

# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

"To Live, To Love, To Grow in Christ"

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Gsell Street, Wanguri. 0810 | Ph.08 8927 3411 | admin.holyspirit@nt.catholic.edu.au | www.holyspiritnt.catholic.edu.au | FB: Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School Wanguri NT

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# **VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT**

#### Vision

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School is committed to developing the fundamental value of each person. Through sharing and living the Catholic story and tradition, we foster learning that enables students, families, school and community to engage in a collaborative partnership for a life-long journey of education.

### Mission Statement

#### Catholic Identity

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School community is inspired by the gift of the Catholic story and tradition, "To Live, To Love and To Grow in Christ."

### Leadership

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School encourages and supports leadership opportunities for all members through collaborative decision-making and shared responsibility focused on bringing to life the Vision and Mission of the school community.

#### Teaching and Learning

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School creates meaningful and challenging learning environments which value lifelong learning, high expectations and collaborative partnerships between home, school and the wider community, respecting our Catholic identity.

### Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School commits to safe, friendly and supportive environments in which all are encouraged to grow spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically.

### Community and Culture

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School celebrates its cultural diversity recognising and valuing the unique contributions of all in our community.

### Finance, Facilities and Resources

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School commits to wise and just stewardship of facilities and resources to serve the common good of the school and wider community.





# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report for Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School. I am very proud of the achievements of our students and the school community this year.

2022 continued to present minor changes due to Covid-19. As always, our school community worked together through these and overall, there was minimal disruption to Teaching and Learning.

Whole school events such as our Athletics Carnival, Feast Days, Defence Family Gatherings, Book Week, Mother's and Father's Day celebrations and events such as our Whole School Production at Darwin Entertainment Centre took place, just to name a few.



Our partnership with Bill Crews Foundation continued to provide targeted tuition through *Everyone Can Read (ECR)* Program to identifies students who require additional support in Literacy. Our strong results in NAPLAN are a testament to the contribution that this program makes to our school community.

Holy Spirit was identified as a Top Performing School for NAPLAN in 2022. We were ranked number seven in the Northern Territory. This is a great achievement for our school and a true testament of the dedication and hard work of everyone.

This year we employed a Speech Pathologist to work closely with identified students, staff, and families. This has been a great addition to the inclusion team here at Holy Spirit. Having our Speech Pathologist on site conducting screening of children, has assisted us in getting valuable data for our children.

A celebration of service to Catholic Education Northern Territory for staff who have worked in our system for 15 years or more was acknowledged through a special mass. Bishop Charles Gauci officiated this celebration for the system. At Holy Spirit eight of our staff were acknowledged for their service, with one staff member having served 37 years in the system.

I would like to thank students, staff and families for their significant and valued contributions to our school throughout the year. The teaching staff and community are to be commended on their continual pursuit of excellence. This year we undertook *School Improvement Renewal Framework (SIRF) Review*. SIRF is a process undertaken by a panel to verify school improvement processes and school performance during a defined timeframe and to discern opportunities for improvement and strategic planning. The areas of SIRF presented were *Catholic Identity, Teaching and Learning, and Pastoral Care and Wellbeing*. Through the review, we were acknowledged for our achievements over the past 12 months. This was a very affirming process for staff, students and members of our school community. Our teachers continue to work hard to ensure they are providing the best possible learning environment for our children each and every day.

We are very proud of the sense of community that continues to flourish here at Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School and I deeply value the input from our students and families, the Parish, our Parents and Friends' Committee, School Board, Catholic Education Northern Territory and other external support networks. In addition, Catholic Care Northern Territory has provided support for our students and families as required. This is a valued service made available in our school.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School continues to meet the needs of families and our wider community, embracing our Community of Learners (3-5 years olds) and *Outside School Hours Care Program (OSHC)*, This also includes Vacation Care.

We continue to work with our architect in finalising our Five-Year School Master Plan. We are excited for the future development of our facilities and look forward to these coming to fruition. Major works completed this year include an upgrade to our front entrance from Gsell Street, new fencing, block wall with signage along Angelo Street and the completion of painting our exterior building.

As I reflect on our year, I am grateful for the support from our school community. These achievements are not realised without the support and participation of all members of the school community.

I wish the school community all the very best into the future as we continue 'To Live, To Love, To Grow in Christ'.

