

**ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MT LAWLEY
P&F AGM & ANNUAL SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEETING
TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2016**

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Good evening. It is my pleasure to present the St Paul's Primary School Principal's Report for 2016.

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL BOARD

In presenting my report, I would firstly like to acknowledge and thank the members of the St Paul's School Board for 2016, Luka Margaretic (Acting Board Chair), Nola McIntyre (Acting Deputy Chair), Simon Borck (Treasurer), Malaika Jordan (Secretary), Juliet Bruining (P&F Rep), Nola McIntyre (Parish Rep), Suzanne Woods, Angelina Bowden-Jones and Kirsten Dechan and Fr Tim, for their valued support this year. My special appreciation and thanks go to the outgoing Board members, Kirsten Dechan and Emma Crean, the Board Chair, who left St Paul's earlier in the year. I am looking forward to continuing to work with the remaining Board members in 2017.

THE PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION (P&F)

Involvement in the P&F is a wonderful way to contribute to life in the school and socialise with other parents in the community. The P&F is vital for community building, and their fund-raising activities, which help to provide resources and facilitate school initiatives, are greatly appreciated.

This year, once again everyone has enjoyed the many "fun" and fund-raising activities organised by the P&F, such as the P&F Welcome Night, St Patrick's Day celebrations, Easter Raffle, Book Fair, Mothers' Day Gift Stall, Fathers' Day Breakfast, St Paul's Day Sausage Sizzle, Election Day Stalls, Athletics Carnival Refreshments Stall, Parish/School Mass Morning Teas, the children's P&F Neon Disco and most recently, the World Teachers' Day High Tea.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the 2016 P&F Executive Committee: Juliet Bruining (P&F President and Board Representative), Emma Gregory (Vice-President), Lina Coletti (Secretary), Mary Abbott (Treasurer) and Rachael O'Callaghan (Fundraising Co-ordinator), for so generously giving of their time and efforts to the school community. Juliet Bruining, Emma Gregory and Lina Coletti, are stepping down from their positions on the committee and we commend them for the extremely positive contribution they have made to the school this year.

I would like to acknowledge the great contribution made by the P&F to many school initiatives, particularly to our Information Technology program. This was evident through our involvement in the Robo Cup Competition, which was made possible when the P&F funded the purchase of the robotics kits used to build the robots.

The role of the Parent Class Representatives is most important in disseminating information and gathering parents to support school activities. Thank you to the following parents: Melissa Macnish (Pre-Kindy); Carly Willcox (Pre Primary); Melinda D'Orsogna & Rachael O'Callaghan (Kindy); Anna Dang & Liz Kodituwakku (Year 1); Priscilla Redcliff & Sally Roberts-Loader (Year 2); Kirsten Dechan & Rebekah Hampson (Year 3); Lisa Battalis (Year 4); Penny Gazia & Leah Lee (Year 5); and Heather Allingame & Emma Gregory (Year 6). Your role this year in uniting parents and nurturing a caring community within the school is much appreciated.

Thank you to *all* the parents who have coordinated and supported events around the school. In particular, our thanks go to the Year 5 parents, for organising the Year 6 Graduation Dinner Dance; Mr John Bryson and his successor, Dr Mark Castalanelli, for mentoring our chess club; Deb Lamers, Sophia Lamers, Helen Chatzimichail, Loreta Kerse and Irene Pangestu, for managing and coaching the Year 3 and Year 4/5 St Paul's Netball teams; Juliet Bruining, for coordinating the Scholastic Book Fair; Emma Gregory, for instigating the formation of a Health & Nutrition Parent Committee; and Lisa Battalis and May Ling Ryan, for their dedicated work behind the scenes in the Uniform Shop.

I would like to extend special thanks to Dane O'Callaghan for his work in coordinating the establishment of the "St Paul's Dads Group" Fathering Project this year. This initiative recognises the vital role that fathers and father figures play in the lives of our children, and the social events organised by Dane, have been a great opportunity for the dads at St Paul's to build relationships.

