



Whitefriars Catholic School

School Performance Report 2023

Principal's Report

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School continued to grow in enrolment numbers with strong enrolment. Whitefriars Catholic School began the year with 22 classes with 579 children in the February census and then added a class of Term 3 Reception totally 608 children for the August Census.

Whitefriars Catholic School has continued to grow in enrolment numbers and the school achieved single year levels across the school for the first time.

Whitefriars Catholic School has been working through the first stage of the masterplan approved in 2020. Following the completion of Stage 1A in 2022 which comprised of the 2-storey Caritas Building with 12 new classrooms, in 2023, the school commenced Stage 1B which included:

- adding more offices in administration area
- relocating the canteen, the main student toilets, the staffroom and the Instrumental Music Room
- refurbishing the Library, Performing Arts Room and Science Room.

In 2023, Whitefriars also purchased 2 more houses (30a Ranelagh Street and 30 Ranelagh Street) both around 800 square meters each, enabling to add a further 1600 square meters to our school footprint as part of Stage 2. Stage 2 planning is now underway and will commence in 2024 with the school removal of the 3 transportables, demolition of 3 houses to make way for more kicking space, as well as, demolishing the Tenison Building to create an extension to the nature play, new R-2 playground and a new Yr 3-6 playground.

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School appointed 6 Positions of Responsibility leaders:

1. Leader of Learning
2. Mathematics Leader
3. Gifted Education Leader
4. STEM Coach Digital Technologies
5. SEQTA Leader
6. Well-Being Leader

Whitefriars Catholic School is led by a broad leadership team named the Quality Performance Team:

1. Principal – **Frank Congedi**
2. Deputy Principal – **Catia Frasca**
3. APRIM – **Joshua Page**
4. Leader of Learning (POR) – **Phuong Chi Twigden**
5. Mathematics Leader (POR) – **Rossana Rositano**
6. STEM Coach/Digital Technologies Leader (POR)- **Pina Condo**
7. Well-Being Leader (POR) - **Grace Loizos**
8. SEQTA Leader (POR) – **Flavia Luppino**
9. Gifted Education Leader (POR)- **Nicholas Guidolin**
10. English as Additional Language and Dialect (EALD) Teacher – **Claire Cooper**

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School had children from 38 different cultures, 8 Indigenous children, 216 English as Additional Language and Dialect (EALD), 110 children on the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD).

Whitefriars Catholic School continued to provide four specialist areas: Science, Performing Arts (Music/Dance/Drama), Physical Education and Italian.

We completed our 3-year Strategic Plan (2021-2023) and my annual School Performance Report focusses on and the 2023 Annual Improvement Plan. These documents are shaped by the Living Learning Leading Framework.

2023 Whitefriars Catholic School Annual Improvement Plan

CESA Strategy

Thriving people, capable learners, leaders for the world God desires

Our Mission Statement

Whitefriars Catholic School in partnership with parents, the Catholic parish and local community, educates and nurtures each child in the Josephite tradition, sharing the mission of Christ within the world today.

This Strategic Plan is in line with the Living Learning Leading Standard

- 1. Catholic Identity**
- 2. Curriculum and co-constructed learning and assessment design**
- 3. Student Agency, Identity and leadership**
- 4. Community engagement**
- 5. Resourcing**

1. Catholic Identity

Strategy 1.1 *Continue to deepen the understanding of Catholic Identity within the community*

In this we:

- Leaders, staff and students regularly engage in spiritual and Religious Formation through Staff Prayer, school community prayer, RE Professional learning and Spiritual Day.
- strengthened community prayer each Monday morning with a spiritual reflection afterwards by a member of the Leadership Team by moving it to the Mary MacKillop Hall each week.
- continued to value Masses with Year level class rotating throughout the year.
- sent 2 staff to the Josephite Colloquium in Sydney this year: Pina Condo and Grace Loizos
- achieved positive results in the LLL Surveys from staff and parents regarding our school having a strong Catholic Identity.
- achieved above State average RELAT results although were lower in percentage than the previous year.
- Supported teachers to plan RE curriculum releasing teachers twice in teams to plan with APRIM
- continued to develop greater consistency in prayer spaces, promoted well-presented sacred space and a bought more consistent crucifixes to identify us as Catholic School and are continuing to work towards a set criterion for sacred spaces, symbols and displays in the classroom

Strategy 1.2 *Continue to strengthen Social Justice priorities*

In this we:

- Children had the opportunity to actively support others in their local community and around the world through Project Compassion, Action Hour for the Feast of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop, St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal and St Vincent De Paul clothing bins
- SRC students promoted social justice initiatives as well as ecological awareness
- Year 6 Peer Mediation Playground Mentors consolidated with the support of Well-Being Leader

- Year 6 children participated in the Journey to Emmaus Servant Leadership Program together with St Margaret Mary's over 3 successful days focussing on support people that are less fortunate.

