



2015

Annual Report

Henschke Catholic Primary School, Wagga Wagga

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The School

Henschke Primary School motto is 'To Serve One Another in Love'. This motto is actively displayed throughout the school by staff and families every day.

The school has had many highlights throughout the year and this Annual Report is an account of the many areas addressed, attainments made and the achievements of our students and staff.

Catholic Identity

Henschke Primary School is the largest Coeducation Primary School in Wagga Wagga, located 'on top of the hill' in Bourke Street.

We are proud of our strong traditions and Foundations, as the Saint Maria Goretti School, founded by the Presentation Sisters in 1952, and the Bishop Henschke Boy's School founded by the Christian Brothers in 1962. We have grown from modest beginnings to our current enrolment of **566**, and have many plans for the future development and growth of our school.

Although the physical appearance of Henschke has changed significantly over the years, our core values remain the same. We aim to instil Catholic ethos and values into all and nurture each individual's talents and skills through our range of curriculum experiences and extra-curricular opportunities. Our school's Vision and Mission is very much at the heart of what we do.

Our Vision Statement

The Children of Henschke Primary will know that they are always loved by God and they will return that love in word and deed as they follow Jesus throughout their lives.

Mission

To achieve this vision the Henschke Primary School Community commits itself to being:

- A community of faith where the good news of God's everlasting love is proclaimed and our Catholic religion and faith traditions are taught and celebrated.
- A community of Christian witness, where gospel values form the basis for living and learning.
- A caring and inclusive learning community where diversity is respected and students are supported to maximise their talents and achieve their potential.
- A community of service, playing an active part in shaping a better world by modelling and promoting the use of each other's gifts for the benefit of society.

In 2015 we have continued to live-out and celebrate our uniqueness as a Catholic school within the Wagga Wagga Diocese.

Religious Education

This year Henschke Catholic Primary School continued its proud tradition of supporting parents and Parish in the preparation and presentation of students for three Sacraments: **Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation**. This focus included providing parents with evenings that included some Sacramental Education, general Information and an opportunity for questions. All grades were involved in Commitment Weekends within the Parish Masses.

The Staff were In-serviced on Module 3 (**Vocation**) as part of the Diocesan Faith Story and Witness Program. Staff also attended an evening with International author and speaker Father Richard Leonard SJ. A Staff Meeting each term was allocated to Religious Education.

All Classes were involved in grade, stage and school masses and Paraliturgies. Paraliturgies highlighted the key moments in our Liturgical Calendar and were strongly supported by parental attendance. Stations of the Cross were held outside along our Aboriginal Walkway. Primary classes presented to an Infants' Buddy class and parents.

Presentation Day was held to acknowledge the Founding Order of the School and provide both students and teachers with the opportunity to meet and pray with the Presentation Sisters. The school was also represented at the Presentation Schools Conference held in Melbourne.

A sense of Social Justice is fostered through a strong commitment to supporting Catholic Mission, an Orphanage in East Timor, Rural Outreach and St Vincent de Paul Society. Two big Appeals were held with nearly one hundred baskets of groceries and Christmas presents given to the local St Vincent de Paul Society.

Our Year 6 students received outstanding results in the State RE tests with 12 High Distinctions, 20 Distinctions and 29 Credits.

Every class took part in a half day of activities each term associated with the Diocesan MJR Program. The philosophy of this program, to make Jesus real in the hearts and lives of each student is imbedded in the language and actions of the school.

With the help of our parents we hope the children will continue to live out our school vision with an active and spirit-filled Catholic life that reflects the unconditional love of our God.

A Message from key School Bodies

School Council

The School Council supports the mission of Catholic education in the local community. It works closely with the School Executive and Parish Priests to ensure the wellbeing of students and provide direction to the school. The Council is another expression of our school motto "To Serve One Another in Love".

The main area in which the School Council has responsibility is to advise on (and where appropriate endorse) are:

- Supporting the development of the Catholic ethos in the school.
- Promoting the school within the local community.
- Developing capital and maintenance programs.
- Developing local strategic plans (finances, buildings, resources and contributing to Diocesan educational strategic planning).
- Developing the school fee structure and annual budget.

