



2023

Annual School Report



Mary MacKillop
Memorial School

we care

The Australia Government requires each Australian school to provide an annual report to its community. This report is a requirement of the Australian Education Act 2019. Below is the 2023 Annual Performance Report for Mary MacKillop Memorial School.

School Context

Mary MacKillop Memorial School is situated in the South East of South Australia. It is a Reception to Year 6 co-educational school in Penola. In 2023 the enrolments are 74 students ranging from Reception to Year 6.

Mary MacKillop Memorial School has been serving the Penola and surrounding communities since 1866. Throughout its long tradition of outstanding educational practice, the mission of the school has been to provide an education of excellence and care, in an environment of shared partnership with families. Mary MacKillop Memorial School is accessible for all based on the philosophy of the Josephite Sisters - "In All Things Love".

Generations later the traditions and beliefs of the Josephite Sisters are still at the heart of our community. In addition, we are challenged to prepare our students for a rapidly changing and complex future.

The school's Vision and Mission Statement emphasises that Mary MacKillop Memorial School is a Catholic school conducted in the Josephite Tradition. Our school is centred in the Gospels: the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Sisters of St Joseph were founded in Penola and lived among the community, sharing daily life and responding to the needs of others. At Mary MacKillop Memorial School we respond to the call of others and 'Never see a need without doing something about it.' Our values emulate the life and work of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop where love, service, presence, courage and excellence are lived out in our words and actions.

Our Religious Education program complements and facilitates student led social justice activities which aim to form our children to become responsible global citizens and leaders for the world which God desires.

Staffing 2023

Reception/Year 1

Danielle Heazlewood

Year 2/3

Ashlee Fensom

Year 4/5

Alison Smith, Amy Boyd

Year 5/6

Sam Baxter, Alison Smith

The Arts

Music/Dance/Drama

Kaitlyn Lusty

Visual/Media Arts

Kaitlyn Lusty

Science

Kaitlyn Lusty

PE/Health

Kimmi Tincknell

SAKG Program

Jen Eckermann, Alison Smith

Early Learning Coordinator

Ashlee Fensom

Principal

Nicole Coote

Religious Education Coordinator

Nicole Coote

Leader of Learning

Sam Baxter

Finance Officer / Admin

Janice Coote

Education Support Officer / WHS/
Library

Jen Eckermann

Education Support Officer / Sport

Rachel Manninen

Education Support Officer

Kathy Dempsey
Jack Muhovics
Ebonie Moulton

IT Support

Ryan Agnew

School Counsellor

Dale Domleo

School Board 2023

President of School Board:

Fr Peter Zwanns

Principle:

Nicole Coote

Chair of Board:

Tom Pearce

Deputy Chair:

Glenn Tucker

Chair of Finance:

Leticia Gosse

Secretary:

Amanda Flint

School Representatives:

Sam Baxter

School Community Representatives:

Ashley Braun, Cath Kidman,
Tom Giles, Liz Rymill

Appointed Member:

Sr Lorteto O'Connor

SCHOOL FEATURES

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| School ICSEA (Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage) | 1026 |
| School Type | Catholic |
| Year Range | Reception - Year 6 |
| Student Enrolments | 74 Students |
| Student Numbers by Year Level | (August 2023) |

| | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|---------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Numbers | 7 | 8 | 5 | 17 | 10 | 17 | 9 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Percentage of Indigenous enrolments | 3% |
| Percentage of Language background other than English | 1% |
| Percentage of students with disabilities | 26% |

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The average student attendance per year level in 2023.

| Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 86.2 | 90.4 | 83.6 | 91.2 | 87.5 | 88.8 | 90.5 |

As a school, we monitor the attendance of children daily. It is discussed with families at enrolment and also families are reminded regularly throughout the year via the newsletter. Where students are away regularly or for lengthy periods, teachers contact parents and carers to discuss the issue. Where significant absences are observed, families are asked to meet with the Principal. Occasionally we have some children who require significant monitoring and with these children we always call the families if they do not arrive at school.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

NAPLAN Results

In March Year 3 and 5 students participated in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy Tests. (NAPLAN Online) The aim of these tests is to provide information that adds to the comprehensive picture of student achievement that is developed by teachers using a broad range of assessment tools throughout the year. It also helps to track trends in learning so that we can identify areas where children are being successful and where teachers need to focus on more closely in the future. Our students and teachers are to be congratulated on the results of the 2023 NAPLAN tests.

