

SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



ANNUAL REPORT
2021

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

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INTRODUCTION

Vision

At Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, we strive to create an integrated faith and learning community, based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Mission

We commit to providing excellence in education and nurturing faith filled learners who are respectful and resilient in living the commandment of Jesus “Love one another as I have loved you” (John 13:34)



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is with pleasure that I present the 2021 Annual Report for Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School. Throughout 2021, there were challenges regarding Covid-19 with border closures, school restrictions and evolving situations with possible community transmission of the virus. Throughout all of these challenges, the Sacred Heart Catholic school community continued to be one of love, faith, respect and resilience.

“Love, faith, respect and resilience”

2021 saw the launch of our new school uniform. Thank you to our Parents and Friends Association who subsidized the start-up costs of these. The uniforms include an everyday shirt, and a sports shirt, featuring House names and colours.



We were excited to host her Honour, the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO, Administrator of the Northern Territory, as she joined us for National Simultaneous Story Time. During the visit, we were able to discuss our involvement in the 'What'll Happen to the Wattle?' SpaceSeeds project.

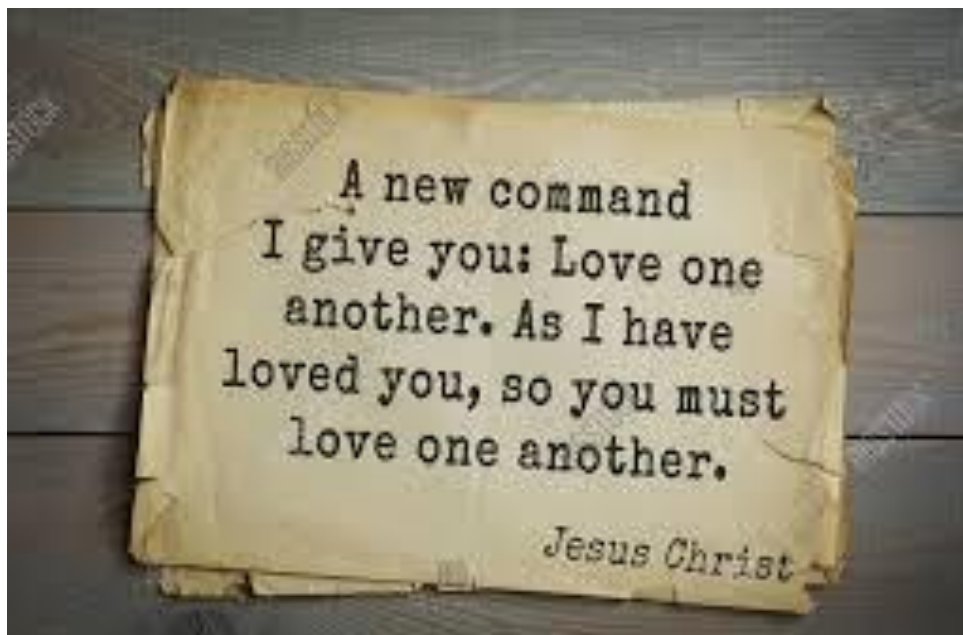
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School went through the Routine Assessment Process, which looks at ongoing registration for Non-Government schools, according to the requirements of the Education Act. School policies and other required documentation were scrutinised to ensure that all elements of the Education Act were being followed. The report from the reviewers was extremely positive and ongoing registration as a school was provided.

The beginning of Term 4 saw the commencement of the renovations to the Administration block, with the move back into the building to happen in January 2022.

I am immensely proud of the Sacred Heart community and the Commitment to living out our school motto, “Love one another as I have loved you” every day.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved.

