School Name | St Mary's Primary School
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Principal's Foreword
Introduction

The Annual report gives insight into the progress made throughout 2012 by St Mary's and the continued focus our school has on the improvement of Literacy and Numeracy achievement for all learners.

St Mary’s is a Catholic Co-educational Primary School located in the heart of the historical, provincial city of Ipswich. The school has a rich tradition of providing quality education, from a Catholic perspective, to the children of Ipswich and surrounds. We are a member of the Brisbane Catholic Education community of schools.

OUR MISSION
As a value-centred teaching and learning community, we, the members of St Mary's Primary School:
• live the mission of Jesus Christ and his Church…to build the kingdom
• facilitate the development of the whole person spiritually, emotionally, socially, intellectually and physically
• foster the development of each person in a spirit of love and acceptance so that he/she is empowered as a responsible citizen to promote equality and justice in the world.

School Profile

St Mary's Primary is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational [✓] or Single Sex [ ]
Year levels offered: Primary [✓] Secondary [ ] P-12 [ ]
Total student enrolments for this school 625

Total Enrolment 625  Girls 341  Boys 284
Characteristics of the student body

The St Mary's student body is drawn from the city of Ipswich and its surrounds. We are a diverse community in terms of socioeconomic status and educational background. Together with the Brisbane Catholic Education Office, St Mary's has a dedicated approach to supporting students with learning needs.

In 2012 we implemented the position of Literacy and Numeracy Teacher to support improvement of learning outcomes in our student body. The majority of the students are of the Catholic faith, with students from other Christian denominations and other faith traditions contributing to the religious culture of the school. The following subsets of students contribute to the unique characteristics of the school:

- English as a Second Language - 15 students
- Indigenous - 26 students
- Defence Force Students - 32
- Verified Students - 22

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

St Mary's offers the following distinctive curriculum initiatives and extra curricular offerings:

- ‘School Wide Positive Behaviour Support’ – In 2012 the part-time position of Behaviour Support was created. This employee worked with teachers on the Essential Skills of Teaching, the development of simple rules and expectations that are set within a positive rewards system and together with the school's guidance officer implemented proactive social skills programs.

Specialist teachers provide and enhance learning programs in:
- Music
- Dance
- Physical Education
- Cultural Literacy and Languages (Japanese)
- Inclusive Education
- A speech pathologist visits St Mary's weekly to work with identified students and to support teachers in the development of class programs.
- Curriculum Support Teacher assists and supports with planning, monitoring and assessing learning activities for all students.
Extra curricula activities

• Instrumental Music Program Yr 3-7
• School choirs' involvement in local Eisteddfods
• Leisure program for years 5 to 7 including squash, lawn bowls and
  • Excursions for classes P-7
• Outdoor Education camps for Years 5 & 7
• Outside School Hours Care program
• Interschool sporting opportunities for all students Years 5-7
• Cross country & athletics training for all students in Years 1-7 with selected students chosen to
  compete at local, district and state level.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

The school endeavours to embed the use of Information and Communication Technologies in every aspect of the teaching learning cycle. Students from Prep to Year 7 regularly access one of the two computer laboratories with 30 computers in each, not only to learn computing skills but also to enhance their learning. Each classroom has a computer and data projector to support the learning program. Interactive whiteboards are also utilized to engage students and enhance the teaching learning process. The school is networked via fibre optic cabling which supports efficient and effective data retrieval. The school's wireless footprint allows network access by students and teachers throughout all buildings and grounds allowing enhanced connectivity.

A bank of 15 laptops plus Ipads help students develop skills and strategies necessary for them to become digital citizens.

Teachers have access to online curriculum resources and school data storage to support the development of teaching/learning programs focused on the learning needs of all students in our school. In 2012, teachers utilized an online reporting tool to support continuous assessment for and of learning.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

The school ensures that a positive school culture is developed at every available formal and informal opportunity through the teaching and modelling of core Gospel Values. We achieve this in a variety of ways:

• Making Jesus Real philosophy is at the core of all we do.
• Ensuring that Positive Behaviour is not only a Policy but is taught, rewarded and re-enforced.
• Guidance Counsellor services
• You Can Do It Program
• Class “Buddy” System
• Providing opportunities for students to learn about and participate in social justice activities.
• Working with Parish community to offer sacramental programs
• Variety of learning support programs coordinated by a Student Learning Support Teacher Inclusive Education.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

St Mary’s Primary School uses a range of indicative data to inform school policy, procedures and practices. The School P&F and Board are consulted on many issues and play important roles in providing the Leadership Team with feedback. Community surveys and questionnaires are used to help set school goals and provide feedback to help establish and maintain the School Renewal Plan. P&F and Board meeting agendas and feedback also provide invaluable information about parent satisfaction. The BCE Staff Satisfaction Survey conducted during 2012 found that the school staff members were excited, enthusiastic, absorbed and dedicated about and to their work.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

Parental involvement is an essential aspect of school life at St Mary’s. The Pastoral School Board supports the strategic direction of the school and is a gathering of staff, parish and parent representatives. Our P&F plays a vital role in nurturing our sense of community, in supporting the maintenance and improvement of the learning environment for students, and in addressing and responding to broader educational issues. This year under the umbrella of the P&F, parent Class Liaison Officers were established to enhance communication between parents and the school. Each year in February Parent information evenings provide the opportunity for parents and teachers to develop a shared understanding and commitment to the children in their care. At these meetings, teachers provide parents with an overview of the learning activities with which students will engage over the year ahead.

Staff Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time equivalents</td>
<td>29.2</td>
<td>8.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>1 teacher and 1 school officer identify as indigenous</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Qualifications of all teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest level of attainment</th>
<th>Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning
The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2012 was $95,500.
The major professional development initiatives were as follows:
- Planning and unpacking the Australian English Curriculum - 2 days per teacher per term.
- Focus on the use of ‘High Yield’ teaching strategies.
- Strategies for teaching the Australian History Curriculum
- Strategies for teaching children with Special Needs
- Essential Skills of Teaching
- Social Emotional Learning
- Professional learning in Religion and personal Spiritual development of teachers.

School Income by Funding Source
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.
To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:
‘Find a school’ text box.
Where it says ‘Search by school name’, type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select <GO>’. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school’s My School entry web page.
School financial information is available by selecting ‘School finances’ in the menu box in the top left corner of the school’s entry web page.

Average staff attendance rate
The staff attendance rate was 97.7% in 2012.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year
From the end of the 2011 school year, __________ % of staff were retained by the school for the 2012 year.

Key Student Outcomes

| Whole School Attendance Rate | 93.7 % |
| Prep Attendance Rate         | N/A    |
| Year 1 Attendance Rate       | 94.7 % |
| Year 2 Attendance Rate       | 94.2 % |
| Year 3 Attendance Rate       | 94.5 % |
| Year 4 Attendance Rate       | 94.3 % |
| Year 5 Attendance Rate       | 91.2 % |
| Year 6 Attendance Rate       | 92.5 % |
| Year 7 Attendance Rate       | 93.6 % |
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

St Mary's Primary actively promotes regular and consistent attendance at school by all students. Teachers monitor student attendance through formal practices including taking class rolls twice a day. There are also formal procedures for reporting back to parents when school attendance may become an issue and begin to impact on academic learning and social development. Teachers encourage student attendance by implementing a challenging and engaging curriculum and providing a safe, warm and supportive environment for all students.

Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following

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