At MMMS staff spend time analysing these results along with PAT (Progressive Assessment Tests) testing, classroom assessments, using rubrics and observations to inform their teaching and learning. Our practice is very much individualised for each student so that they have the opportunity to flourish. However, it is very pleasing to see the continued trend of being above the average mean score when compared with the mean score of Australian schools in the majority of areas. The analysis also helps us to identify the areas that require growth for our students and the areas that we need to focus on to build teachers capacity. Our focus remains on Literacy, particularly in the area of writing. Professional training for teachers in 2023, LEAP Levels, gave teachers and ESOs a further insight into teaching the mechanics of writing to students.

| Year Level | Reading | Writing | Spelling | Grammar | Numeracy |
|---------------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Yr 3 MMMS | 423 | 408 | 410 | 427 | 432 |
| Yr 3 National | 404 | 417 | 404 | 409 | 407 |
| Yr 5 MMMS | 517 | 430 | 484 | 498 | 510 |
| Yr 5 National | 496 | 483 | 490 | 496 | 488 |

Year 3

| School Mean Scores - Proficiency Standards | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------|-------|-------------------|------|--------|
| Component | Mean Score | | | Proficiency Level | | |
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Reading | - | - | 423.4 | - | - | Strong |
| Writing | - | - | 408.2 | - | - | Strong |
| Spelling | - | - | 409.9 | - | - | Strong |
| Grammar and Punctuation | - | - | 427.4 | - | - | Strong |
| Numeracy | - | - | 432.3 | - | - | Strong |

Year 5

| School Mean Scores - Proficiency Standards | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------|-------|-------------------|------|------------|
| Component | Mean Score | | | Proficiency Level | | |
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Reading | - | - | 517.3 | - | - | Strong |
| Writing | - | - | 430.4 | - | - | Developing |
| Spelling | - | - | 483.7 | - | - | Strong |
| Grammar and Punctuation | - | - | 497.5 | - | - | Strong |
| Numeracy | - | - | 509.8 | - | - | Strong |

Phonics Screening Check

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is conducted once a year in line with the Department for Education schedule (DfE). The PSC is provided through a non-exclusive licence with DfE.

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check (PSC) was mandated for all Diocesan Schools in 2021. Phonics is understood to be an integral part of reading, spelling and writing.

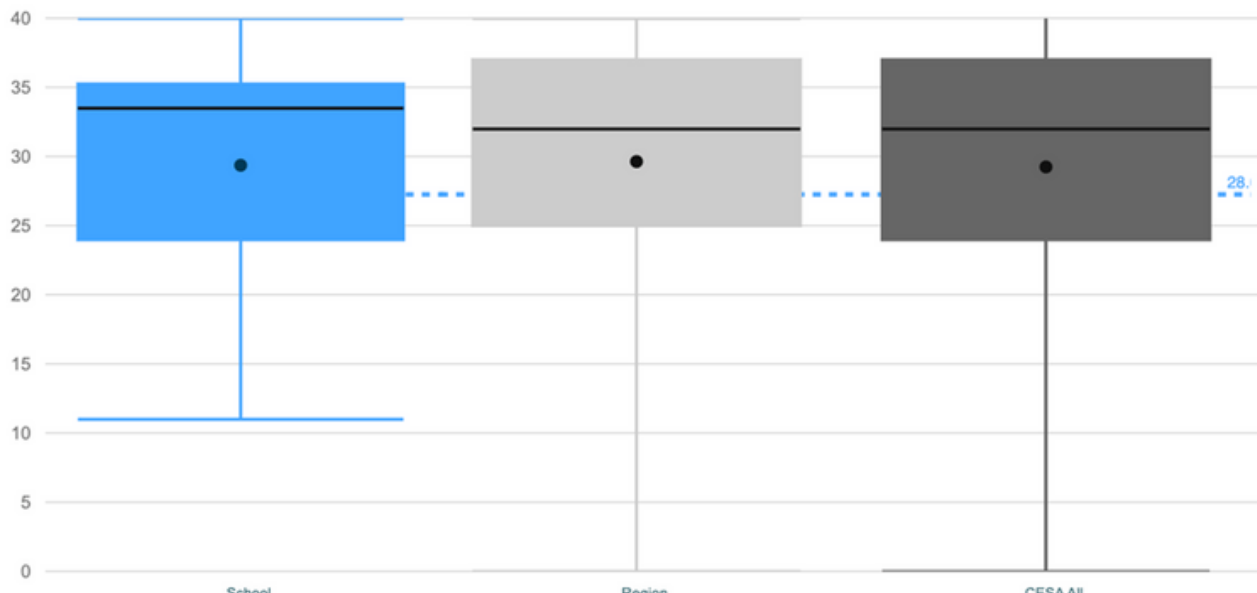
The PSC was implemented to provide an assessment which could confirm if children are developing the phonic knowledge they need to be successful as readers, writers and spellers.

