

*St Mary's School
Northampton*



Annual Report

ST MARY'S SCHOOL

2016

INTRODUCTION

The Annual Report has two purposes. Firstly, it provides parents and the wider community with information about how St Mary's School has met its strategic direction by outlining progress against the Annual School Improvement Plan (ASIP), relevant financial and infrastructure information, and other matters determined by the school to be of general interest.

Secondly, the Annual Report publishes information which includes contextual information, key student outcomes, levels of satisfaction and a variety of other requirements outlined under the heading of School Performance Information.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

LEARNING

In the Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) System Strategic Outcome of Learning, the Literacy focus for St Mary's School for 2016 related to grammar and the identification of age appropriate parts of speech presented in texts. The staff participated in school based professional learning on the research and works of Beverly Derewianka. The purpose of the professional learning was to make decisions about the direction that the teaching of grammar would take at St Mary's School, upskill individual teacher knowledge, identify links to the West Australian Curriculum and discuss the needs of the students. The professional learning that was conducted was hands on, attended by all teaching staff, collaborative and informative.

There is evidence in the classrooms that the staff have implemented aspects of functional grammar with whole text as opposed to traditional grammar relating to individual words. Examples of this evidence include, teachers' English programmes, charts and posters, students' work samples, assessment and evaluation, learning intentions and success criteria, and academic report comments. A whole school scope and sequence for grammar has been introduced, developed and implemented, aligning the West Australian Curriculum with all of the teaching and learning of grammar from Pre Primary to Year Six. The use of pre and post testing in this area requires further development in 2017.

The Numeracy focus for 2016 related to increasing student outcomes in relation to written word problems in Mathematics. As with Literacy, external and internal professional development was undertaken by the staff at St Mary's School. The purpose of the professional learning was to make decisions about the direction that the teaching of problem solving would take at St Mary's School, upskill individual teacher knowledge, and discuss the needs of the students. The professional learning also provided insights into practices at other schools.

The focus of the problem solving pre-assessments and teacher led discussions, highlighted several areas of student development. Firstly, for the students to recognise that a presented problem has many entry and exit points, the understanding that one problem may have multiple answers, the need for the explicit teaching of problem solving strategies across all year levels and the comprehension required when dealing with a presented problem. Problem solving strategies were mapped out for specific year levels and the introduction of the 'CUBES' approach has been

implemented in the middle and upper primary classrooms. Post-assessment results will need to be finalised and analysed in 2017 to determine the overall impact on student results.

ENGAGEMENT

Engagement is the second System Strategic area of focus for CEWA. The Engagement goal for St Mary's School in 2016 related to the implementation of two new community initiatives in regards to developing the students to be leaders in Catholic Education's mission and enhancing parental engagement in their child's learning and faith formation. One of the initiatives was the reintroduction of Family Masses on a Saturday night. For 2016, four Family Masses were held, one per term, with each class responsible for preparing and leading the Mass. For each Mass, we had at least 80% of the allocated class in attendance. The Family Masses offered opportunities for faith formation and increased family involvement in the liturgy. An indirect benefit was that the attending families came together after each Mass to share a meal and spend time together on a social level.

The second initiative related to increased student participation in the Northampton RSL ANZAC Day Service. In addition to the laying of a wreath, students recited a poem as part of the community ceremony. After meetings with members of the Northampton RSL, an ongoing agreement has been reached with the school having involvement of a similar nature each year, commencing in 2017.

In 2016, there has been great success in the area of Engagement. The intended goal has been achieved with one hundred per cent success. These two initiatives will continue in 2017 as documented in the Term Planners.

ACCOUNTABILITY

In the third System Strategic area, Accountability, the annual goal related to the review and update of Behaviour Management Practices at St Mary's School. The current Behaviour Management Policy and practices were reviewed by the staff as a whole. The process also include the examination of Behaviour Management Policies from other Catholic schools. Central to all steps in the process was the decision to include a positive approach and characterisation to all aspects of behaviour management at St Mary's School.

The staff worked extensively to draft a new Behaviour Management Policy that reflected the current practices embedded at St Mary's School, including the 1 2 3 Magic strategy, the Fruit of the Spirit and Restorative Practice. The Policy has a positive base, which flows through all aspects of the Policy. The manner in which St Mary's School endeavours to prevent and address bullying is also documented.

The final step that needs to be completed in 2017 is to share the Behaviour Management Policy with the school community, requesting input and feedback. The Policy will be fully active in 2017 with revisiting to occur on a regular basis to ensure that all staff are familiar with the procedures for execution on a needs basis in the day to day life at St Mary's School.

