Annual Report
St Joseph’s Primary School, Jerilderie

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Introduction
St. Joseph's Jerilderie is a proud, rural Catholic school located in the South Western Riverina area of New South Wales. The school has had many highlights throughout the year and this Annual Report is an account of the many areas addressed, attainments made and the achievements of our students and staff.

1. The School

The School
St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School Jerilderie is a small school servicing the town of Jerilderie (pop. 900 approx) and surrounding farming areas. It is one of 27 Primary Schools and 5 High Schools administered by The Catholic Schools Office of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

St. Joseph's is a co-educational Primary School providing broad based opportunities for children from Kindergarten to Year 6. St. Joseph's is a Parish school supported by St. Joseph's Parish, Jerilderie.

Our school has the largest number of enrolments in some years at 52 students. This is testament to the reputation of the 2008 staff and school programs despite the effects of the prolonged and serious drought, the parents of our school community are willing to pay for a high quality education.

Our School Motto is Wisdom through truth and love.

“We have a great objective - the light on the hill - which we aim to reach by working for the betterment of mankind not only here but anywhere we may give a helping hand.”

We want St. Joseph's to be the ‘light on the hill’ in the community by continuing to strive for excellence as a community committed to sharing and developing our Faith, Learning, Care and Service of all members of our school community together.

As a school we believe that we walk together excitedly and enthusiastically on an exciting journey of faith, learning, care and service together as a community. This journey incorporates reflection to promote effective change and action in our learning and interactions. We acknowledge and incorporate the proud traditions and history of our school and with excitement and boldness embrace the discovery of the new that lie in the future.

We walk together as friends guided always by God with His blessing and His help. Our aim is to nurture and protect this school community by building supportive structures, practices and relationships aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of all members of our community. Our dedicated staff are energized and enthusiastic about our plans for this year and future years. We are all part of a collaborative team working towards the same goals for all students. That is young people that are prepared for tomorrow's world with a solid education that is congruent with Gospel values and church teachings.

Catholic Identity
Our Catholic faith is an integral part of life in our school community. In addition to daily Religious Education lessons in the classroom from the SOS program we work to develop in each child a natural relationship with God and a life lived according to Gospel values.

Our Sacramental programs are a source of celebration as the children progress on their faith journey. The children in Year 3 received the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion this year and the students in Years 5 and 6 received the sacrament of Confirmation. This year our sacramental program was run by Mrs Angela Wedesweiler and Father John McGrath.

All children attend our special school Masses twice per term, with each grade taking a turn to lead the Mass.

Liturgies, apart from Masses, are often held to celebrate and commemorate special times or events such as Lent, Easter, Anzac Day, Advent & St. Joseph's Feast Day and Sorry Day.

The students of St. Joseph's contributed over $200 to the various mission events during 2008. Through its contribution to Project Compassion and Mission Week activities with St. Joseph's Finley our students developed an insight into the lives of developing nations. It is through such events as this that our students gain an understanding of the disparity between nations and in their way contribute support and awareness of the problems that exist in our world.
A Message from key School Bodies
This year the School Council, in particular the Chairman Mr Jeremy Barlow, have been an incredible support to the principal and staff at the school, Mr Alan Wedesweiler. Upon the enrolment of a child into our school, each family becomes a member of our School Council. The purpose of the council is to provide advice and support on matters of education, operation, disseminate information, finance, buildings & equipment, organisational items, school policy and procedures, and community issues. By allowing all families to be a member of our council, this provides them with a direct say in the operation of our school. Our school council is very involved in the local community.

2. Information on Key School Programs

School Determined Improvement Targets
In 2009 St. Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Jerilderie has outlined the following School Determined Improvement targets:
- To rewrite the Vision & Mission Statement in 2009
- Curriculum review of Religion, PDHPE, Science & Technology and HSIE.
- You Can Do It Program
- Making Jesus Real

Student Performance
Statewide Tests and Examinations
The table below indicates the percentage of students who have achieved national minimum standards in literacy and numeracy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>Punctuation and Grammar</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

St. Joseph’s Catholic Primary School Jerilderie has participated in BST Literacy and Numeracy since 1998 and in BST Writing since 2001. The school monitors Trend Data each year and uses that information to inform its learning and teaching practices for the upcoming year.