The PSC was implemented to provide an assessment which could confirm if children are developing the phonic knowledge they need to be successful as readers, writers and spellers.

Analysis

The most valuable use of the Phonics Screening Check results are at the classroom level. The expected achievement level of 28 out of 40 items provides teachers with a sense of what is reasonable to expect for Year 1 children, given the time of the year and the requirements of the Australian Curriculum. The score is an indication of what a child might achieve if their phonics learning is progressing as expected.

| | School | Region | CESA |
|---|--------|--------|-------|
| Average Score (out of 40) | 29.4 | 29.6 | 29.3 |
| % of students above the expected achievement score of 28 correct response out of 40 | 62.5% | 66.5% | 64.1% |



POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

At the end of 2023, 8 Year 6 students transitioned to Tenison Woods College, Mount Gambier. One student transitioned to St Martin’s Lutheran School, Mount Gambier.

STAFF PROFILE

Workforce Composition

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of staff who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Staff Islander | 0 |
|---|---|

Teaching Staff

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Number of staff | 8 |
| Full time Equivalent | 6.2 |

Non-teaching staff

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Number of staff | 6 |
| Full time Equivalent | 3.7 |

In addition, all staff are required to complete mandatory Responding to Abuse and Neglect training and hold a current First Aid certificate. All teachers are registered with the South Australian Teachers Registration Board.

One teacher is currently enrolled in their Graduate Certificate in Catholic Studies.

Teacher Qualifications

| Masters | Bachelor Degree | Graduate Certificate | Diploma |
|---------|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| 10% | 90% | 33.3% | 0% |

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

In 2023 we promoted reflective, collaborative and collegiate practice, under the umbrella of our strategic planning for 2021-2024 – Future Directions and Priorities of Mary MacKillop Memorial School. This focus was closely aligned with the CESA Living, Learning, Leading Framework and Standards.

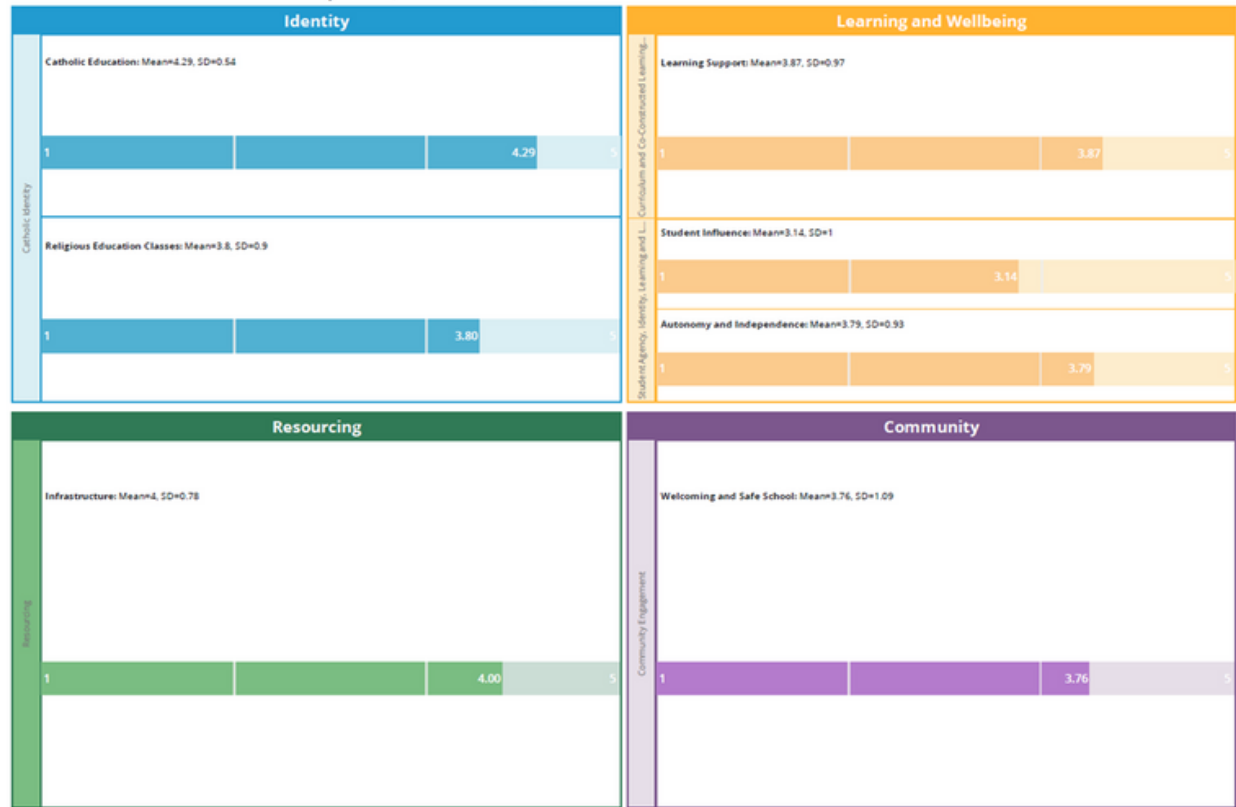
- The focus of professional learning days included Literacy – with a focus on writing, Life Buoyancy Institute – Resilient Impact Training (wellbeing) and Blueprint for Step Change – Clarity work with Lyn Sharratt.
-
- Professional Learning undertaken by staff included:
 - Salt Learning Manager
 - First Aid – Senior and CPR refresher
 - Life Buoyancy Institute – Resilient Impact Training
 - LEAP Levels Training – Writing and Grammar
 - Clarity – Lyn Sharratt
 - Key Capabilities – LLL Framework
 - Crossways (Religious Education Curriculum)
 - SEQTA (learning management system)
 - Student Dashboard
 - Learner Achievement and Progress System - LAPS
 - Faith and Spiritual Formation
 - Retreat Day
 - MITIOG
 - NCCD
 - Literacy Cluster Group
 - SACPPA
 - Leader of Learning
 - Leader’s Forum