Mrs Gez Mulvahil
Principal



SCHOOL PROFILE

History and Context

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School was established in 1987 and relocated to the City of Palmerston in 1994. At Sacred Heart, we believe in helping students to become the best people they can be, make informed choices and foster their love for learning. Through our Catholic faith we work on developing a strong community that practices School Wide Positive Behaviours to enrich our school motto, Love One Another. We have beautiful and spacious grounds, and supportive and caring families that involve themselves with the Parish and school community. Our high-quality education programs are offered from Transition to Grade 6 and incorporate STEM, Inquiry Learning and differentiation. We implement the Australian Curriculum across all subjects, and hold whole school events focusing on Science, Literacy, Health and Physical Education. Our staff and students are involved in a variety of community events and local and national competitions. We offer specialised classes in Indonesian, Sport and The Arts. A Defence School Mentor works closely with our Defence Force families to help them make connections to the community through ANZAC and Remembrance Day services. Our Aboriginal and Islander Education Support worker, works closely with the community to support families and students with their school experience. Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School also has an Early Learning Centre Program for 3-5 year olds, and an Outside School Hours Care Program offering Before School, After School and Holliday Care programs.

STUDENT ENROLMENT PROFILE

Enrolment August Census: 171 students

| Year | T | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Total |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Total | 25 | 12 | 20 | 23 | 28 | 38 | 25 | 171 |

Yearly Attendance Rate: 91.4%

Indigenous Students Enrolled: 26

Language Background other than English: 20

Student Attendance & Managing Non-Attendance

At Sacred Heart Catholic Primary school, it is important that children maintain regular attendance so as not to disrupt their routines and development. Sacred Heart recognizes the strong link between regular attendances to maximise school success. Strong attendance is attributed to strong partnerships with our Sacred Heart community of families and supportive school support. To ensure the child does not miss out on any valuable group learning experience, it is important the student learns to be on time to class. Attendance registers are monitored in the front office daily and parents are contacted by the Principal, Aboriginal Indigenous Education Worker (AIEW), Defence School Mentor (DSM) or the Wellbeing Coordinator in the event of unexplained or regular absences.

STAFF INFORMATION

Staffing Profile

| Title | Head Count |
|---|------------|
| Principal | 1 |
| Teaching Staff (including Librarians) - full time | 10 |
| Teaching Staff Indigenous (Including Librarians - full time | 0 |
| Teaching Staff (Including Librarians) - part time | 3 |
| Administrative and Clerical (including aids and Assistants) -full Time | 2 |
| Administrative and Clerical (including aids and Assistants) -part time | 12 |
| Building Operations Maintenance and Other Staff | 0 |
| Specialist Support - full time | 0 |
| Specialists Support - part time | 0 |
| Total | ? |

Teacher Standards

All teachers are registered with the Northern Territory Teacher Registration Board (TRB) and all staff have current Ochre cards

| Summary of teacher qualifications | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Masters degree | 4 |
| Post graduate qualifications | 3 |
| Batchelor degree or equivalent | 15 |
| Other qualification | 3 |

School Leadership Team

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Gez Mulvahil: | Principal |
| Jane Astalosh: | Deputy Principal (Maternity Leave) |
| Stephen O'Shannessy: | Acting Deputy Principal for 2021 |
| Danielle Aspinall: | Assistant Principal Religious Education |
| Eryn Hollister: | Inclusion Support Coordinator |
| Rachael McDowall: | Curriculum Coordinator / Data Informed Practitioner |

Teaching Staff

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Gez Mulvahil | Nicole Emerson |
| Stephen O'Shannessy | Fennie Lim |
| Deborah Curtin | Anna Maree Priest |
| Danielle Aspinall | Sarah Graves |
| Geraldine Ballesteros | Gregory Hayes |
| Rachael McDowall | Eryn Hollister |
| Sarah Morrissey | Ashleigh Tak |
| Rebecca McCormack | Latecia Christie |

Support Staff

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Jenna Hingston | Heidi Pligl |
| Kiki Troumouliaris | Margaret Howe |
| Elizabeth Simon | Christine Ballantyne |
| Elizabeth Misob | Courtney Lowery |
| Frazer Driscoll | Jack Kluske |
| Reece Douglas | Peta Harvey |
| Troy Garling | |