Strategy 1.3 *Continue to promote ecological conversion*

In this we:

- Continued to promote 10c collections which is utilised by the Canteen manager to support the running of the canteen
- promoted continued understanding of the different coloured bins.
- promoted the use of food scrap bins each day at Crunch and Sip time and at recess.
- maintained a small garden is being maintained with the support of our ground person.

2. Curriculum and co-constructed learning and assessment design

Strategy 2.1 *To further strengthen whole school approach to practices of pedagogy and assessment*

In this we:

- implemented Promoting Literacy Development (PLD) from the beginning of 2023 for all Year 3-6 students.
- continued to deepen Clarity pedagogy and strategies through ongoing professional learning promoting a stronger understanding of clear Learning Intentions, success criteria and Bump-It Up Walls.
- continued 'Learning Walks and Talks' by Clarity Team members and shared the summative data with the Quality Performance Team.
- Developed Bump-It-Up Walls and Rubrics are used as part of clear A-E assessment with children to encourage co-constructed learning
- Commenced an Electronic Data Wall to more easily track children's progress and continued to use Scorelink to electronically track children learning progress with agreed benchmarks.
- consolidated 'Agreed Practices' in the Yearly Assessment Schedule, Mathematics and English R-6 reviewed.
- deepened teachers and curriculum ESO knowledge of detailed Personal Plans for Learning (PPL), providing greater differentiation and evaluation leading to an increase in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) from 94 children (16.5%) in 2022, to 110 children (18.2%) in 2023.
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Strategy 2.2 *To continue strengthening Multi-Lit and Reading to Learn pedagogical strategies*

In this we:

- achieved over 90% in InitiaLit for our Reception children in Terms 2-4
- maintained Mini-Lit and MacqLit Intervention Groups for children in Year 1 to 6.
- continued to strengthen Reading to Learn pedagogy as a whole school approach.
- Improved NAPLAN results with 98-99% achieving Minimum National Standard.
- provided release time for 3 LEAP Levels Knowledgeable Others to work with the EALD teacher
- provided release time with the EALD Teacher and Leader of Learning to plan English writing text types with units in Term 3.
- Samples of Pre & post-test for writing

Strategy 2.3 *To continue strengthening Mathematics outcomes*

In this we:

- Achieved best primary school in South Australia which included several class awards and many individual awards.
- Continued PAT- M twice a year Term 1 and Term 4 to measure learning growth during the year.
- implemented 'Essential Assessment' for Mathematics across Years 2 to 6.
- introduced a Gifted Education Leader to support Highly Abled Learners.
- Increased 'Catch up' Maths Intervention.

3. Student Agency, Identity and Leadership

4.

Strategy 3.1 Continue to develop strong student leadership

In this we:

- trained Year 6 'Peer Mediators' to support other students during recess and lunch times.
- appointed 8 School House Captains who demonstrated kindness in their leadership in Year 4 & 5 and promoted active leadership amongst School Captains who led school tours, welcome new families and children during Orientation Mornings
- appointed 11 Performing Arts Leaders who provided additional play time activities
- appointed 2 SRC per class to promote social justice and ecological awareness and social justice
- delivered Year 6 Journey to Emmaus children serving their school community
- promoted Class Buddies create connections between older children and younger students.
- continued to promote our understanding of student agency
- Students are trained as altar servers and support during Mass

Strategy 3.2 Develop a strong social-emotional, resilient culture and continue to maintain a positive school community

In this we:

- continued the appointment of a 0.2 Well-Being Leader
- achieved overall positive responses in Classroom Pulse Survey each term and identified that children who do not a strong sense of belonging and safety through the termly 'Classroom Pulse' Survey and provided targeted support
- integrated Bounce Back program, What's The Buzz (R-2) Health Program and Child Protection Curriculum and met with each Professional learning Team
- provided a counsellor for a day and half each week and a youth minister 10 hours a-week through the Chaplaincy Program.
- received a good response in children's LLL survey
- promoted cultural celebrations through Carnevale, Harmony Day, Are You Ok Day and Full Moon Festival.
- encouraged teachers/ staff and School House Captains to hand out House Points to promote and encourage positive behaviours.
- acknowledged children doing 'Extraordinary things in an Ordinary Day' through Mary MacKillop Spirit Awards.
- pro-actively worked to minimise harassment and bullying through follow-up.