STUDENT, PARENT AND TEACHER ENGAGEMENT

In 2023 Mary MacKillop Memorial School engaged in the Living Learning Leading surveys where stakeholders of the school were asked to complete a number of questions. Results of the surveys is below.

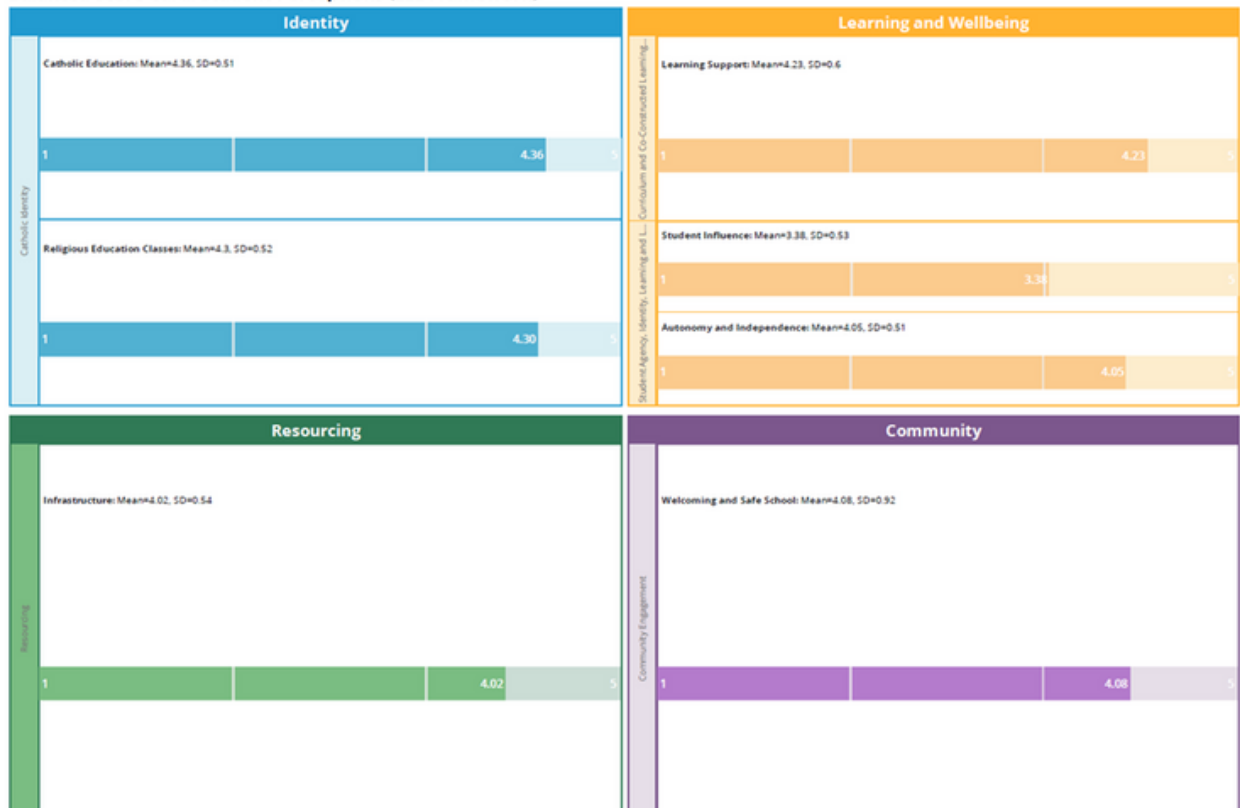
Year 2 - 4

Balanced Score Card: Student Perceptions (LLL Framework)



Year 5 - 6

Balanced Score Card: Student Perceptions (LLL Framework)



What the children are saying:

Generally, students are satisfied with their connection to school, the attention to their wellbeing, the support that they receive for learning and the feeling of being a part of a welcoming and safe community.