PARISH SCHOOL RELATIONSHIP

Once again I would like to extend sincere thanks to Fr Timothy Deeter, our Parish Priest, for his continued support and active interest in the school. Fr Tim has been constant in his commitment to the school through his regular class visits; attendance at class prayer sessions; whole school Masses, to open and close each term; weekly Masses for Years 4-6; class prayer sessions; weekly hymn practices; preparation of the students for the sacraments; and direction of St Paul's Liturgical Choir, which received an Honourable Mention for their performance at the Catholic Performing Arts Festival this year.

In 2016, we continued with the highly successful monthly Parish/School Sunday Masses, which have strengthened the link between the school and the parish. The parishioners have commented on the ability of even the youngest children at St Paul's to present the Readings with confidence and expression. This relationship with the parish is further enhanced when the children from Year 4 onward are trained to be altar servers and assist at parish and school Masses.

The school has continued to build on the Archdiocesan mandate for parishes to run the sacramental programs with support from the school. Families have attended the sacramental information evenings facilitated by Fr Tim throughout the year. Many thanks go to Irene Pangestu, Mark Fitzpatrick and Jesse Yock for facilitating sacramental workshops for the parents and children. Our thanks also go to Alessio Loiacono, Nick Dabbs and Julia Waller, for their assistance with the music for Masses and sacramental celebrations.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Our Social Justice program continued to flourish this year, with our children and families always willing to help others in need. The children visit the elderly residents at the RSL Village and each term we have a special social outreach focus, such as Project Compassion; Caritas; the missionary work of Our Lady of the Missions; LifeLink; and the St Vincent De Paul Society. Throughout the year, we engaged in a variety of fundraising events for people in need in Australia and around the world. Once again, we raised funds for the Holy Angels Hostel in Kalyanpur, India. The Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions (the School's Founding Order) have asked us to form a relationship with this hostel to assist with their missionary work. We supported research into childhood cancer through our participation in Pirate Day Friday and sent a donation to the Little Sisters of the Poor, to assist them in rebuilding their home for the aged.

QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PROJECT

Catholic Education WA (CEWA) has established a school improvement model called the Quality Catholic Schools Project. Each year the school selects a few Quality Catholic School (QCS) components as part of a self-review and improvement cycle. In 2016 we focused on the following components:

- Analysis and Discussion of Data
- Staff Wellbeing
- Engagement with the School Community

As part of the Catholic Education WA **LEAD Strategic Direction 2014 -2016**, we chose to focus on the following areas:

Learning:

- Enhancement of student achievement and wellbeing through the updating of furniture in the Pre Kindy/Kindy and Pre Primary classrooms.
- Increasing the engagement of staff in their own learning, by issuing them with Macbook Air devices and providing relevant IT professional development.

Engagement:

- Enhancement of parental engagement in their children's learning and faith formation through parent information sessions on the 1:1 Macbook Air Program, Cyber Safety and Religious Education

Accountability:

- Use of the SEQTA Program to record student academic data and generate paperless reports.

Discipleship:

- Enhancement of opportunities for staff personal faith development through the facilitation of a faith formation day concentrating on the themes surrounding this Year of Mercy.