**Mrs Paula Sellars** 

Principal

# SCHOOL PROFILE

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School was founded in 1979 by the Mercy Sisters. Our school offers families an educational experience on the one site which includes an Early Learning Centre (Community of Learners) for children aged 3-5 years. The school has an enrolment of approximately 240 students from Transition through to Year 6. Our school is located in Wanguri in the northern suburbs of Darwin. It is established on spacious grounds in a tropical setting. Our current facilities include a Computer Lab, Sensory Motor Room, large multipurpose area, Library, Community of Learners, Out of School Hours Care, canteen, large double basketball court (with shade) and two spacious ovals.

The holistic education of students is the focus which includes the academic, spiritual, emotional, physical and social development of each child. Children from diverse nationalities and backgrounds are welcome at Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School including students with a variety of learning needs.

Due to our close proximity to the suburbs of Lyons and Muirhead, many families of Defence attend Holy Spirit also. We have a Defence School Mentor who works closely with children and their families.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School students come from a diverse range of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. The student cohort is primarily from families in the suburbs of Wanguri, Wagaman, Lyons, Muirhead, Tiwi and Nakara. Some families also come from further afield due to the positive reputation of our school.

Our staff are committed to providing the best possible learning opportunities for all children of Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School. Professional Development for all staff continues as a focus at our school. Instructional Coaching, Differentiated Instruction, Inquiry based Learning and Data Informed Practice played a major focus in 2022. Regular and ongoing Professional Learning Communities were provided for all our teaching and support staff throughout the year.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School creates meaningful and challenging learning environments which value lifelong learning, high expectations and collaborative partnerships between home, school and the wider community, whilst still respecting our Catholic Identity.

Working in partnership with families and building positive relationships is central to our Vision and Mission, affirming the important work of parents as the first educators of their children. Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School has a very active School Board who work closely with school staff in support of the school.

The Outside School Hours Program provides care for children from 2:30-5:30pm each day with Before School Care commencing at 7:00am. A Vacation Care Program provides care for children during school holiday periods excluding the Christmas and New Year period.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School provides specialist teaching in the areas of Indonesian, The Arts, STEM, Physical Education, and support for our Aboriginal and Islander students.



We have an Inclusion Support Coordinator and Practitioner who work closely with our students who require additional support in their learning.

A Speech Pathologist is on site two days per week to work closely with students, staff, and families.

We have many programs to support the development of social and emotional skills of our students. A range of extracurricular activities is offered to students including interschool and school-based sporting events, academic competitions, instrumental programs and community activities.

# **2022 STAFF**

PrincipalPaula SellarsDeputy PrincipalEmma McDonaldReligious Education CoordinatorCarla HayesAssistant Director of COL & OSHCSharon Floyd

Assistant Director of COL & OSHC

Inclusion Support Coordinator

Inclusion Support Practitioner

Indonesian

Sharon Floyd

Alicia McManus

Lyndell Williams

Kirsty Boath

Physical Education Philippa Cox/Abby Caldwell

Performing Arts/STEM Emma McDonald

Transition / Year 1, Rm. 8 Carla Hayes & Teresa De Zylva

Transition / Year 1, Rm. 9 Tracey Coco

Year 1/2, Rm. 2 Lyndell Williams and Kelsey George
Year 1/2, Rm. 6 Maddison Petruzio/Shlaghniya Khanna

Year 2/3, Rm. 14Nikita JasonYear 3/4, Rm. 15Kimberley JusticeYear 3/4, Rm. 17Siobhan Webb

Year 5/6, Rm. 10 Julie Kirkman/Brianna Cain

Year 5/6, Rm. 12 Mimi Woolley Year 5/6, Rm. 13 John Kensey

COL & OSHC Bronwyn Tranter, Wati Salam, Miriam Antenor, Faye Ciubal,

Sabrina Ciubal, Samantha Crimmings, Rowan Dally, Amelia Llewellyn, Isabelle Garland, Thomas Clarke, Belinda Santos,

Annie Holmes, Alicia Swartz and Eka Singh

**Library Assistant** Christine Crimmings

Finance Officer Lee Mian Chong and Tammy Richards

Administration OfficerYolanda GrayGrounds PersonYin JongueAIEWThomas ClarkeSchool CounsellorCathy Bourke

**Defence School Mentor** Christine Crimmings

**Inclusion Support Assistants** Christine Crimmings, Faye Ciubal, Rowan Dally, Irene

Argyridakis, Jamie Mourkousis, Hannah Dixon, Kelsey Renkin, Annie Holmes, Amelia Llewellyn, Belinda Santos, Layla Franck

and Ralph Flores

Canteen Janine Wetherall and Zoe Walkington



# **STUDENT PROFILE**

Student Population (August Census Data)

Year	Т	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Total	38	28	42	31	30	35	28	232

9% students identify as Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander

14% students who are SWD (Student with a disability)

Average Attendance: 94%

### Managing non-attendance

Attendance-related notifications from parents are recorded by school administration staff who in turn notify classroom teachers. Attendance registers are monitored in the front office daily and parents are contacted in the event of unexplained or regular student absence. Due to our high attendance rate (94%) the above policy and practice is adequate.