DISCIPLESHIP

In regards to Discipleship, the final CEWA System Strategic Outcome area, the specific goals for St Mary's School related to the Year of Mercy. Specifically, St Mary's School aimed to participate in

two initiatives relating to the Year of Mercy and to have the students to be able to recall at least three age appropriate points relating to the Year of Mercy. One of the introduced initiatives was to include a small article in the fortnightly school newsletter in relation to the Year of Mercy. The success rate of this initiative has been calculated at 95%. The featured articles related to background information, prayer and real life examples. A second initiative was to learn hymns during Hymn Singing relating to the Year of Mercy. In conjunction with the learning of the hymns, discussions were held with all students about the meaning of the words in the hymns. This initiative was enacted at a rate of 50%. A final initiative related to classroom displays and activities relating to the Year of Mercy. All classes had a display that ran for the duration of the year, resulting in a 100% success rate. Classroom activities were completed spasmodically with varying rates of success.

In relation to the second Discipleship goal for 2016, the rate of success has varied from class to class. Only some of the younger students were able to name one age appropriate point relating to the Year of Mercy. In the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Class, 80% of the students were able to provide one or more facts in relation to the Year of Mercy. The decision was made not to include the Kindy and Pre Primary students in the student survey.

FINANCIAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

ST MARY'S SCHOOL BOARD TREASURER'S REPORT AGM

A Snapshot of the Difference between the actuals for 2016 and the 2017 Budget

Just a quick overview between the actual percentages of Income and Expenditure against 2016 Budget figures. As you can see, State Grants have increased by 1% and Private Income decreased by 1%:

Income	2016 Actuals	2017 Budget
State	9%	10%
Private	5%	4%
Federal	86%	86%
Expenditure	2016 Actuals	2017 Budget
Staff	5%	5%
Capital	5%	3%
Tech & Levies	5%	6%
Admin Costs	6%	9%
Maintenance	8%	4%
Wages	71%	73%

Results 2016 Financial Year

Results for 2016 Financial Year shows a surplus of \$37 374. At the beginning of Term Four, 2016, we received funds that were believed to be incorrect amounts and requested that CEWA look at this and after they did the adjustments we ended up receiving \$49 790 over initial budget figures.

Capital Items Expended in 2016

- Metal bench for quiet area north side of school \$525
- Furniture for Flexi Room \$4 705
- Fridge for Staffroom \$643
- Library Shelving \$956
- New Office Computer \$1 089
- New UPS for Computer Room \$2 000
- New School Car (after trade-in) \$24 724

Flexi Room Building Renovations approximately \$26 451

Cash on hand at 31 January 2017 was \$416 467.81 and made up as follows:

• Board Operating Account	\$187 770.07
• Vehicle Account	\$10 000.00
• Information Technology Account	\$50 000.00
• Fixed Term Maintenance	\$49 852.85
• Building Account	\$37 307.87
• Special Initiative	\$30 133.60
• Five Year Plan Term Deposit	\$51 403.42

Closing Balance 31/12/2016 **\$416 467.81**

• Loan Account 1929	\$64 225.71
---------------------	-------------

Actual School Funds as at 31/12/2016 **\$352 224.10**

2017 Budget

On the first attempt with compiling the 2017 Budget, we looked like we would need to make some enormous cut backs with our staffing and general expenses. After reviewing budget documentation, it was noticed that we had only been funded for 40 students instead of 47 as the figures are taken from the August Census but they had not included 8 students from Kindergarten plus one new additional student entering Pre Primary, and we were only losing two students from Year Six. After consultation with Jill Osborne, from CEWA Resources, she agreed we should be funded for the 47 confirmed students and we were granted an extra \$157 376 for our Base Funding.

State Government Per Capita as per Budget Memo dated 20 September 2016 but was not yet verified shows an indexation of 0.50%.

- Kindergarten Rate \$3 237 per student
- Pre Primary & Primary \$2 157 per student

Memo received on 22 December 2016 confirms that the per capita grants will be indexed by 1.5% changing the amount we will receive to:

- Kindergarten Rate \$3 269 per student
- Pre Primary & Primary \$2 178 per student

Australian Government Recurrent Funding

Funding for 2017 as per initial budget memo shows an indexation increase of 2.75% but yet to be confirmed. Primary Base funding per capita is \$7 096 per student.

AGRF – Primary Base Funding per capita rate \$7 096 x 48 students	\$333 512
Plus Transition Funding Support	\$221 145
Total Base Funding Support	\$554 657
AGRF – Low SES Funding	\$31 544
AGRF – Location Loading	\$20 469
AGRF – Size Loading	\$450 000

Debt servicing assistance will be \$20 000. This covers repayment of our low interest loan which has a balance of \$64 225 as at 31 December 2016, at an interest rate of 3.5%.

Health Care Card assistance rebate is \$550 per student. The maximum tuition fee for eligible card holders is \$230.

No ATA funding has been received in 2017 as we do not have the minimum requirement of seven Aboriginal students.

