1 The School

1.1 The School

In 2005 HOLY TRINITY Catholic School entered its 36th year of service to the communities of West Wagga. In light of the changing demographics of the community we serve, and to ensure continued congruence with the Parish of West Wagga it was decided to consult our school community about a formal name change for our school. After receiving the overwhelming support of our school community we will as of 2006 be known as HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL WEST WAGGA.

As part of our consultation process the school analysed the residential location of each of our families and discovered that:
- 30% live in Ashmont
- 50% live in Glenfield/Lloyd
- 20% live in San Isidore or locations surrounding the West Wagga Parish.

1.2 Religious Education

Holy Trinity School West Wagga is a Catholic systemic school operating in the Wagga Wagga Diocese under the Pastoral guidance of the Bishop, Gerard Hanna and our Parish Priest Fr Gerard Ryan. The core purpose of our school community is to form our children in the faith so they have a life long relationship with God’s people and His Church. To bring this vision to life we nurture a very strong relationship with the Parish of West Wagga. During 2005 our school/parish made some major changes to our Parish based sacramental program.

For many years our school has had a Parish based program for the sacrament of Confirmation. In 2005 it was decided to expand our Parish based program to the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist. This was a success as it honoured the role of the family as the prime educators in the faith. This model also gave witness to our stated vision of building and maintaining very strong relationships between home-school –parish.

1.3 The Arts

The Arts are a very important part of the Primary curriculum that provides children with the opportunity to create and perform. As a Catholic School we are able to celebrate our liturgies with the inclusion of a great deal of singing.

In addition to these opportunities, our school during 2005, expanded our involvement with the Musica Viva Program. Four of our staff were in serviced in the 2005 program and they then were able to educate each child in our school in the instruments and style of music of each of our musical groups visiting during the 2005. Our involvement in this program is a truly enriching experience for each member of our school community.

1.4 Sport

As a systemic school in the Wagga Wagga Diocese Holy Trinity fully participates in a range of sports at a representative level. Our three main sports carnivals are swimming, athletics and cross country.

This year we have made a determined effort to improve our children’s skill and participation levels in all areas of Physical Education. Therefore our school ceased our four release days and appointed a P.E. Teacher to work with our children each fortnight to develop skills, knowledge and fitness. This has proved to be another great success and one that is greatly valued by our children, teachers and families.

In representative sports Holy Trinity children were very successful, the highlight being our local victory in the Paul Kelly Cup with our progression to the State final at Stadium Australia in Sydney.
1.5 General and Specific School Initiatives
Our school is committed to establishing and maintaining very strong partnerships between home and school. To achieve this we have in place a variety of strategies and structures, these include:
- Kindergarten Orientation
- New Families Welcome BBQ.
- Parents and Friends Association
- School Council
- Parent Forums
- Parent / Teacher Interviews
- School Website

One of the new initiatives we undertook this year was to upgrade our website. This was done with the assistance of the staff and community supporters of Holy Trinity. This website is now a very effective way of promoting our school, celebrating our achievements and communicating with our school community.

1.6 School Policies
During the course of each school year our community reviews, amends or develops policies that ensures that our practices here at Holy Trinity continue to serve our community of West Wagga. All of our schools Policies and Procedures are on display to our school community in the school office. This documentation includes the following policies; Enrolment, Behaviour Management, Pastoral Care and Complaints and Grievance Procedures.

In 2005 we reviewed and amended our Mathematics Policy and continued to renew our Pastoral Care policies.

http://eso.wagga.catholic.edu.au/policies.htm

2 Information on Key School Programs

2.1 Educational and Management Practice Evaluation – School Culture
The school culture of Holy Trinity is firmly and authentically based on the values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our school therefore has a lived culture that nurtures the Catholic faith and the values of love, tolerance, forgiveness and hope. The children of Holy Trinity have a deep understanding of our school norms. These norms are a constant reference for our school community when we are planning events, student learning and leading our children to make better choices.

2.2 Curriculum Focus
Our main focus this year was to redevelop our Mathematics Policy as we brought this document in line with the new learning and teaching practices we have implemented that are congruent with the 2002 Board of Studies Mathematics Syllabus. Each year schools in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga participate in a formal curriculum review of one or more curriculum subjects. In 2005 a panel of educators reviewed our Mathematics teaching. The successful review of our schools Mathematics also gave the opportunity to develop aspects of our Policy, Planning and teaching. This will be included in our School Renewal processes for 2006.

2.3 Programs to Support Learning
Our school community is committed to creating the opportunities needed for each and every child to achieve their full potential. Programs that we have established to support student learning include Reading Recovery and individual learning programs that are implemented so that proper learning support is given to each of our children with special needs.

In 2005 our school had 8 funded students with special needs. All of these students received extra learning support through the provision of additional resources or access to a teacher’s assistant. The teacher assistant works in partnership with the classroom teacher to deliver a modified learning program. This partnership with Teacher Assistants and Classroom teacher continue to deliver significant learning outcomes for our Special Needs Students.

2.4 Equity Programs
Holy Trinity is a school community that is striving to contribute to the goals of National Reconciliation. Our school has an Indigenous student population of 18. Our contribution to Reconciliation is highlighted during NAIDOC week. The highlights of this year’s celebrations were the performance of Gomurriumbi, a renowned Aboriginal dance performer and also the legendary Jimmy Little.

Further to this commitment our System of schools in 2005 launched ‘Firestick’, our response to our mission to be people of service, compassion, tolerance and reconciliation.

