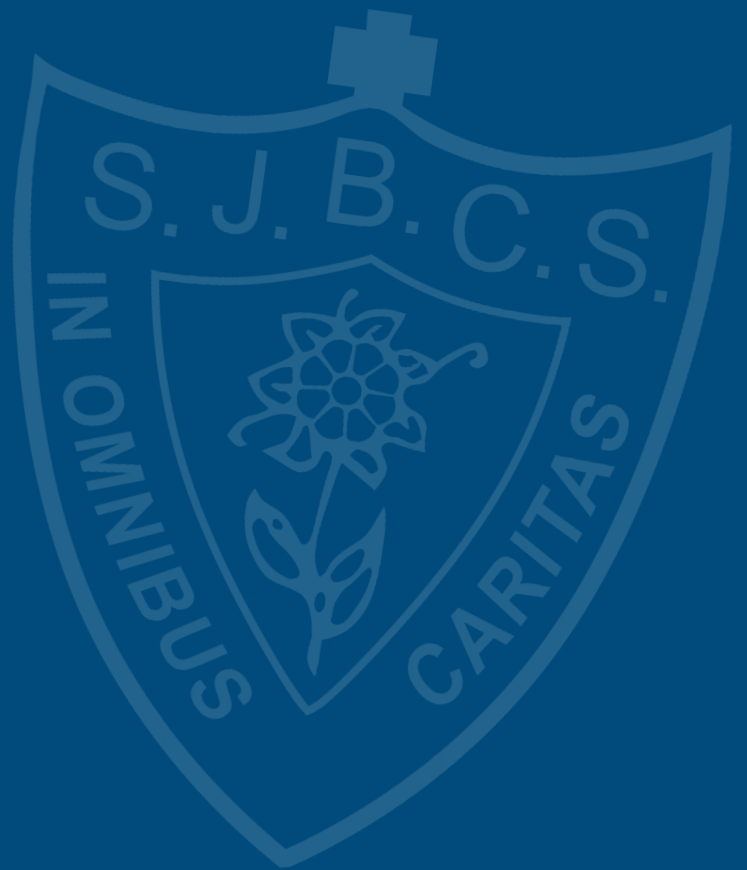


St John the Baptist

Catholic School



2023 Annual Report

School Profile

St John the Baptist Catholic School is a coeducational school catering for students from Reception to Year 6. The school is a welcoming, vibrant, faith filled community, where we work together with families to grow each child's educational and spiritual development, inspired by the service of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop. Our school motto "In Omnibus Caritas" (In All Things Love) is a guiding principle in all that we do.

The Australian Curriculum is implemented at St John the Baptist Catholic School from Reception to Year 6 which sets the expectations for what students are taught across the various learning areas. The learning progress of each child is monitored, supported and developed and continuous feedback is provided to each student and their family.

Social and emotional learning is taught explicitly across the school. We wrap our students in a Circle of Care which includes support from a school chaplain and school counsellor.

Extracurricular activities include opportunities for students to excel in the sporting arena, as well as the expressive and performing arts and music.

As a Catholic School we look forward to working in partnership with families, building a cooperative relationship between home and school to develop thriving, capable learners.



School Board

President	Fr Denis Ssemuju
Principal	Mr Todd LaForgia
Deputy Principal	Mrs Jo Livingstone
Chairperson	Mr Adam Keegan
Treasurer	Ms Toni Stevens
Secretary	Mr Ace Lewis
Board Members	Mrs Dani Amato
	Mrs Sally Leonard
	Mr Chris Flatman
	Mrs Megan Kloeden





Agenda

1. Kaurna Acknowledgement of Country & Welcome
2. Opening Prayer
3. Apologies
4. Minutes from previous AGM
5. School Board Reports:
 - Principal – Todd LaForgia
 - Chairperson of School Board – Adam Keegan
 - Finance
 - Parents and Friends
6. Voting for positions on School Board
7. School Board Farewells



Principal's Report

This AGM Principal's Report is a reflection paper on the 2023 school year and is in line with the requirements of the Schools Assistance Act.

Throughout 2023, we continued to implement priorities as outlined in the Strategic Plan developed in 2022. The Strategic Plan has at its core 7 key pillars:

- Catholic Identity and Mission
- Students
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Learning and Teaching
- People, Leadership and Culture
- Financial Stewardship and Improvement
- Participation in Mission and Purpose

The work across the school in achieving the goals and targets in these areas during 2023 is captured and outlined below.

Catholic Identity and Mission

We marked the beginning of the 2023 school year with a new theme - Take Fresh Courage. This was inspired by our Josephite charism. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop was a prime example of this courage. There were times when she did not know if she would have enough food or resources to provide those in her care. Yet she held on to her faith in God and stepped out in courage to go about doing what she needed to do. This theme provided direction and inspiration throughout 2023.

In the early part of the year, the teaching staff through their professional learning and led by our Assistant Principal-Religious Identity and Mission, Amanda Razon worked on a curriculum document to 'scope and sequence' learning opportunities in Religious Education across all year levels. The Religious Education Framework entitled 'Crossways' which is mandated in all SA Catholic Schools was the foundation document for this work. Ecological Sustainability which forms part of our school vision remained at the forefront of our work in 2023. An Ecological Sustainability Framework was developed to provide guidance in decision making across the school and can be applied now and into the future. The framework was launched at the Staff Reflection Day in September. The use of the framework has had immediate benefit in framing thinking and action and has led to the development of an Ecological Strategic Plan to be implemented from the beginning of 2024.