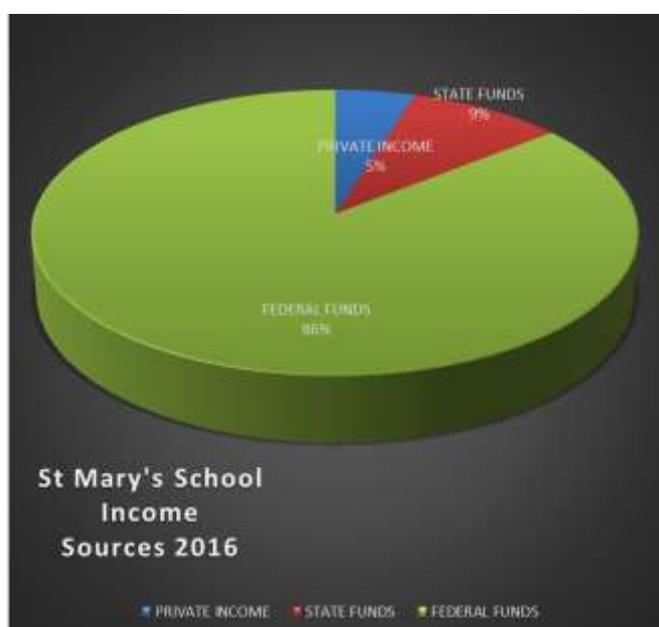
Universal Access \$1 000 per student.

Teacher Housing \$35 000.

Surplus

The 2017 Budget shows a surplus amount for \$3 748, which will be revised at Midyear Budget time.

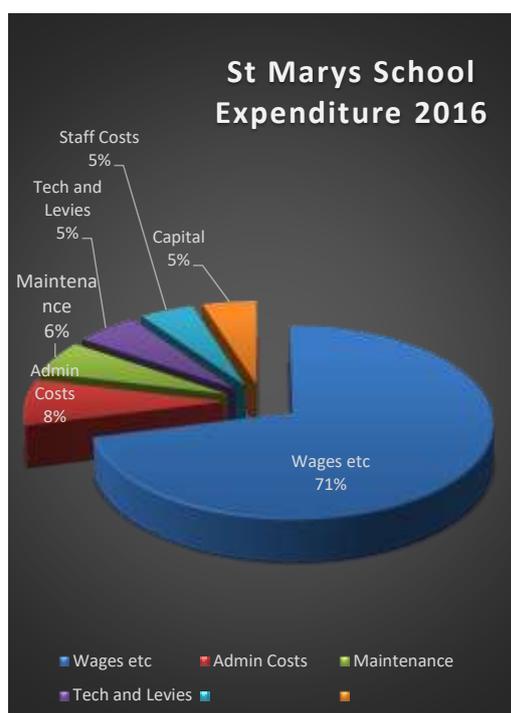
INCOME 2016



TOTAL INCOME GROUPS		Percentage
PRIVATE INCOME	\$ 63,430	4.85
STATE FUNDS	\$ 122,690	9.38
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$ 1,122,325	\$ 85.78
	\$ 1,308,445	100.00

Tuition	\$	28,525
Compulsary charges	\$	2,029
Other Income	\$	1,557
Excursions	\$	12,332
Parish Grant		
Miscellaneous Income	\$	466
Interest Received	\$	8,452
Per Capita Grants	\$	115,363
Other State	\$	7,327
AGRF Base Funding	\$	349,688
Teacher Housing	\$	34,972
Debt Servicing	\$	13,500
Health Care Rebate	\$	3,772
New Small & CARE Sch	\$	204,339
SES Loading	\$	34,854
SWD -Indiv Adj Profile		
AGRF Size Loading	\$	451,404
AGRF Location Loading	\$	21,946
Universal Access	\$	7,850
Building levy	\$	4,291
Other levies		
Bookshop	\$	1,376
Uniform Shop	\$	4,402
	\$	1,308,445

EXPENDITURE 2016



TOTAL EXPENDITURE GROUPS		%
Wages etc	\$ 902,441	71.00
Admin Costs	\$ 99,756	7.85
Maintenance	\$ 73,802	5.81
Tech and Levies	\$ 71,294	5.61
Staff Costs	\$ 61,690	4.85
Capital	\$ 62,088	4.88
	\$ 1,271,071	100.00