THE EARLY YEARS – National Quality Standards

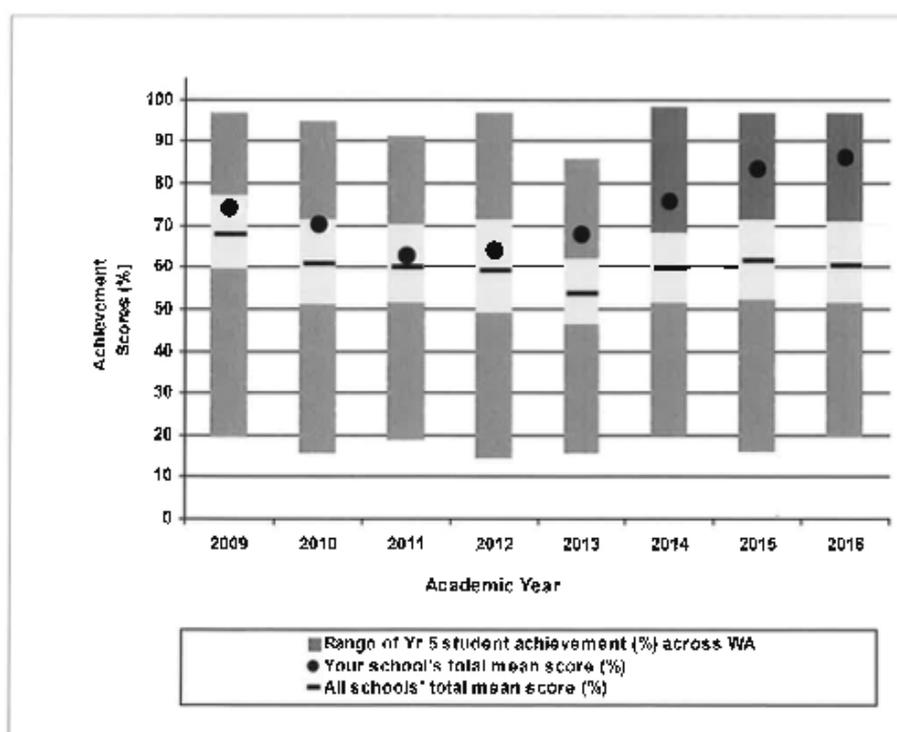
A comprehensive program is provided in Pre Kindy to Year 2 to develop the children's conceptual learning, skills, attitudes and behaviours across all learning areas. This year the early childhood team developed our own Charter for Early Childhood Education for Pre Kindy to Year 2 and we continued working towards the implementation of the Early Years Learning Framework. As part of our focus on our compliance with the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care in the Early Years, we carried out assessments to ensure that we meet the new regulations.

THE BISHOPS' RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT FOR YEAR 5

In 2016, St Paul's students again performed extremely well in the Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessment for Year 5. The graph below shows our school's mean and the overall distribution of students' scores from 2009 to 2016.

Summary of School Mean Over Time

The range of scores in the lightly shaded areas indicates the middle 50% of all students' achievement scores.



NAPLAN TESTING

Once again, St Paul's achieved outstanding results in the 2016 National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) completed by Years 3 and 5. Our student averages were well above the National Mean in **all** areas.

Bearing in mind that it is only a snapshot of a child's performance on one day, the NAPLAN assessment tests can be a useful tool to plot whole school trends and developments over time. Used in conjunction with the results from school-based assessments in all year levels, standardised tests and the Pre Primary Online Entry tests, it provides us with data that shows strengths and assists us in identifying areas of need when planning future school focuses. An overview of the 2016 results reflected the great learning and teaching that is taking place in the school.

2016 NAPLAN RESULTS

YEAR 3	READING	WRITING	SPELLING	GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION	NUMERACY
ST PAUL'S SCHOOL	482	429	451	493	463
AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS	425	420	420	436	402

YEAR 5	READING	WRITING	SPELLING	GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION	NUMERACY
ST PAUL'S SCHOOL	563	512	523	584	569
AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS	501	475	492	505	492

In the October 2nd issue of The Weekend Australian, St Paul's Primary school was listed among the top 40 primary schools in WA, rated on their high NAPLAN scores. Other schools listed with St Paul's included some highly prestigious and expensive private schools.

ST PAUL'S WHOLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM PLAN

Each year we strive to raise our standards of achievement. Teachers are supported to investigate new ideas and make the changes in their teaching practice that will be most beneficial for the students. The staff engages in collaborative conversations at Professional Learning Community (PLC) meetings, professional development, visits to other classrooms, school visits and community partnerships. We regularly review our existing plan, analyse our student performance data and decide on the areas that most need focus in our school.

After analysing the 2015 NAPLAN and standardised testing data, we decided that our 2016 Whole School Curriculum Plan would have a Literacy focus on Writing and a Numeracy focus on Measurement.

This year, after analysing the 2016 NAPLAN and standardised testing data, we have once again reviewed and updated our Whole School Curriculum Plan and have decided that in 2017 it would be beneficial for the whole school to once again have a major Literacy focus on Writing and a Numeracy focus on Mental Maths Computation.

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS IN 2016

At St Paul's our students are encouraged to attain high academic achievement. Programs are offered in the specialist learning areas of Science, Physical Education, Italian and Music.

