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YIDARRA
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE
SCHOOL COMMUNITY
2016

The Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) under the Schools' Assistance Act 2004 Regulations had mandated that schools report to their communities on the following 'performance indicators'. Yidarra Catholic Primary School is pleased to publish the following information regarding the school performance as per the DEST performance indicators.

1. CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Yidarra Catholic Primary School is a co-educational Catholic Primary School catering for approximately 530 children from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6. The school serves the community of St Thomas More and has a very strong and close relationship with the Parish. At Yidarra we provide our students with an education that prepares them for life with opportunities for deep learning, in order for them to develop appropriate social, emotional, spiritual, physical, cognitive, creative skills and acquisition of knowledge about our world. Our school fosters confidence, independence and lifelong learning with an attitude which promotes achievement of the full potential of all individuals in an environment embedded in gospel values.

The school has a well-balanced curriculum with a focus on establishing a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy skills, as one of the keys to successful, lifelong learning. Intervention and support programs ensure the needs of every child are met. Our curriculum offers students the opportunity to strive for excellence, develop resiliency and provides academic programs that stimulate and challenge each child.

The school has a well-resourced Early Childhood Centre and offers a number of specialist programs including science, music, physical education, Italian, Indonesian and library. The music program includes the opportunity for children to receive tuition in musical instruments and to participate in a school choir. A dedicated and professional staff works in partnership with parents and community members to provide a stimulating and enriching learning experience for all children.

The pastoral care of the students lies at the heart of all that the school does and is demonstrated through school policies and programs such as Kidsmatter. Inclusion of before and after school care helps to meet the needs of the children and their families. The school has a strong and supportive parent community, and an active Board and Parent and Friends' Association.

2. TEACHER STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The teaching staff of Yidarra Catholic Primary School hold the necessary qualifications required by the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia. All members of the teaching staff were WACOT (West Australian College of Teaching) registered and were suitably qualified. The teaching staff qualifications in 2015 were as follows:

QUALIFICATIONS	NUMBER
Master Degree	5
Bachelor Degree	25
Graduate Certificate	3
Graduate Diploma	2
Diploma	7

3. WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

TYPE OF STAFF	NUMBER
Teaching staff	24
Non-teaching staff	22
Male staff members	8
Female staff members	38
Indigenous staff members	0

4. STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

YEAR LEVEL	ATTENDANCE RATE
Pre Primary	91.6%
Year 1	93.2%
Year 2	93.18%
Year 3	93.92%
Year 4	94.07%
Year 5	93.46%
Year 6	92.59%

The average attendance rate for the whole school for 2016 was 93.14%

THE PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH NON-ATTENDANCE:

- Electronic recording of attendance/absence is conducted using the SEQTA attendance system.
- The school contacts parents early each school day via text message to follow up unexplained school absences, requesting parents to make contact with the school to explain a student's absence.
- Parents are requested to send a written note to acknowledge the days that their child was absent.
- Prolonged periods of absence are brought to the attention of the Principal by the child's class teacher. This is then followed up by a member of the Leadership team.

5. NAPLAN INFORMATION:

NAPLAN TEST RESULTS 2016

YEAR 5			
Test	Above Minimum Standard	At Minimum Standard	Below Minimum Standard
Reading	80%	17%	3%
Writing	90%	8%	2%
Grammar and Punctuation	84%	14%	2%
Spelling	95%	0%	5%
Numeracy	86%	11%	3%

YEAR 3			
Test	Above Minimum Standard	At Minimum Standard	Below Minimum Standard
Reading	98%	2%	0%
Writing	100%	0%	0%
Grammar and punctuation	100%	0%	0%
Spelling	96%	2%	2%
Numeracy	87%	12%	1%

Further NAPLAN information is available at <http://www.myschool.wa.edu.au>.

