Principal’s Foreword

Introduction

2013 has been an extremely busy year with many new developments. My educational philosophy is to constantly look for new opportunities for the holistic development of all our students. Just a few of these new opportunities, facilities and events this year were:

- Cow Horse Competition with about 90 competitors demonstrating their incredible equestrian talents.
- Year 4/5 playground which has provided new challenges increased motor skills and a few bumps and bruises.
- New shared classes which began to accommodate the growth in our middle primary.
- Increased sporting facilities: Basketball hoops, cricket nets, futsal nets, multipurpose goals (league, union and soccer).
- Career & Employment Transition Coach employed to assist students (especially those with disabilities) into careers and employment.
- Australian Futsal Championships: Many students were given the opportunity to compete in the Australian competition.
- P6 Technology upgrades including: iPads for classes especially Early Years and Year 2-6 computers increased to 38 machines.
- Development of the F1 CO₂ racing cars project.
- Multiple string quartet and ensemble performances have highlighted the incredible talents of our students.
- Indigenous events – especially the opening of our bunya Dreaming Garden and Welcome Plaque and getting to share the story of the “Black White Worriers” with a new school community.
- College P&F Race Day held at the Wondai Race Course.
- Celebrating Sr Dolores Carroll’s (our first Principal) 100th Birthday.
- Celebrating the naming of our: Sr Dolores Carroll Trade Training Centre; Daniel and Bridget Carroll Oval and our Maryknoll Centre.
- Marvelling at the F1 CO₂ racing cars at Motors in Motion.
- New Art, Home Economics and classroom refurbishment.
- Celebrating the transition of our Year 6s into secondary and our Preps into Year 1.
- Enjoying the P6 Christmas Carols night.
• Celebrating our students’ achievements on Awards Night.
• The visits by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, Pam Betts (BCE Director) and Cathy Jackson (North Centre director).

All of these wonderful events and activities would not be possible without the support of our entire Saint Mary’s community. I would especially like to thank the following people for their support:
• Our incredibly talented students, especially our graduating seniors.
• Our very supportive parent community, especially our P&F and College Board.
• Uncle Eric and Aunty Shirley Law (Wakka Wakka elders), Mr Peter Stower (Area Supervisor) and Sr Dolores Carroll (Saint Mary’s first principal).
• Our hard working staff members, especially our amazing Leadership Team.
• Mr Erwin for his continued support and for stepping up in my absence.

I am very grateful to have led our incredible community in 2013 and look forward to even more exciting developments across the years ahead.

School Profile

Saint Mary’s Catholic College 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 436

Total Enrolment 466 Girls 248 Boys 218

Characteristics of the student body
Students from the South Burnett area attend the College. The College provides Catholic Education for students drawn from an area within an hour from Saint Mary’s. Many families are farmers, professionals and essential services workers (Ambulance and Police).

Students travel from towns such as Cherbourg, Murgon, Blackbut, Yarraman, Nanango, Hivesville, Proston, Tingoora and Wondai.

The College has single stream primary classrooms, double stream Year 7, 8, 9 and single stream Years 10 to 12.
Our distinctive curriculum offerings
As a P-12 College, there are 3 distinct curriculum divisions within the College
1. P to 6
2. 7 to 10
3. 11 to 12

There is a Curriculum Co-ordinator assigned to each group. PAR points are used for Years 7-10 and 11-12 positions.

The College has a VET Co-ordinator, Pastoral Care Co-ordinator and Sports Co-Ordinator.

Extra curricula activities
1. Outdoor education – career, cultural and beach camps
2. College Rock on Stage
3. Band and music groups
4. SRC and four sub committees
5. Equestrian team and sports teams
6. Street retreat
7. School Equestrian Team
8. Duke of Edinburgh Scheme
9. Private Tuition opportunities for singing and a variety of instruments
10. Arts Council Performances
11. Australian Schools Competitions
12. RACI Titration Competition
13. Whip Cracking

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning
Prep have access to iPods and laptops and Year 1 have access to computers in their classroom. Years 2 to 6 have a computer room at the back of each classroom which is available 6 lessons per day. Years 7 to 8 have access to two computer laboratories for accessing ICLT. Years 9 to 12 have laptops provided under the Federal Government's 1 to 1 laptop scheme. The College is wireless enabling staff and students access to technology regardless of their classroom location.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying
The Positive Behaviour for Learning of PB4L is a program that encourages positive behaviours. It is comprised of a broad range of strategies for achieving important social and learning outcomes.

The trust of this program is to acknowledge the demonstration of the 5 Benedictine Values or the 5Bs celebrated here at Saint Mary's Catholic College –
1. Be Respectful,
2. Be Responsible,
3. Be Safe,
4. Be Just and
5. Be Your Best

These five values are the ‘school rules’ and form the basis of our major Benedictine awards which are presented each term to the most worthy students from Prep to Year 12.
Students in the early years receive ‘gotcha’ tokens and Bee Grams in recognition of their demonstration of the 5Bs. Students enter a ‘raffle’ and prizes are distributed each Friday at Prep to 5 assemblies.