Students

Focusing on students and their learning led to the development of a context specific case management approach targeting individual student needs. The case management process was developed and refined across Term 2 and trialled in Term 3. Further refinements were undertaken in light of the leadership team participating in the High Performance Schools professional learning in 2023. This refined process will be introduced to staff in early 2024 and implemented across the school from Term 2.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Early in the year, Samantha Slee was appointed as the Learning Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator. This was a significant appointment in strengthening the support and learning opportunities for both our students and staff. Samantha came to the school as a Special Education Teacher with experience working in schools and at Autism SA. Her knowledge has positively impacted our work in supporting our students in class. Samantha also led professional learning for staff in the area of emotional regulation. Samantha works closely with our Deputy Principal, Jo Livingstone in leading work in the strategic area of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The teaching staff at St John the Baptist Catholic School continued to refine the documentation of adjustments for students within their classes using the SEQTA Learner Management System. The staff also continued their communication and partnership with families for those students who required Personalised Plans for Learning (PPL's).

Learning and Teaching

The key initiatives within this Strategic Pillar have been a continued focus on literacy, in particular the use of the newly developed Playberry Laser online resources across the school. We continued to develop the use of the SEQTA Learner Management Tool to record assessments and again, following the trial in 2022, sent out student reports via SEQTA. Other learning for staff included adopting to an updated version of the Australian Curriculum and using the Catholic Education SA Performance standards to assist in the teaching, learning and reporting cycle.

Megan Pratt was appointed to a Numeracy Coach role at the beginning of 2023. In broad terms, Megan worked within the school to strengthen numeracy outcomes across the school. Megan's work involved leading staff through initiatives to use in mathematics lessons each day, as well as working with small groups of children in a numeracy intervention model. Megan's work in this area will continue in 2024.

People, Leadership and Culture

Early in 2023, the school was notified that it had been selected to participate in a Work Health and Safety audit which was to be conducted in September. The audit was to ensure legislative compliance and conformance to safety standards. The accompanying audit tool formed the basis of the work our then Work Health and Safety coordinator, Michael Grandey focused on in the early part of the year.

The results of the audit highlighted the good work of the school in complying with Work Health and Safety practices and also identified a few areas for improvement. Jo Fitzgerald was appointed to the Work Health and Safety coordinator role in Term 4 and focused her early work in this role with addressing the improvement areas.

Financial Stewardship and Improvement

In August we celebrated a significant school event when we officially opened and blessed the new building which was constructed through 2021. The celebration was presided over by Archbishop O'Regan and the plaque unveiled by the Hon Blair Boyer, MP - Minister for Education, Training and Skills. They were joined by the Chair of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools, Mr John Neate and the Executive Director of Catholic Education, Dr Neil McGoran and a number of invited guests. It was a wonderful community celebration with the children demonstrating exemplary behaviour and beautiful singing!

Throughout the year we continued to work collaboratively with the Planning and Development Team at the Catholic Education Office to ensure the acquired land at 332, 334 and 336 Anzac Highway was developed in line with the site Master Plan. Demolition of the property at 334 Anzac Highway occurred in March and the school then went through the various processes with the West Torrens Council and the Catholic Education Office for approval to develop the land. This included a tender process which resulted in Horizon Construction Services being awarded the contract. Preliminary work with the team at Horizons occurred from October to December with work scheduled to begin on site in early January 2024.

As this project was beginning, it was also timely to undertake a review of the site Master Plan which was developed through 2018-19. Stallard Meek Flight Architects were selected to lead this review and commenced their work in October. The purpose of the review is to determine whether the stages of development identified in the original Master Plan are still relevant in today's school context and does the plan require any refinements or changes. This review work will continue into 2024.

Participation in Mission and Purpose

The goal within this strategic pillar focused on implementing CESA's ICT initiatives. For St John the Baptist Catholic School, this meant the introduction of a new administration system, 'Civica' replacing the previous system 'CeSiS.' The changeover occurred in August and meant the Administration team at the school were trained and then implemented the relevant modules in their respective areas of work.

Further ICT work identified by CESA included a migration of teams within the schools Microsoft Teams platform which occurred during November and December.

Acknowledgement and Thanks

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the supportive and dedicated school community, encompassing committed students, hardworking staff and the invaluable contributions of the many family volunteers, for their remarkable efforts and contributions throughout the year.

Thank you to the School Board for their continued support and positive encouragement. I would particularly like to thank Adam Keegan for his leadership as Board Chair.

We are particularly grateful and appreciative of the support of our Parish Priest, Fr Denis. Fr Denis provides stable, calm and wise leadership and always looks to deepen the school - parish relationship.

The collective dedication has undoubtedly shaped a positive and enriching educational environment for all. I wish all members of the St John the Baptist Catholic School community a happy and enriching 2024 as we continue to work together to provide a Catholic education where every child can become a thriving person, capable learner and a leader for the world God desires.

Todd LaForgia
PRINCIPAL



Chairperson's Report

The St John the Baptist Catholic School Board for 2023 comprised of Fr Denis Ssemuju (President), Todd LaForgia (Principal), Jo Livingstone (Deputy Principal), Adam Keegan (Chair), Ace Lewis (Secretary), Toni Stevens (Treasurer), Megan Kloeden, Daniella Amato, Sally Leonard, and Chris Flatman, The Finance Committee comprised of Todd LaForgia, Jo Livingstone, Pam Marks and Toni Stevens.

