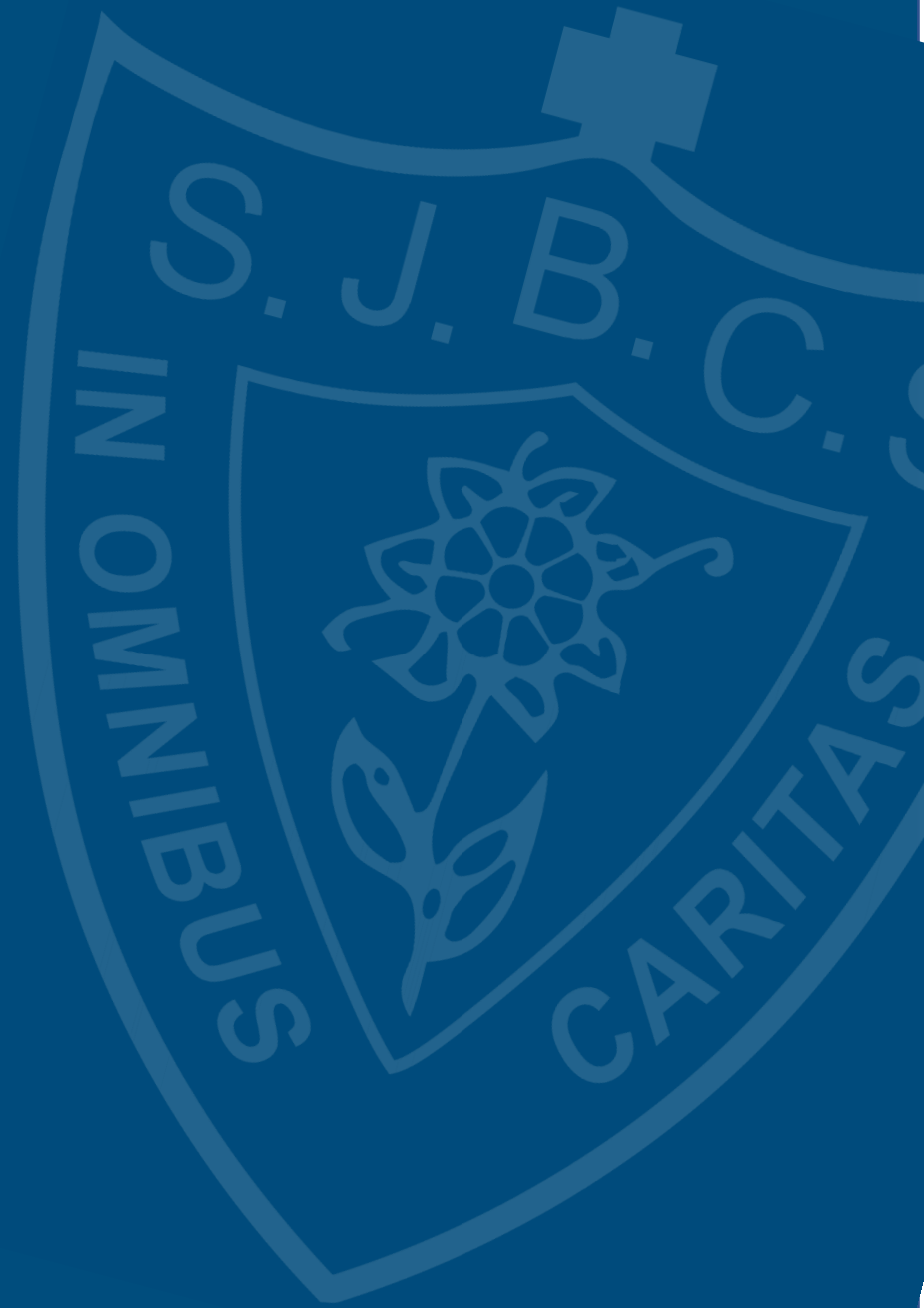


St John the Baptist

Catholic School



2023 School Performance Report

This report is a requirement of the Commonwealth Government as outlined in the Australian Education Act 2013.

Introduction

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.