Ancillary / Grounds Staff

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Christine Ray | Jacinta Flint |
| Widya Lieminda | Linda Bryan |

Danihers Facility Management Staff

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Brenton Motlop | Bruce Hoffman |
|----------------|---------------|

Early Learning Centre Staff

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Rebecca Kershaw (Assistant Director) | Nella Ewin |
| Rosanna Perdugeira | Maria Costa |
| Caitlin Boulter | Monique Grant |
| Peta Harvey | |

Outside School Hours Care Staff

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Peta Maryvale (Assistant Director) | Christine Ballantyne |
| Amy Doran | Reece Douglas |
| Maria Costa | Tammy Winsley |

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Administrator of the Northern Territory visits Sacred Heart

We were fortunate to have Her Honour, the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO, Administrator of the Northern Territory join us for National Simultaneous Story Time. This year, the story was read by astronauts based in the International Space Station, and live streamed to schools and communities. Her Honour discussed her own gardening experiences, and she was fascinated to hear of our involvement in the Space Seeds project explained below.



“What’ll Happen to the Wattle?”

Sacred Heart was successful in their application to participate in the “What’ll Happen to the Wattle?” project conducted by One Giant Leap Australia and the Japanese National Space Agency. We received two sets of wattle seeds - one set that have remained on earth, and one set that spent time on the International Space Station. The seeds were grown in a controlled environment and findings were reported back to the agencies so that research about the effects of zero gravity on seeds can be studied.

The connection with our wattle seeds and the International Space Station was an excellent link to National Simultaneous Story Time.

Early Learning Centre Christmas Party

The Annual Early Learning Centre Christmas Party had a special arrival by Santa and his elf, Jingles. Staff, students and families were excited and surprised to see these special guests arrive by helicopter on to the school oval.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AND RENEWAL FRAMEWORK ACHIEVEMENTS

Catholic Identity

In 2021, staff took part in a Diocesan Catholic Identity Day, with a focus on Laudato Si. The school Aboriginal and Islander Education Worker, Mr Troy Garling, presented his story and proudly talked about his connections to the land.

The Diocesan Youth Ministry Team worked with NET Ministries to lead the Year 5 and 6 students through a leadership retreat, focusing on their wellbeing and relationships. This culminated in a Mass to celebrate their day.

In 2020, the Vision and Mission statement were changed, and this allowed a strong focus throughout 2021 on living our words, to be faith filled, respectful and resilient learners. These words are now a part of who we are at Sacred Heart and are lived in the daily interactions, forming and shaping our catholic identity.

Fundraising for Caritas Australia and Catholic Mission form part of the ongoing commitment to raising awareness about the plight of others and using Catholic Social Teaching in context. In 2021 we held a 'Caritas Carnival' with stalls and activities conducted to raise money for Project Compassion.

Students are supported to develop their own catholic identity through the Religious Education teaching and learning programs and school masses.

Teaching and Learning

The Early Years classes continued to focus on implementing Age-Appropriate Pedagogies with ongoing support and training through Catholic Education Northern Territory and the Department of Education. Approaches to the Inquiry model in the Transition and Year One classes is based on the Walker Learning model, offering students opportunities to investigate the world around them.