- **Science:** In our efforts to place an emphasis on the Science learning area, students from Pre Primary to Year 6 continued to learn Science as a specialist subject this year. Julia Waller, our extension teacher, coordinated the "Primary Connections" Science program throughout the school, which develops students' knowledge, understanding and skills in both science and literacy.
- **Physical Education:** The PE program at St Paul's, coordinated by our PE specialist Loretta Kerse, is comprehensive, with a varied selection of activities taking place over the year. Along with the weekly specialist PE lessons and fitness sessions, the children participated in several 'Sports Clinic' incursions, the Edudance Program, Year 6 formal dancing lessons, running club, triathlon training, athletics training, swimming training, swimming lessons, after-school tennis lessons, netball training, Walk to School Day, Jump Rope for Heart and the Surfing program. A highlight this year was the participation of our Year 3 and 4/5 netball teams in the Spring Netball Competition and we congratulate them on the high level of success they have achieved.

St Paul's students competed in the annual house and interschool swimming, cross-country, team games and athletics carnivals. We also continued our involvement in the national "Sporting Schools Project", which provided an opportunity for the children from Years 1-6 to focus on sports, such as soccer, netball, football and squash, for an hour after school.

Thanks to the generosity of the P&F, this year we were able to purchase St Paul's swimming caps and winter sports uniforms. Wearing these uniforms contributed to morale when students represented the school at a number of carnivals and community events. Other schools have complimented our students on how smart they looked in their sporting attire. A big thank you must go to the parents for their support with these programs, particularly with regard to the breakfast club and the PMP program.

- **Italian:** This year, the Italian program was facilitated by Mac Callisto, (Years 3-6), and Connie Mezzatesta, (PP-Year 2). Although using our own staff proved to be highly successful, it did present difficulties with timetabling, and in 2017 we will resume our partnership with the Italo-Australian Cultural Centre, who will coordinate the Italian Program in the school.
- **Music:** The Music program at St Paul's, under the direction of our Music specialist, Nick Dabbs, continues to grow, with many students excelling in our Middle and Senior School Choirs, St Paul's Select Liturgical Chorale and the School Band. Once again, as part of our commitment to developing St Paul's School Band, we were pleased to offer Music Scholarships for students to learn the flute and clarinet.

We had a wide range of entries in the Performing Arts Festival this year and were delighted that the efforts of the following participants were recognised with awards of excellence:

- Year 3/4 Choir (Primary Choral Singing): Honourable Mention
- Year 5/6 Choir (Primary Choral Singing): Honourable Mention
- St Paul's Liturgical Chorale - Primary Sacred Choral Music: Honourable Mention
- Year 6 - Choral Speech Upper Primary: Certificate of Merit
- Sophie Gregory - Instrumental Solo (Primary Strings): Honourable Mention

Our thanks go to Fr Tim, Nick Dabbs, Natasha Flexman and the music tutors who helped these students to reach their potential.

SUPPORT & EXTENSION

In 2016 we catered for the individual needs of students through the following programs:

- **The Whole School Intervention Program**, coordinated by our Literacy Coordinator/Support Teacher, Sonia Todaro, included the Reading Recovery Program (Donna Robins), the MiniLit and MultiLit programs (Shelley Antoni and Peta Taylor) and in-class small group support, to assist children experiencing difficulty in reading, writing and maths.
- **Extension Program:** The school continues to offer a comprehensive extension program for selected students from Years 4-6 to provide them with academic challenges. This year, the extension students participated in many activities, including:
 - The Junior Robo Cup Competition
 - 'Have Sum Fun Face to Face'
 - 'The Tim Winton Writing Competition'
 - Year 5 Academic All Stars Competition
 - Tournament of Minds (TOM)
 - Maths Olympiad Challenges
 - ICAS UNSW Competition
 - Australian Mathematics Trust (AMT) Competition
 - SciTech Challenge Day

VALUED ADDED ACTIVITIES

The students have participated in extra learning experiences through their involvement in the Library Chess Club, the Checkmate Interschool Chess Competition, the 'Write a Book in a Day' competition, the School & Interschool Spelling Bees, the Year 6 Leadership Camp, Year 6 Formal Dancing and whole school Edudance program.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This has been a very busy and productive time at St Paul's in the area of Information Technology, which is now an integrated component of students' learning experiences throughout the school. All classrooms from Kindy to Year 6 are equipped with interactive whiteboards or TVs. We have continued using iPads throughout the school, with a 1:2 iPads program operating in Years 1 to 3. The children have been reaping the benefits that a range of apps can bring to teaching and learning.