Student Enrolment Numbers

For the 2023 Year our enrolments were as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Reception	37	30	67
Year 1	30	21	51
Year 2	20	30	50
Year 3	36	27	63
Year 4	24	23	47
Year 5	21	26	47
Year 6	21	23	44
Totals	189	180	369

There were 7 Indigenous students enrolled at St John the Baptist Catholic School in 2023. One hundred and seven students received inclusive education resourcing with 12 non funded students also receiving various levels of support. The school also provides support for the 85 students identified through the English as an Additional Language scaling process.

Student Attendance & Management of Non-Attendance

Student Attendance is managed and recorded using SEQTA Teach and SMS texting systems. Student absence is monitored closely and followed up as necessary. Parents are encouraged to ring the school (8218 3300) or SMS (0409 793 402).

Dealing with Non-Attendance of Students

1. Parent rings/SMSs the school and reports the absence
2. We ask for the student's name, class and reason for absence
3. Class teachers are informed
4. It is cross referenced with the Absentee Roll Class List and those names that are not entered into the system are done so by the office

We ask that parents ring in before 9.30am with the absence information.

We ask that the teachers have their absence list completed by 9.15am.

For long term absences parents are required to meet with the Principal and complete a form notifying the school of the absence and the length of absence.

Unsatisfactory reasons for absence are referred to the Leadership Team via the teacher. The Leadership Team will then contact the family. If any child/children's attendance is deemed unsatisfactory the Principal will follow up with the relevant authorities.

Student Attendance by Year Level

The average student attendance rate in 2023 was 89.7%.

Year Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Reception	91.2%	89.4%	91.1%	88.1%
Year 1	90.9%	88.4%	88.1%	91.4%
Year 2	92.3%	90.1%	90.0%	89.4%
Year 3	93.2%	91.1%	86.6%	89.4%
Year 4	91.2%	88.9%	87.1%	88.4%
Year 5	93.3%	88.3%	86.5%	91.0%
Year 6	84.8%	89.9%	88.8%	90.5%
Averages	88.8%	88.0%	88.0%	87.9%

Post School Destinations

Our post school destinations for Year 6 students are Cabra Dominican College, Sacred Heart College, Nazareth Catholic College, Emmaus Christian College, Immanuel College, Pulteney Grammar School, Adelaide High School, Plympton International School, Henley High School, Seaview High School and Brighton Secondary School.

Human Resources

In 2023, St John the Baptist Catholic School had a total of 27 teaching staff (made up of 24 females and 3 males) and 18 non-teaching staff (made up of 15 females and 3 males).

In 2023, no staff member identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Staff Qualifications

In our school, we are very fortunate to have staff committed to lifelong learning. The breakdown of qualifications of St John the Baptist Catholic School staff are as per table below:

Certificates	8%
Graduate Certificates	20%
Diplomas	24%
Bachelors	82%
Masters	15%

We have a number of staff members with two or more qualifications in education and associated studies.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 and 5 participated in the annual NAPLAN testing which was moved from May to March in 2023. The reporting scale was also reset so the 2023 results are not comparable to previous years. The testing period went smoothly, and students demonstrated persistence, adaptability, and resilience during their NAPLAN tests. This earlier testing period allowed for the results to be received sooner and therefore a quicker analysis of the strengths and improvements needed of our teaching and learning programs. This information is used alongside a range of other data to support our strategic goals in teaching and learning.

St Johns continues to have a very high participation rate of students completing tests through its approach to supporting the needs of all learners. The participation is above the national averages for other schools.

Below is a snapshot of the results taken from the MySchool website. When compared to other Australian students, St Johns were close or at in all areas which is an improvement from 2022.