Salaries	\$ 527,373
Casual relief - Sick	\$ 14,764
Casual relief - PD	\$ 10,834
Teacher Aides	\$ 151,127
Stationary	\$ 7,006
Library Expenses	\$ 5,135
Departmental Expenses	\$ 25,196
Copyright	\$ 1,215
Prize Day expenses	\$ 359
Excursions	\$ 13,148
Workers Comp	\$ 5,354
Teacher Staff Allowance	
Fringe Benefit Tax	\$ 3,453
Superannuation	\$ 80,038
Admin and Clerical	\$ 56,587
Build & Exp Maint Contracts	\$ 19,446
Build & Exp Maintenance	\$ 23,569
Grounds Wages	\$ 2,396
Grounds Materials	\$ 6,297
G & G Contracts	\$ 8,665
Cleaning Wages	\$ 15,274
Cleaners Contracts	\$ 3,459
Cleaning Expenses	\$ 955
Security	\$ 1,715
Lighting and Power	\$ 10,857
Water Rates	\$ 2,298
Insurance General	\$ 18,022
Office Stationary	\$ 2,060
Postage	\$ 206
Telephone - Fixed Line	\$ 348
Telephone - Mobiles	\$ 450
Telephone - Other Phone Cos	\$ 270
Telephone - Download	\$ 164
Photocopier costs	\$ 6,877
Payroll levy	\$ 2,609
Bank Charges	\$ 131
Audit Fees	\$ 3,800
Advertising	\$ 17
Computing services -Print	\$ 2,664
Cathednet	\$ 50,891
SEQTA	\$ 5,689
MAZE	\$ 4,978
Motor vehicles	\$ 3,847
Transport Costs	\$ 3,743
Kilometre Claim Expenses	
Travelling Expenses	\$ 6,196
Freight	\$ 321
CEO Levy	\$ 3,993
CEO tertiary Levy	\$ 359
Other levies	
Subscriptions	\$ 702
Staff Training	\$ 11,771
Staff Welfare	\$ 1,161
Interest capital	\$ 2,720
Catering for Functions	\$ 4,507
Misc Admin Expenses	\$ 4,120
Long Service Leave	\$ 20,871
Principals Prof Leave	\$ 3,465
Maternity leave	\$ 7,446
Teacher Housing	\$ 34,972
Uniform Store Costs	\$ 2,501
Bookshop Expenses	\$ 592
I. T. Equipment	\$ 3,089
Other Furniture	\$ 6,841
Plant & Equipment	
Co-responsibility Fund	\$ 5,829
Motor Vehicles	\$ 24,465
Capital Loans - Repayment	\$ 21,864

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

INTRODUCTION

2016 has been a very fruitful and productive year for all involved in the St Mary's School Community. This report will provide a small taste of all that has been accomplished throughout the year. Community and tradition have once again permeated through all facets of life at St Mary's School, providing the strong foundation to provide every student with the tools to achieve a personal best.

LEARNING

At St Mary's School, learning is our core business. This learning applies to both the staff and the students. In relation to the students, the learning is not just confined to the four walls of the classroom. 2016 saw an assortment of extra curricula activities planned and undertaken over the course of the year. These extra curricula activities added another dimension to the West Australian Curriculum, providing the students with hands on experiences and learning through presenters who are experts in their field.

One learning area that features very predominantly at St Mary's School is Physical Education. 2016 saw Mr Matthew Nicholson teaching Physical Education to students from Years One to Six on Tuesdays, drawing on his expertise and coaching credentials. Classroom teachers continued to work co-operatively to undertake Friday Physical Education Classes or supervise whilst various clinics were undertaken by Regional Development Officers. These sporting clinics were organised by Miss Daniela Miotti and helped the students to fine tune their skills in football, hockey, soccer, cricket and tennis. In conjunction with the Physical Education lessons and clinics, students at St Mary's School competed in many carnivals in faction and interschool teams. Our thanks are extended to Miss Miotti for co-ordinating all carnivals, well supported by the staff.

St Mary's School is a registered Waste Wise and Water Wise School. Throughout the year, the students have been involved in many educational lessons and activities to do with Water Week, the environment, recycling and waste wise. Mrs Susanne Warr has facilitated these initiatives, so I would like to say thank you to her and the school community for protecting our world, the gift of creation from God. This priority area for our school is not only educating our students for today, but providing them with the tools they will need to be environmentally aware citizens in the future.

One highlight for the students in Year 5/6 Class was the six day camp to Perth. The students participated in a range of educational and fun activities, learning and getting to know each other better outside of the school environment. Throughout the week we drove, visited, learned, bounced, toured, ate, laser tagged, solved, bowled, acted, laughed, climbed and flew through a week that was jammed packed with excitement and learning. I had one favourite part of the week and I don't think that I will be able to fully describe it in words, but to set the scene, the students woke up on the last morning with some red lipstick all over their faces. They weren't quite sure how it happened, so I thought I would share some photos that I took during my escapades!

Over the course of 2016, the staff have engaged in wide range of professional learning opportunities as a whole and/or individuals. Some of this professional development was facilitated by outside presenters and others by the very talented staff of St Mary's School, our most valuable resource. As

you can see on the PowerPoint, the staff has been upskilled across a large number of learning areas with this knowledge being transferred into all aspects of education for your children.

