Joseph's has optimized its participation in Walgett's relevant social and cultural events;

- * The school has participated in New Scheme Teacher's and other professional development provided by the Armidale Catholic Schools Office and C.A.P.

- * A school budget has been produced and is electronically monitored;

- * A school counsellor has been inducted as one of the school's support services;

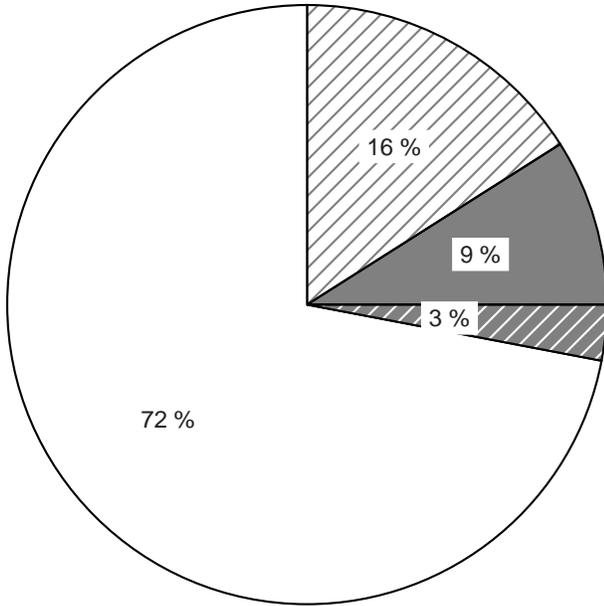
- * Curriculum implementation employs standard programming and planning procedures across the years (K-6).

- * BST and R.E. results have been analyzed and used to inform teaching programs to achieve overall improvements in student performance;

- * Teaching programs indicate differentiation for all learners.

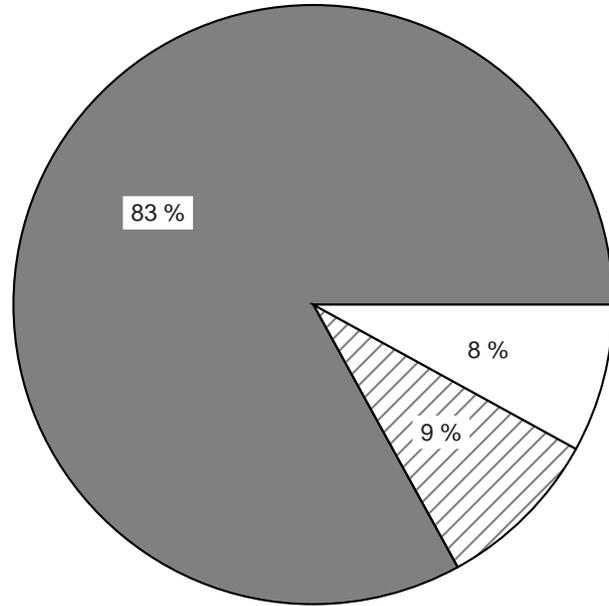
Financial Statement

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's Diocesan Education Consultant.