Sava Politis, Kylie Adams and Russell Jurie completed their tenures on the Board at the start of 2023. Kylie's six years on the board which included two years of Secretary and two years of Chair was an outstanding contribution. Likewise, Sava also completed six years of service which is a fantastic level of achievement. Russell completed a 2 year tenure and we thank him for his dedication.

We welcomed Ace Lewis and Megan Kloeden in 2023 as new Board members. Ace has undertaken the role of Secretary and Megan has brought fantastic honesty and strategic questioning to each meeting.

A Summary of the 2023 Board Year:

Throughout the year Todd and Jo have provided the Board with up to date reports regarding areas of focus, strategic direction, financial planning, challenges and staffing movements.

Learning data was a huge focus in 2023 and Michael Cimarosti attended a board meeting to present the data indicating areas of growth across Literacy and Numeracy. The data confirmed the direction that the school has undertaken is positively impacting student achievement.

Further agenda items discussed in 2023 included:

- Todd's Tenure as Principal was extended for five years
- Black School Shoes - the Board confirmed the decision to go "Leather"
- Sports Day Format – the Board suggested improvements to the program
- Board Members Profile - each Board member had a profile published in the newsletter so the broader community can approach them to share thoughts and ask questions to enhance the school
- Outside Play Strategies - The Board helped brainstorm and confirmed play alternatives which don't involve use of the oval
- Year 6 Graduation - Feedback was provided which resulted in changes to the current format
- Anzac Highway Land Development - Providing feedback in the planning phase
- Student Reports - Providing feedback regarding the process to move to digital reporting
- Playground - The Board provided suggestions during the planning process

As a Board we thank Todd, Jo, Toni, Amanda and Karen for their Board Reports which generate healthy conversations with the aim at improving the school and community.

St John the Baptist Catholic School consists of a fantastic group of staff and community who give up their time to ensure the success of all. The Board would like to acknowledge and thank the following:

- Todd and Jo - Your dedication to the school is shown through all the actions and outcomes you produce. Your hard work and key strategic thinking and planning has transformed St John's into the school it is today. Thank you for your Board reports, keeping us up to date and for also listening.
- Amanda and Michael - As part of the Leadership Team we thank you for everything. Amanda you have provided a fantastic vision and focus whilst in the role of APRIM. Michael, your passion for learning and data will set our students up for the future!
- The Finance Team - In particular Pam and Toni for all your hard work. We wish Pam all the best in her new role as Sports Coordinator!
- Karen Klingberg and the Parents and Friends Committee for all the events which you have coordinated in 2023. Your passion and care in bringing the community together, we can't thank you enough. The results of fundraising initiatives have been excellent.
- Father Denis, thank you for your presence within the Parish and school and for leading the many Liturgies, Masses and events.
- To all the Volunteers, thank you for your generous time. Without you, our students wouldn't have the events, sports and fundraising opportunities that we enjoy. Thank you for giving up your time to support the school.
- To all the Sport Coaches - We struggle every term finding coaches to take on a team. To those who continue to do so, we cannot thank you enough.
- To the whole community, thank you for being you.
- To my fellow Board Members, your time, questions, agenda items, opinions and thoughts have contributed to everything that has been achieved in 2023.

The Board looks forward to a successful 2024.

Adam Keegan

Chair

St John the Baptist School Advisory Board

Finance Report

The school receives its income from three main sources:

- Government Funding (Commonwealth and State)
- Tuition fees and charges
- Private Income

Full time equivalent enrolments at the beginning of the 2023 school year were 349 students. At the August census the school enrolments numbered 369. This included 19 students who began their school journey in Reception mid-year.

Throughout 2023 our school fees remained unchanged, and Term 3 mid-year intake remained fee free as an indication of this ongoing support. We also continued to support families in need of fee assistance as needed.

The year ended with a cash surplus rather than a deficit as we had planned for the Anzac Highway carpark and oval development to be completed in 2023. This was started in 2023 but will now be finalised in 2024.

Other significant capital costs were: the demolition of the property at 334 Anzac Highway; the continuation of the Year 3 Laptop program; carpet replacement in 3 classrooms; Wellbeing room furniture and new playground installed. Ongoing maintenance of the school grounds and facilities means the school continues to be well presented.

The closing cash at bank balances at the end of December were \$1,628,356 and we met our required reserve of \$433,523.

The Financial Report below is a summary of our unaudited financial statements. The school's auditors KPMG are currently in the process of finalising the audit for the 2023 school year. The final audited financial statements will be presented at the School Advisory Board meeting once finalised.