In our Annual School Improvement Plan, the goals for 2016 centred on problem solving in Numeracy and Grammar. Over the course of the year, the staff undertook school based professional learning in both of these areas, working on establishing a common language and an understanding of curriculum expectations for various year levels. I have witnessed students using language such as participant, circumstance and process, focusing more on functional grammar in whole text over traditional grammar relating to individual words. With problem solving in Mathematics, the teachers have worked with the students on problem solving tasks that are more open ended, entering and exiting questions at various points along the continuum and coming to the realisation that there may be more than one answer.

Spelling has also been another focus for 2016 with ongoing development in 2017. We have been reviewing our approach to the teaching of spelling, creating a data wall where each individual student has a face connected to their data, fostering a whole school, case management approach. Further investigations will continue in 2017 with the aim of adopting a whole school approach in order to improve Spelling across all year levels. Our work in Spelling is closely related to the Geraldton Regional School Improvement Project with Doctor Lyn Sharratt, an internationally acclaimed educator who promotes shared beliefs, understanding and accountability for the development of all students, putting faces to the data. This year we have also focused on the parameter relating to Principal Leadership where I conduct Learning Walks and Talks with the students and classroom teachers. 2017 will see continued embedding and consolidation with all four pupil free days planned around attendance at professional development with Dr Lyn Sharratt and other Catholic schools in the Geraldton Diocese.

ENGAGEMENT

In the area of Engagement, the St Mary's School Board and P&F are two very strong parent bodies, that have worked collaboratively for the betterment of the students and the overall school community. To all the members of the School Board, I would like to say thank you. Thank you for finding the time in your very busy lives to meet once a month to discuss many different matters, especially in relation to finances and policies. Your ability to share your strengths and thoughts is appreciated immensely. The support that you have offered has been positive, honest and strong. For 2016, our School Board Chair was Stuart Gerreyn. Thank you for accepting this role once again and managing the position with ease and insight.

Two Board members left during the course of 2016. Greg Payne and Alana Sullivan, we thank you for offering your services to the School Board. You both brought skills and expertise from your professional life and applied them as you carried out your respective duties.

We now have two vacancies and I would ask all members of the community to consider nominating for the School Board. It is a vehicle that you can use to contribute to the financial direction and future planning of the school.

To the P&F of St Mary's School, the group of ladies committed to fostering community and facilitating fundraising, I say a very heart felt thank you. Once again, you have been the driving force behind many events including:

- AFL Footy Tipping Competition
- Northampton Markets Cake Stall

- Catering for an array of functions
- Knights of the Southern Cross Dinner
- Year Six Graduation Dinner
- Father's Day Breakfast
- Sports Carnival catering

The P&F Executive has worked collaboratively under the guidance of the President, Kristy Williams. Kristy, you have guided the P&F as well as managing to study full time, raise a family, help with the farm and everything else that you were able to juggle over the last twelve months. Thank you for everything that you have done, calmly, generously and with such expertise.

To the other members of the P&F Executive, Corinna Mulgrew, Trin Suckling and Emily Routledge, we are truly grateful for your dedication, persistence, creativity and commitment. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

There have been many initiatives this year which have centred on Engagement with the community and the building of relationships with everyone. Our Family Masses have been tremendously successful. We have had one per term with at least 80% of the allocated class in attendance. These Family Masses are designed to offer opportunities for faith formation and involvement in the liturgy. An indirect benefit is to see so many families come together after Mass to share a meal and social time together.

For ANZAC Day, St Mary's School has had increased participation in the Northampton RSL ANZAC Day Service. In addition to the laying of a wreath, students recited a poem. An ongoing agreement has been made with the members of the RSL for the school to have involvement in a similar nature each year.

The Northampton Playgroup visited in Term One, conducting one of their playgroup sessions in our Kindy/Pre Primary Classroom. This initiative was facilitated by Mrs Rebekah Lucas with a twofold purpose. One, to create a relationship with the members of the playgroup, and two, open the doors to our fabulous school, presenting an option for the parents to consider for their child's primary school education.

Our annual Mother's Day and Father's Day events were once again very well supported. The mums were pampered and waited on, whilst the dads' tummies were filled ready for a day of athletics. Whilst it would be ideal if every day was Mother's Day and Father's Day, these events are just one way we can show our love for our parents and all that they do for us.

This year our Athletics Carnival looked a little different as we extended an invitation to Binnu Primary School to join us, running the event in a similar fashion to our shared Swimming Carnival. The day went off without a hitch thanks to the co-ordination of Miss Daniela Miotti. The feedback that I have received to date has been very positive. The collaborative nature of the Carnival allowed for the workload to be more evenly spread, students to have other students to compete with in races and an increased atmosphere of fun and colour. I am looking forward to a repeat performance in 2017.

Finally under the heading of Engagement, we thank our Year 5/6 students for continuing their work for Meals on Wheels, wonderfully supported by Mrs Kate Hasleby, the Year 3/4 Class for planting trees in the local community, all of the entries for the Northampton Show and Perth Royal Show,

and for the Year 5/6 Class for leading us in prayer for Remembrance Day, a day where we learnt a lot about the Australian Armed Forces thanks to one of our dads, Mr Ben Cripps.

