



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2023



St Patrick's Primary School Bega

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Principal

Mrs Jo Scott-Pegum

Section One: Message from Key Groups in our Community

Principal's Message

St Patrick's Primary School, Bega, offers students a quality Catholic education based on the teaching of Christ and within the context of our faith community. The school fosters a commitment to each child and builds opportunities for student engagement, learning and growth. The 2023 school year has been a celebration of learning and continuous progress for our students. Student growth and achievement were regularly celebrated with our strategic beginning of day school assembly focused on acknowledging student demonstration of the school pillars; 'Look into thinking,' 'Look after each other,' and 'Look ahead to the future.'

At St Patrick's we have a strong and passionate team of educators. Our teachers model lifelong learning and they continue to grow their pedagogical skills with High Impact Teaching Practices. They are dedicated to the needs of each student and to their own practices as professionals. Our support team are equally passionate about supporting student learning and they provide the scaffolds and tiered intervention programs to ensure every child's successful progress with learning. A special thank you to our Parish Priest for his unwavering support and guidance.

Parent Body Message

The Community Council has had another successful year engaging with the St Patrick's community and has worked hard to provide opportunities for connection. The Council actively sought ways to engage and contribute but also was mindful of busy lives and challenging times. The subcommittees of the Council: Uniform, Community Engagement and Fundraising, continued to be effective in supporting the school. With the change to the Community Council Charter becoming effective, the Uniform shop was returned to the school for management. The new charter will be formally introduced in 2024. The fundraising committee was again very active in the school community, holding several very successful events. Of note, the disco, the mother's day stall and the dinner for concert night were well enjoyed by the community. The highlight was hosting the end of year Christmas Festival for the second consecutive year. This Festival opened the school up to the wider community and was an amazing celebration of everything St Pat's. Parents and carers continue to engage with the school in support of growing the culture for positive and strong student learning, engagement and behaviour.

Student Body Message

At St Patrick's we learn about the three pillars, *Look into thinking*, *Look ahead to the future* and *Look after each other*. Every day we celebrate the children who show these qualities at our morning assembly. In Maths we enjoy swapping classes for Maths CMC lessons and in English for Reading Mastery. The teacher gives us direct instruction for these lessons, many of us really enjoy learning this way. Year 5 students have opportunities to learn together whilst Year 6 have leadership time.

Students can represent our school in many ways including public speaking, sport carnivals and team sports, there are also community events like the ANZAC march. We enjoy getting to Year 6 when we take the responsibility of having a Kinder buddy, it is a time where we help the Kinders to learn about being a St Pat's kid. We really enjoy the weekly interactions as buddies getting to know one another. Finishing the year with a fantastic Christmas festival, which is a fun Christmas themed fete, has been a highlight for students across the school.

Section Two: School Context and Catholic Identity

St Patrick's Primary School is a Catholic systemic Co-educational School located in Bega.

St Patrick's school is in the St Patrick's Bega parish and is a feeder school to Lumen Chris Catholic College Pambula, where our students can continue their Catholic education into secondary school. At St Patrick's, centred on our Vision 'School With A View,' we provide high quality inclusive education with a view to developing students who are community contributors, creative and critical thinkers and life-long learners. At St Patrick's we teach the curriculum, and most importantly we teach children.

In a Catholic school, a distinctive blend of academic excellence and spiritual formation creates a unique educational environment. Embracing the system-wide Catalyst program, this year our school continued to embed High Impact Teaching Practices and the pedagogy of direct and explicit instruction in English and Mathematics. This included the introduction of Reading Mastery. The focus was on strong and sustained learning success for all students with tiered intervention in both English and Maths Direct Instruction. The mantra of 'every minute counts' maintained our attention on what was important each day.

There were many incursions and excursions that provided students with valuable opportunities to enhance their learning experiences beyond the confines of the classroom. These experiences included the Year 5/6 Canberra Excursion, the Girls and Boys program excursions, the Jigamy Farm and Potoroo Excursions, SECCA for the Archies, Healthy Harold and Life Education visit and the NRMA road safety visit. All students also participated in many events throughout the year including the annual dance concert, the school Beachathon, the Healthy Bones Breakfast, Grandparents Day and Mother's and Father's Day Breakfasts.

The school's sustainability program is a commendable initiative that reflects a commitment to environmental responsibility and global citizenship. Ministers for the Environment, from the Year 6 student cohort, along with the many student members of the Green Teams, ensured the chickens, native bees, worm farms and vegetable patch were all cared for and prosperous.

Much joy surrounded the full re-engagement of parents and carers in the life of the school. This included Celebrations of Learning, sporting carnivals and Parent Teacher Interviews.