2023					
Compare to	<input type="radio"/> Students with similar background	<input checked="" type="radio"/> All Australian students			
	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	388	429	416	421	415
Year 5	489	476	485	490	484

NAPLAN participation for this school is 99%
NAPLAN participation for all Australian students is 95%

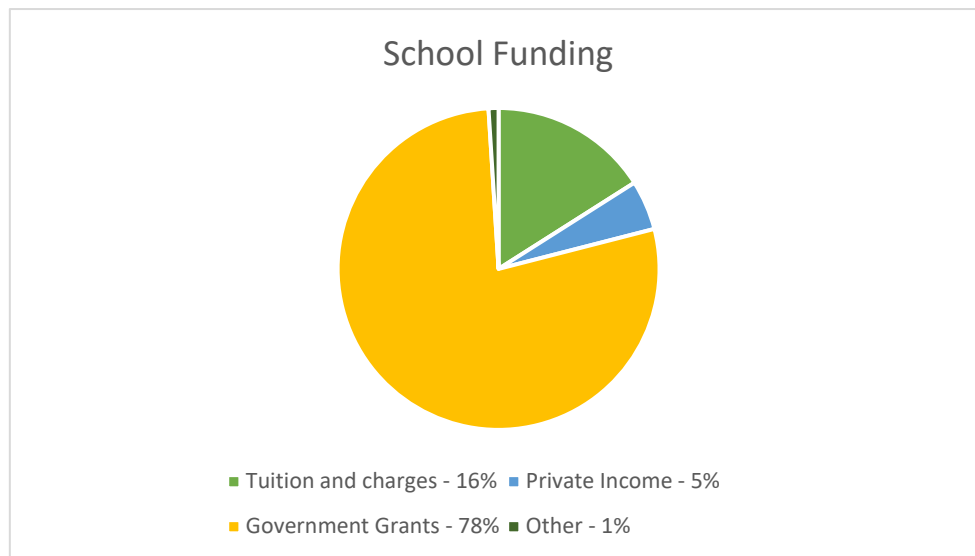
^{NB} A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate for a comparison to be available. Grey shading indicates participation did not meet these thresholds.

School Funding

As a Catholic School we rely on the prompt payment of school fees to assist with the operation of the school. The school receives its income from three main sources:

- Government Funding
- Tuition and charges
- Private Income

The graph below shows the school income broken down by Government, Fees and Other. Our mid year intake of Reception students were not charged fees due to the initiative of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS) aimed to reduce the financial burden on families.



Value Added Programs

St John the Baptist Catholic School offers many educational experiences and celebrations that provide special opportunities for students, staff and the wider community.

St John the Baptist offered the following programs for the benefit of students in our school:

- Playgroup
- Little JB's - a transition program for children starting in Reception
- Buddy classes
- Educator support – for students identified as requiring additional support
- Literacy Intervention Program - Playberry
- Mini Lit Program
- Sensory Movement Support
- Wellbeing Program – wellbeing days, whole school social-emotional language
- School Chaplain
- School Counsellor

Our Catholic Identity

Our Catholic Identity

In 2023 the school had an overarching theme of, "Take Fresh Courage". It took inspiration from St Mary MacKillop who believed in taking fresh courage with knowledge that God will always provide. The theme also motivated the community to live each day with that growing edge; to make choices that will allow growth in all areas, mentally, physically and spiritually.

Faith in Action & Outreach Programs

Our school honours the Catholic tradition in the different forms of prayer and understanding sacred spaces through Mass, liturgy and prayer. Students participated in class Liturgies of the Word and the Parish Mass throughout the year.

Significant Church calendar events were observed, such as Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas, with opportunities for prayer and reflection. Special feast days including St John the Baptist in June and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop in August were celebrated by the community.

The Year 6 Social Justice Leaders led the initiatives to support charities. These included Project Compassion, Winter appeal – clothing for homeless, Harmony Day and the Vinnies Christmas appeal.

Sacraments

Sixteen candidates from St John the Baptist Catholic School received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion at St John the Baptist Church. This was led by the team consisting of Fr Denis, Heran Jayasuriya and Mary-Anne Quinn who supported the children and their families throughout this journey.

ReLAT (Religious Education Literacy Assessment Tool)

In Term 3, the Year 4 students participated in the ReLAT Religious Literacy Assessment Tool to assess the knowledge content which is core to the Year 3/ 4 Crossways Religious Education curriculum. It consisted of a similar format to that of NAPLAN and was conducted online with 35 multiple choice questions. There are five categories that the assessment covers: God, Us and Faith, Sacred Texts, Church for the World, Moral Life and Sacramentality and Prayer.