During 2015 the School Council's major activities were:

- Replacement of a new air conditioner to the Administration building.
- Purchase of Commercial Floor Scrubber.
- New carpet to Year 5 and 6 classrooms.
- Exterior painting to sections of the school.
- Replacement of projectors in classrooms.
- Completion of the Indigenous Wagirri Murru Wilawurra Garden and walkway.
- Upgrade of Administration Printer.
- Primary Quad turf.
- Fencing.

Challenges for 2016 include:

- Alterations to pick-up zone.
- Develop a natural play space on playground.
- Exterior painting to sections of the school.

Capital Improvements

Over recent years Henschke has completed some significant projects that have improved classroom environments and whole school facilities. Some of these are:

- Drainage infants (2011)
- Upgrade of grounds (2011)
- Bus shelter & paving (2011)
- Boundary fencing (2012)
- Synthetic grass in Infants quad (2012)
- Plumbing repairs to Primary verandahs (2012)
- Tree removal and turf (2012)
- Upgrade of bubblers (2013)
- Established new gardens (2013)
- New Telephone System (2014)
- Memorial Garden (2014)
- Refurbishment of Year 1 and Year 5 classrooms (2014)
- New carpet to Administration building (2014)
- Replacement of classroom projectors (2014)

Through the generosity of the parish, parents and local trades-people and the school working bees a significant amount of maintenance work has been completed and continues to be worked on. The school is, currently in a sound position in terms of the condition of its buildings, whilst challenges lay ahead, many of the "big ticket" items have been addressed and the hard work of the maintenance committees can be seen. The five year maintenance plan allows this work to continue through specific working bees and maintenance work paid from the school budget.

The Council would like to acknowledge the efforts in fundraising by the Parents and Friends Association. The Council would also like to acknowledge the outstanding administrative support it receives from school Office staff and the support to the school made by Father Paddy Sykes and parishioners of the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima, South Wagga Wagga.

P & F Report

The P & F has enjoyed a very successful 2015, both financially and socially. Our fundraising activities including Presentation Day, School Fete, Pie Drive, Movie Night, Mother's Day Stall and the student discos were all very well supported.

Providing opportunities for social interaction, with the hope of encouraging a strong school community, has also been a major focus this year. The parents' social evening and welcome night for new families was hosted by the Parish and school and was well supported.

The P & F Executive Committee look forward to another great year in 2016.

Achievements in 2015:

- New interactive whiteboards for classrooms
- Purchase of Commercial Floor Scrubber
- Funding towards the Memorial garden.

Student Outcomes in Standardised National Literacy and Numeracy Testing

In 2015 the analysis of NAPLAN results show overall growth in the areas of Spelling, Grammar and Writing in Year 5. Reading has also shown improvement. Numeracy is the targeted aspect across both grades as data suggests that this is an area where improvement is needed. This will be the focus for professional development in 2016.

Professional Learning

Throughout 2015 the staff continued professional learning focused on the implementation of the Australian Curriculum for NSW. All staff were involved in the "History Big Day Out." Staff explored the new NSW K-10 History syllabus, history concepts and how to teach History in Primary Schools.

Professional learning also continued in English, with the staff participating in workshops run by PETAA. "Grammar and Meaning Unpacked" was presented by Sally Humphrey and extended teachers' knowledge of grammar and how meanings are constructed in spoken, written and visual texts.

Jennifer Asha presented: "Picture Books and Digital Texts: Reading And Viewing, Writing And Creating In A Multimodal Environment." Ideas that were explored in the presentation included teaching visual and verbal grammar as meaning-making tools for print based and digital texts and using picture books to support students in learning to respond critically to online and media texts.

The Staff completed Module 3 of the "Faith Story and Witness" Program, which focused on vocations. Staff also attended and evening with International Author and Speaker Father Richard Leonard SJ.

Professional learning sessions also included inquiry for school improvement, developing professional learning communities and formative assessment.

Teaching Staff

The NSW government requires that this report detail the number of teachers in the following categories:

A) Having teacher education qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines, or

B) Having a bachelor degree from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lacking formal teacher education qualifications.

A	B	TOTAL
33		33

Workforce Composition

Henschke employs 33 qualified teachers, of which three are male. We also have a clerical staff of three females and seven female teacher assistants. The majority of our workforce is employed on a full time basis with four people in job share situations and several others in a less than full time capacity. Two percent of the staff employed at Henschke are Indigenous Australians with the remaining 98% of the workforce from non-indigenous backgrounds.