# **STAFFING INFORMATION**

	Head Count	Full Time Equivalent (FTE)
Principal	1	1
Teaching Staff (including Librarians)	16	13
Administrative and Clerical(Including aides and assistants)	15	10.2
Building Operations maintenance and other staff	1	1
Total	323	25.2

# **TEACHER STANDARDS**

All teachers are registered with the Northern Territory Teacher Registration Board and held current Ochre cards.

Postgraduate qualifications	7
Bachelor degree or equivalent	17
Masters	3
Other qualifications	7



# **CATHOLIC IDENTITY**

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School has thrived on a very strong, supportive and active relationship with our Parish and Parish Priest. Father Dave Callaghan and Father Adam Crouch both share a positive, influential and friendly relationship with staff, students and families of our school.

We have celebrated a number of masses, liturgies and special assemblies throughout the year which has allowed the students the opportunity to deepen their relationship with God and to move closer to living a life with Jesus as their role model.

Over the past few years we have seen a huge growth in the number of students and staff participating in the sacraments of First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Reconciliation. Staff at Holy Spirit work closely with the parishioners of Holy Spirit Parish to facilitate a rich and fulfilling sacramental program. Our relationship with the Parish continues to strengthen with our children being involved in Children's Mass once a month.

This year, Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School has accessed a Youth Minister. Our Youth Minister has worked alongside students and the Mini Vinnies Team.

We have an active and enthusiastic *Mini Vinnies Team* who throughout the year have led many fundraising events in support of Caritas, St Vincent de Paul and Catholic Mission. The school has enjoyed being able to contribute to the community and has promoted the Catholic Mission of the school. Our Mini Vinnies Team have implemented many new initiatives this year including recycling drink containers to purchase essentials cards for St Martin De Porres Church.

**Making Jesus Real (MJR)** continued as an area of focus at Holy Spirit. This resource supports our Religious Education Program. **MJR** encourages us to connect with the Jesus within us, as well as with the Jesus who dwells in the people around us. It is the way we live and reflect on our daily lives, recognising the *GOD Moments* which help us to see the goodness in our lives and in the lives of others.

Staff Professional Development continued as a priority in Religious Education. Our staff took part in a full day Catholic Identity day with a focus on implementing *Making Jesus Real* in our school. As a result of this, our classrooms have been learning about how we, as a school, can Make Jesus Real through our everyday interactions with each other. *Journey in Faith Program*, our Religious Education curriculum continued to be delivered across all year levels this year.





# **LEADERSHIP**

The Leadership Team of 2022 consists of the Principal, Deputy Principal, Religious Education Coordinator and the Assistant Director of Community of Learners. The Leadership team meet fortnightly to discuss administration, staffing, strategic planning, school improvement and action plans.

### Holy Spirit Leadership Team:

Principal: Mrs Paula Sellars

Deputy Principal - Mrs Emma McDonald

**Religious Education Coordinator** – Ms Carla Hayes

Community of Learners & Outside of School Hours Care – Mrs Sharon Floyd

A 'shared leadership' approach has continued to be entrenched across the school where our teaching and support staff were encouraged to take on leadership roles as coordinators or committee members in identified priority areas including Catholic Identity, Teaching and Learning, Community and Culture, Work Health and Safety and Pastoral Care and Wellbeing.

Staff attended network days with colleagues from Catholic Education Northern Territory across groupings such as Administration, Finance, Work Health and Safety, Pastoral Care and Wellbeing, Principals, Deputy Principals, Religious Education, Inclusion Support, Data Informed Practitioners, Instructional Coaching and Curriculum.

The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School Board meet on the third Thursday of each month from 5:30-6:30pm. Our School Board works towards the vision of the community striving to build a place where all people feel supported and valued.

### The role of our School Board is to:

- Develop policies that nurture the religious dimension and guide the direction of the school
- Develop the relationship between the school and local church
- Work with the Principal to ensure that the academic standards are upheld
- Support the administration of the school
- Offer pastoral care to the school community
- Promotion of a safe learning environment
- Monitor building and grounds through grant applications
- Development and maintenance
- Exercise financial oversight of the school
- Ensure compliance with the Manual for Catholic School Board Members for the Diocese of Darwin Northern Territory, 2019.

