



ST DENIS SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT
2023



SCHOOL CONTEXT

St Denis School is a Catholic primary school in the Joondanna Parish in Western Australia with a current enrolment of 250 students spanning from Pre-Kindy through Year 6. Established in 1951 by the Servite Friars and the Sisters of Mercy, our school embodies a rich tradition of fostering an environment that integrates love, truth, and learning.

Our commitment to providing a holistic educational experience is reflected in our developmental learning approach, Catholic ethos, wellbeing programs, and inclusive philosophy. The integrated curriculum covers all learning areas, placing a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy as foundational pillars of academic excellence

To further enhance our students' educational journey, we have recently adopted Auslan as our Languages subject and implemented weekly Lighthouse Maths sessions, aiming to extend their problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Complementing our academic focus, our school proudly offers a range of wraparound student support services and an Outside School Hours Care program, addressing the diverse needs of our families.

Situated within a vibrant community, St Denis School ensures that learning extends beyond the classroom. Our students actively engage in a variety of enriching extra-curricular activities and community events, contributing to an overall enhanced school experience. A notable example is our Year 5 students and their families attending a Making Jesus Real Surf Camp, which not only aligns with the Health and Physical Education Curriculum but also integrates seamlessly with the Religious Education learning area. We take pride in celebrating the diverse cultures, skills, and talents of our students, fostering a sense of community pride and inclusivity within our school's dynamic environment.

At St Denis, we are dedicated to nurturing each student to reach their full potential and shaping confident individuals with a strong foundation in Catholic values.

About Us



TEACHER STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

All teaching staff are registered with the Teachers Registration Board (TRB).

- 3 Masters of Education
- 9 Bachelor of Education
- 3 Graduate Diploma in Education

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

The composition of staff consisted of 28 females and 3 males.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Teaching Staff (full-time) | 9 |
| Teaching Staff (part-time) | 7 |
| Education Assistants (full-time) | 2 |
| Education Assistants (part-time) | 9 |
| Office Administration (part-time) | 2 |
| Bursar (0.8) | 1 |
| Social Worker (0.2) | 1 |
| Indigenous staff member | 1 |

Student Attendance

Average attendance rate for PP – Year 6 students is 92%

| YEAR LEVEL | ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| KINDY | 92% |
| PRE-PRIMARY | 91% |
| YEAR 1 | 92% |
| YEAR 2 | 92% |
| YEAR 3 | 93% |
| YEAR 4 | 92% |
| YEAR 5 | 91% |
| YEAR 6 | 91% |

Parents are required to inform the school if their child is absent on a particular day.

Student attendance is recorded in SEQTA. Unexplained absences are followed up by text messages and phone calls to parents from the office by 9.30am daily.

Non-attendance is managed by staff who request parents to bring in a written absentee note.



Student Results in NAPLAN

NAPLAN RESULTS SUMMARY 2023

| TOPIC | YEAR 3 | YEAR 5 |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| SPELLING | School Mean: 399 All Australian School Mean: 411 | School Mean: 486 All Australian School Mean: 489 |
| GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION | School Mean: 392 All Australian School Mean: 404 | School Mean: 499 All Australian School Mean: 497 |
| WRITING | School Mean: 406 All Australian School Mean: 416 | School Mean: 504 All Australian School Mean: 483 |
| READING | School Mean: 382 All Australian School Mean: 405 | School Mean: 508 All Australian School Mean: 496 |
| NUMERACY | School Mean: 402 All Australian School Mean: 407 | School Mean: 488 All Australian School Mean: 488 |

Satisfaction with the school

During the 2023 school year parent satisfaction has been of a very high level. Parent feedback from P&F meetings, social events, parent teacher interviews and the parent climate survey is largely positive. Families have indicated satisfaction of pastoral care, educational and support programs offered by the school.

At parent sibling interviews for 2023 many parents mentioned that they are made to feel welcome and that all staff are very personable, going above and beyond.

Parent feedback indicates that they are appreciative of with the high number of extra-curricular activities offered by a single stream school. They are also impressed with the generosity of the staff giving of their own time to provide these activities for the students in their care.

In addition, P&F events are well attended which indicates evidence of the school having a strong sense of connectedness to the school community.

Student satisfaction is gauged on student attendance, engagement and participation in the school. The students are always positive and engaged in activities within the school.



Post School Destinations

| SCHOOL | NUMBER OF STUDENTS |
|--|--------------------|
| Applecross Senior High School | 1 |
| Aquinas College | 2 |
| Aranmore Catholic College | 2 |
| Bob Hawke College | 3 |
| Ellenbrook Christian College | 1 |
| John Septimus Roe Anglican Community College | 1 |
| Mercedes College | 2 |
| Mount Lawley Senior High School | 2 |
| Newman College | 3 |
| Servite College | 9 |
| Trinity College | 2 |
| Warwick Senior High School | 1 |

School income broken down by funding source

Information on this aspect can be found on the My School Website: www.myschool.edu.au

Annual School Improvement Plan 2023 – Success Measures

Our Annual School Improvement Plan for 2023 had several smart goals across Learning, Engagement, Accountability and Discipleship. These goals together with our Strategic Plan provided great direction for us throughout the year.