This year, after much research and parent consultation, we introduced a 1:1 Macbook Program in Year 4. This initiative has proved to be very successful and will flow on to Year 5 in 2017 and Year 6 in 2018. In 2016 the Year 5 students enjoyed a 1:1 iPad program, while the Year 6 students participated in a school-funded 1:1 Chromebook program, supplemented with a bank of iPads, to allow for increased creative learning opportunities, such as the making of audio-visual projects, interactive posters and slideshows. This has allowed students to showcase their technology skills in a variety of innovative ways.

Another exciting initiative in 2016 has been the establishment of our very own Multi-Media Studio. Located in the Heritage Hall, it includes a large 'Green Screen', for the creation of multi-media projects involving audio and visual elements, professional lighting and a desktop iMac computer, with special editing software. The use of the 'Green Screen' allows students to superimpose backgrounds as they record themselves speaking. This footage can then be imported into programs such as iMovie and turned into audio-visual files for learning and assessment purposes. To allow more students to access this amazing technology we have now installed 'mini' green screen kits in all the classrooms from Years 1 to 6.

During August, as part of the Extension Program, we entered three Robo Cup teams into the Junior Robo Cup Competition, organized by Scitech at Curtin University. This is an annual project-orientated robotics competition and educational initiative for WA students and mentors. Students are required to work together to build and program robots in order to compete on the day. St Paul's students entered the dance section of the event, selecting their own music and choreographing a dance for their robots to perform. It was an amazing achievement for St Paul's to be able to enter three teams into the competition, as there were only forty other teams involved and we were one of only eight Catholic primary schools competing on the day.

As mentioned previously, we are very grateful to the P&F for their contribution to our ICT program. Our success in the Robo Cup competition, using the two EV3 robots funded by the P&F, prompted a desire to expand the Robotics and Coding Program throughout the school. As a result, our generous P&F purchased another five 'EV3' robots to be used in Year 5, bringing our total of 'EV3' robots up to seven.

The long-term goal is to push the Robotics program down through the year levels one at a time and, with the assistance of the P&F we have procured six 'Beebots' and six Osmo Kits for use in the Early Childhood. The P&F has also funded the replacement of a number of our ageing iPads and they have supplied the Year 6 class with 13 x Arduino Kits to use in activities being carried out as part of our IT partnership with the CSIRO.

We are experiencing an exciting time in education, engaging students in meaningful activities that will prepare them for a digital life in the 21st Century. We appreciate the many ways in which the P&F supports us in our efforts to provide valuable educational experiences for our children.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS IN 2016:

In 2016, we carried out many improvements around the school, including those in the following areas:

1. **Primary Toilet Block:** Re-tiling of the roof; ceiling repairs; re-painting of the boys' toilets; installation of an opening skylight window and exhaust fans; and an upgrade of the urinal.
2. **Current Year 4 and 6 Classrooms:** Installation of Apple TVs; new pin-boards; the construction of a connecting doorway, to facilitate team teaching between the two classrooms.
3. **Early Childhood:** Refurbishment of the Kindy and Pre Primary rooms with bright, new furniture; installation of new fencing and extension of the early childhood boundary to provide more playing space for the Pre Kindy, Kindy and Pre Primary children; replacement of the sand in the play area.
4. **Heritage Hall:** Re-sanding and polishing of the wooden floor.

FUTURE PRIORITIES

We have come to a point now where every area of the school has been upgraded or refurbished. In future years we are planning to embark on capital development works in the following areas:

- **Administration Area:** Extension and renovation of the administration building, to upgrade the staffroom and increase office space.
- **Early Childhood Area:** Renovations to, and possible extension of the Early Childhood Block, to comply with new National Quality Standards.

