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Introduction
At St Therese School, Yenda teachers and parents work together in partnership so that children enjoy school and strive to do well. We aim to nurture the children to grow in their love of God, be safe and happy and achieve success in their learning.

St Therese offers a diverse range of learning experiences including Religion lessons, hands on computer experience and many sporting, cultural and enrichment opportunities.

Children from Catholic, as well as, other faith traditions, are invited to apply for enrolment.

St Therese School is an inclusive school and welcomes enrolment applications from students with disabilities.

1. The School

The School
Our Vision and Mission
At St Therese School we strive to educate children to their fullest potential within a community that has Jesus as our model and the Gospel values as our guide.

School Motto
Educating the whole child to strive for excellence

Religious Education
St Therese School, Yenda is an integral part of St Francis of Assisi Parish of Yoogali, Hanwood, Yenda and other village areas surrounding the city of Griffith. We work closely with our parish priest, Fr Jim McGee who is very supportive of our school and the work we do in providing a catholic education for the students of our village.

Preparation for the sacraments is a very special experience for St Therese School Community and confirms our role as educators in faith. During 2007 students were prepared to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of Eucharist. As well as incorporating this preparation in the learning and teaching program parent/child workshops are held at the school before each sacrament to allow families a special time to come together and focus on the sacrament. Children who are about to receive the sacrament are introduced to the parish at commitment masses. Reception of the sacrament of Eucharist is held out of school hours with other children from the parish. The sacrament of Confirmation is held in our parish bi-annually.

Students study Religious Education following the Wagga Wagga diocesan curriculum, “Sharing Our Story”. Learning and teaching in RE is given the same level of importance as other key learning areas and is linked to A to E assessment criteria.

Mass and paraliturgies to celebrate of special feast days and other events are an important occasions at St Therese.

Students had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation during the year.

St Therese supports St Vincent de Paul and Project Compassion through financial aid and prayer.

St Therese students also have participated in the Yenda community celebration of Anzac Day and Christmas Carols. The students have participated in values workshops with the school counsellor and visiting specialist.

This year the children attended a workshop and concert conducted by renowned church musician Andrew Chinn.

The Arts
A highlight of 2007 for St Therese students was entering the Leeton Eisteddfod and obtaining very good results in the small school's choir events. Student artwork is displayed regularly in the local shopping centre and reflects work set out in the NSW Creative Arts syllabus.
Students have attended live performances at the local theatre presented by professional performers and other local schools. Teachers use the NSW Creative Arts Syllabus to guide learning and teaching. The year ended with our bi-annual musical which involved all students from the school in drama, singing and dancing.

**Sport**
All St Therese students, from Kinder to Year 6, have participated in Cross Country, Athletics and Swimming carnivals and students who qualified progressed onto the deanery, diocesan and MacKillop carnivals. During 2007 students have had the opportunity to participate in all Diocesan team trials. Students also participated in specialist clinics for aussie rules, cricket and rugby league. Tennis and swimming lessons were held for all students from K-6 and teachers plan and implement the curriculum as per the NSW PDHPW syllabus.

The Federal Government program Active After School Community program has also being implemented at St Therese, Yenda with an average of 20 students attending each session.

**School Initiatives**
During 2007 the Open Days of Discovery program operated one day a week during term 3. This program targets children from families in the local area who are eligible to begin primary school in the following year. The aim of the program is to provide an educational experience that is different from the more formal and traditional pre-school program. This program also fosters smooth transition to school for new enrolments.

Kindergarten orientation was held in fourth term. The year 6 students also attended orientation programs at both catholic and government local high schools.

**School Policies**
All of the following policies are held at the school and can be easily located within the school. Enrolment policy; Counter disaster plan; Pastoral care and Discipline; Supervision policy; Sunsmart policy; Chemical safety; Assessment policy; Principles of learning and teaching; Curriculum perspectives; Programming policy; Mathematics, English and Creative Arts policy documents; duty statements for executive and office staff; complaints and grievances resolution policy; bookwork policy; homework policy; excursion policy; administration procedures policy.

**Student welfare**
As a Catholic School St Therese School is called to provide an environment so that each person in the school is able to develop his or her potential as created in the image and likeness of God. Each person has the potential to grow and to make an unique contribution to our society. Each teacher in the school has a role in the "total" care of the students and the students themselves have an important role in this regard.

**Discipline**
We believe that the most effective form of discipline is self-discipline. This encourages students to make decisions and accept the consequences for their actions.

