

Santa Clara School, St James

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 24 November 2020

Principal Report



I wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Whadjuk (Perth region) people. I wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

As part of our school's accountability, each year we are required to provide our community with a report on our school's year as well as our plans for the future. To ensure that we stick to our time frame and purpose of this meeting, should you want to discuss things further please make a time to see me at a later date.

The 2020 school year has once again been a time of excitement at Santa Clara School, St James. There is no doubt that the words of Saint Claire, our patroness, set the foundation for who we are as a community. It is in this spirit of acting with love that shapes who we will become, and the love that exists in this community is abundant. We achieve what we achieve through the many blessings we have received throughout the school year.

In reflecting upon 2020, I continue to be grateful for the opportunities that are created for committed members of our community to work together to create a place of belonging. This sense of belonging is what I hear mentioned often when speaking with parents and staff. There is something about the spirit of St Claire that permeates our existence here at SC which makes us who we are as a community.

The School Board

It has once again been another successful period in the life and times of Santa Clara School and the School Board. In 2020, the work of the School Board has been of the highest order and I thank them sincerely for their hard work and sharing of their talents

for the good of the children of our school. Decisions are always considered with diligence and consideration of the impact on our students. Their commitment to the children, parents and staff is outstanding.

School Board improvements and the value added in 2020 have included the following (show slides):

Next year sees a change to our School Board due to CEWA's change in governance structure. With CEWA Ltd commencing on 1 January 2020, the Catholic Education Commission of WA is now the responsible governing body for all Catholic schools. Moving into 2021, the current School Board Constitution will be reviewed for implementation in 2022. In moving forward, all school boards will be referred to as the Catholic School Advisory Council to reflect the new governance structure.

On behalf of the community, I wish to take this opportunity to thank Wayne and Jo Barton who resigned from their positions this year. I wish to thank Wayne and Jo for their significant contributions of time and energy during their many years, serving on our Board. Wayne and Jo, you are both positive and affirming members of our community who care deeply for our school and its people.

I wish to sincerely thank all members of the Board for always being willing to support us in our role as leaders of this community. The support of them as both people and professionals has been a constant source of 'energy' for me. I especially thank Matthew for his committed leadership as chairperson. Thanks also to the other members, Bevan Castle, Naomi Pitt, Alicia Crook, John Mpala and Father Chris who have worked closely with us in 2020. Special thanks to Jac Wilson for her professionalism and dedication as the finance officer to the Board. Your commitment has been quite exemplary during a year of constant demand and change.

Can we please acknowledge these people.

The Parents and Friends Association

I would like to acknowledge the work of Michelle Kinsman our P&F President and Jodie Matthews-Goobie our Treasurer, who have led this group of wonderful parents known as our P&F. Our parents have worked quietly in the background to continue to build community spirit within the school. As a group they have been quite remarkable in how smoothly they have worked with our families in continuing many of the past traditions within the school in a challenging year. The team of parents have done this with one focus, and that has been on the wanting to do it for our children. We thank you all sincerely for the time and commitment to the people within our school and the fundraising events throughout the year that have resulted in the upgrading of many resources across the school (SLIDES). A fabulous year of working tirelessly for our school and its people. Can we please acknowledge these people.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Michelle for her time and on the Board and P&F. Each time I spoke to Michelle it was evident she wants to make SC the best school ever. Her care for our students and staff was second to none and we thank her for all she has brought to SC.

To all our parents of Santa Clara School, I wish to thank you for your support and encouragement. Strong parent/school relationships assist in shaping the culture of our school environment. We continue to be encouraged by the support of our parents in what we are focused on at SC. Our goal is to continue to meet the needs of our children and assist them in their development as confident young people who are excited by their learning.

Parish School Connection

The Santa Clara Parish and school maintain a very close relationship. We continue to build relationships between the parish and school as part of our on-going commitment to keeping the values of our Catholic school alive within our students, staff and parents. We have been blessed to have Fr Chris as our parish priest. Fr Chris' kindness and gentle manner allows for the building of close relationships with our staff and our families. We wish to acknowledge Fr Chris' calmness and accommodating manner throughout all special liturgies, especially in the year levels who have received the sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist and Penance. We also thank Marietta for her commitment to our students in our Sacramental Program.

