Principal’s Foreword
Introduction

St Mary of the Cross is a small, inner-city connected primary school in Brisbane. We provide a high quality inclusive Catholic education to a diverse local community that takes into account the learning and cultural differences of all students. We offer exceptional care and high quality teaching and learning.

The overarching goal for learning at St Mary of the Cross School is to empower learners of all ages to shape and enrich our changing world by living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The majority of our classes work within a multi-age environment. We have close links to the Parish and local community.

School Profile

St Mary of the Cross 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 57

Total Enrolment 57

Girls 32

Boys 25
Characteristics of the student body

Our school is a small, caring and welcoming community that caters for children from the Windsor area and surrounding suburbs. We are proudly an inclusive, multicultural community. Our students and their families come from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Learning and teaching at St Mary of the Cross School is based on the Australian curriculum and the Brisbane Catholic Education’s Religion curriculum.

We offer weekly Spanish lessons and we have an Arts Specialist who teaches Visual Arts, Media, Drama and Music. Students also participate in a weekly PE lesson with our P.E. Specialist teacher. Our Speech Pathologist works in conjunction with the classroom teachers to provide rich language and literacy experiences across the Early Years. Our Learning Support team consists of a Support Teacher Inclusive Education, Pastoral Worker, English Second Language teacher and a Guidance Officer.
Extra curricula activities

Our students enjoy being part of different opportunities at the school:
school environment club
Mini-Vinnies group,
library monitors
traditional dance group
sporting groups for participation in local area Gala days
Students in Years 5/6/7 attend a 2 night camp each year
swimming lessons in Term 4, cross country Term 3
Dance lessons and concert Term 4
Gymnastic lessons Term 3, Auskick Term 3
Under 8’s week activities
Before, after and vacation school care- (Tennis, Spanish, Swimming, Art available through OSHC)

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Technology is embedded in curriculum areas as part of the day to day lessons. Staff actively integrate interactive communication technology into their pedagogy, and aim for excellence in this area. We are fortunate to have enough laptops and netbooks for each student in the school. This provides ready access to appropriate technologies and resources to create, collaborate and communicate learning. We also have a small number of ipads and enough digital cameras for each class. There is also a bank of computers for student use in the library. Each classroom has a digital projector. We effectively use LIFE, the Brisbane Catholic Education’s Learning Management system, which allows a safe platform for students to access school learning resources at home and school. Students are also able to access the school library database from home and school.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

The school climate is inclusive, nurturing and positive. We strive to respond to the individual needs of each student. Our small class sizes enables the establishment of strong relationships between students, parents/carers and staff.

The school supports the well-being of students through
- school wide connected positive behaviour support programs
- school wide pro-active social skills teaching and learning
- targeted and individualised pastoral care programs
- a culture of school support team approach.

We have a strong ‘anti-bullying’ approach at the school and clear and transparent consequences if any incident occurs.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

St Mary of the Cross has a vibrant Community Association. This group gives feedback on a regular basis to the administration team on how the school is functioning. This parent body is very supportive, positive and encouraging of the work we do at school.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

Parents and carers are integral to the St Mary of the Cross community. Parent involvement is actively encouraged and promoted. Parents are invited to all school assemblies and gatherings. Parent involvement is sought for class based activities eg. support-a-reader and excursions. Parents are expected to attend parent-teacher information nights and parent teacher interviews.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-Time equivalents</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td></td>
<td>a small number have identified as indigenous</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>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2013 was $8324.
The major professional development initiatives were as follows:
- Implementation and development of LIFELearning management system.
- Implementation of the new Religious Education curriculum.
- Religion through the Arts Inservice.
- Australian Curriculum - Maths Implementation.
- First Aid qualifications for all staff.
- Planning with outside consultants.

School Income by Funding Source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the MySchool 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 MySchool 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 98.17% in 2013.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2012 school year, 83% of staff were retained by the school for the 2013 year.

Key Student Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whole School Attendance Rate</th>
<th>88%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep Attendance Rate</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Attendance Rate</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

School rolls are electronically marked twice a day, as per Brisbane Catholic Education requirements. The Principal is advised of all absences and unexplained absences receive a phone call from the school office to enquire about the whereabouts and well being of the child. Parents are advised when they enroll their students at the school that it is school policy that all absences must be notified to staff on the day of absence.

Parents use a sign in/out book when students leave school early or come to school late. Students are given late slips to give to classroom teachers, indicating time of arrival.

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 ‘Find a school’ text box.

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