2007

Annual Report
St Joseph’s Primary School, Junee

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Introduction
This report is an indication of the year 2007 at St. Joseph's primary School Junee

1. The School
St. Joseph's is a Catholic School catering for boys and girls from Kindergarten to Year 6. We aim to provide a school that is striving for excellence in the Religious, Academic, Sporting and Cultural areas of education.

St. Joseph's is located in picturesque grounds that enhance learning opportunities as well as providing a very safe environment.

It is our aim to create a sense of belonging that will nurture your child's growth, and help create a healthy self-esteem, so necessary for learning. We hope that your child's association with St. Joseph's is a long and happy one.

Our Vision:
We believe that:
* Building the Kingdom of God is achieved through our personal relationship with Jesus.
* Our school is part of the Parish faith community and therefore part of the wider Church's mission.
* The dignity of each person is to be respected.
* Every child regardless of background or circumstances, be challenged to develop spiritually, emotionally, academically and socially to achieve their potential within the community.

Religious Education
In 2007 our school was involved in the following Sacramental programmes.

- **Sacrament of Confirmation**
  Sunday 4th November.
  39 Candidates were presented to Bishop Hanna for this Sacrament. This number included children from the two public schools and from the local high school.

  The children were prepared for the Sacrament by Mr. Mark Harmer and Mrs. Catherine Armstrong as REC.

  The St. Joseph's choir was supported by the parish choir for this occasion and the Parish members were invited to morning tea after the ceremony.

- **Sacrament of Penance**
  This sacrament took place on Wednesday 21st November with 15 children plus children from the two local public schools. The children were prepared by Mrs Armstrong as class teacher and REC

- **2007 Mission Day**
  On the 9th November St Joseph's School staged its annual Mission Day raising over $700. This is an incredible amount of money for such a small school. Stalls on the day included a chocolate wheel, balloon throwing, milkshakes, face painting, cakes and guessing competitions

  The day began with a Paraliturgy prepared by 2D and a talk from Mrs. Cath Carroll from the CSO on missions.

  These days generate awareness amongst our children about poverty and injustice in the world. As Christians we are called to love our neighbour, and while having a bit of fun, the whole purpose of the day is to remind our children of their responsibility to care for others in the world.

The Arts
Our School Choir entered the Wagga Eisteddfod for the second time this year and finished second. The Choir also performed at the opening of the first stage of our IOSP grant, the Community Carols, and the Hospital Mass.

All classes entered the Choral Speech section of the Eisteddfod.

Kindergarten came first in their section, with Stage 1 coming 3rd and Stages 2 and 3 were Highly Commended.
In the area of Visual Arts the children entered the local Junee show with our school exhibit coming second.

Jill Tucker, our Speech and Drama Teacher continued to offer lessons on a Thursday during class time. This is funded by parents individually. Many children from Mrs Tucker’s classes achieved outstanding individual results also at the Eisteddfod.

Sport

Swimming Carnival
The annual swimming carnival will be held on Thursday 13th December. Each child is encouraged to participate, have a go and enjoy the day. The carnival is always successfully run and organised by Mr Harmer and Mrs Drum.

There are no results available as the carnival is held after the publication of this report.

Children represented our school at Deanery Swimming on 13th February at Leeton. Olivia Herbert was selected in the Diocesan team for the 50m Freestyle at Homebush.

Athletics Carnival
This carnival was held on Friday 11th May. The Athletics Carnival proved to be a most successful and enjoyable day. Many parents supported the carnival.

The Age Champions were:
Sub Junior Champions C Corbett and S Heffernan
Junior Champions K Buck and T Riley
11 Yrs Champions E Wood and L Sweeney
Senior Champions G Heffernan and B McCarthy

The winning House for the Athletics Carnival was Goretti.

Diocesan Athletics Representatives
There were 37 representatives from St Joseph’s at this competition which was on the 23rd August. Tom Riley and Kaitlyn Buck, Luke Morteon and Aiden Sweeney were successful in being chosen to represent the wagga Diocese at the McKillop Carnival.

Cross Country
Our School cross country was held on Friday 30th March. The Deanery Cross Country was held on the 15th May at Narrandera with 19 representatives from our school.