### Holy Spirit School Board:

Ex-Officio – Father Dave Callaghan

Chairperson – Mrs Sarah McKay

Deputy Chairperson – Mrs Bianca Johnson

Executive Officer – Mrs Paula Sellars

Finance Officer/Secretary – Mrs Lee Chong

Board Members – Mr Nathan Webb

Parents and Friends' Representative – Mrs Sally Major

Teacher Representative – Mrs Kirsty Boath

Community of Learners and Out of School Hours Care – Mrs Sharon Floyd

### **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

Religious Education lessons are planned using the *New Journey in Faith* curriculum, which is sequential and firmly based on Catholic Teachings. All other learning areas are planned according to the Australian Curriculum and in 2023 all teachers will move from Australian Curriculum version 8.4 to version 9.0. A generic template is used for planning across all learning areas, providing consistency in programming and assessments across all year levels. All planning is stored on our Google Drive and feedback to teachers is provided at the end of each term using a generic template for each classroom and specialist teachers.

Good two-way communication between families and the school is necessary for our students' success and therefore, two oral parent/teacher/student meetings (Terms 1 and 3) and two written reports (Terms 2 and 4) are prepared each year. There is also a Parent Information Evening at the beginning of the year to enable teachers to meet families and outline the expectations for the class. Academic Reports are sent electronically to all families. There is ongoing informal communication with parents through Class Dojo which informs parents about different Teaching and Learning experiences their child is undertaking each day.

The whole school focus this year has been on understanding the best practices teaching Reading and Spelling. We have utilised new data collection, such as Dibels and Heggerty; to target key students and skills for early intervention. Our inclusion team continues to demonstrate effective use of resources and skills to upskill our Inclusion Support Assistants in all learning areas so they can support all our identified students.

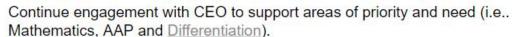
Over the past few years, we have been focusing on strengthening the use of data and feedback to evaluate students' progress to inform Teaching and Learning. The staff moved to many online platforms to gather data and provide feedback for students. All staff follow our yearly assessment schedule. Data gathered by teachers is entered on *GradeXpert* and is available to all teachers to inform their teaching and learning. The continuation of *Professional Learning Communities (PLC)* strengthened the close analysis of student writing data and moderation during Term 3, following the whole school Common Writing Task. This will again be a continued focus in 2023.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School has made a commitment to refocus on evidence-based approaches to Teaching and Learning in the Early Years of school. Our Early Childhood staff have worked with Catholic Education Office and Age Appropriate Pedagogy (AAP) team since last year and at the start of this year, our teachers presented their journey at the AAP meeting. AAP continues a focus in 2023.

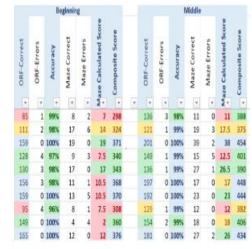


This year our big focus was differentiation. Based on our whole school data and our *School Improvement Renewal Framework* goal, we decided that "Differentiation" was the area that we all needed to upskill. Staff from Catholic Education have been working with our teachers demonstrating different ways to differentiate in

every learning area. We continue to stream Mathematics classes, small groups, differentiating and supporting our high achievers, using hands-on activities and engaging Mathematics work. Mathematics pre-teaching intervention groups continue for years 2 to 4 and our Inclusion Support Assistants are upskilled on the use of Origo resources and Progressive Assessment Tests resource centre to support students who are having difficulties.