St John the Baptist Catholic School Plympton Dec-23

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL DASHBOARD

BALANCE SHEET				CASHFLOW BUDGET		
	Closing Balance Dec-23	Movement	Open Balance Jan-23		YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Cash	1,628,356	580,968	1,047,388	School Fees	995,803	954,949
Debtors	159,449	-2,691	162,140	CEO & Other Income	286,207	110,565
Provision for Doubtful Debts	-71,551	-8,343	-63,208	Government Grants	4,894,137	4,605,685
Other	16,607	-41,269	57,876	Trading Account	88,096	75,016
LSL Receivable	701,757	-33,120	734,877	Cash Inflows	<u>6,264,243</u>	<u>5,746,215</u>
Current Assets	<u>2,434,618</u>	<u>495,545</u>	<u>1,939,073</u>	Tuition Salaries & Allowances	-3,386,921	-3,280,188
Fixed Assets	12,510,790	-92,576	12,603,366	Other Tuition	-366,625	-378,900
LSL Receivable	57,972	3,723	54,249	Admin Salaries & Allowances	-370,459	-345,233
Non-current Assets	<u>12,568,762</u>	<u>-88,853</u>	<u>12,657,615</u>	Grounds, R&M & Cleaning	-202,939	-194,450
Total Assets	<u>15,003,380</u>	<u>406,692</u>	<u>14,596,688</u>	Utilities	-74,128	-66,700
Fees/Income in Advance	17,150	1,200	15,950	Insurance	0	-37,000
Sundry Creditors	66,770	-70,512	137,282	Administration / Other	-102,176	-94,910
Accruals	294,627	87,992	206,635	Levies	-312,794	-270,869
Borrowings	373,022	-3,501	376,523	Interest	-136,369	-152,834
Other	0	0	0	Training	-13,985	-21,500
LSL Payable	701,757	-33,120	734,877	Trading Accounts	-97,175	-135,219
Current Liabilities	<u>1,453,326</u>	<u>-17,941</u>	<u>1,471,267</u>	Clearing accounts	-30,726	0
LSL payable	57,972	3,723	54,249	Cash Outflows	<u>-5,094,297</u>	<u>-4,977,803</u>
Borrowings	3,838,524	-338,294	4,176,818	Net Operating Cash Flows	<u>1,169,946</u>	<u>768,412</u>
Other	2,682	6,778	4,096	Loan Drawdowns	0	0
Non-Current Liabilities	<u>3,899,178</u>	<u>-327,793</u>	<u>4,226,971</u>	Loan Principal Repayments	-341,795	-359,692
Accumulated Funds	9,650,876	752,426	8,898,450	Other Capital Income	1,150	0
Surplus (Deficit) for Year	0	0	0	Capital Expenditure	-248,623	-695,550
Equity	<u>9,650,876</u>	<u>752,426</u>	<u>8,898,450</u>	Net Capital Cash Flows	<u>-589,268</u>	<u>-1,055,242</u>
Total Liabilities & Equity	<u>15,003,380</u>	<u>406,692</u>	<u>14,596,688</u>	Non Cash Flow Items	7,500	4,300
				Total Cash Flows	<u>588,178</u>	<u>-282,530</u>

APRIM Report

School Theme

As a Josephite school, we have often looked to the charism established by Mary MacKillop in the Catholic faith. She had a great zeal and love for God which propelled her to achieve great things and became Australia's first Saint. The words from Mary MacKillop herself on the 21st May 1877, "He wants us to take fresh courage - to lean more on Him and less on ourselves".

Her words "Take Fresh Courage" became the inspiration for our school theme. This year we made it our mission to live this out in the everyday, knowing that God will always be with us and to take a little step of bravery to move outside of our comfort zones because only then, we are able to grow.

Faith in Action & Outreach Programs

Our community continues to enjoy the richness of tradition through both class prayer and formal prayers of liturgy and Mass. Class Masses for Years 4-6 and Liturgies of the Word for Reception to Year 2 continued each week throughout the first half of the year. In Terms 3 and 4, year levels attended 9:30am Masses on allocated days, then parents could join the parish for morning tea.

In the first term, we had 'Prayer Spaces' set up in the school. The theme for the space varied throughout the term but allow children with the opportunity to connect and be with God in different ways. It also gave the opportunity for students to pray for the needs of others such as family, wider community or the world.

We celebrated the Feast of the birth of St John the Baptist by holding a whole school Mass. Then in August, we celebrated St Mary of the Cross MacKillop's Feast Day with a whole school Liturgy of the Word. The school theme inspired several initiatives throughout the year. St John's supported various charities in 2023 and several activities were planned throughout the year. The Year 6 Social Justice captains were active in driving initiatives which included, Project Compassion, Winter appeal and Christmas hampers for Vinnies.

Parish - School Connections

Our school Chaplain, Mary Aquilina organised small craft packs suitable for children and families for the parish to take home. These packs were available to parishioners to collect from the weekend Masses. The parish community positively received these.

Made in the Image of God (MITIOG) Human Sexuality Curriculum

The MITIOG curriculum continued to be used this year. Ms Dani Franklin continued to oversee the training of the teaching staff who were new to the school and Catholic education. The program continues to support parents in their role as the primary educators in human sexuality. Through implementing this program, we continue to value education in partnership with parents.

Sacraments

This year, sixteen students from St John the Baptist Catholic School prepared for and received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion at St John the Baptist Church. Thank you to Fr Denis, Fr John, Fr George, Heran and Mary-Anne for all their support during this process.

ReLAT (Religious Education Literacy Assessment Tool)

The Year 4 students participated in ReLAT Religious Literacy Assessment Tool in Term 3. ReLAT is a tool that collects data on the students' knowledge of the Catholic faith. It is conducted online and takes a similar format to the NAPLAN assessment. The assessment was developed by the Catholic Education Office for all Year 4 students in Catholic Schools in South Australia and was completed by our Year 4 cohort this year.