I think it is very safe to say that as a school we are actively involved in the community, living out our motto of 'For God and Country'.

ACCOUNTABILITY

2016 has been a very big year in regards to accountability. In Term Two, we participated in a School Cyclic Review. This review involved four individuals from various aspects of Catholic Education Western Australia visiting St Mary's School and meeting with myself, staff and parents. A School Cyclic Review focuses on the effectiveness of a school's engagement with self-review and the impact this self-review has on school improvement for future planning and improved student outcomes. St Mary's School received a very favourable report, with many strengths noted in a school with our specific context. The panel reported that St Mary's School had committed itself to school improvement, and a clear vision and direction was in place with input from the School Board, P&F and staff. In 2017, we will continue to use the School Cyclic Review Report to consolidate and embed current practices.

In Term Four, we participated in the Executive Director's School Registration Audit. This audit satisfies the System Agreement between the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia and the Minister for Education in ensuring that education standards are upheld at St Mary's School. The Audit addressed eleven standards. The independent auditor spent a day at the school, speaking with staff and students. The final report was very good with two small recommendations, one of which related to a Code of Conduct which will be in place by 1 January 2017, and the other in relation to additional items required in the Annual Report which will be attended to in the 2016 Annual Report.

A second aspect of this Audit related to the National Quality Standard (NQS). The NQS sets a high national benchmark for Early Childhood Education. At the end of 2015, I conducted an audit and determined that St Mary's School met two of the seven standards and were working towards the other five. This year, the independent auditor verified that we met four of the seven and were working towards the other three. This improved rating is testament to the work that all of the staff associated with K/PP and Year 1/2 undertake over the course of the year. In 2017, we will continue to implement the QIP, Quality Improvement Plan, building on our current practices.

One of the goals in our Annual School Improvement Plan, under the heading of Accountability, related to updating our Behaviour Management Plan. The staff have worked tirelessly on this document. We looked at the strengths and weaknesses of the current policy, viewed examples from other schools, and drafted a new policy with an underlying focus on starting from the positive

In regards to resources, St Mary's School has continued to update equipment and materials, making improvements in a number of areas. Some of these improvements include:

- Renovations to the old Administration Block to create an open space for flexible learning
- Tagging of all electrical items in the school
- Resources for classrooms
- New back up battery for the server
- New fridge
- New furniture for the flexible learning space
- New shelving for the K/PP storeroom and shed

- A new school car

DISCIPLESHIP

St Mary's School is a Catholic school and it is this religious dimension that sets us apart from other educational institutions. For us, we answered the call of Pope Francis and the Year of Mercy was a prime focus. In class, the students were taught about the Year of Mercy and what it means to be merciful, following the lead of Jesus. Classroom displays, conversations at Assembly, learning related hymns and articles in the school newsletter were just some of the ways that the school community embraced the call to be forgiving and show compassion. Now that the Year of Mercy is officially finished, I ask that we continue to be witnesses of mercy and the face of the Church in the world with displays of love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness.

Other areas of focus this year have been the presentation of the Stations of the Cross by the Year 5/6 Class, the celebration of the School Feast Day, Caritas Australia's Project Compassion, Communion and Catholic Mission. During the Seasons of Lent and Advent, the students from Years Three to Six received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Sacramental Program was very well facilitated by Miss Laura Kennedy. Reconciliation and Eucharist were the two Sacraments celebrated this year. Once again, students from outside of the school were a part of the program and celebrations, suitably prepared by Mrs Susanne Warr. Thank you to Miss Kennedy and Mrs Warr for the role that you played to assist the students with the next step of their faith journey. To the students in Year 3/4 who did not receive a Sacrament, thank you for your ongoing support, attendance and work in the program.

As previously mentioned, it is wonderful to have Bishop Justin here with us tonight. On behalf of the school community, I would like to say thank you for your leadership, faith and wisdom over the past twenty-four years. I personally have had the privilege of working in four schools in the Geraldton Diocese under your leadership. We are very blessed to have had you as our shepherd, leading the flock of the St Mary's School Community and I would like to wish you all the very best with your impending retirement. May God continue to be with you, providing you with the love, comfort and spiritual nourishment that you so very much deserve.

To Father Tai, thank you for your involvement in all aspects of St Mary's School. We appreciate the time you spend preparing meaningful homilies for our school Masses, utilising technology, photos and other resources to assist with your delivery of the Good News. Your willingness to work collaboratively with the staff is also very much appreciated. This was especially evident when you helped to facilitate our Staff Retreat on Prayer. We look forward to continuing to work with you in 2017, drawing on your knowledge, faith and strength.