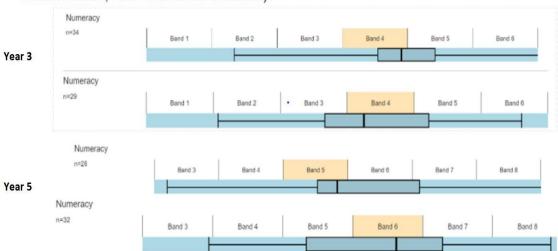


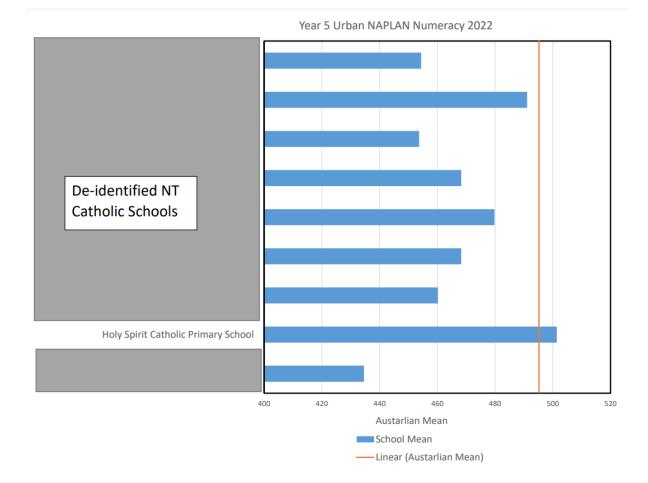




Despite the pandemic interruptions to student learning Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School was able to deliver high quality Teaching and Learning. Students were able to maintain their studies with the full support of teachers, which has led to great results in the 2022 NAPLAN, and we hope that this academic success continues in 2023.

# Continue engagement with CEO to support areas of priority and need (i.e., Mathematics, AAP and Differentiation).





Even though it was a challenging year for our staff and families due to the global pandemic, we still found many different ways to challenge our students and we are providing many online opportunities for them to enter different competitions (Spelling Bee, Maths Olympiad, Maths competition). STEM Club as led by our student leaders' has taken place throughout the year on a regular basis and will continue into 2023.

This year we continued with the *Footsteps in Faith and Learning* Program. This program was trialled with our Transition children of 2021 to assist with their school readiness. The aim was to familiarise students and families with our school facilities, meet their teachers and experience fun, engaging learning activities that introduced them to the environment, routine and structure of primary school. The continuity of the Footsteps in Learning and Faith Program resulted in the establishment of positive connections between home and school.





# PASTORAL CARE AND WELLBEING

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School seeks to be a place of belonging where we all respect the basic dignity of the human person and all are treated respectfully. We continue to adopt a holistic approach to education with a focus on developing the full potential of each individual.

In Term 4, we surveyed our students from Years 3 to 6 to gauge wellbeing. Students were asked to respond with 'Agree', 'Somewhat Agree; or 'Disagree' to the questions asked. Students answered questions around their learning, safety, and their teachers. Approximately 54% of our student enrolment responded. Overall the results were very affirming, with our students sharing that they feel safe and happy at our school and that their teachers know and care for them. Staff gathered to review survey results and reflected on the four questions below:

- What positives are reflected in the student wellbeing survey data?
- What are some possible areas of improvement for student wellbeing at Holy Spirit?
- What specific strategies/actions could be taken to address these areas of need?
- Are there any further questions to be included in future surveys?
- How can we improve data collection across all age groups?

Through the survey we have identified areas for focus which will be addressed in 2023.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School Positive Behaviour Support Policy Procedures continued as a focus for all stakeholders. Our Pastoral Care and Wellbeing Team meet each term to discuss current issues, new programs and initiatives. For our students, we provided an environment where they felt safe, happy and supported in their learning. There was consistency across the whole school with policy, procedures and common language. Updates were sent through the staff bulletin and our school newsletter each week to ensure all members of our community were familiar with the policy and procedures in place.

MindUP for Schools was introduced as a whole-school approach to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). This program provides guidance for teaching the skills and knowledge children need to regulate their anxiety and emotion, form positive relationships, and act with kindness and compassion. Staff continue to be supported in implementing the program through professional development provided by staff from the Catholic Education Office. Our vision for Holy Spirit Catholic Primary is for an education system in which every learning community is positive, inclusive and resilient, and where every child, young person, staff member, and family can achieve their best possible mental health.

Clear and open communication continued to be strong at our school. Families were encouraged to communicate regularly and openly with classroom teachers, as well as members of the school leadership team. *Class Dojo* was a resource used in all learning areas to encourage and inform families of positive student behaviours. Through *Class Dojo*, classroom/specialist teachers were able to:

- Acknowledge and encourage positive behaviour of students in their learning
- Keep parent/carers informed and updated about student learning throughout the day
- Provide a way for students to feel recognised and engaged in their learning
- Communicate positive learning stories to parents/carers
- Support students in their learning
- Develop positive relationships between parents/carers, students and teachers
- Provide a positive communication tool to be used between teachers and parents/carers

The *Class Buddy Program* continued across the school. The program encouraged student engagement and support across all year levels. It ensured that all students had access to not only their peers, but also students from classes older or younger than themselves.

The aim of our Class Buddy Program is to:

- Support students in their learning
- Develop positive relationships
- Mentor and guide students in their learning and play
- Participate in learning activities
- Provide opportunities for student leadership
- A place for students to visit when reflecting on behavioural choices

**Catholic Care NT** continued to provide support to our children and families in a range of one-on-one individual counselling, small group and support sessions for parents/carers. These sessions took place on a weekly basis.

