



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
WILCANNIA-FORBES

2023

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT



St Patrick's Parish School

1 Austin St, TRUNDLE 2875

Principal: Mrs Judith Ryan

Web: www.wf.catholic.edu.au/schools/trundle/

About this report

St Patrick's Parish School (the 'School') is registered by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and managed by the Catholic Education Office (CEO), Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes. The CEO as the 'approved authority' for the diocesan registration system formed under Section 39 of the NSW Education Act (1990), is responsible for monitoring the compliance of member schools in the manner that has been approved by the Minister of Education.

The Annual School Report (the 'Report') demonstrates accountability to regulatory bodies and the CEO. Additionally, the Report complements and is supplementary to other forms of regular communication to the School community regarding initiatives, activities and programs which support the learning and wellbeing of its students.

The Report provides parents and the wider community with fair, reliable and objective information about educational and financial performance measures as well as School and system policies. This information includes summary contextual data, an overview of student performance in state and national assessments, a description of the achievement of priorities in the previous year and areas for improvement. Detailed information about the School's improvement journey is documented in the Annual Improvement Plan (AIP) which is developed, implemented and evaluated in consultation with key stakeholders.

Further information about the contents of this Report may be obtained by contacting the School directly or by visiting the School's website. Information can also be obtained from the [My School website](#).

Message from key groups in our community

Principal's Message

Saint Patrick's Parish School is a welcoming and inclusive community. As a vibrant community of learners, I trust that this report will reflect that passion and enthusiasm for a stronger focus on a collaborative culture to support learning. The School Motto, "Live, Love, Learn," is a testament to our core values and aspirations.

At St. Patrick's Parish School, Trundle, the spiritual development of every child within the Catholic tradition is central to our mission. We strive to instil in our students a sense of God's presence in their lives and to deepen their understanding of the mission of Jesus. It is through this foundation that we guide them to lead lives rooted in faith, love, and the pursuit of knowledge.

The wellbeing of our school is valued and enhanced by the outstanding contributions of our students, the staff, our parents and the wider community.

Parent Body Message

The St. Patrick's Parish School Advisory Committee and St. Patrick's Parents and Friends Association extend our heartfelt gratitude to all members of our school community for your incredible support throughout 2023. Your generosity and commitment have been instrumental in creating a nurturing and thriving environment for our students, staff, and families.

At St. Patrick's, we have continued to foster a culture of active parental involvement, where shared responsibility and student leadership are at the forefront of our mission. We believe that the partnership between parents, teachers, and the school community is essential for the success and growth of our children.

Under the guidance of our dedicated Principal and the collaborative efforts of the Parents & Friends group, various opportunities have been provided for parents to actively engage in the life of our school. We value your contributions, ideas, and the unique perspectives you bring to our community. Your active involvement is a testament to the welcoming and inclusive atmosphere that St. Patrick's Parish School stands for.

Throughout 2023, we undertook major fundraising projects that included catering, athletics carnivals, and our annual Bush Tucker Day. These initiatives were made possible through the collective efforts of parents, staff, and students, and they have played a significant role in supporting our school's programs and activities. The School Cook Book also continued to make valuable contributions through sales.

The heart of St. Patrick's Parish School lies in the collaborative spirit of parents, staff, and students working together as a dedicated team. This partnership is crucial in upholding the tradition of excellence in education that St. Patrick's is known for. Together, we have provided outstanding educational opportunities for all our students.

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the incredible staff of St. Patrick's School. Their continuous support of the Parents and Friends Association has been unwavering, and we are immensely grateful for all that they do. Their dedication to our children's education is a cornerstone of our school's success.

As we look back on 2023, we are proud of the unity, determination, and sense of community that have defined our journey. Your involvement, generosity, and commitment to our school have made a profound impact, and we are excited about the promising future that lies ahead for St. Patrick's Parish School.

Thank you for being a vital part of our vibrant and supportive school community.