When analysing the results, it is important to celebrate what we are doing well, and to look at areas of growth. When any scale score is above three it is an area of strength for our school. All areas were above three.

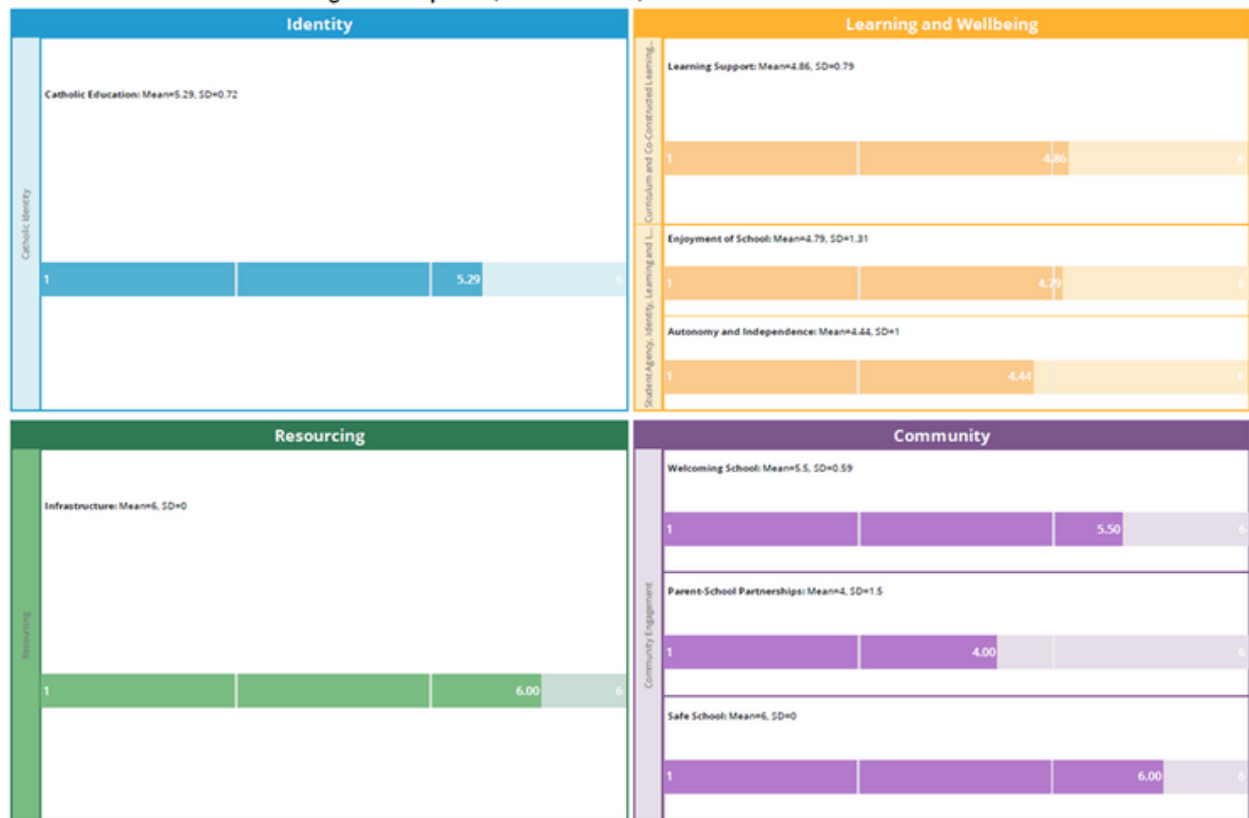
Learning and Wellbeing (orange) - Curriculum and co-constructed learning design - learning support. The extent to which students feel that their teachers support their learning is an area of strength for Mary MacKillop Memorial School, along with autonomy and independence. Community - welcoming and safe school - The extent to which students feel that the culture of the school is welcoming and that they are safe when they are at school is also a strength.

Learning and Wellbeing - Student agency, Identity, Learning and Leadership - Student influence. The extent to which students feel that there are opportunities for them to have a voice, choice, propensity to take action to influence and direct their own learning and assessment is an area of growth for Mary MacKillop Memorial School. As we continue to engage in professional learning through the Clarity Learning Suite this will provide deeper insights of how teachers are able to bring student agency and influence into their own learning and assessment in an authentic and rigorous manner.