Student Attendance

Student attendance rates for each Year level and the whole school

Year	Attendance %
Kinder	95%
Year 1	94%
Year 2	94%
Year 3	95%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	94%

Student Non-Attendance

Student non-attendance is managed at Henschke Primary School by:

- Recording in SAS system absentees on a daily basis.
- If a student is absent for an extended period of time, families are contacted.
- Partial absences are recorded in the book at the School Office.
- Requests from families for extended periods away from school are sent to the Principal for approval.

Enrolment Policy

Henschke Primary School Enrolment Policy aims to provide equitable prioritising of enrolment applications and to ensure that the requirements of State and commonwealth legislation are met. Our Enrolment Policy is supported by the Catholic Schools office Enrolment Policy.

Characteristics of the Student Body

Boys	Girls	Indig'	LOTE*	Total
274	292	12	83	566

**Language background Other Than English*

Structure of Classes

In 2015, Henschke Primary School had four streams of Year 1 classes and three streams of Kindergarten, Years 2 through to Year 6 classes.

School Policies

Student Welfare

The Pastoral Care Program aims to:

- Enhance positive relationships and connectedness across the whole school community by promoting mutual respect, communication, security and well-being.
- Recognise and nurture approaches to learning and teaching, across all curriculum areas, which endorse pastoral care.
- Coordinate and link policies and programs within the school with a particular focus on pastoral care.

Discipline

This policy aims to:

- Make explicit the links between the school's vision and mission and the systems of behaviour management operating within the school.
- Assist teachers as they work to support, develop and maintain students' ability to make responsible behaviour choices.
- Clarify processes and procedures to be used to manage irresponsible or inappropriate behaviour choices.
- Provide a clear and accountable framework for communicating behaviour expectations and management strategies to all stakeholders.
- As per diocesan policy Corporal punishment is not permitted.

Chaplaincy Program

The School Chaplain assists on both the spiritual and emotional levels of the human person. Providing pastoral care, general religious and personal advice. Offering comfort and support to

students, staff and families seeking it in difficult times irrespective of their religious beliefs. The school's Chaplain undertakes their work in a manner that is consistent with the values and teachings of the Catholic Church. Specific areas that may be addressed include:

- Social issues such as difficulties in relationships
- Economic and community dislocation, hardship or dysfunction
- Drought or natural disasters
- Critical incidents such as accident, illness or bereavement.

Complaints and Grievances

The School's Complaints and Grievances Policy aims to support and encourage the ongoing development of positive relationships. Providing a positive, clear and effective process for resolving grievances between the school and community members. Assisting to build strong relationships, dispels anxiety, and ultimately provides students with an enhanced learning environment.

Anti-Bullying

Within the Schools discipline, anti-bullying policies and student welfare documentations clear guidelines are set for the appropriate management of bullying.

Changes to School Policies

Henschke Primary School took part in Registration in 2015 and since then no changes have been required to school policies.

Improvement Targets

Improvement Targets Achieved for 2015:

- Collaboration between staff and the development of a culture of professional learning and inquiry for school improvement.
- Teachers use data on a regular basis to inform teaching and learning practises.
- Creative and effective implementation of the Australian Curriculum for New South Wales.

Improvement Targets for 2016:

- Staff collaborate and use the Inquiry for Continual Improvement process to improve student learning in Numeracy.

Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

Henschke have adapted the "Making Jesus Real" program to cater for all students from Kindergarten to Year Six. The program enhances the ability in students to build a welcoming and encouraging environment within the school for all members of our community. It also

provides opportunities for us to reinforce the need to be thankful and to be comfortable in saying sorry when we make mistakes. All staff have been in-serviced in the program and parents and new families beginning at the school are also given an introduction in the core beliefs. These two programs work very effectively side by side supporting each other and consolidating the values and attitudes embedded in our school.

Peer Support

The Peer Support program is run every year throughout the school. Year 6 students are trained as leaders at the beginning of the school year, then once a week the whole school from K-6 meet in small groups with the Year 6 leaders conducting the groups.

School Buddies

All Henschke Primary School students are involved in a buddy system, eg Kindergarten and Year 6 students; Year 1 and Year 5. The students meet regularly for organized activities.