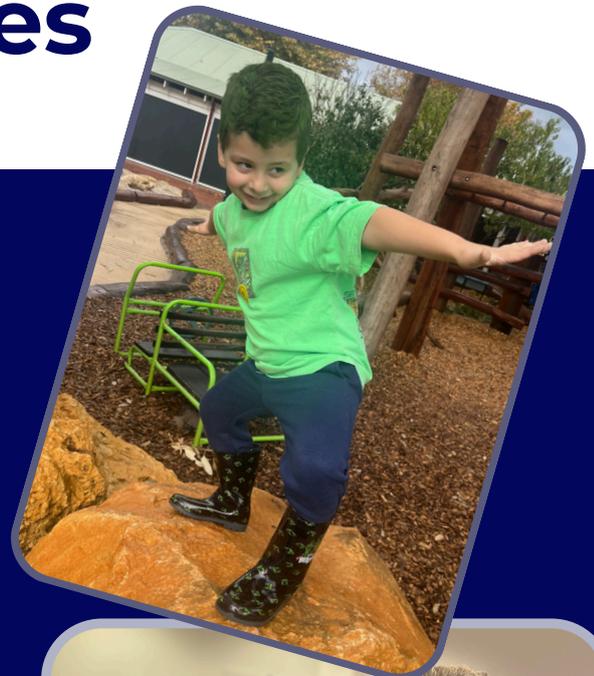
Goal 1: Creating meaningful opportunities for staff to participate in prayer – staff professional learning meetings helped staff engaged in prayer, staff roster created, staff involvement high.

Goal 2: Measuring and analysing student growth in numeracy – staff undertook PD, PLC were dedicated to looking at NAPLAN & PAT data, lighthouse maths was embedded in the classes.

Goal 3: Establish and implement a Mental Health and Wellness Plan for Student (to be further developed following meeting with CEWA Well-being consultant) – UrStrong, Berry Street Educational Model investigated, Pastoral Care committee.

Goal 4: ECE Position Statement about the pedagogy of play: Consistent approach across the early years, PLC dedicated to the process

Goal 5: Streamline effective feedback, assessment and communication through Seesaw – messaging to parents, clear process for staff, staff PD.





School Community Report

Chairman's Report delivered by Chris Gooch.

Good evening and welcome to St Denis' 2023 Annual Community Meeting.

My name is Chris Gooch and it is a privilege to present an overview of the activities of the Advisory Council during the 2023 year.

Firstly, I would like to introduce the 2021 Council members. They are:

- Maria Di Martino (Vice Chair)
- Anne Paterson (Secretary)
- Matthew Baginski (Treasurer)
- Neil Wyatt
- Danielle Muto
- Kim McAullay
- Nicola Pullella
- Chris Gooch (Chair)

Ex-Officio members:

- Justin Tuohy (Principal)
- Parish Priest: Fr Anthony

Other invited members:

- Casey Bakunowicz (Assistant Principal)
- Eugene Potito (Assistant Principal)
- Bobbie Shearing (Finance Officer)

I would like to personally thank all the 2023 council members for their time and dedication throughout the year. I know Mr Tuohy appreciates all the work and guidance you each provide him.

We welcomed Neil & Danielle as new members this year & also farewell and thank Anne for all her hard work over a 5-year period.

Role of the School Advisory Council:

- Advisory role.
- Support the principal with various skills or knowledge.
- Contribute to strategic planning and monitoring
- Oversight of the school finances (Finance sub-committee)
- Principal is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the school



Catholic School Advisory Council - Terms of Reference

This role is made so much easier by a great school community, strong enrolments and amazing leadership.

Some key achievements/highlights supported by the Advisory Council in 2023 were:

- 2024 Annual School Budget review/endorsement.
- External audit, which encompassed all aspects of the school's operation

The SAC was able to help the school plan and achieve some exciting work:

- new sport storerooms
- increasing visibility of the playground area
- new gardener's shed.

2024 PLANNING

- School solar power study
- Strategic Plan review
- Budgeting for Library re-roofing
- Stage 2 of Kindy playground



On behalf of the St Denis Advisory Council members, we would like to say thank you to:

- Mr Justin Tuohy
- Assistant Principals
- St Denis Staff
- P&F Committee & Class representatives
- Parents and guardians - supporting so many varied school activities, all of which contribute to what make the St Denis community so strong and enjoyable
- All the families leaving St Denis – good luck with the next step in their education journey
- St Denis Parish and Fr Anthony

The school going forward is in a strong position with student numbers again up on previous years.

On behalf of the Advisory Council members, we thank you for attending tonight and wish the school community a safe and happy Christmas break and look forward to the much-loved end of year Christmas concert.

Thank you.

Chris Gooch
Board Chair