School Initiatives

School Open Day
Friday 3rd August
The Stage Three students again hosted this. Approximately 19 families visited the school on this day and were taken on a tour by the students. Morning tea followed in the Library.

Stage 1 Swimming Program
In term 4 Stage 1 were involved in a very successful 2 week swimming program which increased their water confidence and swimming skills.

Kindergarten Orientation Days
These were held at the end of Term Four with children visiting for two half days from 9:00am to 1:00pm. The children all attended both days rather than small groups attending over four separate days for four weeks.

Kindergarten Interviews
These were held prior to the Orientation Days. Our Acting Principal, Mrs Jane Addison talked individually with prospective Kindergarten children in the presence of their parents. It enabled Mrs Addison to establish an early
2. Information on Key School Programs

Curriculum Focus
Our curriculum focus this year was literacy with a designated teaching time each day for the implementation of grammar and the rules associated with this.

Programs to Support Learning

- ICLT
The area of Technology continues to be the main funding area of the Jowett Estate with the leasing of 31 computers. This enables the school to provide a ratio of 1 computer per 4 students.

- Reading Recovery
This was not available at St. Joseph’s in 2007 but the need for such a programme is reviewed at the end of each year.

Equity Programs

- Aboriginal Education
Funding was received in 2007 to support learning and teaching at St Joseph’s. The main area of support was in Literacy. The whole school addresses the importance of Aboriginal people in Australia’s history through studies of Human Society and It’s Environment.

- Multicultural Education
St. Joseph’s receives student support for English as A Second Language. Once again the whole school studies other cultures in the area of Human Society.

Programs to Support Students

Students With Disabilities
Students at St. Joseph’s also receive funding under the heading of Students With Disabilities. Mrs Jane Davis, our Teacher Assistant works closely with these students.

You Can Do It!
This programme was continued in classrooms in 2007.

Respect and Responsibility
This year we held a forum for parents and students on Values Education. Our Values for Australian schooling and National Safe Schools Framework posters displayed at School underpin these forums.

School Council
The School Council is an integral part of our school set up and decision-making processes. The School Council was chaired by Ms Michelle Johnson and consisted of 6 members from our School Community.
**Student Achievement**

**Statewide Tests and Examinations**

The table below indicates the percentage of students who have achieved national literacy and numeracy benchmarks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Basic Skills 1998 to 2007**

Our School has participated in BST Literacy and Numeracy since 1998 and in BST writing since 2001. The school monitors the BST trend data each year and uses that information to inform its learning and teaching practices for the upcoming year.

**Staff Achievement**

- Margaret Drum worked with a targeted literacy group and raised the school benchmarks in literacy considerably.
- Throughout the year Tim Pratt, Kellie Rafferty and Catherine Armstrong attended days on ‘Teaching Literacy in the Early Years’ presented by CSO staff.
- Jane Addison and Paul Wilson continued their involvement in the Curriculum Review process reviewing English and other Syllabi at different schools.
- Mark Harmer and Tim Pratt continued their preparation for accreditation with the NSW Institute of Teachers.
- Jane Addison was trained as a facilitator for First Steps Writing
- Michael Connell and Mark Harmer were part of the AGQTP Gifted and Talented program
- Mark Harmer, Marg Drum, Michael Connell and Jane Addison participated in numeracy/measurement in services to raise numeracy benchmarks.
- Jane Addison was trained as a BST marker in writing
- All staff were involved in BST marking

**3. School Renewal**

**Progress of the School Renewal Framework**

**School Improvement Targets**

**Focus Areas**

**Policies and Curriculum**

Much of our work in 2007 was in improving the literacy standards at our school.

Respond to past poor performances in the BST through looking at how we are teaching things and when. This proved worthwhile as our BST results improved.

Gifted and Talented students were identified and they began their project.

‘Assessment Week’ was introduced to conduct school-wide assessments and have parents aware of this to ensure students are not away.

We also undertook a Curriculum Review of our English Policy.

**Multiaging**

This structure will be continued in 2008 in our school.

**Assessment & Reporting:** In 2007 we implemented the new Federal A-E scheme of reporting using the Reporter Pro software. This has been a fairly smooth transition due to staff in servicing.

‘My Classes’: This internet based technology was continued in 2007.