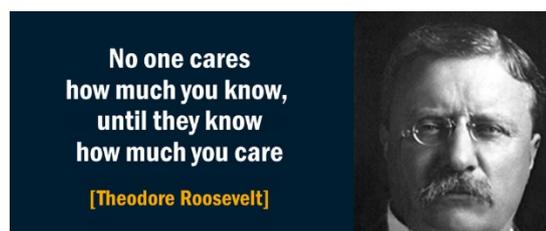
There are many SC families attending Masses on the weekend. This is a credit to our parents. Further to this, we have altar servers who have been trained by the parish and continue to give their time and be of service.

We thank all members of our parish especially our parish choirs, the pastoral committee, other parish groups and our catechists. The support of the parish for our school is significant and widely appreciated here by all involved in our school. We look forward to continuing what is a very special relationship.

Staff

We are fortunate at Santa Clara School to have committed staff members who enjoy working together to ensure students' educational needs are met. Their support for each other is something that creates strong bonds and unity. Thank you for your high standards and professionalism. It is about 'one-in, all-in attitude' to what we are establishing in our support for each other as a professional organisation, but also one strongly focused on positive relationships.

I wish to thank all our staff for their contributions to making the students the number one focus and for the unwavering commitment to providing the very best education for the students in your care. To all our staff, thank you for what you bring to the life of our school community. Never waiver from the quote shown from Theodore Roosevelt because this is what our students here at SC need each and every day, that we care for them above anything else.



It has been a challenging year for us all but we have done it! I am so grateful to have commenced my first principalship with you all and look forward to our continued journey together.

I would also like to acknowledge the service of Mrs Cheryl Rebello to our Santa Clara School community and Catholic education in Western Australia. This year Cheryl was recognized for 40 years of service, a tremendous accomplishment. You have played a part in so many lives here at Santa Clara and we thank you for what you continue to do.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Elena Fraser for serving our community and students during the 2020. Every conversation Leadership had with Elena had the children at the center which emphasises the type of person and teacher she is. We wish you all the best for your journey ahead at Our Lady of Lourdes. They are extremely lucky to have you.

I would especially like to thank my Leadership Team, Kristy Madafferi and Fiona Messer. The support you have given me this year is something I will never forget and cannot thank you enough for. Your dedication to our school improvement journey and focus on our students is the driver for all that we do here. I look forward to another successful year in 2021 and many more robust conversations!

Religious Education

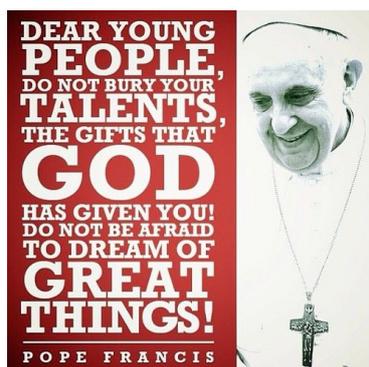
Religious Education and Evangelisation are the primary purpose of Catholic schools. In partnership with all parents, the school and parish work together to assist the children to develop knowledge of their Catholic faith. The explicit teaching of Catholic practices and knowledge, through the Religious Education Units of Work, is an integral part of our mission as a school. It is mandated by the Bishops of Western Australia and the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia.

This year our Year 3 and 5 students did not participate in the Bishop's Literacy Assessment, however, a breakdown of our grades of our students in these year levels is as follows:

Year Level	Below Target	At Target	Above Target
Year 3	0	24	0
Year 5	2	26	1

As parents and staff, everyone plays an essential role in guiding our children throughout their faith journey. This has been shown and supported through the many events and sacraments that have been held this year.

Curriculum



The 2020 school year has definitely been one of a kind. Our teachers have had to adapt from face to face learning, to remote learning and then back to face to face. However, the 2020 school year has seen our teachers focused on their individual practice and the engagement of students within their classrooms in these changing contexts. As Pope Francis' quote above reminds us, bringing out the gifts and talents of our students needs to be at the front of our thinking. This engagement of students through their interests and positive relationships, will allow their learning to shine and their gifts to be brought to surface and celebrated.

