Annual Report

St Peter’s Primary School, Coleambally

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The School
Welcome to the St Peter’s Annual Report for 2013. This annual report is written for the 2013 school year and provides an accurate account of what occurred at St Peter’s Primary School during this time.
St Peter’s is a small school of 54 students who travel from the Darlington Point and Coleambally areas. The school was opened in 1970 and it is proud of its friendly and welcoming children.

Catholic Identity
School Vision Statement
St Peter’s School is a community of faith built on the rock of Gospel Values empowering the individual to contribute positively to an ever changing world.

Patron and Logo
Our school is named after St Peter who was one of Jesus’ disciples and the first pope. Our school song “I Am Your Rock” is a conversation between Jesus and Peter written for the school by Andrew Chinn.
Our school motto, “Way, Truth and Life” is something we try to instil within the school community.

Religious Education
Religious Education is a vital part of the curriculum at St Peter’s and all classes participate daily in the Diocesan Religious Education Program “Sharing Our Story”. This program was supplemented by regular school masses, priest visits and prayer services.

Sacramental programs were the main focus for the Year 3 class with their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion both occurring in the same week in September. The students and Mr Smith put a lot of time and effort into preparation for these sacraments and were joined by family and friends to celebrate these special occasions.

Parish Involvement
Our First Sunday of the Month Masses are organised by the staff, with children volunteering for readings, prayers of the faithful and offertory. The children enjoy being given the opportunity to participate in the Mass at the parish level. The annual Fete Mass which occurs before the School Fete on the first Sunday of March was very well attended.

Adopt-a-Grandparent
During the second half of 2013 the Yr 5/6 class were involved in an Adopt-a-Grandparent program which saw them visit the residents of Cypress View Lodge. The children sat and chatted to the residents, played cards or games with them and shared some morning tea. Both the children and the residents look forward to the visits and get a lot out of them.

A Message from key School Bodies
2013 has been another productive year for the School Council. The toilets are now connected to rain water when available further reducing our reliance on town water. We did some preparation work on some ground at the Demo Farm as well some general working bees to attend to maintenance jobs around the school.
The school purchased 6 new laptops for use in the primary classes to replace some of the older laptops purchased in 2007. Many thanks to those parents who have helped out at school events such as the Fete, working bees, mowing roster and catering jobs during the year and to those leaving St Peter’s we thank you for involvement over the years and wish you all the best for the future.
Graham Rawson
Chairperson
St Peter’s School Council

The Parents and Friends Association has had another successful year for 2013. We held the Fete in March, our Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, our pie drive and Darlington Point bridge day.
The P & F purchased a new reading box for the Yr 5/6 class to add to the existing ones and also helped out with the costs for the Gymnastics program that the children enjoy. Once again the P & F achievements have only been possible through the ongoing work and support of our parents and for this we thank each and every one of them for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. We all look forward to another successful year in 2014.
Debbie Whelan
President
St Peter’s Parents & Friends
Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

A high percentage of Year 3 children met the national minimum standard in all the Literacy areas of Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation. All Year 3 children met the national minimum standard in all the Numeracy areas of Number, Patterns and Algebra and Data, Measurement, Space and Geometry. In Year 3 33% or more of students were proficient in Reading, Writing, Grammar & Punctuation and Numeracy.

A high percentage of Yr 5 children met the national minimum standard in Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation. In Yr 5 33% or more of students were proficient in Reading, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation. 77% of Yr 5 children made the expected growth in Reading and Spelling while 66% made it in Writing and Numeracy.

Professional Learning

The staff has been active this year in their pursuit of professional improvement with the whole staff participating in a Mission, Evangelisation and Discipleship program led by the Catholic Life team. Two of our teachers presented their MORE Project focusing on feedback at a showcase day in Wagga.

The teachers all attended stage based curriculum planning meetings for the new English syllabus with other small schools while one teacher attended regular Reading Recovery and Best Start meetings throughout the year.