**4. School Overview**

**School Enrolment**

**Enrolment Policy**

The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established an Enrolments Policy which is implemented by all schools in the Diocese. The full text of this policy can be found at: [www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au](http://www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au)

The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Catholic Schools Office.

**Student Enrolment Profile:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Indig’</th>
<th>LOTE*</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>139</td>
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</table>

*Language background Other Than English*
Structure of Classes
This year, we had 6 full time classes. The classes are all staged.
- Early Stage 1/ Kinder
- Stage 1/ Years 1 and 2
- Stage 1/ Years 1 and 2
- Stage 2/ Years 3 and 4
- Stage 2/3 Years 4 and 5
- Stage 3 Years 5 and 6

Staff
Teacher Standards
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
- B) have qualifications from a recognised higher education institution but no formal teacher education qualifications
- C) have relevant successful teaching experience and appropriate knowledge but no formal teacher qualifications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
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Professional Learning
Our Staff Development Days in 2007 were based on the following:
- **Term 2:** This day was held with Coolamon as part of an ongoing writing project between the two schools facilitated by CSO Staff. We also conducted a Pupil Free day on Gifted and Talented.
- **Term 3:** BST Writing marking.
- **Term 4:** Religious Education reporting and Assessment.

Teacher Attendance and Retention
The federal Schools Assistance Act 2005 requires that each school report on the average attendance rate of staff members in a given school. The end figure is determined by calculations including certain periods of absence due to sickness, personal carers leave, leave without pay, special leave and accident/workers compensation leave. An attendance rate of 96.4% was achieved in 2007 by staff at St Joseph’s Primary School, Junee.

Parent Involvement and Participation
At St Joseph's we encourage parent participation in all aspects of school life. Our parents are welcomed into the school at all times as we have an open door policy. Parents are invited to join us for celebrations, masses, plays, carnivals and any other event we have at school.

- **School Board 2007**
The following people made up St. Joseph’s School Board in 2006.
- **Chairperson:** Michelle Johnson
- **Vice Chairperson:** David Hedlund
- **Secretary:** Mikayla Langley
- **Treasurer:** Kim Longmore
- **General Members**
  - Elizabeth Blundell Chali Wall (P&F Rep)
A great deal of discussion in 2007 was on the Federal Grants and the use of technology in the classrooms.
The School Council also formally moved that the School Fees should increase with the Educational CPI each year.

**Jowett Estate**
This estate contributed around $13699 to our school in 2007. Areas of expenditure included:
- *The lease of the computers.*
- *New desks for Stage 1.*
- *Class resources for literacy.*

- **Parent & Friends Association 2007**
- **President** - Maria Makeham
- **Vice President** - Fiona Herbert
- **Secretary** - Corey Buck
- **Treasurer** - Michelle Metcalfe
- **Publicity Officer** - Cahli Wall
- **Uniforms** - Megan McLaughlin
- **Housie** - Megan McLaughlin
- **School Board Rep.** - Cahli Wall
The P&F contributed the following in 2007:
- Classroom Resources = $3500
- Groundsperson = $2400
- Wishlist = $3000

**Total = $8900**

**Wishlist Expenditure included:**
- Digital cameras for each classroom.
- Overhead projectors per stage
- Shredder and Binder.
- Dancing for each child

- **Parent Forums 2007**
In 2007 the following forums were held:
- **Term One:** Planning for 2007
- **Term Two:** Gifted and talented
- **Term Three:** P and F matters/ housie/ tuckshop
- **Term Four:** values forum.
• **Working Bees 2007**
In 2007 there were several working bees related to the grants received for the installation of tanks and an irrigation system, and the IOSP grant. Other working bees were held to plant new gardens and tidy up the school playground.

**Community Use of School Facilities**
The community uses the school hall for various functions. Our hall is also used weekly by the Save the Children playgroup.

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

**Community Satisfaction**
Data from Parents and Students is not available for this report but will be included in the report for the 2008 school year.

**Financial Statement Summary**
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 expense of the school, that is included in the above, is shown below.

**About This Report**
This report was written in December 2007 using the School Newsletter and school records as the main source of information. The Acting Principal Mrs Jane Addison compiled this report.