# **INCLUSION SUPPORT**

An Inclusion Support Coordinator is employed in the school to manage the Inclusion Program at Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School. The role involves supporting teachers with the identification and assessment of students with inclusion needs, working with Inclusion Support Assistants (ISAs) to upskill them so they are able to assist our students in their learning. We work with Catholic Education Office, Northern Territory for support in this area.

Our Inclusion Support Coordinator liaises with parents, support staff and classroom teachers to implement specific programs that support students with specific learning, emotional and behavioural needs. Further investigation of concerns may be required through the Referral and Assessment Process and the engagement of appropriate CENT Inclusion Support Specialists.

Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School participated in the *National Consistent Collection of Data* on School Students with Disability (NCCD), please see information below regarding this.

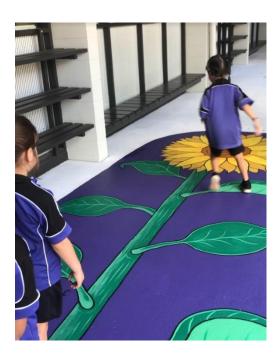
The funding has continued for our Inclusion Support Practitioner this year. This funding has allowed us to undertake specific projects that support our students in their learning. These include speech groups, fine motor skills, social and emotional groups, Mathematics intervention, Perceptual Motor Program, and literacy support for Transition and Year 1 students. In addition to this, we were able to provide important time for classroom teachers and Inclusion Support Assistants (ISAs) to meet regularly to discuss and plan together. Professional Development was offered also with a focus around phonological awareness, fine motor and Autism Spectrum Disorder.

In 2022 we employed a Speech Pathologist to work at our school for two days each week. Our Speech Pathologist worked with our students providing small group and one-on-one support. These sessions support students who require language intervention including expressive, receptive, articulation and pragmatics. Professional Learning and intervention in this space has ensured that relevant and effective strategies are implemented to assist our students.

A sensory pathway was designed and painted in Term 3 by Adrianne Wade. The sensory path allows students to have quick movement breaks (walking, jumping, and bouncing.) This has been a huge success and utilised by students from all year levels.







Engine Room Program





Perceptual Motor Program (PMP)







Holy Spirit has 38 funded students.

Diagnosis/ Or Imputed	Number of students
Autism Spectrum Disorder	13
Communication Disorder	7
Intellectual Impairment	1
Hearing Impairment	2
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	8
Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	1
Specific Learning Disorder	3
Other	3

The National Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) is an annual collection of information about Australian school students with a disability. The NCCD enables schools, education authorities, and governments to better understand the needs of students with a disability and how they can best be supported at school.

At Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School, we have 66 students included in the NCCD for 2021/2022. There was a spread of students across the whole school.

The following are the broad category of disability under the NCCD;

- Cognitive
- Sensory
- Physical
- Social.

Broad Category of Disability	Number of Students
Cognitive	50
Sensory	9
Physical	5
Social	2
Total	66

In the NCCD, there are four levels of adjustment:

- Support provided within quality Differentiated Teaching Practice (DTP),
- Supplementary adjustments,
- Substantial adjustments,
- Extensive adjustments.

Level of Adjustments	Number of Students
QDTP	9
Supplementary	35
Substantial	21
Extensive	1
Total	66

# COMMUNITY AND CULTURE

Parents continued to support our children in their learning through attendance at school events as well as offering their time to assist in the classrooms. They are always willing to assist with school excursions and camps.

Our Parents and Friends' Committee has grown tremendously this year with many parents willing to give their time to assist with fundraising and school community events. Some events our Parents and Friends' organised this year are:

- Mother's and Father's Day breakfast and stall
- School Disco
- Trivia Night
- Athletics Day Carnival barbeque
- World Teachers' Day gifts and catering
- Last day of school lunch for students and staff

We reviewed our *School Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)* at the beginning of the year. This is a formal statement of commitment to Reconciliation. This will allow us to develop an environment that fosters a higher level of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions. This framework assists us at school to develop relationships, create opportunities in the classroom around the school and within the greater Darwin community. We are very proud as a school to have a successful plan that has been able to be implemented and actioned in our school community.

Many of our classrooms wrote their own Acknowledgement of Country reflecting on what it means to them to live, work and play on Larrakia land. During National Reconciliation Week, students engaged in many indigenous art activities. Our aboriginal students also led a liturgy at St Martin De Porres Aboriginal Church which commenced with a Smoking Ceremony led by one of our parents.