The year ended on a high note with the St Patrick's Christmas Market Festival. The event was a resounding success for the Community Council and the hard work and planning of the parents on the fundraising committee.

In 2023 we continued to replace the lunch benches with the recycled benches and a new monkey bars were installed in the outdoor learning area.

Section Three: Student Profile

Student Enrolment

The School caters for students in Kindergarten to Year 6. Students attending this School come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities. The following information describes the student profile for 2023:

Girls	Boys	LBOTE*	Total Students
93	90	10	183

* Language Background Other than English

Enrolment Policy

The Catholic Education Commission has established an Enrolment Policy for Catholic Education Canberra Goulburn schools. Catholic Education monitors the implementation of this policy. The policy has been developed in the context of government and system requirements. Additional information about enrolling in a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn can be found on the Catholic Education website.

Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for 2023 was 87.92%. Attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group	
Kindergarten	87%
Year 1	90%
Year 2	90%
Year 3	90%
Year 4	87%
Year 5	86%
Year 6	86%

Managing Student Non-attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential for students to maximise their potential. The school, in partnership with parents, is responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff as part of their duty of care monitor part or whole day absences.

School staff, under the Principal's leadership, support the regular attendance of students by:

- providing a caring teaching and learning environment which fosters students' sense of wellbeing and belonging to the School community;
- maintaining accurate records of student attendance;
- recognising and rewarding excellent and improved student attendance;
- implementing programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise.

The Principal is responsible for supporting the regular attendance of students by ensuring that:

- parents and students are regularly informed of attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance;
- all cases of unsatisfactory attendance and part or full day absences from school are investigated promptly and that appropriate intervention strategies are implemented;
- documented plans are developed to address the needs of students whose attendance is identified as being of concern;
- the Catholic Education Office designated School & Family Services Senior Officer is provided with regular information about students for whom chronic non-attendance is an issue and for whom School strategies have failed to restore regular attendance.

Section Four: Staffing Profile

The following information describes the staffing profile for 2023:

Total Teaching Staff*	Total Non-Teaching Staff	Combined Total
17	10	27

* This number includes 9 full-time teachers and 8 part-time teachers.

Percentage of staff who are Indigenous	3%
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Teacher Qualifications

All teachers are qualified as required by the relevant authorities.

Teacher Accreditation

Levels of Teacher Accreditation are as stated below:

Number of staff with Provisional Teacher Accreditation	1
Number of staff with Proficient Teacher Accreditation	15
Number of staff with Lead/Highly Accomplished Teacher Accreditation	0

Section Five: Academic Profile

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN assessment results provide valuable information about student achievement in literacy and numeracy. An analysis of these results assists school planning and is used to support the development of teaching and learning programs.

The tables below show average scores for each cohort in numeracy and literacy. The school results shown are compared to the national average.

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Average Scores	
		School	Australia
Year 3	Reading	415.30	404.58
	Writing	422.19	416.28
	Spelling	403.02	403.72
	Grammar and Punctuation	431.52	410.81
	Numeracy	410.62	407.27

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Average Scores	
		School	Australia
Year 5	Reading	499.61	495.94
	Writing	465.75	482.87
	Spelling	473.38	488.72
	Grammar and Punctuation	494.52	496.65
	Numeracy	470.08	487.58

Section Six: School Policies

Catholic Education Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn (CECG) has developed a suite of Policies which are implemented by all systemic Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Canberra Goulburn.

The full text of policies relevant to the requirements of Annual Reporting can be found below:

Behavioural Support, Suspension and Expulsion Policy

Bullying and Harassment Policy

Child Safety Policy

Complaints Handling Summary

Complaints Policy

Safe and Supportive Schools Policy

Access to additional policies related to CECG schools can be found on the Catholic Education Canberra Goulburn website.

Further information about processes specific to this school can be found on the school's website.

Section Seven: Parent, Student and Staff Satisfaction

The opinions and ideas of parents, students and school staff in this learning community are sought and valued. Their suggestions are considered and incorporated into planning for and achieving improved outcomes for students. This year, the school has used a variety of processes to gain information about levels of satisfaction with the school from parents, students and staff.

Parent Satisfaction

In 2023 the 'Tell Them From Me' survey was used for understanding community satisfaction. A small number of St Patrick's parents responded to the survey. Of the participants' responses, some aspects of school life were rated highly by parents including:

- The school supports all students in their learning
- Teachers have high expectations for each student to succeed
- Children are encouraged to do their best work
- Teachers expect students to pay attention in class
- School staff take an active role in making sure all students are included in school activities
- Teachers are well prepared and enthusiastic.