CONCLUSION

2017 will see continued work on fitting out the flexible learning space. New painting, flooring and furniture is also planned for the Year 5/6 Classroom. The Specialist Learning Areas for 2017 are Physical Education, Music, Drama, Visual Arts, Science and Information Technology. Spelling will also continue to have a strong focus as we aim to adopt a whole school approach. This will align with our second year of involvement in the Geraldton Regional Collaborative School Improvement Project.

To conclude, a few very important thank yous must be paid. To the students of St Mary's School, I wrap my arms around you and give you all a big thank you. I am so lucky that I get to see you every day, play a small part in your education and see the big smiles on your faces when you achieve a

personal best. You make school so much fun that for someone like me, I have never left! To the parents, thank you for entrusting your precious children into our care. Every decision that we make is always with your child at the core and centre. We take the partnership between home and school very seriously and working with you ensures that your children continue to come first. To the staff of St Mary's School, I extend my heartfelt gratitude and admiration. You all come to school each day determined to be the best you that you can be for the betterment of the students and community. You all work so tirelessly, going above what is documented in your duty statement. No request is too big or small, giving endless time and energy to the students. Tonight is just one of the many examples of your creativity, time, effort, enthusiasm and dedication. Thank you and enjoy your holidays as they are very much deserved.

I believe that everyone in this room tonight is a jigsaw puzzle piece. Every piece is unique and has that very special spot to go in. Without all the pieces, the picture is incomplete. Without all of us, the picture and beauty of St Mary's School is incomplete. Thank you for helping to create a beautiful picture for 2016. May 2017 bring a new jigsaw, a new challenge, a new picture to build, create and share with the world.

SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR REPORT

MR STUART GERREYN

On behalf of the St Mary's School Board, I would like to welcome you all to our 2017 AGM, reporting on our 2016 school year. I would also like to welcome back Melissa Marquis, our Principal, and staff returning for the 2017 school year. We also welcome back Corinna Mulgrew from Maternity Leave, taking up a support role within the school.

At the start of 2016, we had two new Board Members elected, Emily Routledge and Gail Hopkinson, and I thank them both for the work they have done and their contributions to the School Board. A special thank you to Emily who stepped up to become Secretary half way through the year when Alanna Sullivan left for Paraburdoo. Greg Payne also stepped down from the Board when he left Northampton early in the year to head to the pastoral region. Both Emily and Gail attended the School Board Induction early in the year in Geraldton. Thank you to all the existing Board members who have contributed to the school by being members of the School Board. A job well done.

I would like to thank parents for helping with the Flexi Learning Classroom, which when we first got the first quotes in, they were right out of the ballpark figure of what we envisaged spending. Thanks to Craig Suckling for taking on the communication role with the contractors to negotiate the best price possible. A job well done and we thank you sincerely for putting up your hand. A big thank you to all the parents who helped with the removal of all fixtures and fittings and who can forget the easy task of ripping up the carpet. A task that proved to be quite difficult as the glue had worked extremely well on sticking the carpet to the floor. Thank you to everyone who was part of the demolition process. We are hopeful that by the end of Term One all the furniture and IT equipment will be operational. It will be a place that will be used almost every day.

The School Board is a vehicle for parents to come together and contribute to the decision making process in relation to finances and policies. All of these discussions lead to improved opportunities for students' learning and student outcomes. I would encourage all parents to consider going on the School Board this year or in the future. All current School Board members are only too happy to discuss what it entails and the commitment required.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage parents, both mums and dads to consider being on the P&F Executive as this is another way that you can contribute to the running of the school through fundraising and community building.

Thank you again for attending and looking forward to another great year at St Mary's School!

P&F PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MRS KRISTY WILLIAMS

Thank you for attending the AGM of both the School Board and P&F. 2016 has been a successful year of fundraising for the P&F. Our major fundraising events included:

- The NCVISSA Athletics Carnival – Gemma Suckling
- Trin Suckling had a huge year of taking on fundraising with a couple of funerals, the bike ride and the Footy Tipping
- Last year's Year 5/6 Class co-ordinated the Knights of the Southern Cross Dinner along with some invaluable help from Melissa Marquis
- The Year Six Graduation Dinner was catered for by the 2018 camp parents which is now the Year 4/5 Class. The participation of the new camp group makes for a memorable night for the Graduating Class.
- Special note should also be made of Verity Triscari who turned up to a P&F meeting to take on the lead role in one of our catering jobs. This is much appreciated.

In the Treasurer's Report, Trin will discuss the projects they we contributed to. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Trin for her tireless efforts over the last few years and I know this year she is planning on taking a step back from the Committee. I would like to encourage as many parents as possible to attend the meetings, just because you attend doesn't mean you need to take on a job or a fundraising role. It is up to you how much of your time you would like to contribute. Fresh ideas are always welcome. However, if you do take on a co-ordinating role of a fundraising project there is always plenty of help.