With sincere gratitude and warm regards,

St. Patrick's School Parents & Friends Association 2023

St. Patrick's School Advisory Committee 2023

Student Body Message

2023 was an extraordinary year for the student body at St. Patrick's Parish School. Four Year 6 students were given the tremendous honour of taking on the role of School Leader, and we embraced this opportunity with open hearts and open minds. It was a privilege that we carried with immense pride.

One of our key responsibilities was to lead the weekly school assemblies. It was an experience that allowed us to connect with our fellow students and showcase the values and spirit that define St. Patrick's. Additionally, we took pride in serving as altar servers during School Masses, ensuring that our school community came together in faith and unity.

Throughout the year, we organized small fundraising events, further strengthening the sense of community and support within our school. We also played an active role in coordinating major events like the school swimming carnival, cross country, and athletics carnivals, where we witnessed the enthusiasm and talent of our fellow students.

As School Leaders, we welcomed visitors into our school with warmth and grace, ensuring that they experienced the unique spirit of St. Patrick's. We held regular meetings with our classroom teachers and the principal, where we reflected on our roles as leaders and explored ways to enhance our contributions to the school community.

Furthermore, we led the Mini-Vinnies group in their fundraising initiatives, exemplifying our commitment to service and social justice. We actively participated in our parish Youth Group activities, guided by the Leader of Youth Ministry in the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese, deepening our spiritual and community involvement.

As we reflect on the year that was, we are filled with gratitude for the trust placed in us and the support we received from our school community. We are proud of the positive impact we were able to make and the sense of unity and shared purpose that we all fostered.

School Features

St Patrick's Parish Primary School is a Catholic systemic co-educational school located in Trundle. The School caters for students in Kindergarten to Year 6, and has a current enrolment of 31. The Sisters of Mercy commenced teaching in Trundle in 1924. The current school was constructed in 1927. St Patrick's occupies a central site in Trundle.

There are 3 original classrooms with an old church attached to the rear of the original school. This is now the school hall area. A new administration block comprising a library, resource room, staff room, toilets, interview room, administration and principal's office was constructed in 2002. Through the Building the Education Revolution Program, modern toilet facilities and a covered outdoor learning area have been completed and were officially opened in 2011.

As a school the staff seek to nurture the diversity of learners in the community, encouraging each student to fulfil their academic and personal potential in a culture of care and respect. The school motto 'Live, Love, Learn' calls everyone to take the wisdom and understanding that comes with education and combine it with the school values - respect, service, justice, hope and celebration, so that all may truly live a life modelled on that of Jesus and his care for people.

St Patrick's is committed to supporting the wellbeing of all students by creating a safe, supportive, respectful and engaging learning community. Students are encouraged to become involved in the wealth of available programs and pursuits on offer from sports to social justice projects and whole school events such as the swimming and athletics carnivals, gala days, and youth ministry activities which provide wonderful opportunities for faith development.

At St Patrick's the staff believe in working with parents and carers to provide the best possible environment for each student's overall academic achievement and wellbeing. Working in partnership with parents and carers, the staff aim to nurture and support all students to understand and accept their own individuality, their gifts, challenges and strengths in a caring environment.

The staff of St Patrick's, together with the Parish Priest, and under the direction of the Wilcannia Forbes Catholic Education Office continue to meet the educational and spiritual needs of students from the parish of St Michaels'. The welfare of each child and their family, as well as the development of a deep sense of community, was recognised as the shared responsibility of the priest, staff, students parents, and carers of the school.

Student Profile

Student Enrolment

St Patrick's Parish School caters for students in Years K-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
17	12	0	29

* Language Background Other than English

Enrolment Policy

The [Enrolment Policy](#) applies to all school enrolments within the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese. School authorities manage local enrolment processes and procedures in a manner consistent with the rationale and guiding principles articulated in this Enrolment Policy and accompanying procedures. It aims to:

- Set direction for school procedures and practices for enrolling students into Catholic primary schools within the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes.
- Establish a common, consistent approach in enrolment practices.
- Assist the system of Catholic schools to:
 - provide schooling, where possible, for children of Catholic families who seek enrolment
 - cater for the individual needs of each child equitably within the constraints of the available teaching and material resources
 - encourage parents enrolling their children in Catholic schools to give support to parish and school life, especially in education in faith.

Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for 2023 was 87.23%. Attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group						
Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
91.50	90.70	82.00	92.50	82.50	86.60	84.80

Managing Student Non-Attendance

Regular attendance at St Patrick's Parish School is essential if students are 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 Director of Catholic Education or designated Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes Schools 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.

Staffing Profile

Staffing Profile

The following information describes the staffing profile for 2023:

Total number of staff	5
Number of full time teaching staff	4
Number of part time teaching staff	1
Number of non-teaching staff	5

Total number of teaching staff by NESA category

Teachers at St Patrick's Parish School are either accredited as conditional, provisional or proficient as defined by the NSW Teacher Accreditation Act 2004. Accreditation at the levels of Highly Accomplished and Lead teacher are voluntary. The number of teachers within the Diocesan Schools System (systemic schools) at these levels is as follows:

- Conditional 13 teachers
- Provisional 11 teachers
- Proficient 197 teachers
- Highly Accomplished 1 teacher

Additionally, there are approximately 2 teachers who are currently actively engaged in the submission process at the higher levels of accreditation. Teacher status at individual schools can be sourced directly from the School.

Professional Learning

The ongoing professional development of each staff member is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including whole school staff days, subject-specific in services, meetings and conferences and a range of professional learning programs provided by the Catholic Education Office (CEO).

St Patrick's Parish School takes responsibility for planning, implementing, evaluating and tracking of its staff professional learning and individual staff members take responsibility for their ongoing professional development. During the year all teachers have been involved in professional learning opportunities related to improving student outcomes.

Summary of professional learning at this school

Day One - Overview of 2023 School year/ASIP/Compliance/School Procedures for 2023

Day Two - RE Day - Mission, Identity & Religious Education PD

Day Three - Staying the Course: 14 Parameters and High Impact Teaching Refresher

Day Four - Well Being (Twilight)

Day Five - Diocesan Symposium system-wide curriculum reform Day

Day Six - Maths/English reform

Day Seven - School-based work utilising our new CEWF Learning Portal - modules and unpacking the 2024 CEWF Curriculum

Day Eight - ASIP & Data Analysis

Catholic Identity and Mission

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Wilcannia Forbes operate under the leadership of the bishop and in partnership with parents, priests and school staff. St Patrick's Parish School constitutes a key component of the Church's mission of evangelisation and catechesis. The diocesan Religious Education program, Educating in Christ emphasises the kerygma (proclaiming the essential message of Christ), mystagogy (linking the sacraments with the Scriptures), appropriate moral formation, and prayer. It uses a modified Montessori pedagogy and pays close attention to the developmental stage of each child, accompanying each one as they pursue their own personal relationship with Christ.

At St. Patrick's School, we hold a deep commitment to nurturing the spiritual growth of our students through prayer, liturgical life, and faith experiences. In the 2023 school year, our students had numerous opportunities to celebrate and strengthen their faith within our community.

Prayer: At St. Patrick's Parish School, prayer is an integral part of daily life. Our mission is to guide each student as they nurture their relationship with Christ. The school offers a nurturing environment for prayer and reflection, where students are encouraged to connect with God on a deep and personal level. This goes beyond routine prayers and encompasses the development of a genuine spiritual connection.

Through the rich diocesan Religious Education program, students are allowed to explore various forms of prayer, both communal and personal. They learn to communicate with God through traditional prayers, spontaneous expressions of faith, and meditative practices. This aspect of our mission ensures that prayer becomes a meaningful and transformative experience for each student.