What the parents are saying:

Only eight families completed the survey, which is below the average response rate of 30%. Any response collectively above four is deemed a very satisfied response. The results are a reflection that our school climate is above the norm.

Balanced Score Card: Parent & Caregiver Perceptions (LLL Framework)



What the staff are saying:

Once again with a very small cohort of staff completing the survey it is not viable to make generalisations. When delving deeper into the data staff see community as a strength for our school and student agency as an area of growth in the future.

Balanced Score Card: Teacher & Leadership Perceptions (LLL Framework)



FINANCE

School Income by funding source

Recurrent Income

Federal Government Grants

State Government Grants

\$1,114,437.00

School Fees

\$333,951.00

Other Income

\$106,798.00

(includes School Card, resource changes, interest income, donations for recurrent purposes, long service leave, staff allowances and rebates and reimbursements for costs paid by the school)

\$187,076.94

TOTAL \$1,742,262.94

2023 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

During 2020, the school engaged in a self-assessment process that led to development of a School Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024. The School Improvement Plan for 2023 is based on the domains specified in the Continuous Improvement Framework for Catholic Schools and the Living Learning Leading Framework Standards, Balanced Score Card.

Self-assessment Process

Our school uses the Living Learning Leading Standard document provided by Catholic Education South Australia to self-assess and improve its performance. We also use the Continuous Improvement Framework to support our Annual Improvement Planning. These documents are part of a system-wide strategy to promote a culture and practice of continuous improvement in Catholic schools that has the students at its centre.

The Living Learning Leading Standard is organised into four domains which each Catholic school in SA uses to measure ourselves against and aspire to be ‘Excelling’ in each area:

- Catholic Identity
- Curriculum and co-constructed learning and assessment design
- Student agency, identity, learning and leadership
- Community Engagement

Each domain has a number of elements that describe its scope. Each element has a set of indicators of effectiveness. The Framework is organised into nine ‘aspirational’ domains which describe the characteristics of high performing, high quality schools.

These domains include:

- Catholic Identity
- Focussed Vision and Goals
- Strong Leadership
- High Expectations of All
- High Quality Teaching and Learning
- Effective Use of Data
- Orderly and Safe Learning Environments
- Strong Home/School/Community Engagement
- Effective Administration and Resourcing

Each domain has a number of elements that describe its scope. Each element has a set of indicators of effectiveness.

2020 - 2024 School Strategic Plan

- Please see Appendix A

2023 School Improvement Plan

- Please see Appendix B

Progress towards achievement of 2023 goals

- Faith Formation for all staff, and confidence in planning using Crossways
- Collaboration across three South-East Schools in developing assessment and moderation knowledge
- Engagement with Mission Australia to support families

Chairperson's Report

This year, with various educator movements we saw several positions become available at the school. It was great to see so many quality applicants for the positions. One thing that stood out for me with each applicant was the passion and love they have for teaching and sharing with our children and how they recognised just how important their role is in shaping the foundation of a child's education and life experience and how it was not to be taken for granted.

Just how highly they all thought of the school also came across strongly and I am, as you all should be, immensely proud of the culture created overtime within the school that draws such quality people to it. A massive part of this is due to the great teaching staff and the administration. So on behalf of the greater school community, I thank you all very much.

I would also like to thank all the staff of MMMS for providing our children with such a safe, fun, and respectful learning environment. One thing I am particularly proud of is the empathy and care our children show for each other. Principal Nicole Coote, again, has driven to school through another great year. We have been fortunate to have had great principals at Mary MacKillop Memorial School, but Nicole has taken it a step further with her passion for education and drive to make the school the success it is today.

And as always, a special thanks to Janice Coote for all her work with the school finances and everything else she does.

We were treated to the cultural feast that is the school musical, one of my favourite school events. What a wonderful production of Peter Pan and fantastic to see every single child of the school play a part. Thank you to Kaitlyn Lusty and her production team for putting in a massive effort to deliver to us such a magnificent performance to a sellout crowd over several nights.

Thank you to the school board for all your time and efforts over the past year. Everyone is busy and getting busier it seems, your willingness to serve on the board is greatly appreciated.

Again, thanks to Squish and her band of helpers with organising the quiz night. A hall packed and everyone having a great time with many looking to coming back for next year is a sure sign of a successful night.

The school board is a great way to get involved with the school, we will have positions available, so please consider putting your hand up.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our year sixes on completing their primary education journey and wish them all the best with their futures. I know they will go with kindness, empathy, honesty and care, all hall marks of a Mary MacKillop Memorial School education.

