



St John's School Board Annual General Meeting 2018 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I commence my report on the 2018 school year by expressing my gratitude to people such as yourselves, a dedicated, supportive, enthusiastic, talented group of parents, who are constantly putting your hands up to help in any way you can around the school such as for membership at Board level and on P&F Committees.

I also want to express my gratitude to our staff who work so diligently for the good of the students – which is, after all, our very purpose for being here! Our teachers work extremely hard to cater for every child's individual needs. They also ensure our Education Assistants are well equipped with the information required to supply good support. I thank and applaud our staff for their commitment to our children. We also thank our three remarkable and efficient Administration Officers. My gratitude is extended particularly this evening to our retiring Finance Officer, Jeanette Williams, for her very efficient management of all the financial aspects of our school. This year has been particularly challenging for her due to all Catholic Education schools throughout WA being changed from a Cash to Accrual accounting system.

The intent of this annual report is to inform the school community of the progress of the year's focus areas within our school improvement planning. It also provides an opportunity to reflect proudly on what has been achieved in an educational and resource sense for the year. Sarah Waddle referred to the Board's continuous attention to the 'growth' of our school assets in her Chair Report and in particular of our future building projects, so my information is specifically around the educational side.

It is a Government and CEWA mandated requirement that schools articulate their progress across the Annual School Improvement Planning (ASIP) process. This is guided by a Strategic Plan which paints a broad picture involving ideas and 'ideals' of what the staff and Board endeavour to develop across a four/five year timespan.

Many areas are given specific attention across the school stemming from the ASIP focus points : the Curriculum Plan, our Early Years Quality Improvement Plan - aimed at providing better quality learning experiences in the Early Years..., the Quality Catholic Schooling components which are aligned to support other goals... , our Evangelisation Planning are ALL supporting planning documents that help the ASIP achieve its hoped for outcomes. These help us guide our improvements and gain momentum in and achieving those outcomes.

The Strategic Plan, a four year process, is divided into the following four categories: Learning, Engagement, Accountability and Discipleship. All of which relate to CEWA's LEADing a Call to Action aim. And we her at St John's **are** actioning!

Annual School Improvement Plan 2018

The focus areas Sarah referred to in her report were Focus 4, School Promotion and Focus 3, Sustainability. You have all heard in a variety of ways this year about our sustainability focus. It has been threaded through our learning experiences this year with great dedication! We started with forming a committee of parents, students and teachers and it flowed from there, with everyone in the community on board. Romola Harney has been a great asset to the cause with her organisation of the gardening, supporting us with labour, resources and ideas... Our Yr 4, 5 and 6 Enrichment Exposition projects and STEM investigations by Years 1, 2 and 3 were all testament to the learning intent. Our P&F supported us with funds for wax wrap lunch sheets and the Scarecrow Recycling incursion. We met and surpassed our success criteria.

The STEM investigations supported our Sustainability focus but were a definite stand alone aspect related to Focus Area 2 - Differentiation related to STEM Integration. Teachers all worked together on developing a Scope and Sequence process for supporting teacher planning and ensuring we integrated STEM elements across learning areas. We continuously discussed differentiation methods across literacy and numeracy during our weekly Wed. PLC meetings.

2018 Curriculum Focus

Writing was a two year focus throughout 2016 and 17 **however 2018 saw educators determine Numeracy as the Curriculum area we would like to further extend this year.** We determine our focus, based on a variety of data sources such as our PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests), standardised testing, class testing results and the analysis of our Yr 3 and 5 NAPLAN data around about the latter half of Term 3 each year, amid others, i.e., the Aust Maths testing. With this focus in mind and enriched by the capacity of Trish Collins to conduct MAI (Maths Assessment Inventories) and build our resources (thanks again P&F for your contribution with these items!) we got stuck into deeper analysis of Focus Area 1: DATA INFORMED PRACTICE, explored through Numeracy Intervention.

Quality Catholic Schooling Components

Those investigated in 2018 as part of our **Annual School Improvement Plan** were:

101 Systematic Evangelisation Planning

302 Analysis and Discussion of data

304 Targeted Use of School Resources.

All these components were selected as the ones most suitably aligned with our ASIP and our Curriculum focus.

Our Evangelisation Planning. A strong area of focus this year was the continuation of a celebration and recognition of St John the Evangelist – the patron saint of our school. This was emphasised at a deeper level during our St John's week celebrations through a beautifully prepared mass and special Open Night where the rich learning experiences our students undertake were on display across a variety of curriculum areas. We had a strong focus on raising money for the Archdiocesan charities and areas of service to the community through our St John's Week Mission Stall day and support of Lifelink. Our Yr 5 and 6 students, and parents from all classes, have continued the cleaning groups that contribute so generously to our parish, through the Church Cleaning roster. Thank you to Viv Rigney for her coordination of this generous undertaking and all our parents who give their time to support the parish.

And - EVERY class adopted a month long 'mission' to collect food items and goods for the St Vincent De Paul association. Meg Roche was invited to speak with each year group. Our aim was to have the children understand the St Vinnie's organisation better this year. Our higher goal was to continue developing lifelong empathy for others and a social conscience within our students.

This year we will farewell five staff members: Mark Beresford, Ashlee De Campo, our two APs, Jeanette Williams and Stephanie Freeman plus we see Amanda Washer head off on LSL.

We will miss all five of them and look forward to catching up with them at some stage next year as they continue on with new life experiences and challenges. This also means we welcome new staff members which is also always exciting. We welcome, Katherine Kelly and Vlad Alonzo as our two new APS, Darran Scattini as our Yr 3 teacher, and also welcome Ciaran Sanders as our 2018 PE teacher. Ciaran's lessons are timetabled for Thursdays and Fridays.

Official reports done I am now able to turn my attention to some very important *thank you* messages.

The 2018 **P&F Committee** is to be commended for the successful social and fundraising events organised this year. The resources supplied to the school are always greatly appreciated by staff and students and the social events are essential in building community. We thank all our Committee Members, particularly our Executive and our President Emma Taylor who took over from Ainslie Winkler part way thru the year, and ALL our Class Reps. Tonight we particularly express our gratitude to Richelle Howard who is stepping down as the P&F rep to the Board.

All our Executive members and Reps have been unstinting in their energy and creative input to numerous projects during these years and we are very appreciative of their gift of time and knowledge to St John's school.

Thank you to all the **School Board** members of 2018 for the areas of expertise that you bring to the Board. Your skills are greatly valued. Effective Financial *Planning* and asset building: particularly in the improvement of facilities currently being undertaken, make a positive difference to the school environment and you all contribute in a range of ways. I extend a heartfelt thank you to Sarah Waddle for her strong commitment to her role as Board Chair this year and for leading us in such areas as the ASIP Goal of School Promotion.

My gratitude also goes to our retiring Board members Ben Cohen and Julie Johnson for their four years on the Board and to Paul Johnson for his invaluable contribution as Board Treasurer earlier this year. Julie has been Board Secretary and served on both the Assets and Maintenance Sub Committee and the Communications and Community Sub Committee during her time on the Board and Ben has been on the Assets and Maintenance Sub Committee and the IT Sub Committee. Both have been an asset in their own right! Thank you all sincerely.

A heartfelt thank you to **Father Grant Gorddard** for his support of St John's students, staff and parents this year and for his faith filled and regular presence within our school. We are blessed indeed to have you join our Scarborough parish community, Father.

May God bless you all and keep you safe over the holidays. We look forward with pleasure to your continued support and involvement next year and wish you a peace filled Christmas where we all keep Christ at the cornerstone of our celebrations.

Regards
Mary Bizzaca