2020 PAT Data Year 3 and Year 5

Due to COVID-19, our Year 3 and 5 students did not participate in NAPLAN. Instead, we have assessed numeracy and literacy using Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT). These are one-off tests that give a snapshot of how schools are tracking in these areas by looking at growth. As with all standardised tests that are one-off in nature, the results must be taken in the context of all other assessments a school may do. This includes the everyday teaching and learning program, plus the many varied assessments that may take place.

I wish to commend our students for their efforts during the PAT testing during the weeklong tests. In the table shown, performance against an average scale score is provided. Scale scores are the best measure of students' progress over time. The scale score of an item is a measure of the extent of skills and knowledge required from a student to be successful on the item. Scale scores also allow us to track our students across the school on the same continuum. As staff, we will continue to focus on engaging our students in their learning and creating excitement around being the best they can be within our classrooms. I would also like to acknowledge the work of our staff in supporting our students in their learning and development as well-rounded young people.

In 2020, we have continued to focus on our teaching of Reading across the school. Our teachers have spent the year unpacking the Reading curriculum to ensure the assessments provide a true snapshot of where their students are. Our assessments indicate some encouraging gains across Reading through our standardised testing and in-class assessments. Reading will continue to be a curriculum focus of our teaching and learning in 2020.

Year Level	Reading	Numeracy
Year 3 SC Mean Scale Score	108.7	117.5
Year 3 Expected Scale Score	108.2-113.6	108.9-114.7
Year 5 SC Mean Scale Score	123.2	126.2
Year 5 Expected Scale Score	123.5-127.8	124.3-130.1

ANNUAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN REVIEW 2020

<u>CEWA Strategic Intent</u>	<u>Success Criteria</u>	
Evangelisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased staff input and confidence when preparing Masses. 	Achieved
Aboriginal Education Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff are aware of what it means to be culturally responsive. A range of current resources are established for teachers to use. 	Ongoing Achieved
Curriculum Plan Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students' Reading levels will be documented and tracked. A whole school approach to teaching Guided Reading is created and implemented. All classes from Y1-Y6 have an average effect size of 0.4 in Reading by the end of the year. 	Achieved Ongoing Ongoing
Early Years Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Early Childhood nature playground will be safe, more functional and easier to maintain. 	Ongoing

ANNUAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN KEY PRIORITIES 2021

<u>CEWA Strategic Intent</u>	<u>Key Priorities</u>
Evangelisation	Strengthening partnerships with the Parish and School Community
Aboriginal Education Plan	Raise profile of Aboriginal Perspectives
Curriculum Plan Focus	We know our students to ensure their needs are met, which will enact our Vision for Learning
Early Years Focus	The MultLit program will be implemented across K-1 to enact our Vision for Learning.

Our key priorities for 2021 have been drawn from conversations and workshops with staff and students, but also from various data sources such as the PAT, EYLND and NQS data.

Welcome: Maddie Smith

Thank You!

I wish to acknowledge staff and P&F and Board members that are moving on from Santa Clara at the end of the year and thank them for their service to our community. We wish them the very best for their future endeavours. We invite the following people forward to accept a token of our appreciation.

- Wayne Barton
- Jo Barton
- Elena Fraser

Our school is also made up of many volunteers who are the backbone of our community. I wish to acknowledge Dinny in particular for her presence which brings joy to our staff and students. I invite Dinny forward to accept a token of our appreciation.

In conclusion, I wish to take this opportunity to thank staff, parents and the wider community for the support given to the on-going development of our children at Santa Clara School. We are truly blessed to be members of such a beautiful community and I believe we live out Ikigia as the grass is greener on our side, a quote that has driven me in my first year of Principalship. I sincerely wish all members of our

school a peaceful and joyous Christmas. May we all appreciate the significance of this time of rest and renewal as we gear up for a bright and exciting 2021.

All blessings to you

Clinton Payne
Principal