Our Year 4 cohort this year demonstrated their greatest understanding in God, Us and Faith, with a stronger knowledge in Sacramentality and Prayer in comparison to the rest of the state.

Staff Formation

The staff reflection day in September was held at Nunyara with a focus on Ecological Sustainability. Our guest speaker was Julian Kluge from Catholic Education South Australia, who presented a deeper look into Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si, caring for our common home. The day aimed to consider how our school community can strive toward fully living out our vision and mission in the commitment to ecological sustainability.

Chaplaincy

Mary Aquilina continued her Chaplaincy work, supporting the community through participation in Playgroup, Mass and small group work with students to support their wellbeing.

The Arts Program

In 2023, our school continued to provide opportunities to those children with a talent in the Arts. We have an instrumental program that offers drums, piano and guitar. Fifty children participate weekly in private tuition on our school site. We have a Catholic Schools Music Festival Choir. Our Catholic Schools Music Choir participated in a performance at the Adelaide Festival Centre for the Catholic Schools Music Festival.

Our students participate in a weekly Expressive Arts lesson where they are involved in a wide range of musical activities, including playing instruments, moving, listening and dancing.

Sports Program

At St John the Baptist Catholic School we offer a wide variety of After School Sports to suit varying skill and interest levels. Players rely on the generosity of parents who become registered volunteers in order to coach these teams. Students have the opportunity to participate in the following sports at local ovals and recreation centres:

- Basketball
- Soccer
- AFL
- Netball
- T-Ball
- Volleyball
- Lacrosse
- Master Blaster Cricket
- Cricket (B & C Grade)

Additionally the students are able to participate in a number of Catholic and SAPSASA sporting events. There were students who went on to participate in various SAPSASA State Carnivals.

We continue to investigate further sporting opportunities that can enrich what we already offer to all of our students.

Community Surveys

Living Learning Leading Surveys

In 2023 the Living Learning Leading surveys were once again conducted across the school community.

The surveys were based around 4 components-

- Catholic Identity
- Learning and Wellbeing
- Resourcing
- Community

In 2023, 5 surveys were conducted:

- Student Survey Years 2,3 and 4
- Student Survey Years 5 and 6
- Teacher and Leadership Survey
- Education Support Officer Survey
- Parent and Caregiver Survey

This year there was a significant uptake of parents completing the Parent and Caregiver Survey. This is attributed to displaying a QR Code with a link to the survey prior to the commencement of the School Concert. Parents had the opportunity to complete the survey whilst they were waiting for the concert to begin.

A brief summary of the results (across all surveys) for St John the Baptist Catholic School is provided below. It must be stated that our survey data showed positive perceptions and satisfaction with the school across all areas in each survey.

Catholic Identity

Success - Catholic rituals, symbols and liturgies are an important part of the school's identity and the school prioritises significant liturgical events during the year. We also help those in need.

Challenge - To ensure prayer, mass and liturgies are relevant and meaningful (within our contemporary culture).

Learning and Wellbeing

Success - Teachers support student learning and there are structures in place at the school to support continuous improvement and collaboration.

Challenge - The area of student influence, which is the extent to which students feel that there are opportunities for them to have a voice and choice to influence and direct their learning and assessment.

Resourcing

Success - The classrooms are a welcoming place to learn and the school's facilities and grounds are well maintained. The school plans effectively for capital development.

Community

Success - Across all surveys the school is viewed as a safe, welcoming and inclusive school.

School Improvement

Each year, the school develops an Annual Plan which is aligned to the school Strategic Plan and forms a part of the broader school improvement agenda. Specifically, areas of focus throughout 2023 were:

Strategic Pillar – 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.

Strategic Pillar - 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.

Strategic Pillar – 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).

The teaching staff, led by the Deputy Principal Jo Livingstone have continued to refine the school processes of documenting the learning adjustments of students in the Learner Management System- SEQTA. This has now become an embedded practice within the school.

Strategic Pillar – 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.

Strategic Pillar – 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.

Strategic Pillar – Financial Stewardship and Improvement

Throughout 2023 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.

Strategic Pillar – 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.