Staff Formation and Well Being

The staff reflection day in September was held at Nunyara. Our focus was on Ecological Sustainability. Our guest speaker was Julian Kluge from Catholic Education South Australia. It was a positive day that prompted staff to reflect on the decisions we make when we purchase materials and how this impacts the earth. It put a more focused

perspective of how we are called to be good stewards of the earth as outlined in Pope Francis' Laudato Si encyclical. The day also supported the staffs' wellbeing through the opportunity to engage in discussion and time spent together.

Chaplaincy

Mary Aquilina, our School Chaplain has worked on Wednesdays and Fridays where she supported the liturgies, Masses and Playgroup on Wednesday mornings. She also ran the Seasons for Growth program with children experiencing significant change or loss.

I would personally like to give a short note of sincere thanks to the school community, the staff, families, students and parish for their support throughout the year. I am very thankful for the strong community spirit within this school. I have personally experienced this even more so this year.

Amanda Razon

Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission (APRIM)



Leader of Learning Report

Literacy

Literacy professional learning and a focus on classroom practice, remained a priority throughout 2023, as we continued to build upon the previous years' work around explicit spelling and reading instruction. This included using the newly developed Playberry Laser online resources that gave us consistency, scope, and rigor to classrooms across Reception to Year 6. These resources are now used by a number of Catholic schools, and this has allowed for opportunities to develop relationships with these schools to share best literacy practice.

SEQTA

As a school we continued to develop our use of SEQTA (a learning management tool) to support teaching and learning. In 2023, this involved using SEQTA for our end of semester reporting (after being a successful trial school in 2022) and a focus on using this system to record our assessments across different curriculum areas. Staff were supported to develop their skills to use this part of SEQTA so that our assessment data and grading sat together as evidence of learning. This focus will continue in 2024.

CESA Performance Standards

As a common element of our teaching, learning, and reporting cycle, staff routinely provide assessment tasks and rubrics to families to inform them of student achievement and areas for growth. Throughout 2023 we spent time exploring and using the CESA Performance standards to assist staff to understand the curriculum better and be able to provide greater accuracy when distinguishing A-E grading. Feedback was also provided back to CESA about these standards and possible improvements.

Australian Curriculum V.9

With the release of the updated Australian Curriculum V.9 as a school we made changes to our teaching and learning plans to reflect the changes to the new curriculum across all learning areas. This involved staff in their year levels exploring what changes had been made and ensuring these were reflected in their teaching and learning programs.

Data Collection and Use

Over the year, staff continued to become more confident collecting and analysing data to inform their teaching. As a staff we spent time looking at Dibels, PAT-R, PAT-M, NAPLAN, Phonics Screening Check and our Pulse data. In addition to this, data from class-based assessments were also analysed throughout the year. Time was allocated in staff meetings and other release time for staff to reflect on what information is gathered and what it tells them about learners at the individual, class, cohort and school level.

Numeracy Coach

In support of the Leader of Learning role, in 2023 an additional support for staff was through our Numeracy Coach role. Megan Pratt led this position and in consultation with the Leader of Learning worked with staff on teaching effective problem solving strategies to children, language of numeracy and mathematics, exploring ways to collect learning data from students and trialling some numeracy intervention support.

Michael Cimarosti
Leader of Learning

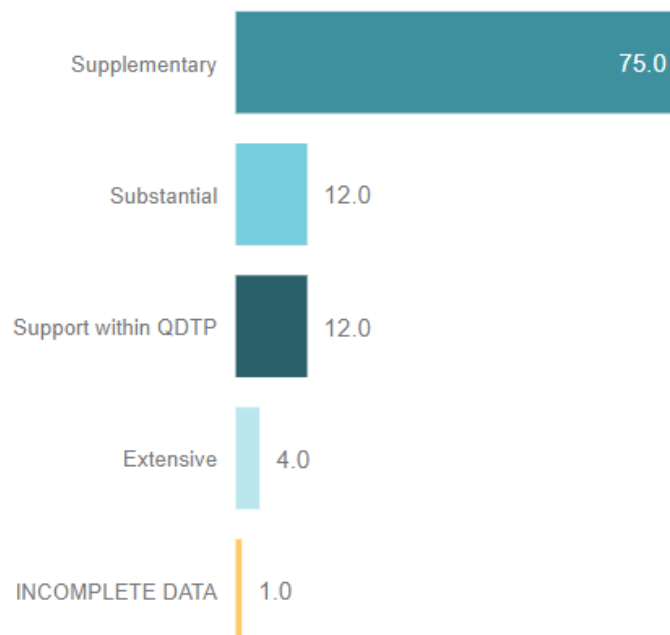
Students with Disability

NCCD

In 2023 St John the Baptist Catholic School submitted student information for the Nationally Consistent Collect of Data (NCCD) for all students that received learning support and adjustments to meet the needs of their learning and wellbeing. Teachers have utilised SEQTA to document all of this information in one central location. Throughout the year staff have met with parents, allied health professionals and CESA consultants to document, review and update adjustments that have been provided to each student.

Each year in the August census this data is entered into the NCCD Portal. This documentation is recorded for each student that has received a minimum of 10 weeks of adjustments between August 2022-August 2023 to improve their learning outcomes. The level of Disability is identified under 4 Categories determined by the level of support required. While the number of students receiving support did not change significantly there was an increase in the number of students who were identified as Supplementary when compared to 2023. This is due to the level of documentation that was enabled by SEQTA, professional development for staff and increased confidence in making adjustments for students to support student's outcomes against the expected achievement level.