Tom Pearce
CHAIRPERSON SCHOOL BOARD

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Annual General Meeting 2023

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.

It gives me great pleasure to present the School Board Annual General Meeting Principal's Report for the 2023 school year. I undertake responsibility to lead a school community and I am committed to ongoing success. This report is one that is built from a deep sense of pride and gratitude for all that has been accomplished in 2023.

2023 Commitment:

This year our school committed to being innovative and to build our practices in the following domains:

1 Catholic Identity

2 High Expectations

3 Excellence in achievement

4 Innovative learning spaces

5 Curriculum and co-constructed learning and assessment design

6 Student agency

Catholic Identity

The Catholic Identity of our school continues to be nurtured by staff and students and in a range of ways. As we were unable to appoint a Religious Education Coordinator in 2023, I took on this role as religious leader. In this capacity I led the community throughout the year in religious celebrations such as; St Joseph Feast Day, Lent, Project Compassion, Holy Week, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day, Founders Week and Advent to name a few. Our community raised money to go towards Project Compassion through Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day and money and goods from the St Vinnies Winter Appeal. We donated funds to Mary MacKillop Today, who support organisations in Timor-Leste and the community generously donated to the Giving Tree, which aided those in our region.

We celebrated what it means to be involved in Catholic Education in South Australia during Catholic Education Week and throughout the year all staff and students were involved in learning and deepening their scriptural and spiritual knowledge through prayer. Classes visited the Mary MacKillop Interpretative Centre and engaged with other Catholic Schools in the South-East to spread our knowledge of Australia's first saint.

Our student's faith was further enhanced through Class Masses and Liturgies, including whole school Liturgies and Masses for Feast Days and other celebrations. The Sacramental Program concluded with 21 children celebrating Confirmation and First Holy Communion. A number of these children then went on to be trained, under the guidance of Fr Olek, Fr Peter and Sam Baxter, to be altar servers.

Early Learning

Our school continues to play an important role in the community providing an Early Years program, consisting of Occasional Care (3-5 year old program) and Playgroup. In 2023 Occasional Care was facilitated by Ashlee Fensom, where numbers remained consistent throughout the year with 4 - 5 children attending. SPiCE (Supported Playgroup in Catholic Education) Playgroup is a platform that provided opportunities for families to engage with our school. In 2023 it was run on a Friday morning from 9.30 - 11 for any families with children aged between 0 - 5 years. Kathy Dempsey capably led our Playgroup, with strong attendance on a regular basis.

In Term 4 we offered a comprehensive transition program for those children starting school in 2024, titled Joey's Jumpstart. The extended transition was very well received by parents and children and assisted in new students feeling comfortable in their environment, with the educators and with other students.

Community

2023 was full of a variety of opportunities for our community to come together. We held a very successful Gather and Grow Afternoon and Information Sessions presented by each classroom teacher. A fantastic Quiz Night was enjoyed by many, along with Christmas Carols and BBQ, Mother's Day and Grandparents and Special Friends afternoons, Ladies Dinner Night, Father's Day breakfast, Seesaw Parent Information Workshop, a parent presentation by Professor Kurt Lushington around Screen Time to Dream Time, along with The Arts Festival, Remembrance Day, Anzac Day and the Acoustic Music Festival, to name a few. Being a part of the community is an important part of our Strategic Planning.

A successful whole school Musical was held in 2023- Peter Pan captivated the community, with exceptional dramatic acting, engaging choreography, and harmonious singing by all students, capably directed by our Arts teacher, Miss Kaitlyn Lusty and the staff of Mary MacKillop Memorial School. We held two matinees and two evening performances, all of which were well attended by other schools, community members and parishioners. The event continues to be an enormously positive experience for all students, building on a number of capabilities. It also provides the platform to showcase our school to the wider community.

In 2023 the MacKillop Markets operated at the Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival. This enterprise consisted of selling produce from our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden that was surplus, along with all students making items to sell. The market provided students in Year 4/5/6 to investigate how to run a business and encompassed many new skills, such as; advertising, pricing, picking and displaying and selling.

While we no longer run a Parent Club, the opportunity for community collegiality is great and the feeling of belonging remains strong. The Just One Thing letter continued to assist in coordinating families to help out in a number of ways.

Extra-Curricular Activities and Learning

In 2023 camps were a highlight with the Year 2/3 class visiting the Naracoorte Caves for a one-night camp. The R/1 class enjoyed their excursion to Millicent, engaging in a number of experiences. The Year 4/5 two-night camp ventured to the Grampians, a very different experience than the usual Robe destination. The Grampians provided a unique experience for all students. Our Year 6 group joined St Anthony's Catholic Primary School in Millicent for an action-packed camp in Adelaide.