At Holy Trinity we have been making a humble contribution to Reconciliation for many years and this will continue in the years to come. Our greatest contribution to Reconciliation is our daily commitment to the values of the Gospel, that define our purpose as a Catholic School, tolerance, justice, respect forgiveness and peace.

2.5 Programs to Support Students
Being a multi-age learning community we have the opportunity to deliver the primary curriculum flexibly and appropriately. Our teachers
differentiate the syllabus to meet the learning needs of each student.

Our learning community of Holy Trinity was enriched in 2005 by the following additional programs.

- Life Education Program
- Gymnastics
- University of N.S.W. Competitions.
- Peer Support
- Naidoc Week Celebrations

2.6 Student Achievement
Each year Holy Trinity School fully participates in the state wide Basic Skills Test. These tests are held in 3rd Term covering the areas of Reading, Writing, Spelling, Comprehension, Numeration, Problem Solving and Writing. Each family receives a detailed analysis of their child’s successes and challenges. In partnership with each child’s teacher future learning is planned and implemented. In 2005 families were given greater details regarding the overall achievements of our students. The thorough analysis of our students’ results assists the teachers in planning the future learning of our students.

2.7 Staff Achievement
On a daily basis the staff of Holy Trinity School demonstrate their commitment to the education of our students. Our staff regularly attend professional development courses, often in their own time. A major commitment this year was 5 of the staff completing the Musica Viva program and then implementing this into the classrooms of Holy Trinity.

The staff of Holy Trinity has as their greatest achievement the ongoing enrichment of our children’s lives.

3 School Renewal

3.1 Progress of the School Renewal Framework
Each year our school works collaboratively to develop a School Renewal Framework (SRF). This framework guides our school community through the implementation of programs, policies and procedures that have as their purpose the renewal and development of the Holy Trinity learning community.

Our SRF of 2005 resulted in the following achievements:
- Development of Staff Norms
- Completion of our Religious Education Scope and Sequence
- The Employment of a specialist P.E. Teacher
- Mathematics Curriculum Review
- The Implementation of School Council Guidelines
- Progressing the Development of School Anti-Bullying Procedures
- Attendance of more staff at the Journey Program
- The Development of our new School Website
- Installation of 2 New Gas Heaters
- Recarpeting Rooms 10 and 11

4 School Overview

4.1 School Enrolment and Attendance Profile
During 2005 the student enrolment at Holy Trinity Catholic School varied between 228 and 235. Our Kindergarten enrolment for 2005 was 41. As was stated in the 2004 report the staff and leadership team of the school have some concerns at the attendance record of some students. Those students who have a very consistent attendance record are able to be highly engaged in the learning process. Students who attend regularly also have the opportunity to develop deeper relationships with their peers.

At the conclusion of the academic year the school presented Certificates of Achievement to all students with a 100% attendance record.

4.2 Structure of Classes
Holy Trinity has a passionate commitment to multi age education. Multi ageing allows for the flexible delivery of educational outcomes. The multi age classroom is a dynamic learning community that provides each student with the opportunity for success and challenge. All our class members progress through the stage outcomes, as outlined by the Board of Studies. In 2005 Holy Trinity organised our children into nine class groups, they were K, K/1, 1-2, 1-2, 3-4, 3-4, 4-5, 5-6, 5-6.

4.3 Staffing
All teaching staff at Holy Trinity are suitably qualified and are continuing to demonstrate their commitment to their ongoing professional learning.
4.4 Parent Involvement and Participation
Our school community values and honours the role of our parents and families as prime educators and nurturers of their children. We are privileged to be granted their trust to educate their child. Each year we provide opportunities for our families and staff to build relationships and true partnership, these include:

- Kinder Orientation
- New families Welcome Picnic/ BBQ
- Meet the Teacher Meeting
- School Council
- Parents and Friends Association.
- Parent Forum
- Sacramental Programs

We honour the role of our families in the education process and welcome every opportunity to build effective home/school partnerships with the Holy Trinity School Vision as our foundation and guide.

4.5 Community Use of School Facilities
During 2005, Holy Trinity, for the third consecutive year had the pleasure of hosting the NSW Board of Studies Marking Centre. For three weeks in October and November a Marking Centre for the 2005 HSC operated in our Library and A/V Room. A number of local sporting teams also used our grounds for training purposes.

4.6 Financial Statement Summary
The main source of income for our school community comes from the generosity of our families through the payment of school fees and levies. Without this support our school could not operate. This income is supplemented by the fundraising activities of the P&F. In addition to this the West Wagga Parish continues to service the loans that were necessary to complete our school buildings. This generous support is gratefully acknowledged. The key areas of expenditure for Holy Trinity during 2005 were:

- Pupil Levy
- Administration
- Salaries
- Educational Resources
- Insurance
- Furniture and Equipment
- Utilities
- Maintenance

This data shown below is a summary of Diocese of Wagga School System income and expense and includes income and expense of all system schools.

The total income and expenditure of the school that is included in the above is shown below.

4.7 About This Report
This report is a summary of the achievements of the Holy Trinity school community during the 2005 school year. A report such as this cannot accurately portray the daily endeavours of our families, children and all the staff as they strive to create every opportunity for our students to grow and learn.

We continue to work as a whole community for the good of all the students and families of Holy Trinity.

This Annual Report has been written by the school executive in consultation with members of our wider school community.