Liturgical Life: Our commitment to the Catholic faith is reflected in the liturgical life at St. Patrick's Parish School. Every week, our students actively participate in Mass or a Liturgy of the Word. These experiences are designed to engage students in a profound way, where they are involved in the preparation of readings, offertory, and the prayers of the faithful. This active participation instills a sense of responsibility and reverence for the liturgy.

Additionally, when arranged by the Parish Priest, students also attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation, further deepening their connection to the sacramental life of the Church. These liturgical experiences create a sense of belonging, community, and a deeper understanding of the Catholic tradition, fostering a sense of spiritual growth.

Faith Experiences: St. Patrick's Parish School recognises that faith formation extends beyond the classroom. We are dedicated to providing a holistic faith experience that permeates every aspect of school life. Students engage in various activities that support and

enrich their faith journeys. These experiences include sacramental preparation, youth ministry, and opportunities for practical outreach.

Our students are encouraged to actively participate in service to others, aligning with Catholic agencies such as Catholic Mission, Caritas, and St. Vincent de Paul. This not only helps them develop empathy and compassion but also connects them to the larger global community and the mission of the Catholic Church.

As a Catholic school within the Parish Community, our foundation is the Gospel Values of Jesus. We aim to nurture the development of the whole person, ensuring that faith is integrated into every aspect of their lives. We believe that this integration of faith, life, and culture is essential in preparing our students to become responsible, compassionate, and spiritually grounded individuals.

In conclusion, St. Patrick's Parish School remains dedicated to its mission of providing excellent Catholic education while nurturing the faith, values, and personal relationships with Christ for each student. Our commitment to prayer, liturgical life, and faith experiences ensures that our students are well-equipped to embrace the Catholic tradition and lead lives of purpose and service.

Curriculum, Learning and Teaching

St Patrick's Parish School provides an educational program based on, and taught in accordance with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) syllabuses for primary education. The Key Learning Areas (KLAs) are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology (S&T), Human Society and its Environment (HSIE), Creative Arts (CA) and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE). In addition to this, the School implements the Diocesan Religious Education syllabus. Staff members strive for continuous improvement of teaching and learning in all facets of the curriculum.

In 2023, St Patrick's Parish School engaged in the NSW Curriculum Reform. Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes, provided professional development opportunities aligned with the new curriculum standards in English and Mathematics for all staff.

St Patrick's Parish School is committed to providing quality education that strives to meet the needs of every child. The curriculum is underpinned by Catholic values and the Diocesan Statement of Faith and Mission.

St. Patrick's Trundle, in its commitment to fostering a vibrant and effective learning environment, has carefully designed its primary curriculum for 2023 to encompass a range of innovative features aimed at ensuring student success and holistic development.

At the core of St. Patrick's educational approach is a robust learning support program. Recognising the diverse needs of students, the school has implemented targeted interventions to provide additional assistance to those who require it. This personalised support ensures that every student can thrive academically, fostering an inclusive environment where each child can reach their full potential.

The school's commitment to improving student achievement is evident in its whole-school approaches, particularly in Key Learning Areas (KLAs). St. Patrick's has implemented strategic initiatives to elevate student outcomes in core subjects such as English, mathematics, and the sciences. Through collaborative planning and professional development, educators at St. Patrick's are equipped with the tools and knowledge to deliver high-quality instruction, tailored to meet the unique needs of their students.

A notable aspect of the curriculum at St. Patrick's is the continuous enhancement and development of curriculum policies. The school has taken a proactive stance in staying abreast of educational advancements, aligning its policies with the latest research and best practices. This ensures that the curriculum remains dynamic, relevant, and responsive to the changing needs of the students and the broader educational landscape.

In parallel, the school places a strong emphasis on the evolution of school-wide pedagogy. Recognizing the importance of a cohesive instructional approach, St. Patrick's has instituted processes that encourage collaboration among educators. This collaborative ethos extends beyond individual classrooms, fostering a sense of shared responsibility for student success across the entire school community. The result is a unified and effective pedagogical approach that permeates all aspects of teaching and learning.