Students had the opportunity to engage in Sporting School programs throughout the year. These sports included soccer, basketball, swimming and surf lifesaving. They also engaged in clinics run by different sporting agencies.

Student Leadership

Student leadership is an integral part of the culture at Mary MacKillop Memorial School. The key components are service, community outreach and personal development. Key student leadership groups are; School Captains, House Captains, Choir Leaders, Student Representative Council members and Young Environmental Group leaders, who lead initiatives in sustainability in our school.

Inclusivity

Our school is a place of authentic inclusivity, catering to the best of its ability for students with specific needs. In 2023, students were supported by Personalised Plan for Learning (PPL) and Individualised Learning Plans (ILP). Programs and support provided by the school's own resources and other funding through the NCCD (National Consistent Collection of Data) aided all students to achieve their goals. All students set their learning goals, in consultation with their classroom teacher each semester and revisited these goals regularly. Their goals were communicated to parents during Learning Conversations in Term One.

Wellbeing

Throughout 2023 wellbeing continued to be a focus for our school community. In 2023 we employed a School Counsellor for one day a fortnight. Dale Domleo, Kaitlyn Lusty as Inclusive Education and Wellbeing Coordinator, and I as Principal, formed the 'Wellbeing Team' and we worked closely to support the wellbeing needs of all students. R U OK?, Bullying No Way! And Harmony Day featured strongly in our school and student leaders were engaged to lead a variety of activities to highlight these important days and their educational message.

We further developed our strategies to assist students in wellbeing, using the What-What-How tools from the Life Buoyancy Institute and learning to develop intentional growth action plans as well as strengthening the Kimochis program with our younger students. This work took us deeper into looking below the surface of each child and their complexities to cater for their needs emotionally, fostering positive wellbeing.

All staff who had not been trained in Resilient Impact undertook this training with the Life Buoyancy Institute, while other staff were further trained in developing growth action plans and making deeper connections with students, particularly those identified as vulnerable. Strategies and practices were effectively implemented and utilised by staff to support the needs of all children. We worked closely as a staff with the Life Buoyancy Institute to reflect and review our Personal Responsibility Policy so that it aligned with Resilient Impact language and actions. Completing our new policy at the conclusion of 2023.

Pedagogies and Practices: Professional Learning

Staff remain committed to providing meaningful and excellent learning opportunities for all students with a focus on student agency and co-constructed learning. All staff accessed professional learning opportunities and looked to build on their professional practices, referring to the ATSIL standards, the Living Learning Leading Standards and the Clarity Learning Suite. A culture of being innovative and change agents has been lived out by all staff throughout the year.

Seesaw became a tool where students and teachers were able to communicate their learning regularly, with a focus on providing timely communication to parents of their child's learning progress.

Staffing and School Resources

In 2023 we welcomed Ashlee Fensom to Mary MacKillop Memorial School. Ashlee took on the role of Yr 2/3 class teacher and Occasional Care educator with a focus on the Early Years. We acknowledged and farewelled Kathy O'Connell and her dedication and commitment to Mary MacKillop Memorial School as she resigned (retired) at the end of 2023.

Student numbers decreased in 2023 to 74. We maintained four classes in 2023 which continued our flexibility to provide greater learning opportunities for our students as learning needs were spread over four classes. Financially, the school is well poised for ongoing success. In 2023 we began our engagement with enrolment and marketing company Eddee School Engagement Services. This service assisted us to adapt to the unique qualities and circumstances of our school and actively promote our school positively in the community. The intent of this work is to grow our school.

School resources continue to be monitored and new resources purchased as required. A cyclic plan for continual upgrading of Laptops and I pads has continued with further purchasing building towards a one device for each student in the near future.

I wish to thank the active and committed members of Mary MacKillop Memorial School Board, including Fr Peter, Sr Loreto, and the excellent and dedicated staff. Both groups have devoted their time and passion to the mission, vision and values of the school. It is a privilege to lead a vibrant school community with the support of the Board, staff, families and students.

To the school board, Tom Pearce our chairperson, thank you for your commitment, careful deliberations and vision for our school. Thank you to all school board members for your support of the future for Mary MacKillop Memorial School.

Being a part of an inclusive and caring community that aspires to provide the best opportunities for our children to succeed is a very rewarding aspect of this role. Witnessing the growth in our children and staff this year only serves to further motivate me to continue to build on our vision and be proud to lead a Christ-centred, child-focused Catholic School at Mary Mac. There are many exciting times ahead and I am grateful for the chance to be involved. I continue to be inspired by our founder St Mary of the Cross MacKillop and look forward to all striving to thrive and flourish in 2024.

Nicole Coote
PRINCIPAL