6. PARENT, TEACHER AND STUDENT SATISFACTION

2016 INSIGHT SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY SUMMARY

Teachers believe:

The school is focused on quality teaching and creates a learning environment that maximises outcomes for students. Teachers put effective learning and teaching practices into use. Students are motivated to learn and want to do well. Parents are engaged in collaborating with staff to achieve student outcomes. Student behaviour is consistent with faith-based values. The opportunity to act with compassion and to pray together. Staff members' goals and approach to work are aligned with the goals and approach of the school.

Students feel:

Staff and student behaviour is consistent with faith-based values.

Teachers deliver their teaching in a planned and energetic manner.

Teachers make learning interesting, enjoyable and inspiring.

Socially connected and that they belong. They enjoy coming to school.

The teachers are empathetic, providing help and support when needed, listening to what students have to say.

They have the opportunity to reflect on their faith, pray and celebrate liturgies and the sacraments.

They are motivated to achieve and learn. They have a positive perception of their ability to learn.

Safe in the school.

Parents believe:

The children enjoy and are motivated by the teaching and learning provided by the school.

The children have positive relationships with other students.

Teachers are viewed as being enthusiastic and passionate about their work.

Staff behaviour is consistent with faith-based values.

Christian service is valued and the children are provided with opportunities to participate in Christian service.

The school provides students with the opportunity to reflect on their faith, pray together and celebrate liturgies and the sacraments.

Parents believe the school has appropriate and fair behaviour management practices.

7. SCHOOL INCOME

Financial information is available at <http://www.myschool.wa.edu.au> .

8. ANNUAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Report on progress towards the school's Annual School Improvement Plan for 2016.

LEARNING:

- Staff provide a differentiated curriculum using explicit teaching strategies to cater for individual learning needs, in identified numeracy areas – ongoing goal.
- HASS curriculum implemented.
- Peer Support program implemented.
- Keeping Safe program implemented.

ENGAGEMENT:

- Communication protocols developed.
- School improvement team implemented.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

- A 3-year Facilities Plan for school equipment and facilities developed.
- Staff feedback model introduced.

DISCIPLESHIP:

- Staff participated in professional development about the Mercy charism and its relationship to Yidarra School values.

PART 2: ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Yidarra Catholic Primary School Board – Chairman’s Report 2016

From the Catholic School Board Constitution, we learn that a Catholic School Board shall carry out the following functions:

- (a) Planning for the present and future operation of the School;
- (b) Providing membership on selection panels for the employment of staff to the School in accordance with CECWA policy;
- (c) Providing membership on the panel, which recommends the appointment of a Principal in accordance with CECWA policy;
- (d) Disseminating information about the School and about Catholic education to persons and organisations in the School Community;
- (e) Liaising in all matters relating to the financial management of the School with persons and organisations in the local Catholic community;
- (f) Managing all the finances associated with the School; and
- (g) Advising the Principal with respect to School policy.

At Yidarra we have a dedicated group of people who devote their time and talents to undertaking these functions and supporting the school in providing a wonderful learning environment for our children. I wish to thank Fiona Chow, Ryan Menezes, Julia Daker, Paul Cmrlec, Michael Chong, Will Schaefer and Craig Winfield, together with ex-officio members Carmel Costin and Fr Phong for all their contributions to the work of the Board throughout the year.

Following the 30th anniversary celebrations of 2015, this past year (2016) was a time of consolidation and of looking forward. Our school is wonderfully maintained but some of the infrastructure has reached the point where maintenance and repairs are a significant budgetary consideration. With the wonderful support of the P & F, we have nearly completed the refurnishing of the classrooms. The new desks and chairs help create a bright and comfortable learning space which is flexible and meets the needs of contemporary learning. Whiteboards and appropriate technology to support learning has been upgraded as well.

We are well down the path of implementing nature-play areas for junior and senior students. This initiative has received wide-spread support and we look forward to seeing the results of the planning and fundraising coming to fruition in the coming year.

Infrastructure such as roofing, air-conditioning and heating are monitored closely and receive attention before significant problems occur. Facilities such as the student toilet blocks are kept clean and modern. We can be proud of the care taken by the school and we see that the students appreciate this attention as they treat their school with love and care.