St. Patrick's Trundle is at the forefront of integrating digital technologies into the learning experience. The school recognises the transformative power of technology in enhancing student engagement and fostering 21st-century skills. From interactive whiteboards to online learning platforms, students at St. Patrick's benefit from a technologically rich environment that prepares them for the challenges of an increasingly digital world.

In conclusion, St. Patrick's Trundle's primary curriculum for 2023 reflects a commitment to excellence, inclusivity, and innovation. Through targeted learning support, whole-school approaches to elevate student achievement, continuous curriculum policy enhancement, collaborative development of school-wide pedagogy, and the integration of digital technologies, St. Patrick's ensures that its students are well-prepared for success in both academic and real-world contexts.

Student Performance in Tests and Examinations

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The purpose of NAPLAN is to provide information to parents and teachers about the achievements of students in literacy and numeracy. The test provides a measure of the student's performance against established standards and against other students in Australia. Each year the results are analysed by the school to inform teaching with a view to improving student performance.

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards with 4 levels of achievement to give teachers, parents and carers clearer information on how students are performing:

- Exceeding: The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- Strong: The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- Developing: The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
- Needs additional support: The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

The percentage of student achieving at Exceeding and Strong proficiency standards in NAPLAN at St Patrick's Parish School for 2023 is reported in the table below.

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
		School	Australia
Year 3	Grammar and Punctuation	50%	54%
	Reading	75%	67%
	Writing	75%	76%
	Spelling	100%	61%
	Numeracy	75%	65%

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
		School	Australia
Year 5	Grammar and Punctuation	50%	64%
	Reading	67%	74%
	Writing	67%	66%
	Spelling	50%	69%
	Numeracy	50%	68%

Pastoral Care and Student Wellbeing

Pastoral Care Policy

The School's pastoral care and student wellbeing policies guidelines and procedures are informed by the [Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy](#).

The Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy aims to provide a framework for the policies, programs, resources and practices implemented at system and school level with the purpose of supporting and enhancing the wellbeing of students, and all within its school community. It refers to the overall climate of care that exists within a Catholic school.

The environment is designed to be safe and inclusive, one that promotes academic rigour. A high priority is given to building and maintaining positive and caring relationships between staff, students and parents, and the wellbeing of all.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the CEWF website or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy was reviewed in 2023 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.

Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy

The School's policies and procedures for the management of student behaviour are aligned to the [Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy](#). Policies operate within a context that all members of the school community share responsibility to foster, encourage and promote positive behaviour and respectful relationships.

The policy aims to promote a safe and supportive learning environment to maximise teaching and learning time for all students. It supports the development of students' pro-social behaviour based on respectful relationships and clear behavioural expectations. The dignity and responsibility of each person is promoted at all times along with positive student behaviours while ensuring the respect for the rights of all students and staff.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the [CEWF website](#) or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy was reviewed in 2022 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.

Anti-Bullying Policy

The School's Anti-Bullying guidelines and procedures are based on and informed by the [Anti-Bullying Policy](#) and is aligned to the Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy and other related wellbeing policies and guidelines. All students, their families and employees within Catholic education have a right to a learning and work environment free from intimidation, humiliation and hurt.

Anti-Bullying policies support school communities to prevent, reduce and respond to bullying.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the [CEWF website](#) or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Anti-Bullying Policy was reviewed in 2023 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.

Complaints Handling Policy

The School follows the [Concerns and Complaints Handling Policy](#). A distinctive feature of this policy is to ensure that complaints are addressed in a timely and confidential manner at the lowest appropriate management level in order to prevent minor problems or concerns from escalating. The expectation is that complaints will be brought forward and resolved in a respectful manner recognising the dignity of each person concerned in the process.

The policy recognises that a number of more minor or simple matters can be resolved without recourse to the formal complaint handling process but rather, quickly and simply, by discussion between the appropriate people.

Further information about this and other related policies may be obtained from the [CEWF website](#) or by contacting the Catholic Education Office.

