



ST DENIS SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT
2024



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 teach Auslan as our Languages subject and continue to implement 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. 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)	7
Office Administration (part-time)	2
Bursar (0.8)	1
Social Worker (0.3)	1
Indigenous staff member	1

Student Attendance

Average attendance rate for PP – Year 6 students is 93%

YEAR LEVEL	ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE
KINDY	91%
PRE-PRIMARY	93%
YEAR 1	93%
YEAR 2	95%
YEAR 3	91%
YEAR 4	92%
YEAR 5	93%
YEAR 6	92%

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 2024

TOPIC	YEAR 3	YEAR 5
SPELLING	School Mean: 423 All Australian School Mean: 401	School Mean: 499 All Australian School Mean: 486
GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION	School Mean: 433 All Australian School Mean: 409	School Mean: 520 All Australian School Mean: 498
WRITING	School Mean: 437 All Australian School Mean: 416	School Mean: 482 All Australian School Mean: 485
READING	School Mean: 430 All Australian School Mean: 404	School Mean: 497 All Australian School Mean: 492
NUMERACY	School Mean: 439 All Australian School Mean: 404	School Mean: 504 All Australian School Mean: 489

Satisfaction with the school

During the 2024 school year parent satisfaction has been of a very high level. Parent feedback from P&F meetings, social events and parent teacher interviews is largely positive. Families have indicated satisfaction of pastoral care, educational and support programs offered by the school.

At parent sibling interviews for 2024 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. In addition, data collected through the UR Strong program highlights that students not only have a solid understanding of how to build and maintain healthy friendships but are also experiencing positive social interactions throughout the school.



Post School Destinations

SCHOOL	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
Aquinas College	1
Aranmore Catholic College	1
Bob Hawke College	4
Carine Senior High School	1
Churchlands Senior High School	1
Mercedes College	3
Mount Lawley Senior High School	1
Servite College	14

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 2024 – Success Measures



Our Annual School Improvement Plan for 2024 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.

GOALS	PROGRESS	FUTURE FOCUS
Identify the school's charisms and create a school prayer, both grounded in the Mercy traditions and Making Jesus Real (MJR) values.	Staff participated in professional learning focused on Charism exploration, facilitated by CEWA	Engage in targeted professional learning to deepen staff understanding. Host community workshops with students, staff, parents, and alumni to review and update the school's vision, mission, and values.
Increase student growth in Mathematics by implementing targeted teaching strategies and regularly monitoring progress to ensure improved outcomes.	Updated Numeracy Position Statement Implemented Lighthouse Maths (Kindy-Year 6)	Strengthen planning practices using the Lighthouse framework and data analysis to improve student outcomes.
Build and document students' oral language development through rich storytelling and play-based learning experiences, fostering strong communication skills and a love for language.	Staff participated in professional learning facilitated by CEWA to improve understanding and knowledge.	Continue professional development and collaborative planning through Professional Learning Community meetings.
Implement practices that prioritise staff and student wellbeing while developing staff capacity to effectively support students in all aspects of their learning and development.	Completed Berry Street Education Model training (Day 1 and 2) Implemented whole school strategies from Day 1 and 2.	Continued professional learning and opportunities for dedicated planning through Professional Community meetings - analysis URSTRONG data and map trends over time - complete Berry Street Education Model training
Upgrade the Early Years outdoor learning environment to align with the National Quality Standard, ensuring it supports safety, engagement, and holistic development for all children.	Developed an initial play space plan incorporating student voice to ensure the design reflects their needs and interests. Engaged a range of stakeholders in the design process to create a shared vision for the future play space.	Finalise construction of the new inclusive playground to enhance student engagement and play.
Develop and implement an iPad leasing program for students commencing in Year 4 to support equitable access to digital learning and enhance engagement with the curriculum.	We have successfully implemented the structure and processes required to manage and maintain a three-year iPad leasing program. The program is now embedded into our Year 4 entry, with a rotating cycle that ensures each new cohort receives a school-managed device, supporting continuity in digital learning through to Year 6.	Implement a school-managed iPad leasing program for Year 4 students, enabling consistent MDM control and equitable access to digital learning tools over a three-year period (Years 4-6).



School Community Report

Chairman's Report delivered by Chris Gooch.

The School Advisory Council (SAC) would like to thank all the parents, guardians, carers, and grandparents for participating and supporting so many varied school activities, all of which contribute to what make the St Denis community so strong and enjoyable.

The role of the SAC is to support the Principal and contribute to strategic planning and monitoring. This role is made so much easier by a great school community, strong enrolments and amazing leadership support from Mr Potito and Ms Bakunowicz. Thanks to Bobbie Shearing as Financial Officer, who worked closely with Matt Baginski as treasurer to oversee another strong financial year for the school. In addition to helping support a strong financial overview, the SAC was able to help the school plan and programme school building and maintenance works, to ensure the schools facilities continue to improve.

We welcomed a new member this year, Stephanie O'Donnell and we would also like to thank our departing members Maria Di Martino & Nicola Pullela for their significant contribution to the advisory council over a number of years. We would also like to thank the P&F for another amazing year, with the colour run a standout highlight for the kids and an incredible show of fundraising support for MND.

Congratulations to Justin who started his next chapter as a principal at St Peter's Primary School. Justin will be missed by all, and we thank Justin for his amazing leadership which was instrumental in continuing to see St Denis build on its strong history and be a school the whole community is proud of. We look forward to welcoming our new principal for Mrs Sarah Potts when she returns to St Denis in 2025.

To all the families leaving St Denis, we wish you all the very best for the next step in your child's education journey. We look forward to welcoming the new faces starting in the next school year. We wish you a safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

Chris Gooch
School Advisory Council Chair