Student Awards and Recognition

The Indonesian Language Program was provided through the Darwin School of Languages. Awards for each class were presented, and overall Excellence in Indonesian Award, sponsored by the Indonesian Consulate was presented. The recipients of these awards were:

| Class / Year | Student name |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Transition | Lachlan Mead |
| Year 1 | Amelia Wiguna |
| Year 2 | Dawn Ochiagha |
| Year 3 | Isabelle Mead |
| Year 4 | Brianna Heslop |
| Year 5 | Allirah McInnes |
| Year 6 | Dakota Busby |

Indonesian Consulate Award for Excellence in Indonesian Language Studies

| Class / Year | Student Name |
|--------------|----------------|
| Year 5 | Zachary Waters |

Students were nominated for external achievement awards through the NT Board of Studies and the Australia Day Council. Isla in Year 6 was nominated for the NT Board of Studies Academic Excellence Award and Tarli Garland for the NT Administrator's Medal. Myco Viason was the recipient of the Australia Day Council award. All classes nominated and presented Chief Minister's Literacy Awards to students who showed progress or excellence in given areas of Literacy. These awards were presented at assembly.

| Class / Year | Student Name | Award |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Transition | William Schloss | Most improved in reading |
| Transition | Jocelyn Harvey | Most improved in reading |
| Year 2 | Aston Dennis | Most improved in reading |
| Year 3 | Zara Trnka | Most improved in reading |
| Year 4 | Abigail Cook | Most improved in reading |
| Year 5 | Myco Viason | Most improved in reading |
| Year 6 | Cooper Harvey | Most improved in oral language |
| Year 6 | Taylah George | Most improved in writing |

The NT Board of Studies provided awards in STEM for each class. These were presented by Annalea McCurry from Catholic Education Northern Territory

| Class / Year | Student name |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Transition | Eden Brown |
| Year 1 | Kenneth (Leo) Brown |
| Year 2 | Denzel Phommachanh |
| Year 3 | Molly Hopwood |
| Year 4 | Patrick McSharry |
| Year 5 | Ruben Evans |
| Year 6 | Brayden Bevington |

With visitor restrictions in 2021, visits from authors and other incursions were again limited. Sacred Heart offered many other opportunities for staff and students to enhance the teaching and learning program within the school.

- Intensive Literacy and Numeracy groups for support and extension
- All Inclusion Support Assistants engaged in school based professional learning
- School Camps
- Life Education Program

Assessment and Reporting Practices

A range of ongoing assessment and reporting tools are used throughout the school to monitor student progress and provide feedback to families. Reporting to parents is undertaken at least four times per year, through face to face meetings and written reports twice a year. Student work samples are regularly sent home.

Data Informed Practice

Through support from Catholic Education Northern Territory, a member of staff had dedicated planning time to monitor and provide support in data informed practice in the school.

NAPLAN

Year 3 2021 Band Summary Results.

Total students: 21

| Subject | Top 2 Band | Middle 2 Bands | Bottom 2 Bands |
|----------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Reading | 26% | 36% | 36% |
| Writing | 25% | 75% | 0% |
| Spelling | 47% | 32% | 21% |
| Grammar | 37% | 37% | 26% |
| Numeracy | 20% | 55% | 25% |

| Subject | Australian Mean | School mean | Difference |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Reading | 437.3 | 383 | 54.3 |
| Writing | 425.4 | 389 | 36.4 |
| Spelling | 421 | 397 | 24 |
| Grammar | 433.2 | 387 | 46.2 |
| Numeracy | 403.4 | 365 | 38.4 |

Year 5 2021 Band Summary Results

Total Students: 37

| Subject | Top 2 Band | Middle 2 Bands | Bottom 2 Bands |
|---------|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Reading | 19% | 67% | 16% |

| | | | |
|----------|-----|-------|-------|
| Writing | 3% | 65% | 32% |
| Spelling | 19% | 67.5% | 13.5% |
| Grammar | 16% | 59% | 24% |
| Numeracy | 8% | 62% | 30% |

| Subject | Australian Mean | School mean | Difference |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Reading | 511.6 | 484 | 27.6 |
| Writing | 480 | 449 | 31 |
| Spelling | 504.5 | 478 | 26.5 |
| Grammar | 502.8 | 470 | 32.8 |
| Numeracy | 495.2 | 464 | 31.2 |

Student Support

Sacred Herat staff work in conjunction with CENT to provide a range of supports, extensions and interventions to enable students to achieve their full potential. A rigorous, yet supportive, Inclusion Support program is in place to assist with the implementation of strategies and recommendations from specialists. The school engages with a range of external support agencies for advice and feedback.