The older students normally help the younger students with craft activities, and the younger students also enjoy having an older student who is looking after them especially on the playground.

Kindergarten Orientation

Our orientation to school for 2016 Kindergarten children began in Term 2, 2015, when school tours were conducted for prospective new students and families.

Interviews for all prospective 2016 Kindergarten children and their parents were held during Term 3.

In Term 4, an Information Evening for parents was held, followed by an orientation morning for the new Kindergarten children. The children spent two mornings with a Kindergarten buddy and enjoyed the atmosphere of the classroom environment.

Our EAL/D families were also welcomed to play group sessions during Term 4.

This group was specifically targeted to help these children and families with the transition to school.

Restorative Justice

Restorative Justice is deep seated in our behaviour management at Henschke Primary School. All students and staff are treated in a restorative manner. The spirit of the school stems from God being a forgiving God and all staff are trained to assist students and each other to resolve disputes in a respectful manner.

Community Satisfaction

The following information has been provided to the school. It has been a valuable gauge for

determining the level of satisfaction the community has with our school.

Parents

My child (son or daughter) is usually happy at Henschke Primary School.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
90%	10%	%	%

Students

I am usually happy at Henschke Primary School.

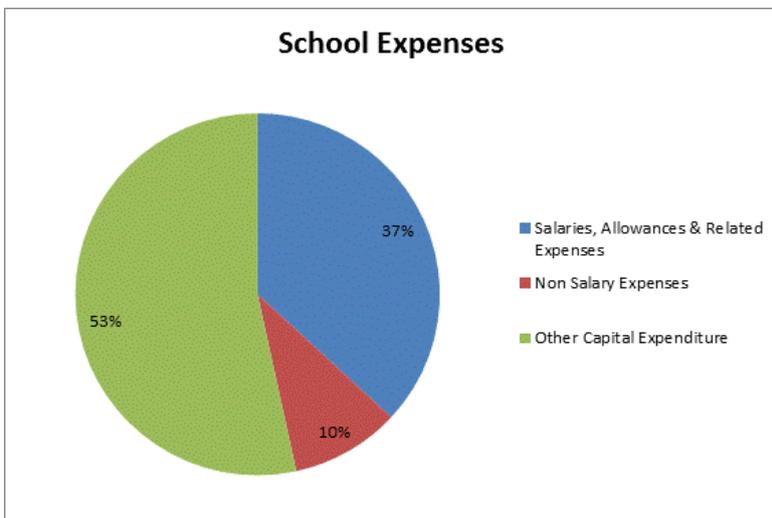
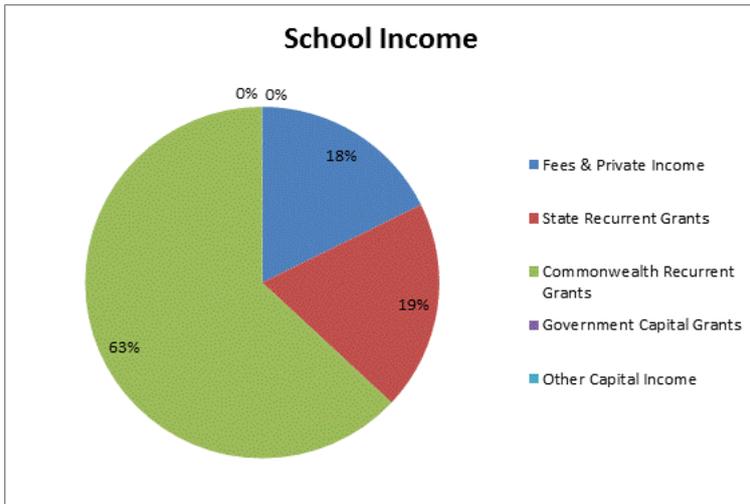
<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
70%	30%	%	%

Staff

I am usually happy at Henschke Primary School.

<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
66.7%	33.3%	%	%

Financial Statement Summary



About This Report

The Henschke Primary School Principal, Assistant Principal, Coordinators and teachers with areas of special responsibility have contributed to Henschke Primary School 2015 Annual Report. We also acknowledge the Chairs of our School Council and P & F Committee Members for their contributions.