

Principal's Annual Report 2024

Mission:

As an integral part of the Waroona Catholic Community, St Joseph's School is inspired by Christ's teachings. We endeavour to nurture all children to grow as confident, independent, life-long learners, enabling them to contribute to society with dignity, respect, and a spirit of service.

Aspiration 2022-2025:

All students demonstrate sustained growth in Literacy and Numeracy, engage positively through STEAM as a part of learning, and experience improved well-being within our Catholic Community.

At the start of the year, we had 166 students; by the end of the year, this number had grown to 171. As of writing, our projected enrolments for 2025 are forecast to be 184.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate the students on their achievements over 2024. As outlined in the school performance report, they have made excellent academic, spiritual, physical, emotional, and well-being growth. This is only possible with the dedicated support of our team of professional educators and support staff.

Secondly, I would like to thank all the parents and guardians for their support as first educators and their contributions to our community.

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge the support of the School Advisory Committee: Larry Lucano, Naomi Pinzone, Sheree Clancy, Brendan Bartle, and Father Jorge. Our community has grown enormously with our P&F team led by Joe Silvestri, Emma Dunstan, Kate & Dean Shaw, and Monique Warr.

Our school achieved several exciting milestones, including winning a State Award for Excellence in Education and our students winning a State Award for Kids in Space and traveling to Adelaide as National Finalists.

Each element of the Quality Catholic School Framework will be covered in this report.

Catholic Identity

- We celebrated the opening and end-of-term mass with St Patrick's Parish.
- Our SAC and P&F were commissioned at mass on Sunday Week 3 term 1..
- Two staff completed Faith Story Witness, with one staff member completing the new online process.
- Catholic Year 6 students attended the Chrism Mass in Bunbury.
- We held special masses for Mother's Day, Grandparents Day, NAIDOC Week, and the Assumption of Mary.
- Supported St Patrick's Parish Sacramental Program with parent sessions, commitment sessions, and the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation.
- Staff completed a two-day CEWA Liturgy Professional Development Day and Team Teach, which is incorporated into our whole school's Behaviour Support Framework.

Education:

- Our engagement through STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) has been a huge success. With the help of Federal Government Grants, nearly 900 students from eight other schools participated, demonstrating increased engagement and achievement. Special mention must go to Mrs Silvestri for her hard and dedicated work in this area.
- Staff continue to work collaboratively and engage in coaching, showing strong student growth in this high-impact teaching pedagogy.
- Standardised assessments were undertaken early in Term 1 and Term 4 to track student growth.
- The Science of Reading continued across the whole school.
- Parent and teacher interviews were held in Term 1 and Term 3.
- DIBELS and standardised testing data were shared with all parents via SEQTA within two weeks of being undertaken.
- All teaching staff attended two-day training in the Berry Street Education Model at Assumption CPS, which ties into our school behaviour management, zones of regulation, and student well-being.
- Peer-to-peer learning regularly occurred, with staff focusing on the number of positives given to students versus negatives and effective classroom management.
- Training in using Bond Blocks was implemented in Year 1 to support numeracy learning, with PP and Year 2 now using this resource.
- Well-being resources were distributed after training with our staff to help manage moods, building upon Zones of Regulation.

Community:

- Transforming lives – relocated during the building program to the Kindergarten room.
- Code of Conduct: All parents from Kindy who attended the parent information evening have been inducted and can now support teachers in classrooms. Parents have participated in Code of Conduct training and reading sessions.
- All SAC members completed child-safe training.
- Public speaking competition with Lions (both Waroona & Pinjarra), St Joseph's Pinjarra, and Waroona District HS resulted in two students winning awards in the regional final in Mandurah.
- We are focused on building quality relationships as a child-focused and Christ-centred learning environment.

Stewardship:

- All staff are involved in professional goal-setting to improve their teaching, catholic identity and well-being.
- The leadership team attended a two-day in-service on improving our school strategic plan.
- The school has also undergone a major refurbishment, as outlined in the Chairperson's report.
- The school has been managed within the CEWA-approved budget.