I would like to thank all the families for being involved in the P&F, it is not just those on the Committee, everyone is always generous in the donation of food and their time. The funds we raise and what we are able to provide our children in the material sense is valuable but above all we are creating a community that we should all be proud of.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

St Mary's School, Northampton, is a small co-educational Catholic primary school situated 475 kilometres north of Perth and 50 kilometres north of Geraldton. Enrolments for 2016 were 47 students from Kindergarten to Year Six.

St Mary's was originally established in 1868 and has a rich history of service by several religious orders; most notably the Presentation Sisters whose involvement spanned ninety years. The first lay principal arrived at St Mary's School in 1990.

The current buildings were established in 1964 and further extensions were completed in 1994. In 2004, renovations were completed to the school including disabled access into the school and new student toilet facilities. In 2009, a new undercover walkway was completed and a new entrance statement. In 2011, we officially opened our new Office, Library and Staffroom with thanks to the Federal Government Building Education Revolution. In 2016, internal renovations were undertaken to the old Administration Block, including the removal of an internal wall, to create a flexible learning space.

St Mary's School has a vibrant and committed staff, an active and supportive parent body and strong links with the parish and the local town community. Based on the School Motto, 'For God and Country', the St Mary's School community is focused on providing a holistic education for all students with an emphasis on their spiritual and academic development.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications of the Teaching Staff:

- Diploma of Teaching – 2
- Bachelor of Arts in Education – 3
- Bachelor of Arts in Business Education – 1
- Graduate Diploma in Education – 1
- Bachelor of Education – 5
- Bachelor of Early Childhood Education – 1
- Graduate Certificate in Religious Education – 1
- Master of Education – 1

***Some of the teaching staff have more than one qualification.

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

Staffing includes

- One female Principal
- Three female full-time Teachers
- One male full time Teacher
- Three female part-time Teachers
- One male part-time IT Teacher
- Two female part-time Administration Officers

- One female part-time Aboriginal Teacher Assistant
- Six female part-time Education Assistants
- Two female part-time Cleaners
- One male part-time Gardener

***Some of the staff have more than one role.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Whole school attendance percentage was 88.55% broken down to class levels below:

PP – 87.49%
 Year One – 85.98%
 Year Two – 90.67%
 Year Three – 92.44%
 Year Four – 89.19%
 Year Five – 86.60%
 Year Six – 87.47%

This information is collated from SEQTA 2016 School Performance Report (15/12/16)

Absenteeism is managed each day by phoning the parents of any student that is absent and a telephone call, email or note has not been received by the school. Also, the school sends home follow up Absentee Letters if these have not been sent to the classroom teacher.

Any families which have chronic absenteeism are managed by the Principal and/or Aboriginal Teacher Assistant who follows up with the families by way of telephone calls or home visits.

SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Not applicable for St Mary's School.

NAPLAN INFORMATION

Percentage of Year Three and Five students at or above the minimum standard in NAPLAN Reading, Spelling, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy (Benchmark Results 2016):

Learning Area	Year Three	Year Five	Year Seven
Numeracy	100%	100%	N/A
Reading	83%	100%	N/A
Grammar & Punctuation	100%	100%	N/A
Spelling	83%	100%	N/A
Writing	100%	100%	N/A

School Mean for Year Three and Five students in NAPLAN Reading, Spelling, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy (Results 2016):

	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy	Reading	Spelling	Writing
YEAR THREE St Mary's School Mean	Band 4 410.0	Band 4 388.5	Band 4 392.8	Band 4 378.2	Band 4 395.2
YEAR THREE All Australian Schools Mean	Band 5 436.3	Band 4 402.2	Band 4/5 425.7	Band 4 420.1	Band 4 420.5
YEAR FIVE St Mary's School Mean	Band 6 513.4	Band 6 516.6	Band 6 519.3	Band 6 508.6	Band 6 502.4
YEAR FIVE All Australian Schools Mean	Band 6 505.0	Band 6 492.9	Band 6 501.7	Band 6 492.9	Band 5/6 475.4

PARENT, STUDENT AND TEACHER SATISFACTION

The Insight SRC Survey was distributed to all staff, all families and in students from Years Three to Six.

Individual Staff Morale, the extent to which staff feel positive at school, is 86.43%.

Student Connectedness to School, the extent to which students feel they belong and enjoy attending school, is 82.14%

Community Engagement, the extent to which parents feel they are involved in their child's education including the approachability of staff, their satisfaction with the school's reporting and the extent to which they feel the school is focused on improvement, is 88.25%

At Enrolment Interviews, when asked why parents have chosen to send their child to St Mary's School, the responses include St Mary's School being recommended by the parents of past and present students and/or this is where they received their primary school education.

POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

Our Year Six students' high school destinations are as follows:

- Two students to Nagle Catholic College, Geraldton

SCHOOL INCOME

Please view the following link: <http://www.myschool.edu.au> for more information.