STUDENTS RECEIVING ADJUSTMENTS



Personalised Plans for Learning (PPL)

All meetings with parents/carers and Allied Health professionals regarding student learning and goals were documented; student work samples were collected, and curriculum adjustments were used as evidence for NCCD. Teachers were also provided time to develop specific learning programs for students requiring a PPL.

The use of SEQTA Learning Manager has continued to be refined and developed by staff to record the functional impact of disability, enter adjustments, record the level of adjustments, the broad category of disability and evidence that supports ongoing monitoring and review of students. Consultation with families/carers and Allied Health professionals is a requirement for NCCD. This has also been documented on SEQTA.

Working in partnership with Allied Health professionals the school has provided space for speech pathologists, counsellors, play therapists, occupational therapists, psychologists, behavioural therapists, NOVITA and Autism SA staff to work with students. Teachers met with these specialists throughout the year to ensure the learning goals for students aligned with classroom support.

Intervention Programs

2023 saw the continuation of a whole school synthetic phonics program. The data collected at the end of the year continued to show significant growth for individual students and year levels overall. Intervention strategies have included the withdrawal of students from the class and professional learning for classroom teachers to incorporate new pedagogies into their practice.

The Playberry program was implemented by Paula Gill and Teresa Mori. Years 3-5 students were supported through this program each week.

Minilit Intervention targeted students in Year 1. Twenty five students accessed this small group literacy intervention, providing revision of sounds, high frequency words, reading strategies and also incorporated writing strategies. Throughout the intervention, the children were regularly assessed to identify areas of growth and areas that required further revision. Class teachers, worked in partnership with support staff to regularly provide updates on the student's progress and what further supports could be provided in the classroom. Small group sessions occurred during the morning literacy block, designed to complement and revise the sounds and strategies being taught in class.

SEQTA Reporting

In 2023 St John the Baptist Catholic school was selected by CESA to be a part of a pilot program to implement SEQTA Engage to report to families. Staff used 'SEQTA Marksbook' to generate the data for student reports and the End of Year Student Report was distributed through the SEQTA Engage app. St John the Baptist Catholic School was one of six diocesan parish primary schools to implement this. In 2024, all student reports will be made available via the SEQTA Engage App.



English as an Additional Language Report

In all schools across Australia, the Commonwealth Government provides funds to establish English as an Additional Language (EALD) Programs for children who speak or understand a language other than English in their home for a reasonably high percentage of their time. EALD funding is determined by the number of EALD students with the highest needs, meaning that their skills in speaking, reading, writing and comprehending English fall below an expected level.

Each year, teachers use the *Learning English: Achievement and Proficiency (LEAP) Levels* to formatively assess the Standard Australian English (SAE) proficiency of EALD students using written and oral language evidence. This data allows teachers to track progression by identifying what the learners know and what they need to know next.

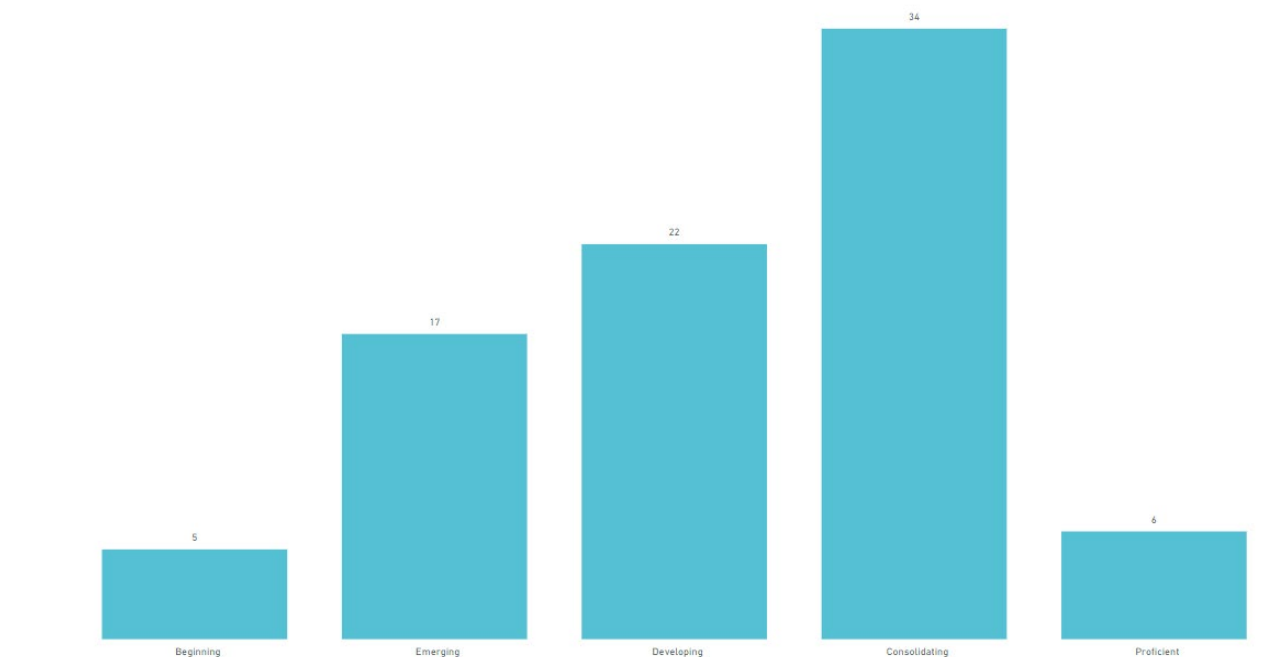
In 2023, 85 students were identified and submitted for EALD Funding. Five students were identified as Beginning, 17 students as Emerging, 22 students as Developing, 34 students as Consolidating and 6 students were above the required benchmark level in their literacy development. The positive trend in comparison to 2022 was the increase of 25 students moving from the Developing to Consolidation phase. A clear indication that the school's intervention and classroom support is positively impacting student achievement.