Our *Defence School Mentor (DSM)* continued to work alongside our families of defence. Family gatherings were provided once a term where children and their parents met for an afternoon of activities and events. We have a large number of children at Holy Spirit who are from Defence Families.

The Defence School Mentor Program provided 10 hours support per week for our students. Some of the work as provided by our Defence School Mentor include:

- **Welcome** *Defence Family Gatherings*
- Community Integration Lunchtime craft and art activities
- Absence from home support Regular wellbeing checks with children and families
- Farewell Strategies Certificate and school passport

Our school featured in <u>The Top Ender magazine</u> in 2022. We were provided a full colour page spread where our Defence School Mentor, along with our defence families were introduced to the wider community. This was a wonderful opportunity for the Holy Spirit to showcase the work we do in supporting our defence community.

Indonesian classes are provided to all our students as a Specialist subject. Students continue to learn the language and culture of Indonesia with our Indonesian teacher. We are proud of our Indonesian program which has now been running at Holy Spirit for 10 years.

Highlights of Community and Culture as indicated by our school community:

- Masses and liturgies to celebrate feast days and special occasions
- School Dance Production at Darwin Entertainment Centre
- Project Compassion fundraising days
- Darwin Region Gala Days
- Year five and six camp to Batchelor Outdoor Education Centre
- Defence Family Gatherings each term
- Cracka Cup and Pink Power (AFL)
- Book Week Fair and Parade
- Year 6 Graduation and awards assembly

- Everyone Can Read Graduation
- Celebration of Years of Service for staff
- Visit from Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School (Tiwi Islands)
- Footy Friday, 31 March 2023
- Fundraising Days Anything but a Backpack and Crazy Sock Day













# FINANCE, FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

The maintenance of school and facilities continued throughout the 2022 school year. All work from the maintenance schedule is in place and adhered to as required.

This year we spent approximately \$700.000 on our new front entrance, fencing and painting.

Through our master plan we have other works planned for the future. These include Flexible Learning Furniture in all our learning areas. In addition, upgrade fencing and block work with signage around the entire perimeter of our school, including Holy Spirit Church and St Martin de Porres.

An application through Block Grant Authority was submitted this year for the re-purposing of our former dental room into an Inclusion Teaching and Learning space, for students and staff. At a cost of approximately \$140,000 this grant was approved and work will commence in 2023.

An external audit by KPMG is conducted on the school's financial activities each year.



# **COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS**

Holy Spirit Community of Learners has been providing quality education and care for our school and the wider community for over close to 20 years.

Our qualified and experienced educators are from a variety of cultural backgrounds and each day provide children a positive, inclusive learning environment that encourages children to explore their own self through play based experiences. The centre's large outdoor environment enables children to explore their natural environment. Our upgraded facilities indoors enable children to explore, learn and develop to their full potential.

Our numbers are steady and we are now seeing an average of around 30 children per day.

### Philosophy

Each year our educators reflect on our philosophy through looking at their own values and beliefs. Our core belief is that relationships reinforce everything we do and we are committed to building positive, trusting relationships with children and their families enabling children to grow and learn as individuals. Our educators work collaboratively with families and the local community to ensure we provide a quality service that fosters positive outcomes for children, families and the wider community.

### Community

Our children embrace being part of the school community through our involvement in the sports carnival and other events. We continue to open various events and meetings with our own Welcome to Country.

We have weekly visits to the library where our students engage positively in books, and they have also learnt the process of borrowing books. Through this weekly experience our children are being provided an opportunity to extend on their language development.

Our children enjoy visiting the little children's playground and often join our Vacation Care children when they have experiences at the school.

Our pre-school aged children attended Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School, *Footsteps in Faith and Learning Program* during Term 4. This provided them with an opportunity to see what a classroom looks like and to familiarise themselves with the school and the routines of a school day.

# **OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OSHC)**

Outside of Hours School Care (OSHC) has been providing before school, after school and vacation care services for over 20 years.

The service utilises the school grounds and our children enjoy exploring the large outdoor environment through a variety of games, teacher initiated and self-initiated experiences. Our educators are committed to ensuring that primary school-aged children are provided with a freedom of choice in experiences which is balanced with age-appropriate programming and opportunities for child-initiated planning.

As part of the school's five-year business plan, we are wanting to build a purpose built/multi-purpose centre that enables our children to have one large indoor space that flows to an outdoor area with toilets onsite. This will be an amazing space for our children and educators.

### *Indoor spaces*

This year we have started to purchase flexible furniture for our OSHC building. The new couch comes in six pieces which enables us to change the set up as required.