One teacher attended a 2 day in-service on Jesus and the Natural World as well as attending regular Religious Education Coordinator meetings.

One staff member attended a Connections retreat at Lake Hume run by the CSO Catholic Life Team and another attended a Music based workshop in Deniliquin.

Teaching Staff

The NSW government requires that this report detail the number of teachers in each of the following categories:

A) have teaching qualifications from a recognised higher education institution within Australia

B) have qualifications from a recognised higher education institution within Australia but no formal teacher education qualifications

C) have relevant successful teaching experience and appropriate knowledge but no formal teacher qualifications.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
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Workforce Composition

During 2013 the school employed 3 full time teachers, 1 part time teacher, 1 secretary, 2 part time teacher assistants and a cleaner.

Student Attendance

Student attendance rates for each Year level and the whole school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Attendance %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>90.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>95.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>90.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>95.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>96.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>95.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>93.47%</td>
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Student Non-Attendance

Student non-attendance is managed by the school with absences followed up by class teacher and then the principal. Partial and full day absences are reported to the school by parents.

Enrolment Policy

St Peter's has priorities for enrolment which meet the requirements of the Catholic Schools Office. These include preference being given to Catholic children whose parents live within the Parish served by the school. The school enrolment guidelines can be viewed via the school office. The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established an Enrolment Policy which is implemented in all schools. The CSO policy can be found at: www.csoww.catholic.edu.au
Characteristics of the Student Body

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Indig’</th>
<th>LOTE*</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>54</td>
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*Language background Other Than English

Structure of Classes
In 2013 the school provided 3 composite classes which were structured were as follows:
Kinder/Year 1 = 18
Year 2/3/4 = 16  Year 5/6 = 20

School Policies
Discipline
St Peter’s School believes that every child has the right to learn and play in a safe and happy school environment. It is expected that students will be respectful towards others and of school and personal property, to keep hands off, to speak and act with kindness, to play safely and to wear a hat at the appropriate times.

Student Welfare
The school has adopted the Wagga CSO’s Safe School – Child Protection Policy which is available at the school office. The school also has a number of other policies relating to student welfare including the Student Safety Policy and Supervision Policy. These are available at the school office.

Complaints and Grievances
The school adopts the Wagga CSO’s “Complaint Handling Procedures”. A copy of this is available at the school office.

Changes to School Policies
As St Peter’s underwent the Registration and Accreditation in 2012 many policies were reviewed and updated where necessary. All school policies are stored on the server and available at the office upon request.

Improvement Targets
The main priorities for 2013 were the consolidation of MJR across K-6, using data from Best Start to inform teaching, completion of our MORE project on feedback, and staff attending staff spirituality sessions and the Connections program.

Many of our 2012 priorities were met including staff faith formation, the implementation of MJR across the school, a focus on the number, measurement strategies and problem solving in Mathematics and making inferences in English.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility
During Lent the children raised $143.10 for Project Compassion through ‘Casual Shorts Fridays’ classroom boxes and boxes from home. In October for Catholic Mission they held a ‘Crazy Sock’ day and raised $47.00. For many years the Yr 5/6 class have embraced Making Jesus Real (MJR) making it part of their class and school life. During the year all classes had half day sessions with their teachers around an MJR theme. This year the school was again involved in the town Advent Pageant to mark the coming of Christmas. We walked to the town centre via the inn where each class performed a song around the Advent or Christmas theme.

Community Satisfaction
The following information has been provided to the school. It has been a valuable gauge for determining the level of satisfaction the community has with our school.

Parents
My child (son or daughter) is usually happy at St Peter’s School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
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Students
I am usually happy at St Peter’s School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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Staff
I am usually happy at St Peter’s School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
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Financial Statement Summary

About This Report

How this report was written, people involved, principal and staff

This report was written by the staff and principal of St Peter’s Primary School. The School Council report was prepared by the School Council Chairperson Mr Graham Rawson and the P & F report by P & F President Mrs Debbie Whelan.