In 2023 we:

- Collaborated with the Catholic Education SA EALD Co-ordinator
- Collected EALD students' writing - written language was assessed and moderated
- Collected, assessed and moderated oral language data for EALD Reception – Year 6 students
- Provided resources for Classroom Teachers to support student development and progression
- Assessed 85 students as meeting criteria for EALD support, 27 more than the previous year
- Provided another staff member with professional development and training in assessing and supporting classroom teachers

With increased EALD funding in 2023, our associated Improvement Plan provided us with an opportunity to employ Tara Brookes for 1 day a week to work with individual and small groups of students to target the specific needs of students that fell into the Beginning and Emerging Phases of English language development.

EAL Data Collected in 2023



Little JB's Report

Little JB's continued to support the transition of children into the school in the term prior to school start. The program ran each Friday during Term 2 in the lead up to the mid-year Reception intake. During Term 4, two sessions were held on a Monday and Friday to cater for the larger group of children who begin school in January.

In 2023, another element of the Little JB's program was the continued connection with the Child Care Centres and Kindergartens within our local area. Pat Nicou our coordinator, has established positive relationships with these early childhood settings over several years. She spent time visiting the children who were enrolled in the Little JB's program in their early childhood environment prior to their commencement in the program. Pat commenced a new role in Semester 2 of 2023. This provided the opportunity for two of the schools Reception teachers, Julia Baker and Tara Brookes, to coordinate the kindergarten visits and run the Little JB's program in Term 4. Pat will return to the coordinator role at the beginning of 2024.

Playgroup Report

I'm delighted to share an overview of Play to Grow at St Johns Playgroup, highlighting the progress and initiatives undertaken in 2023. Play to Grow at St Johns continue to nurture an environment that fosters learning, growth, and engagement for our children and their families.

During the past year our playgroup has actively engaged in various activities aimed at promoting activities around the early years framework and fostering a sense of community among our members.

Attendance and New Families

Our playgroup continues to maintain a consistent attendance, with an average of 17-24 families attending per week. We are pleased to welcome new families into our community, sourced from various channels including our school and parish community, the Playgroup SA website, and through word-of-mouth referrals. We welcomed 52 new families in 2023.

Membership and Enrolments

We are grateful for the support of the Catholic Education Early Years team, who continue to pay our Playgroup SA membership fees. With the implementation of a new enrolment form format, we have observed that a significant number of new enrolments originate from discovering our playgroup through the Playgroup SA website.

Involvement of Year 5 Students

We are delighted to report that our Year 5 students are actively participating in our playgroup sessions on a weekly basis. The roster system has proven to be effective, allowing these students to engage with our younger children through activities such as reading aloud during story time, performing puppet shows, and assisting at various activity stations. Feedback from our families indicates that the presence of the "big kids" enhances the playgroup experience for their children.

Cultural Celebrations

A notable addition to our playgroup activities has been the celebration of Diwali. Collaborating with families from India and Nepal, we organised a vibrant Diwali-themed session filled with colour, light, and traditional sweets. Activities included decorating traditional candle holders, painting mandalas, and witnessing the creation of a mandala in the courtyard using coloured rice flour. We shared the significance of Diwali through storytelling, and the session even included traditional attire, with parents dressing me in a Sari. Parent feedback indicates appreciation for the cultural learning experience, and we anticipate making this an annual celebration.

Paint Playgroups REaD (PPR)

We successfully launched the Paint Playgroups REaD (PPR) literacy initiative, marking a significant milestone in

our ongoing commitment to early childhood literacy development. This program and resources were provided by the Catholic Education Early Year Teams.

1. **Book Swap Box :** At each session, we introduced a book swap box where children can exchange books on a weekly basis. This initiative not only encourages a love for reading but also fosters a sense of community and sharing among our families.
2. **Program Mascot - The Magpie:** A highlight of the launch was the introduction of our program mascot, a magpie eagerly awaiting a name from our SPiCE team. The magpie's arrival symbolises the spirit of curiosity and exploration that underpins our literacy initiative.
3. **Interactive Discussion:** Throughout the sessions, we engaged families in interactive discussions highlighting the importance of reading, singing, and dancing in nurturing brain development and laying the foundation for future literacy skills. These discussions served as invaluable opportunities to exchange insights and foster a deeper understanding of the role of early literacy in child development.

End of Term Morning Tea

Our end-of-term morning tea continues to be a cherished tradition, providing an opportunity for our playgroup community to come together, share food, and celebrate our collective experiences.

Health and Safety Measures

We are pleased to announce the inclusion of a site WHS induction form alongside our enrolment forms. This proactive step aligns with our dedication to adhering to recommended WHS guidelines and creating a secure environment for all participants.