Each classroom has the valued support of an Inclusion Support Assistant who works closely with the Inclusion Support Coordinator and the Inclusion Support Practitioner to offer a range of interventions, supports and extensions to provide optimal learning opportunities for students.

PASTORAL CARE AND WELLBEING

The Diocese of Darwin coordinated a team of young adults from NET Ministries Australia to work within the Diocese supporting the personal and spiritual development of young people. The team worked with the Year 5 students at Sacred Heart for a day on developing leadership and social skills. They also joined the school community for the School Disco.

To celebrate Children's Week students gathered in multi age groups and chose elective activities that they would like to attend. These ranged from cooking, sporting activities, art activities and board games.

Book Week was another highlight of the school year with staff and students dressing up in a variety of costumes to reflect the theme of 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds'. Throughout the year, small Pastoral Care and Social Groups were facilitated through our Inclusion Support Officer and Inclusion Support Assistants. These groups focused on developing social skills and strong relationships through a range of activities.

Catholic Care counselling was able to be accessed by students and staff through the school based access program.

At the end of 2021, the Be You survey was conducted with students, staff and families. This was the focus for our parent feedback for 2021, as we wanted this data to inform the Pastoral Care and Wellbeing plans for 2022.

COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic meant that there were significant changes to community events throughout 2021. Our students were still able to represent Sacred Heart at events such as:

- Representation at the Bombing of Darwin service
- PARRS sporting events
- MacKillop Instrumental Program

Ongoing connections with Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School and MacKillop Catholic College were maintained throughout the year.

Students organised a range of lunch time activities for students to participate in, such as a disco, a singing competition and sporting activities.

Reconciliation Week was acknowledged and celebrated through an assembly focused on Reconciliation. This was coordinated by the Aboriginal and Islander Education Worker, along with some students.

Staff were recognised for their ongoing work in the school through days such as:

- School Officer Day
- Primary Principals Day
- World Teachers Day
- Educators Day
- School Support Assistants Day
- Thank Your Cleaner Day

Parents and Community

The Parents and Friends Association worked to raise money for the school and in raising \$9000, this amount was matched by Catholic Education Northern Territory. In total, over \$20 000 was raised by our community. In 2021 this money was spent on:

- Outdoor Seating
- Literacy resources
- Charitable donations

- Funding for the proposed garden to be completed in 2022

Fundraising activities held by the P and F included:

- Colour Run
- Disco
- Trivia Night
- Raffles and online auctions
- Food at events such as Sports Day and the Christmas Concert
- Mothers' day and Fathers' Day breakfast
- Bunnings BBQs

The School Board is made up of the Parish Priest, parent representatives and has been chaired by Mr Mathew Cram. The Board has been working on the review of current policies and has provided ongoing support of the Sacred Heart community.

Regular opportunities are provided for parents to engage with the school through informal occasions such as sports days, discos, assemblies and celebrations as well as more formal opportunities such as parent teacher interviews. Ongoing communication between parents and staff is welcomed and encouraged. Communication is provided through a variety of digital tools including Class Dojo, School Stream, school website, emails and social media sites.

LEADERSHIP

Stephen O'Shannessy joined the Sacred Heart staff as the Acting Deputy Principal in 2021, while Jane Astalosh took maternity leave. Jane re-joined the staff in her role in 2022.