Over the last year we have purchased a variety of resources to ensure our children have choices about the experiences they want to engage with. Our children enjoy soccer, basketball, art and craft experiences, Lego, construction, music related games and board games.

### Professional Development

Our service is committed to ensuring our educators are provided with opportunities to extend their knowledge and teaching methods through professional development.

Each year we come together as a group to identify our professional learning goals and focus in moving forward. We support our educators attending the Little People, Big Dreams Conference which is held each year.

### Planning for Vacation Care

Following Vacation Care our students are asked for feedback on the program provided. With this, our staff continue to make changes and improve the service as provided.

### Leadership

It is important to us to provide our students to take on leadership responsibilities throughout Out of School Hours Care. Our students are assigned roles to assist in the day-to-day running of each day.

# CHAIRPERSON SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

It was another successful and fun year at Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School in 2022, with the whole school coming together in partnership to continue "To Live, To Love and To Grow in Christ."

The school continued to revitalise its facilities with major works being completed on school fencing, block work and bus shelter (along Angelo Street) and front office entrance and upgrades. New works also saw an improvement to road safety for our students with electronic speed signs installed on Gsell Street and additional signage installed at the Drop and Go parking bays.

Funding options are continuing to be explored to allow for perimeter fencing to be finalised along Trower Road and school carpark upgrades to further improve school safety.

In Late 2022 Block Grant Authority was approved for an Inclusion Work and Learning space for children and staff. This will allow for children and staff to have a designated space to work, with works commencing in 2023.

The *Bring Your Own Designated Device (BYODD)* roll out also began with the support of the School Board with implementation beginning in the 2023 school year. The devices will allow students in Years 3 to 6 to have personal access to technology for educational purposes and to enhance and develop their information technology learning skills.

The School Board reviewed and ratified many policies currently in place at our school. It is important that we continue to review these to ensure they are current and reflect our school context.

The whole school community enjoyed the school production, *Lights, Camera, Dance* at the Darwin Entertainment Centre. This was a fantastic evening for all involved where children and staff were able to showcase their wonderful talents to family and friends.

I would like to thank all Board Members for giving their time and contributions in 2022. Thank you to Father Dave Callaghan for the continued support provided from the Parish. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Paula Sellars as Principal of our school and all of the Holy Spirit staff for their leadership and professionalism in ensuring our children are provided with the best possible education. This is through their dedication fulfilling the Holy Spirit Teaching and Learning Mission that "creates meaningful and challenging learning environments which value lifelong learning, high expectations and collaborative partnerships between home, school and the wider community, respecting our Catholic identity."

The School Board will continue in 2023 to work towards the vision of community striving to build a place where all people feel supported and valued. We are looking forward to another successful year ahead and continuing to contribute to the school community.

Sarah McKay

**School Board Chairperson** 

**Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School** 

# **FUTURE PRIORITIES**

From the work this year on our Strategic plan and in line with our school improvement goals, the following areas have been identified as priority areas for 2022:

### 1. Catholic Identity

- Provide staff and students with spiritual formation opportunities
- Continue to build the vibrancy of liturgy, sacramental and prayer life within the school community
- Develop pedagogy around the delivery of a quality Religious Education Program.

### 2. Teaching and Learning

- Student achievement data is used to help determine specific ways to enhance learning for all students, with a focus on EAL/D
- Teachers meet regularly to discuss student progress and to plan whole school approaches to teaching and learning, with Professional Learning Communities, Instructional Coaching and designated staff meetings

### 3. Leadership

- Continue Strategic Professional learning teams
- Use the Teaching and Leadership competency standards as frameworks for coaching conversations
- Provide regular professional development to all staff, which targets learning priorities

### 4. Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

- The implementation of the school wide program Be You Framework and processes,
- The Work, Health and Safety practices will be continuously reviewed and improved across all areas of the school

### 5. Community and Culture

- Increased Parent involvement and shared partnerships between school and home
- Use many strategies for collaborating with staff, students and parents to engage all in the "community and culture" of the school
- Revisit the Reconciliation Action Plan for the school community

### 6. Finance, Facilities and Resources

- Consult, prioritise and action plans to meet the strategic plan
- Continue to develop a School Master Plan that is comprehensive and reviewed annually to ensure projects are planned, funded and implemented



The information in this report has been verified and the priorities endorsed by the Director of Catholic Education.

Paula Dellay	SM
Mrs. Paula Sellars	Mrs. Sarah McKay
Principal	School Board Chairperson
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December, 2022	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December, 2022
Date	Date
Theores	
Mr. Greg O'Mullane	
Director of Catholic Education, NT.	
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December, 2022	
Date	