Parents play an integral part of the child’s education and have a major role to play in each child’s behaviour and discipline. The support we receive from parents in assisting their children to make correct decisions is invaluable. There are occasions when students make the wrong decisions and the school needs to apply consequences. When this happens, we need to maintain open and immediate communication and student, parents and teachers need to work together as a team.

At St. Therese's all students and teachers have the responsibility to respect the rights of other students and teachers. Bullying is not acceptable. Students and /or parents are strongly encouraged to speak to the Principal or class teacher immediately if any form of bullying occurs.

Teachers have the responsibility to investigate all suspected incidents of bullying.
Dealing with complaints and grievances

Students, parents and staff are encouraged to seek solutions to problems as soon as it is evident that a problem exists. All complaints and grievances are to be taken seriously and appropriate follow up action is essential.

Students, parents and staff are encouraged to contact the Principal in regard to these matters and, if necessary, are able to contact the Parish Priest, School Council Chairperson and relevant personnel at the CSO.

Further information can be attained from the Diocese of Wagga Wagga Catholic Schools Office website www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

2. Information on Key School Programs

Curriculum Focus

In 2007 St Therese school community completed a review of the English syllabus and learning and teaching in this area. The 2007 English policy document reflects current practise of English leaning and teaching and has been implemented across the school. Staff have continue to participate in further professional development in this area including the Diocesan supported Literacy Learning and Teaching the Classroom project. Staff and students have also improved their knowledge and skills in using technology as an everyday tool in learning and teaching in the classroom.

Programs to Support Students

During the year eligible upper primary school students participated in a special literacy and numeracy program which focussed on areas identified as needing additional teaching on the 2006 BST.

Respect and Responsibility

Posters depicting the Values for Australian Schooling and National Safe Schools Framework are displayed in a prominent place in our school. During 2007 students participated in workshops with trained personnel, including the Life Education van, which emphasised good self esteem, anti-bullying and drug education.

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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

3. School Renewal

Progress of the School Renewal Framework
An annual plan was prepared and evaluated. This process included consultation with the St Therese staff, School Council and P&F as well as CSO staff. The main items included continuing to promote student school and community spirit, promoting the school in the wider community; providing high quality educational opportunities for students with special attention paid to using technology within the curriculum; review of English learning and teaching and general maintenance of buildings and resources.

4. School Overview

School Enrolment
Enrolment Policy
The Catholic School is a true and proper Church entity bringing faith, culture and life into harmony through its integrated activity of educating the whole person academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally.

Children from families who are prepared to be supportive of the life and teachings of the Catholic Church, to adhere to the religious practices, educational ideals and financial requirements of the school may apply for enrolment.

St Therese School is an inclusive school and welcomes enrolment applications from students with disabilities and from other faith traditions.

No child is to be excluded from enrolment on the basis of a genuine inability to pay fees.

Further information is available at www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

Student Enrolment Profile:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Indig’</th>
<th>LOTE*</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Language background Other Than English

Structure of Classes
A: Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2
B: Year 3 and Year 4
C: Year 5 and Year 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>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Professional Learning
During 2007 staff have participated in the following professional development to further their skills and knowledge of learning and teaching:
Student and Staff welfare:
Update of CPR and First Aide qualifications
Child protection
Workers compensation
After Active School Community training
Seasons for Growth program
Literacy:
Review of English syllabus
Literacy Learning and Teaching in the Classroom
Kindergarten entry assessment
Jolly Phonics
Leadership:
Principal’s conference: Catholic schools at the Crossroads
Principal’s retreat: Teaching as Eucharist
Principal Review and Renewal
Religious Education
Coordinator meetings
Scope and sequence review
Assessment
Technology
Laptop training
Website design
Smartboard training
SAS training
SAS Reporter Pro
Sina Training

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 99.1% was achieved in 2007 by staff at St Therese’ Primary School, Yenda.

Parent Involvement and Participation
St Therese prides itself on the level of parent involvement and participation within the school. All staff have a very positive professional relationship with parents. Parents are involved in all aspects of their children’s education and their support to the school community is invaluable.

Community Use of School Facilities
School facilities are used for educational purposes and by the parent community for social and fundraising events. Yenda Playgroup association rents school property of playgroup purposes.

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

Parents
My child (son or daughter) is usually happy at St Therese School, Yenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students
I am usually happy at St Therese School, Yenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff
I am usually happy at St. Therese School, Yenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
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**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 has been prepared by the School Principal, Mrs Robyn Akehurst in consultation with the wider school community.