Sacred Heart has staff representation on a number of National Associations and working parties:

- ACARA Teacher Practice Reference Group
- Australian Primary Principals' Association
- Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association

Staff from Sacred Heart are well represented on various sub committees of the Northern Territory Catholic Education Council, with representation on:

- Pastoral Care and Wellbeing Standing Committee
- Teaching and Learning Standing Committee
- Community and Culture Standing Committee
- Study Incentive Program Committee

Staff attended CENT Network meetings in the areas of:

- Administration
- Finance
- Work Health and Safety
- Pastoral Care and Wellbeing
- Principal Meetings and Retreat
- Deputy Principal Meetings and Retreat
- APRE Meeting and Retreat
- Inclusion Support
- Data Informed Practitioners
- Curriculum Coordinator

FINANCE, FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

The school continued a professional relationship with Danihers Facility Management overseeing cleaning, grounds and maintenance within the school. We have been fortunate to have quality, dedicated grounds and cleaning, and now include many of our periodical cleans within this contract.

Both the school and the Early Learning Centre were successful recipients of the Woolworths Landcare Grants. This funding was used to create some garden areas that are designed to attract native bees to the school environment in an effort to promote pollination and plant growth, while explain the importance of bees in creating a sustainable future. This also worked in with the focus on Laudato Si.

Throughout 2021 there were upgrades to infrastructure within the school:

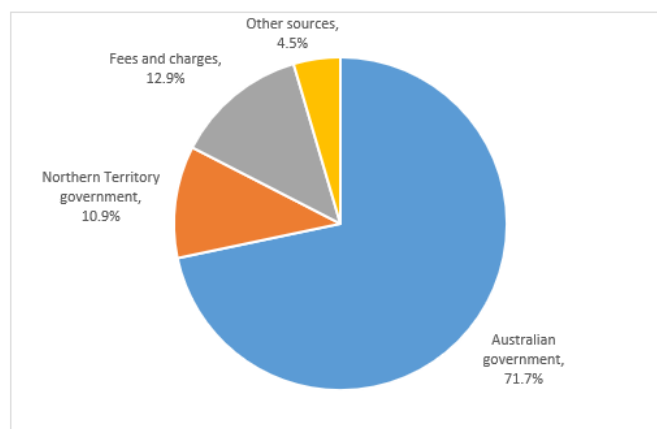
- Work began on the upgrade of the school Administration Block. This was funded through the School Building Fund and coordinated through the Infrastructure Team at CENT.
- Upgrades to ELC and school gardens.

School income is derived from a variety of sources and can be summarised as follows:

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School School annual recurrent income 2021

School recurrent income 2021

| Source | Amount | Proportion |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Australian government | 2,115,622 | 71.7% |
| Northern Territory government | 321,035 | 10.9% |
| Fees and charges | 380,582 | 12.9% |
| Other sources | 134,027 | 4.5% |
| Total | 2,951,266 | 100.0% |



Work Health and Safety

Key actions completed by staff

- First Aid Training
- Emergency Evacuation and Lock Down Procedures reviewed
- WHS Inductions for staff
- Staff attendance at CENT WHS Network meetings
- Covid -19 protocols maintained
- Regular audits and safety checks, including arborist reports presented twice yearly

SCHOOL REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT

Community Feedback

In 2021, the Wellbeing Survey Tools from Be You were used to gather information about wellbeing and to assist with future direction.

All families were invited to participate in the survey either by electronic or written format. Staff and students completed the survey at school. The number of results collected was:

Children's Survey - 152 responses

Educator survey - 13 responses

Family survey - 12 responses

The overall results were:



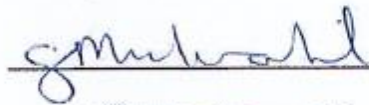
Future Improvement goals

In 2022, the school community will work with CENT to develop the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan and the next Master Plan.

ENDORSEMENT

This information in this report has been verified and the priorities endorsed by the Director of Catholic Education.

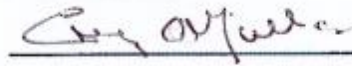
SIGNATORIES:



Mrs Gez Mulvahil (Principal)



Mr Mathew Cram (Board Chair)



Mr Greg O'Mullane
(Director, Catholic Education Northern Territory)