Areas that were highlighted for consideration and growth were: student behaviour and the consequences for not following rules, and more regular communication about their children's learning and behaviour at school.

Student Satisfaction

Students in Years 4 - 6 were asked to complete the 'Tell Them From Me' survey to express their level of satisfaction in response to a number of statements. Students at St Patrick's rated highly that they feel:

- Most students try hard to succeed in their learning
- Important concepts are taught well, class time is used efficiently, and homework and evaluations support class objectives
- Teachers are responsive to their needs and encourage independence
- Classroom instruction is well-organised, with a clear purpose, and with immediate feedback that helps them learn
- Teachers ensure everyone is active and participates during classroom instruction

Areas in which student rating showed opportunity for reflection and improvement

- Being safe at school in learning and play
- Students seeing the value of the direct instruction programs being taught and understanding their progress.

Staff Satisfaction

A 'Tell Them From Me' staff satisfaction survey was undertaken. From the survey it was evident that teachers feel that St Patrick's is a school with a positive focus on professional learning and engagement. Staff expressed satisfaction for and appreciation in the following:

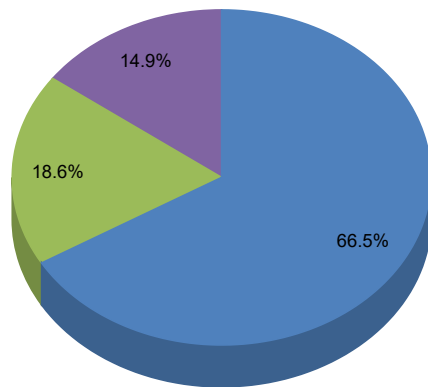
- School leaders support for staff
- Tools and processes they use to monitor the progress of individual students
- Discussions with other teachers about strategies that increase student engagement
- Capacity to set high expectations for student learning
- Working with parents to help solve problems interfering with their child's progress

At St Patrick's we are proud of the dedication and commitment of our whole staff team to their professional learning and growth. Our staff, teachers and support assistants, are committed to delivering a quality Catholic education meeting the individual needs of every student.

Several areas teachers indicated for improvement were: for school leaders to observe and give feedback on teaching to help improve teaching; for leaders to help staff with establishing challenging learning goals; and, the availability of updated technology for teaching and learning.

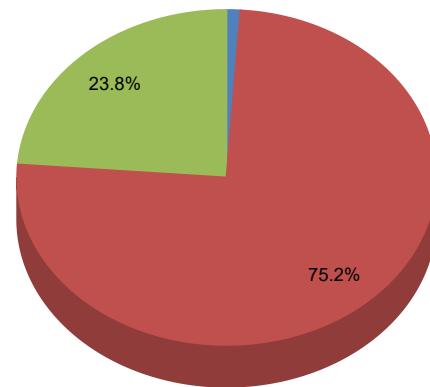
Section Eight: Financial Statement

Income



- Commonwealth Recurrent Grants (66.5%)
- Government Capital Grants (0%)
- State Recurrent Grants (18.6%)
- Fees and Private Income (14.9%)
- Other Capital Income (0%)

Expenditure



- Capital Expenditure (1.1%)
- Salaries and Related Expenses (75.2%)
- Non-Salary Expenses (23.8%)

RECURRENT and CAPITAL INCOME	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants ¹	\$2,895,967
Government Capital Grants ²	\$0
State Recurrent Grants ³	\$809,949
Fees and Private Income ⁴	\$651,013
Other Capital Income ⁵	\$0
Total Income	\$4,356,929

RECURRENT and CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	
Capital Expenditure ⁶	\$45,772
Salaries and Related Expenses ⁷	\$3,245,471
Non-Salary Expenses ⁸	\$1,025,889
Total Expenditure	\$4,317,132

Notes

1. Commonwealth Recurrent Grants includes recurrent per capita grants and special purpose grants.
2. Government Capital Grants includes all capital grants received from the Commonwealth and State Governments.
3. State Recurrent Grants includes recurrent grants per capita, special purpose grants and interest subsidy grants.
4. Fees and Private Income include Archdiocesan and school based fees, excursions and other private income.
5. Other Capital Income includes building levy fees and capital donations used to fund Capital Expenditure.
6. Capital Expenditure includes expenditure on School Buildings, and Furniture and Equipment.
7. Salaries and Related Expenditure includes all salaries, allowances and related expenses such as superannuation and workers compensation insurance.
8. Non-Salary Expenses include all other Non-Salary Recurrent Expenditure covering resources, administration, operational expenses, utilities, repairs and maintenance.