Principal’s Foreword

Introduction

St Joseph’s is a Catholic Primary Coeducational School for students from Prep to Year 7. It belongs to a community of Catholic primary schools within the Archdiocese of Brisbane Catholic Education. Our mission is to provide high quality inclusive Catholic education in the spirit of Mary MacKillop. Our staff forms a professional and dedicated team, committed to best practice and encouraged to be innovative and creative. We offer a broad based curriculum providing a range of opportunities and experiences that deliberately fosters growth in students as life-long learners. We promote strong parent & school partnerships in our endeavour to build a caring, supportive and welcoming school community.
Characteristics of the student body

The majority of students come from middle income Catholic families within our local Parish suburbs of Nundah, Wavell Heights, Virginia, Northgate & Clayfield with a small percentage of Christian and other religions making up the faith dimension of the school. 20% of our students are from ESL backgrounds.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Middle Schooling for Years 5, 6 & 7
- Student Leadership Program
- Program Achieve - You Can Do It! A Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum
- Access to online learning programs - Mathletics & Reading Eggs
- Literacy Improvement Programs - Reading to Learn, UQ ELF Program (Years 1-2), PAL Program - Phonological Awareness Learning Program (Years 3-7), Visualisation Program & Multi-Lit (Years 2-7)
- Specialist teachers in Visual Arts, Physical Education, Italian, Early Years Music
- Outdoor Education Program (Years 6 & 7 Camp)
- Perceptual Motor Program (Years P-1)
- LOTE – Italian for all Year 4-7 students
- Dance (Years P-7)
- Homework Grid – a concept designed by internationally renowned educator, Ian Lillico, to make homework meaningful and enjoyable.
Extra curricula activities

- Instrumental Music Program - Piano, Drums & Guitar
- Choir
- Junior & Senior Chess Club
- Marathon Club - Fitness Program
- Gardening Club
- Inter-school Sport and Athletics
- Mandarin Language Lessons
- Tennis
- Library Monitoring – a voluntary activity for students in Years 4 - 7

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

ICLT is embedded in the class curriculum across each year level from Prep - Year 7. The use of wireless technology enables students to have easy access to a range of digital tools through laptop computers, iPads, iPods and digital cameras.

Students design, present, publish, investigate, collaborate and network with Web 2.0 tools. Interactive technologies such as digital projectors, interactive whiteboards and touch screens support collaborative and explorative student learning.

All staff members utilise ICT to facilitate learning.

Our School Portal provides online access to Workspaces for staff and students.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

The welcoming, inclusive and nurturing nature of St Joseph’s School is a definitive feature of our community. Our commitment to such a social climate is reflected in our Vision & Mission Statement and School Wellbeing Framework. The following social and pastoral programs are in operation:

- Making Jesus Real
- Pastoral Care Program
- Cool Schools Peer Mediation
- Class Covenants
- Buddy Program
- Student Protection
- Guidance Counselling

Bullying is not tolerated within our school and steps are taken to ensure bullying behaviour is dealt with appropriately in a swift and decisive manner.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Feedback from our External School Review, Principal and APRE Reviews, P&F Meetings, Parent/Teacher meetings, class meetings, parent, staff and student surveys indicate that staff and parents are very happy with the ongoing renewal taking place at St Joseph’s. Significant improvements in the physical and learning environments of the school and staff commitment to professional learning have enhanced levels of student engagement and achievement. Parents, staff and students appreciate the welcoming and inclusive nature of the school, its strong identity with the Mary MacKillop charism, provision of a challenging learning environment and attention to individual student needs.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

Parent Participation in the educational life of their children is important and valued at St Joseph’s. Strong and significant partnerships are sought between staff and parents/carers to support students. Parents are involved in their children’s education through the following avenues:

- Parents and Friends Association
- Classroom support
- Tuckshop helpers
- Library helpers
- Parent information sessions
- Parent/teacher conferences
- Sports training

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>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
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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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>5%</td>
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Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2013 was $30,983.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

Visible Learning
Religious Education curriculum
Australian Curriculum - Science, Geography, Numeracy & IT
English - Reading to Learn
Middle Schooling

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 98.96% in 2013.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2012 school year, 100% of staff were retained by the school for the 2013 year.

Key Student Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance Rate</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Whole School Attendance Rate | 94%
| Prep Attendance Rate     | N/A |
| Year 1 Attendance Rate   | 94% |
| Year 2 Attendance Rate   | 93% |
| Year 3 Attendance Rate   | 93% |
| Year 4 Attendance Rate   | 94% |
| Year 5 Attendance Rate   | 93% |
| Year 6 Attendance Rate   | 95% |
| Year 7 Attendance Rate   | 94% |
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

In the event of a student being absent from school a written explanation or telephone call to the school office stating the nature of the absence is required from parents. Information is recorded in the Student Information Management system. Teachers mark daily attendance in morning and afternoon using the electronic roll marking facility on School Portal. Late arrivals and students leaving early are noted. Absentee notes are kept on file. Repeated or extended, unexplained absences are noted and reported to the school office and followed up by Administration.

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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