STAFF

I would like to acknowledge our amazing staff at St Paul's for their dedication and hard work. They are constantly coming up with innovative ideas and exciting initiatives, and are to be commended on their commitment to providing a quality Catholic education for our students. Their attendance here tonight is an indication of their willingness to give of themselves over and above expectations.

My appreciation goes to our two Assistant Principals, Mac Callisto and Jesse Yock, for their assistance in the planning and day-to-day running of the school. The role of Assistant Principal is extremely demanding, requiring work beyond school hours to cover the ever-increasing administrative demands of our system.

Special mention must be made of Virginia Thomas, our Bursar, and Maureen Quin, our Administration Assistant, for the great work they do in the office. They are often the first point of contact in the school and I appreciate their hard work in the background, ensuring that all goes smoothly in the school.

FAREWELLS

At the end of this year, we will be saying farewell to three of our valued staff members:

Helen Mason: After many years of dedicated service, our beloved Pre Primary teacher, Helen Mason, has decided to retire and devote her attention to her family. Thankfully, Helen has softened the blow for us by promising that she will continue to work at St Paul's in a relief teaching capacity.

Melissa Townsend: Our wonderful Education Assistant, Melissa, will also be leaving us, as her family is returning to their home in Queensland. We have all grown to love Melissa in her capacity as a staff member and as a parent at St Paul's, and will miss the whole family.

Jerelyn Tierney: Jerelyn very capably took over as the Year 1 teacher during Semester 2 to cover Chiara Duffy's Maternity Leave and we thank her for her great work with the Year 1 class.

Catherine Nguyen: Last year Catherine took a year's secondment at Catholic Education WA as a member of their Catechist Team. The role has since become substantive, and Catherine has decided to stay on at CEWA. We thank Catherine for her valuable contribution to St Paul's.

We will miss all these staff members and thank them for the wonderful contribution they have made to the school. I'm sure you will join me in wishing them all the best for the future.

NEW STAFF IN 2017

Liz Scagliarini (Pre Kindy): I am delighted to announce that Liz Scagliarini will be our Pre Kindy teacher for 2017. Liz is a very experienced early childhood teacher at Padbury Catholic Primary School, with a passion for play-based education, and she comes to us very highly recommended.

Nyssa Smith (Pre Primary): Nyssa comes to us from the Quintilian School. Nyssa has an interesting background, as she is actually a qualified veterinarian and should really be referred to as "Doctor" Nyssa Smith! I'm sure her love of animals will feature in some way in the Pre Primary class.

PROPOSED STAFFING FOR 2017

Principal:	Joanna Noonan
Assistant Principal:	Mac Callisto
Assistant Principal:	Jesse Yock
Admin Assistant:	Maureen Quin
Bursar:	Virginia Thomas
Pre Kindy Teacher:	Liz Scagliarini
Pre Kindy Assistant:	Rebecca Glynn
Kindy Teacher:	Michelle Sims
Kindy Assistants:	Mary Kerrigan & Jeanette Casey
Pre Primary Teacher:	Nyssa Smith
Pre Primary Assistant:	Helen Chatzimichail & Rebecca Glynn
Year 1 Teacher:	Christina Connolly
Year 1 Assistant:	Christina Miller
Year 2 Teacher:	Irene Pangestu
Year 2 Assistant:	Morena Bonotto
Year 3 Teacher:	Mac Callisto (4 days) & Sonia Todaro (1day)
Year 3 Assistant:	Connie Mezzatesta
Year 4 Teacher:	Mark Fitzpatrick
Year 5 Teachers:	Natasha Flexman
Year 6 Teachers:	Jesse Yock (4 days) & Julia Waller (1 day)
Library:	Shelley Antoni
Science:	Julia Waller
Physical Education:	Loretta Kerse
Music:	Nick Dabbs
Support Teacher:	Sonia Todaro
Reading Recovery:	Donna Robins
Extension:	Julia Waller
Italian:	Italo-Australian Society

CONCLUSION

I would like to thank the St Paul's parent community for your continued support and valued partnership in the education of your children. Together we can provide the best educational experiences to enable your children to reach their full potential.



Joanna Noonan
Principal

22 November 2016