The Concerns and Complaints Handling Policy was reviewed in 2023 and approved by the Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes (CEWF) Leadership Team.

Initiatives promoting respect and responsibility

At St Patrick's School, our commitment to fostering a culture of respect, responsibility and positive behaviour is deeply ingrained in our educational approach. We believe that instilling these values in our students is essential for their personal growth and development.

Promotion of Respect and Responsibility:

The values of respect and responsibility are at the core of our school's mission and are consistently promoted across all aspects of school life. Our commitment to these values is evident in both our teaching and daily interactions. The Christian values we uphold stand in

stark contrast to bullying, and they are consistently reinforced through our words and actions at all stages of the school.

Moral Education and Religious Context:

One of the key strategies to promote respect and responsibility is through "Moral Education" within the context of religious education, liturgies, and assemblies. These settings provide a platform for affirming the value of each individual and emphasize the importance of qualities such as compassion, kindness, reconciliation, tolerance, respect, and justice. Our religious programs play a pivotal role in nurturing these values.

Restorative Practices Framework:

The sustained implementation of the Restorative Practices Framework has been instrumental in teaching positive conflict resolution. This framework encourages cooperative problem-solving within the classroom and on the playground, all while upholding the dignity of every individual. Staff and students, particularly those in leadership roles such as peer support and school captains, serve as role models in demonstrating respect and responsibility.

Counseling and Support Services:

Counseling is an essential aspect of promoting respect and responsibility within our school community. We provide counseling services through the Royal Far West (RFW) Telecare program, as well as other support services when needed. We are committed to ensuring the well-being of all members of our school community. Additionally, we support parents through information seminars and support networks to strengthen their understanding of these values.

Initiatives Fostering Respect and Responsibility:

Several initiatives and programs play a crucial role in promoting respect and responsibility within our school community. These include:

Making Jesus Real (MJR) Initiatives:

These initiatives infuse our everyday activities with Christian values and encourage students to emulate the teachings of Jesus.

Mini Vinnies:

This program focuses on social justice and pastoral care issues, fostering a sense of responsibility toward the broader community.

Religious Education Lessons:

The curriculum emphasises respect and responsibility, intertwining them with religious teachings.

Restorative Practices Initiatives:

Through this framework, we instill the values of respect and responsibility while teaching students constructive ways to resolve conflicts.

School Assemblies:

School captains play a pivotal role in leading assemblies, where these values are highlighted.

Altar Serving:

Students actively participate in school and parish masses, contributing to the community and reinforcing their sense of responsibility.

Newsletter Focus Areas:

Our weekly newsletters focus on MJR and Restorative Practices, ensuring continuous reinforcement of these values.

Stage Three Student Responsibilities:

Students in Stage Three have weekly responsibilities around the school, encouraging a sense of ownership and responsibility.

Buddy System:

New students are welcomed into the school community through a buddy system, where older students guide and support them, fostering a culture of respect and responsibility.

In conclusion, the initiatives and strategies in place at St. Patrick's Parish School are designed to ensure that respect and responsibility are deeply ingrained in our school's culture. These values are nurtured through various educational programs, student-led initiatives, and support services, creating a positive and inclusive environment where every member of our school community feels valued and empowered to act responsibly.

School Improvement

The focus for St Patrick's Parish School and the Catholic Education Office, together, is system improvement and capacity building to deliver on wellbeing and learning for all students within our Catholic community. All Wilcannia-Forbes systemic schools engage in an annual cycle of school improvement. The Annual Review and Planning Cycle: Developing the Annual Improvement Plan assists and supports schools in this endeavour.

St Patrick's Parish School undertakes an internal review (self-assessment) which is context-specific, evidence-informed and outcomes-focused. The Annual Improvement Plan is the output of the internal school review and targets priorities for improvement in two domains: Mission and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching.

Practices are systematically evaluated for their effectiveness in producing desired improvements in student learning and performance.