Programs to Support Students
Current Curriculum Initiatives
2008 Numeracy Project, PDHPE and English Curriculum review, CAP Funding,
Other Learning Support Initiatives
Reading Recovery

Equity Program Initiatives LBOTE funding, SWD programs, IESIP funding, Reading Recovery

Student Support Programs, School developed leadership program, Diocesan Human Sexuality Program

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility
School developed leadership program
Numerous Community service activities eg Flower Show Performance, CWA
3. School Overview

School Policies

Discipline Policy

In a Catholic school we aim at promoting self-discipline in all children. We have developed a discipline policy which covers all aspects of behaviour at school. Parents are kept well informed of any disciplinary problems with their child. As per Diocesan policy, corporal punishment is not permitted. The school follows the CSO policy which is available at www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

Student Welfare Policy

When a child is enrolled at St Joseph’s Primary School, Jerilderie, we undertake the total care of the student:

- The spiritual
- The emotional
- The social
- The physical, and
- The academic

The term Pastoral Care is used to describe an attitude and a process, and it is based upon the belief in the dignity of the person. In a school, it is expressed through:

- The development of quality relationships
- The provision of satisfying learning experiences
- The establishment of an effective network
- The provision of a stable environment where learning can occur
- The development of self discipline and growing into responsible members of the community.

The staff aim to support, assist and consult with parents and advise them of their child’s progress and attainment in the above areas. It is part of the staff’s duty to endeavour to address any areas that appear during the child’s schooling.

The school follows the CSO policy which is available at www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

Complaints and Grievances

Classroom or Playground Concern - Please discuss with

1. Class teacher or teacher on duty
2. The Principal

School Policy - Please discuss with
1. The Principal
2. School Council or Parish Priest

If a dissatisfaction remains – Contact the Catholic Schools Office, where your concerns will be heard, then the Principal’s account will be obtained and an attempt made at resolving the matter to the satisfaction of all parties. The school follows the CSO policy which is available at www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au

If the issue is important enough for you to follow it up, please make an appointment with teacher/Principal so they can ensure you have their full attention.

Issues taken to the School Council need to be in writing so that all members have the benefit of the same information. Issues taken to the School Council are considered confidential, but, as all families are members, it may be necessary to hold a special confidential meeting of the Executive of the School Council. Speak to a member of the School Council Executive, and they will make the arrangements.

If you would like to be more involved in the decisions made, participation in the School Council would be a way to achieve this.

TEACHER/PARENT CONCERNS ABOUT LEARNING

It is the responsibility of teachers to contact parents about concerns about a child’s learning. If a parent has a concern, it is expected that they make an appointment and discuss the issue with the classroom teacher.

The format is:

1. Teacher and parent contact each other and arrange a meeting to discuss a concern;
2. An action plan is recorded with a review date for a follow up with parents;
3. The teacher will discuss the plan with the Principal and may discuss it with other staff if necessary;
4. If the concern continues, the class teacher or the parent will contact the Principal about the concern;
5. The Principal will contact the Deanery Education Officer for further support and assessment if needed.

Minor adjustments were made to the policies in the year 2008. Full details of the texts are available by contacting the school office.

Enrolment Policy
Applications for enrolment are encouraged at any time and forms are available from the school office to commence the enrolment process for your child. We use Diocesan Enrolment Policy. The school follows the CSO policy which is available at www.cso.wagga.catholic.edu.au For full details please contact the school.

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>26</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Language background Other Than English

Structure of Classes
In 2008 we had 3 class groupings of:
- Kindergarten and Year One (16)
- Year Two and Year Three (20)
- Year Four, Year Five and Year Six (16)

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></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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Professional Learning
Teachers have undertaken a number of days of professional learning in the writing of units of work in Integrated Studies. In addition staff have also attended the Making Jesus Real inservice, NAPLAN data unpacking, inservices on Autism Management of Behaviours, CAP and ACEL Conferences, SENA Testing, CAP Cluster Projects and professional development related to Curriculum policies as run by CSO Staff.

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. Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, Jerilderie.

Parents
My child (son or daughter) is usually happy at St. Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, Jerilderie.

Students
I am usually happy at {school name here}.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Staff
I am usually happy at {school name here}.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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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 98.28% was achieved in 2008 by staff at St Joseph’s Jerilderie.
Financial Statement Summary

About This Report

This report was written by Alan Wedesweiler, Principal, in 2008, in conjunction with the relevant school stakeholders. It is a requirement of our registration as a Non-Government School and is aimed at informing parents and our community about our school. If you would like any further information about St Joseph’s Primary School, please contact the Principal using the details on the final page of this report.