Future Initiatives

2024 will see Play to Grow at St Johns Playgroup collaborate with Meals on Wheels to introduce older friends in our community the opportunity to join our playgroup community. We will become an Intergenerational playgroup, this is an exciting opportunity for us and other way that we can grow our connection to the community. Intergenerational playgroups offer numerous benefits for participants of all ages. For older individuals, engaging in activities alongside younger generations provides stimulation, social connection, and a sense of purpose. For younger participants, interacting with older adults fosters empathy, respect, and a deeper understanding of different perspectives. We are hoping that this program will commence in Term 2, 2024.

Conclusion

In conclusion, 2023 was a year of inclusivity, and cultural enrichment within our playgroup community and we look forward to further enhancing the experiences of our children and families.

Karina Overall
Playgroup Coordinator



Parents and Friends Report

On behalf of the Parents & Friends Committee it gives me great pleasure to report on the activities co-ordinated by the St. John the Baptist Catholic School P & F for 2023. The committee for 2023 was:

- Jo Livingstone – Deputy Principal and P & F primary contact
- Pam Marks – Treasurer (does not attend meetings)
- Bernadette O’Rielley – Staff Representative
- Karen Klingberg - Chairperson

Committee members: Mary Murray, Keely Yates, Kathy Parini, Sophie Cook, Megan Spokes, Sarah Dennis, Neeta Saldanha, Nicole Gordon, Zoe Seiffert, Toni Stevens, Victoria Thurston, Amy Simpson, Michelle Politis, Karen Harvey, Georgia d’Assumpcao, Lisa Powell, Kate Piasente, Hilary Sadler, Filomena Francis, Emma Vivian, Natalie Djemailovic.

As a committee we focused on providing community and fundraising events for children and families. Our fundraising goal was to contribute to the new playground which has been installed and enjoyed by the school children.

Our 2023 events included:

- Mother’s Day/Father’s Day stalls
- Easter Raffle
- Shrove Tuesday – cooking pancakes
- Family Entertainment Raffle
- Colour Fun Run
- Disco
- Donut Day
- Thermomix Raffle
- Bunnings BBQ
- Entertainment Book fundraiser (ongoing)

The major fundraising events for the year were the Easter Raffle, Colour Fun Run, Family Entertainment Raffle and the Bunnings BBQ. These major events combined raised approximately \$8,500 which is a fantastic effort. The success of these events was not only due to our wonderful school community but the amazing committee who worked extremely hard to make these events possible.

We continued with the idea of Parent Representatives for each class. These Parent Reps were the key people to liaise with and send information out from the P&F to our school community. They assisted and rallied together helpers for community activities such as class open mornings, Mother’s & Father’s Day Stalls and set up class Facebook pages, etc. More importantly they were the initiator of connections between the families from their class.

We are excited as a committee to bring forward new ideas for 2024. Many of our committee members are continuing in 2024 as we welcome some new parents to join us. As a parent committee we would like to thank Todd LaForgia, Jo Livingstone, Bernadette O’Reilley and all the staff and School Board for their support. In closing we would like to thank the 2023 P&F committee members for their commitment to sub committees and the generous giving of their time and efforts during 2023.

Karen Klingberg
Parents & Friends Committee



WHS Report

The following is a summary of WHS performance for the reporting period 31/01/2023 to 16/12/2023

1. Injury Data

Injury data for the reporting period is summarised in the tables below.

Total no. workers compensation claims	1	Total no. employees currently on rehabilitation	1
No. of injuries resulting in lost time	0	Total lost time	0
Total no. of incidents/injuries/near miss reports	4	Total no. of investigations conducted	4

Summary of body parts injured from workers compensation claims and incident reports.

Part of Body	No. Injuries	Part of Body	No. Injuries
Upper Limb	2	Hands/fingers	0
Lower limb	0	Feet/toes	1
Back	2	Eyes	0
Trunk	0	Head	0
Psychological	0	Other	0

Note: A lost time injury is a work-related injury that results in time off work by way of a Prescribed Medical Certificate.

2. Reportable Incidents

The number of reportable incidents to Workplace Services: 0

Workplace Services attended: Office N/A

Actions taken as a result of the incident: N/A

3. Consultation

The number of scheduled WHS consultative meetings and workplace safety inspections versus actual is shown below.

Frequency	Meetings		Workplace Safety Inspections	
	Planned	Achieved	Planned	Achieved
	4	3	2	1

4. Training

The number of employees inducted and trained according to the training program are summarised below.

No. of new employees (including TRT's)	11	No. of new employees inducted within 1 week of commencement of work	9
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Training Program	Planned	Achieved
Key SACCS Documents	1	1
Equal Employment Opportunity	1	1
Cybersecurity for Schools	1	1
Fire and other Emergencies at School	1	1
Ergonomics and Manual Handling	1	1
Privacy for Schools	1	1
Workplace behaviours for Schools	1	1

5. Safety Initiatives

The following WHS strategies have been put in place during 2023:

- Regular assessment was conducted with the Contractor in regard to the demolition at 334 Anzac Highway, Plympton to ensure it was carried out with minimal disruption to students and staff.
- Volunteer procedure with current and new volunteers is ongoing.

Volunteer procedure with all current and new volunteers.

6. Areas Identified for Future Improvement

Following our WHS audit we have implemented the following for future.

Improvement:

- WHS task schedule – which outlines what needs to be done and how often.
- Playground to be inspected on a yearly basis by an external company
- Disaster & Recovery Management Plan has been updated and lodged.
- Push button testing to be carried out and recorded.
- Asbestos Register – audit completed and no asbestos detected on school grounds.

Jo Fitzgerald
WHS Officer