Key Improvements Achieved

Annual School Priority One for 2023:

To further the goal of bringing students into closer intimacy with Christ, by continuing to engage parents, community, parish, and Parish Priest through the preparation and celebration of the Sacraments.

Reason for priority 1:

- continue to implement the new diocesan Religious Education Curriculum using the upgraded
- scope and sequence with an emphasis on a variety of Responses, student reflections and journals.
- continue to engage with parents, carers, the Parish community, and students in the sacramental preparation/program.

Steps taken to achieve priority 1:

- Parish Priest engages students by visiting and talking in classes.
- parents informed through Sacramental 'packs' and conversations with REC and classroom teachers
- retreat sessions where parents are welcome to be part of Masses, where students share their learning with family/ community members using the Educating In Christ presentations.
- Inviting family members and community to the Religious Education classroom to join students in their lessons with a focus on the Sacraments.

Status of priority 1:

- Achieved

Annual School Priority Two for 2023:

LITERACY Priority: Implement a whole school approach to Literacy underpinned by explicit, coherent and sequenced plans across all grades for Reading and spelling.

- **Numeracy priority: Implement the K-2 Maths syllabus using the support units provided by the Wilcannia Forbes Catholic education office using effective explicit and systematic strategies for the teaching of numeracy skills.**

In 2023, teachers engage with the Maths syllabus for 3-6 and plan and prepare for implementation of the curriculum in 2024.

Reason for priority 2:

- improve student learning through evidence-based pedagogy that aligns with the outcomes of the Maths & English K-6 Syllabus documents
- empower teachers using systematic, direct and explicit instructional strategies based on rigorous research.
- undertake regular, collaborative monitoring and reporting of individual progress to inform the next steps in teaching, particularly through our professional learning staff meetings.
- reflect upon and develop our whole-school literacy and numeracy processes, encompassing planning, monitoring and review.
- Incorporate High Yield strategies throughout our classrooms gathering and interpreting data to inform classroom teaching Assessments for, as, and of learning as articulated in the Waterfall Chart

Steps taken to achieve priority 2:

- DIBELS data professional Development workshops lead by experts
- implementation of programs that demonstrated systematic and explicit teaching practices
- analysing of ESTA -L Data
- pre and post-assessment completed by teachers to determine growth in pedagogical content knowledge
- literacy & numeracy block and agreed practices implemented
- support provided for teacher application of knowledge within the classroom
- learning walk observations provided opportunities for teacher feedback

- case management meetings
- analysing of MAI data
- analysing of InitialLit Data
- analysing of Spelling Mastery data
- professional learning timetable created

Status of priority 2:

- Achieved

Priority Key Improvements for Next Year

Annual Priority One for 2024:

CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND MISSION

Reason for Priority 1:

- empower our school community to foster a vibrant Catholic identity and engage actively in our mission. Strive for excellence in delivering quality Religious Education, ensuring it is integrated, impactful, and inspiring for all learners.

Steps to be taken to achieve Priority 1:

- engage with the units of Educating and Christ and become more competent in teaching these units
- promote reflective learning by encouraging students to maintain journals, allowing them to contemplate various topics covered in the religious education curriculum and explore their practical applications in their everyday lives.
- spiritual formation and professional learning opportunities for staff
- organise retreats and workshops focused on spiritual growth. Encourage staff to maintain reflective journals as per the children.
- ongoing professional development sessions that intertwine Catholic teachings with professional growth.
- participation in authentic social justice initiatives
- community Visits: Plan visits to the retirement home and hospital
Cultural Celebrations: This promotes inclusivity and understanding among different ethnicities and backgrounds.
- fundraising Events for those less fortunate

- promote Regular Liturgical Participation
- continue to hold regular Masses and Liturgies, inviting parents and the wider community to participate.
- encourage student involvement in liturgical ministries (altar servers, choir, etc.)
Youth Ministry- continue to encourage children to be involved

Annual Priority Two for 2024:

LEARNING AND TEACHING

Reason for Priority 2:

- improve literacy and numeracy student achievement outcomes by implementing the 'Agreed Practices for the teaching of English and Mathematics effectively.
- provide targeted professional learning for the staff to effectively implement the NSW Curriculum Reform.