Students in Years 7-12 have certificates of acknowledgement posted home.

Each year level from Prep to Year 12 is taught what it looks like, sounds like and feels like to be Respectful in the library, Respectful in the school grounds and Respectful at the tuckshop etc.

These values permeate the whole College, both inside and outside the classroom. These values also guide how students, staff and parents communicate and work with each other.

**Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school**

Parent satisfaction is high, in particular

- A sound religious education program.
- Excellent sporting event management.
- Parents encouraged to be involved in the life of the college.
- Communication with the child’s teacher is open and easily done.

**Parent involvement in their child’s education**

- Regular reporting to Parents on academic progress in Terms 1, 2 and 4 through formal reporting.
- Parent teacher interviews early Term 2 and 3.
- Encouragement of parent volunteers for reading etc. in Primary classes, tuckshop help and help at sports.
**Expenditure on a teacher participation in Professional Learning**
The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2013 was $44,000.00

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:
- PB4L
- Implementation of the National Curriculum in Mathematics, Science, History and English
- Religious Education PD

**School Income by Funding Source**
- School Renewal Funding
- MSD Funding
- IESIEP Funding
- National Partnerships
- School Fees

**Average staff attendance rate**
The staff attendance rate was 96.79% in 2013.

**Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year**
From the end of 2012 school year, 90% of staff were retained by the school for the 2013 school year.
Key Student Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole School Attendance Rate</th>
<th>92%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Attendance Rate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<td>Year 3 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>96%</td>
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<td>Year 4 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<td>Year 5 Attendance Rate</td>
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<td>Year 6 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<td>Year 7 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>92%</td>
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<td>Year 8 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>92%</td>
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<td>Year 9 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>91%</td>
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<td>Year 10 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>87%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 11 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>92%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>91%</td>
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Policy and practice to manage student attendance

eMinerva is used to mark rolls in the morning and afternoon for all classes. An SMS is sent home for any unexplained absences.

Students in Years 7 to 12 are marked every lesson.

Student Achievement - NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests were first implemented in May 2008 when national tests were introduced in literacy and numeracy for all students in Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in schools across Australia undertake the same tests on the same days. Students have their skills assessed in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar), and Numeracy.

The content of NAPLAN tests is meant to be representative of the National Statements of Learning. The content is based on the Australian Curriculum. The college has implemented all Phase One and Phase Two subjects including English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography. Professional development in Phase Three subjects including The Arts is currently underway.

NAPLAN information about achievements of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in some aspects of the curriculum supplements the richer and more continuous school-derived learning-data about learners in all year levels and all aspects of the curriculum. These are the focus of our school’s twice-yearly reports.

Our Literacy and Numeracy Improvement Teacher (LNIT) funded by Federal Government Low SES National Partnerships program, will continue the improvement in literacy and numeracy standards at the College.
### Reading
- Year 3: 420 (SIM 415, 406-424), 395-446
  - Spelling: 439 (SIM 405, 396-413), 411
  - Numeracy: 379 (SIM 394, 386-402), 397
- Year 5: 488 (SIM 499, 490-507), 467-510
- Year 7: 551 (SIM 536, 528-543), 533-569
- Year 9: 577 (SIM 578, 571-585), 558-596

### Persuasive Writing
- Year 3: 398 (SIM 412, 404-420), 377-419
- Year 5: 468 (SIM 474, 466-482), 447-488
- Year 7: 512 (SIM 514, 505-522), 492-532
- Year 9: 533 (SIM 548, 539-558), 508-558

### Spelling
- Year 3: 394 (SIM 405, 396-413), 371-417
- Year 5: 470 (SIM 488, 480-496), 450-490
- Year 7: 542 (SIM 543, 535-551), 524-561
- Year 9: 578 (SIM 579, 572-587), 557-599

### Grammar and Punctuation
- Year 3: 434 (SIM 424, 414-434), 407-461
- Year 5: 482 (SIM 496, 486-505), 458-505
- Year 7: 537 (SIM 531, 522-540), 517-558
- Year 9: 577 (SIM 571, 562-579), 556-599

### Numeracy
- Year 3: 379 (SIM 394, 386-402), 397
- Year 5: 468 (SIM 481, 473-489), 450-487
- Year 7: 529 (SIM 536, 528-544), 512-546
- Year 9: 568 (SIM 576, 569-584), 550-585

### Attainment and Achievement - Year 12

#### 2013 Year 12 Performance
- Queensland Certificate of Education: 26
- Students completing one or more VET qualifications: 20
- Students awarded Queensland Certificate of Education with OP eligibility or awarded at VET qualification: 33
- OP eligible students with OP 1-15: 94%
- QTAC applicants receiving a tertiary offer: 100%
- Year 10 into 12 Retention rate: 65%

### Post-school destination information

#### Year 12 results
- Senior secondary certificate awarded: 26
- Completed senior secondary school: 34

#### Post-school destinations
- Students at university: 29%
- Students at TAFE/vocational study: 24%
- Students in employment: 47%