A school has a significant duty-of-care responsibility and must ensure that measures are taken to protect its students. During this past year the school undertook to fence the perimeter of the school and provide secure points of access. This gives us all peace of mind to know that entry and exit of all visitors to the school is controlled and monitored.

A key function of a successful school is the development of a sense of community. It is wonderful to see so many events organised which bring people together. From P&F sponsored events such as the Fathers' Day sleep-over to Liturgies celebrated with the Parish of St Thomas More, we come together to form a community based on our beliefs and support for the mission of the Church enacted through our school.

An example of the extraordinary level of support that our parents show the school was after a storm hit Perth and left our school with damage to some of the many trees on the property. A number of parents rallied on Sunday morning and with the help of chainsaws, loppers, rakes and brooms - and a great deal of sweat, had the grounds safe and ready for the return of the students on Monday morning.

As stated in the constitution, a key aspect of the work of the Board is the monitoring and financial advice given to the school. We are in a fortunate financial position where the work of the school is directed by educational needs and not by financial limitations. The school continues to exercise sound financial stewardship. However, this is an ongoing balancing act which is made more difficult by the rising costs of maintenance and the significant changes in the way the school receives government funding. We will face pressure in these areas as we move forward and we must carefully weigh the capacity of our parents to contribute to the costs of educating their children. The school has kept fee increases to 6% which is in-line with CEO requirements. The school's Fee Policy was distributed during the year and the Board hopes that all members of the school community understand the need to regulate and manage the collection of fees so that a just and equitable contribution is made by families with consideration given to those who are experiencing financial difficulty. We must acknowledge that Catholic Primary School fees represent tremendous value and I would like to thank Carmel Costin and Mary Courtney for their professionalism in managing this area of the life of our school.

Clear communication is essential in order to maintain a good school culture. Yidarra takes a great deal of pride in this area. We endeavour to make internal communication efficient and our use of SEQTA over the past year is helping to achieve this goal. We have experienced some problems but are working diligently to improve the system. We will continue to evaluate the way in which we communicate and will consider a move to an alternative technological solution should such a system become available. Our website has undergone a revamp during the January holidays and I invite you to take a look when you get the chance.

Our communication to the wider community is also important and we make every effort to publicise our achievements through avenues such as the local community newspapers.

Our relationship with Corpus Christi College is an important one. We have regular conversations and keep each other informed about developments. Corpus Christi is very generous in its support for our school and we are grateful for their assistance.

Yidarra is much more than just a good school – it is a Faith Community. Our relationship with the Parish of Saint Thomas More is strong and we give light and life to each other. I would like to thank Fr Phong and all the members of the Parish community for the support they give our school. As a school we are for many children their most significant expression of “Church” – that being the assembled people of God. The school marks significant events with prayer and liturgical celebration and it seeks to instil in the children a sense of social justice through collections for Caritas and St Vincent de Paul.

Finally, I would like to thank the parents of Yidarra Catholic Primary School for the trust that you place in the school to give your children the very best education and care. I urge you to continue to actively support the school and volunteer your efforts to keep Yidarra a truly wonderful school. As I conclude my tenure on the school Board, I wish everyone a wonderful year ahead and I look forward to watching Yidarra continue to “Grow”, “Shine” and “Become”.

Craig Dowsett

Board Chairperson
Yidarra Catholic Primary School.

8 February 2017.

2017 PROVISIONAL BUDGET

BUDGETED OPERATIONS	AMOUNT
Recurrent Income	\$4,893,498.00
Recurrent Expenditure	\$4,893,498.00
RECURRENT RESULT	\$0.00
Capital Income	\$140,000.00
Capital Expenditure	\$140,000.00
CAPITAL RESULT	\$0.00
INCOME RESULT	\$5,033,498.00
EXPENDITURE RESULT	\$5,033,498.00
ESTIMATED RESULT FOR 2017	\$0.00