Steps to be taken to achieve Priority 2:

- promote an expectation within English and mathematics that each student achieves consistent progress and growth annually.
- all staff will be involved in analysing data and feel confident to interrogate the data to improve student growth
- articulate school shared practices and evidence-based pedagogies for English and mathematics.
- agreed practices will be compiled by the staff to support the teaching and learning practices
- utilise the online learning portal to provide access to both system-developed and external high-quality professional learning
- engaging, enacting and embedding a deep implementation and understanding of the NSW Curriculum Reform.

Community Satisfaction

The opinions and ideas of parents, students and teachers are valued and sought. Their suggestions are incorporated into planning for and achieving improved outcomes for students. This year, a variety of processes have been used to gain information about the level of satisfaction with St Patrick's Parish School from parents, students and teachers.

Parent satisfaction

In a parental survey, all respondents strongly agreed (50%) and agreed (50%) that St Patrick's Parish school Trundle, helped their child to develop knowledge and understanding of Catholic tradition, whilst 50% of parents strongly agreed and 50% agreed that St Patrick's Parish School Trundle provided opportunities for parents to be involved in school life and activities.

Parents were asked if their child was challenged to maximise their learning, 50% of parents strongly agreed with this statement, whilst 50% agreed. All respondents strongly agreed (50%) or agreed (50%) that St Patrick's Parish school meets their child's individual learning needs.

25% of all parents strongly agreed that the school effectively communicates to parents about activities and events, whilst 50% agreed with this statement. A further 25% of parents disagreed that the school provides appropriate information about their child's progress.

All parents strongly agreed (75%) or agreed (25%) that St Patrick's Parish School Trundle provides a safe and supportive environment for their children. 50% of all respondents strongly agreed that teachers are genuinely interested in the welfare of the students, whilst the remaining 50% agreed with this statement.

Student satisfaction

All students at St Patrick's Parish School strongly agreed or agreed that the school helped them in developing knowledge and understanding of the Catholic tradition. 50% of students surveyed were proud of their school.

Seventy-two percent of students believed that their teacher encouraged them to do their best in school activities, whilst all students surveyed stated that they understood their rights and responsibilities at school.

Fifty percent of students feel safe and believed that St Patrick's Parish School offered them a range of sporting and curriculum choices. Most students (86%) understood who they could approach for help if needed at school.

Teacher satisfaction

All staff surveyed enjoy working at St Patrick's Parish School Trundle, they classified the school as extremely safe (100%), which fosters and encourages collaboration between fellow teachers and support staff.

All staff agreed that the school gave the right amount of attention to Standardised Testing and the expectation for student growth was 100% extremely.

All staff felt that the school cared about their professional growth, with 66.7% of respondents extremely satisfied and 33% a lot satisfied with their teaching experience at St Patrick's Parish School, Trundle.

Financial Statement

Consistent with the NESAs requirements, financial income and expenditure for St Patrick's Parish School in 2023 is shown below. This School Financial Information is based on the detailed information provided to the Commonwealth Government in the Commonwealth Financial Questionnaire.

Recurrent and Capital Income 2023	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants ¹	\$1,115,535
Government Capital Grants ²	\$0
State Recurrent Grants ³	\$292,661
Fees and Private Income ⁴	\$137,460
Interest Subsidy Grants	\$0
Other Capital Income ⁵	\$2,944
Total Income	\$1,548,600

Recurrent and Capital Expenditure 2023	
Capital Expenditure ⁶	\$4,243
Salaries and Related Expenses ⁷	\$1,205,383
Non-Salary Expenses ⁸	\$55,599
Total Expenditure	\$1,265,225

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.

END OF 2023 REPORT