St Oliver Plunkett School

In consultation with parents, staff and the wider community, a Strategic Renewal Plan: 2007 – 2011 has been developed. As we draw to the conclusion of the 2007-2011 cycle, our aim is to share with you some of the actions for 2011. These actions are listed under the four Key Dimensions of the School Renewal Plan - Administration and Organisation, Pastoral Care and Spirituality, Curriculum Teaching and Learning, and Communication and Relationships.

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANISATION

Through the administration and organization of the school, develop processes which offer accountability for the organization, management and stewardship of school resourcing within a safe, well-equipped and well-maintained environment.

Goals for 2007 – 2011

We intend to:

- Implement School Renewal Plan processes
- Present School Renewal Plan for validation
- Manage budgeting and finances
- Increase resourcing throughout school
- Review and address building and maintenance needs/issues
- Continue improvement of the school’s physical facilities
- Improve student with disability access throughout the school
- Make applications to outside agencies for funds to assist with school improvements
- Attend to workplace health and safety items
- Address ICLT direction and resourcing
- Improve function of school office and purchase of equipment

Achievements of 2010

- Planning continued on BCEC Strategic Renewal Framework
- Funding for BER project for Multi-Functional Learning Environment and tennis court cover received
- Utilisation of Vision for Learning and Teaching in curriculum planning and development
- School ICLT audit utilized and appropriate resources purchased
- Wireless connectivity upgrade continued for use by staff and students
- Purchase of notebooks (57) and netbooks (24) with storage facilities
- Solar panels installed
- Improved classroom environments through window replacement and installation of joinery
- Covering of connecting walkways
- Applications to various outside grant organizations
- Continue with asset register implementation
- Financial practices and processes of the school reviewed and reported.
- Purchase of new classroom furniture for students
- Increased Support Teacher and Guidance Counsellor facilities
PASTORAL CARE AND SPIRITUALITY in the Catholic Tradition

Through a Pastoral Care and Spirituality approach promote a school with a dynamic vision of God’s love with a strong Catholic identity meeting the needs of students, staff and parents in our school community.

Goals for 2007 – 2011

We intend to:

- Further develop the religious dimension of the school and continue the mission of the Catholic school
- Enhance staff spirituality
- Review R.E. celebrations in the school
- Review the special needs evident in the school and make proposals
- Support students throughout the school
- Encourage spiritual and pastoral behaviour and promote Catholic practices
- Investigate facilities and opportunities for counseling children in need

Achievements of 2010

- Religious Education inservice for staff was conducted in areas of prayer, and learning and teaching
- Spirituality inservice for staff
- Dedicated weekly staff prayer time
- Pastoral Care Day for students held each semester
- St Oliver Plunkett Feast Day celebrated through liturgy and activities
- Liturgical calendar of the Church celebrated through class prayer, assemblies and liturgies
- Four school-sponsored parish Masses were celebrated
- Specific requirements in relation to Special Needs children were continued to be addressed
- Extra assistance was provided across the school by Literacy Support teacher, Inclusion teacher, CST and School Officers
- IEP, EAP and Support Team meetings held
- Watson Road Programme for social skilling continued in Early Years
- Teachers inserviced in behaviour and special needs support
- Continue liaison between school and parish sacramental team
CURRICULUM, TEACHING AND LEARNING

Through attending to curriculum development create a high quality teaching and learning environment which develops reflective, self-directed learners.

Goals for 2007 – 2011

We intend to:

- Engage and develop students, through involvement in teaching and learning activities, to be life-long learners
- Sustain planning and pedagogy in Maths
- Implement new Maths Syllabus
- Develop and publish school Numeracy Plan
- Support class and LOTE teachers in the process of integrating LOTE across the curriculum
- Identify and combine aspects of ICLT across the school
- Review outdoor education principles and practices
- Respond to development in curriculum
- Enhance and strengthen outcomes based curriculum practices
- Provide access to quality professional development in all Key Learning Areas

Achievements of 2010

- Vision for Teaching and Learning utilised in curriculum planning
- Whole School Literacy Plan implemented in 2010
- Professional Conversations held with groups of teachers each term
- Continued development of new school ICLT plan
- Development of Literacy Blocks across school
- Continued use of electronic programme for curriculum management
- Continued professional Development for staff in Curriculum Organiser
- Use of Easy School Reporter: new system for assessment, data gathering and reporting
- Employment of CST, Literacy Co-ordinator and teacher aide to support Literacy outcomes
- Continue to provide opportunities for staff to attend professional development
- Continued culling and replacement of outdated computers carried out
- Awareness of students with disabilities highlighted.
COMMUNICATION AND RELATIONSHIPS
Through articulating and living the vision and mission of St Oliver Plunkett School develop positive communication and relationships within the school, parish and wider community.

Goals for 2007 – 2011

We intend to:

- Investigate and make decision about the distinctive identity of the school
- For the school to be a collaborative partner within the parish and wider community
- Identify service organisations in local area and establish contacts
- Consolidate links with parish community
- Develop school policies
- Inform parents on curriculum direction and development
- Communicate relevant curriculum developments to parents
- Promote school within the community
- Network with teachers from other schools

Achievements of 2010

- Utilisation of new promotional package for the school
- School participated in Morningside Festival
- School activities / events were forwarded and published in the local newspaper
- Support for initial organisation of 2011 fete
- School choirs placed in local competitions and eisteddfods
- Students performed each term for the Seniors of the parish community
- School Board continued development of school policies in consultation with community
- Surveyed parents and caregivers regarding various matters
- Encouraged parent / caregiver support for inter- and intra- school events (e.g. Ollies Vollies)
- Students participated in various interschool competitions in sport, dance and singing