4. Community engagement

Strategy 4.1 Further strengthen worshipping community and school community as one Parish

In this we:

- Continued to hold 'Being Church' meetings each term to connect the life of the school and Church as one Parish and to strengthen Parish Leadership.
- maintained a focus on Whole School Masses and Class Mass in the life of our school community
- maintained high participation by the Leadership Team attending Friday morning Parish Mass and Family Mass each month
- Promoted our parish Sacramental Program as a central component of our Catholic school.

Strategy 4.2 High opportunity for parents to be working in partnership with teachers in the process of learning

In this we:

- held Meet the Teacher Night at the beginning of the year and held 2 Learning Conversations in Term 1 and 4.
- fostered parent leadership with 9 parents on the School Board, Parents and Friends Committee, 2 parents represented on the Finance Committee, OSHC Advisory Committee and Sports Network Committee.
- held a Carly Ryan Cyber Safety by SA Police for both Year 4, 5, 6 & all parents with 45 parents attending
- held a Parent Session on Made in the Image of God (MITIOG)
- Reception teachers held a session on InitialLit for Reception parents
- maintained high frequency of communication with parents through Audiri, SeeSaw and emails
- further developed the Reception Transition with weekly visits for two and half hours per week with an early childhood teacher and an ESO curriculum staff member worked with the children.
- Added a second playgroup session on Tuesday
- further increased Children’s University participation with over 110 children joining the program.

Strategy 4.3 High opportunities for parents to participate in school community events

In this we:

- continued to promote Monday Community Prayer and permanently moved it to the Mary MacKillop Hall
- had 100% attendance for Term 1 Learning Conversations and around 60% in Term 3
- held a very successful STEM expo combined this year with the Full Moon Festival with approximately 70% families attending
- Invited families to special days such as Carnevale, Book Week Parade, Sports Day
- promoted our 200 registered volunteers to help in the school through School Board, Parents and Friends, Learning Assistance Program, LAP, canteen, excursions
- promoted parents to coach be Team Manager to provide close to 220 children with opportunity to provide ‘After School Sport’ through Basketball, Netball and Soccer.
- strengthened communication in Audiri, Seesaw and Facebook
- invited parents to assemblies and Masses were possible.

5. Resourcing

Strategy 5.1 Completion of Stage 1A, 1B and Stage 2 with the support of BGA, school funds and loans

In this we:

Following the Completion of Stage 1A in January 2023, the school finalised Stage 1B at the end of 2023 which included:

- the relocation of the canteen, staffroom, main student toilets and Instrumental Music Rooms
- the extension of the office area and First Aid Room with a toilet
- the refurbishment of the Science Room, Performing Arts Room and Library
- We commenced planning for Stage 2

Strategy 5.2 Provide shared play resources for indoor and outdoor breakout spaces

In this we:

- Provided equipment for 2 sandpit areas
- maintained the library open at recess and lunch for the children to play.
- Promoted 2 table tennis tables

Strategy 5.3 Maintain high availability of resources in ICT, Digital Technology and STEM

In this we:

- introduced laptops for Years 4 and continued to provide for Years 5 to 6
- continued providing iPads for Years 2 and 3

- maintained 2.5 days of ICT Technician support
- held a STEM Showcase with an Asian focus

Strategy 5.4 To develop Knowledgeable Others in each Professional Learning Team to increase capacity in SEQTA

In this we:

- allocated a Knowledgeable Other in each PLT
- released Knowledgeable Others for additional professional learning
- had teachers beginning to upload aspect of the program on SEQTA

VALUE ADDED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Counselling Program

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School increased the provision of a counsellor from 1 day to 1.5 days a week for our school community through Centacare.

Chaplaincy Program

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School continued a Youth Minister 2 hours each day (10 hours a week).

ICT Technician

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School continued to be part of the CESA ICT Support network and increased the ICT Technician on site from 2 days a week 2.5 days a week. Their support provided in the 1:1 iPad/laptop Program from Year 2 to Year 6, as well as maintaining our internet.

After School Sports

In 2023, our PE teacher continued to be provided with a day per week to coordinate after school sports, as well as sporting carnivals. Through the generosity of our parent volunteers, our school has been able to continue providing a range of after school sports for 220 children in

- Basketball and Netball for Years 2 to 6
- Soccer for children from Reception to Year 5.

The Year 5 Soccer team were the best Year 5 team in the Western District.

Instrumental Music Program

In 2023, we had over 100 children learning a musical instrument (piano, keyboard, voice, drums, guitar, violin and flute). In Term 4, we held our annual Instrumental Music evening over several sessions.

Outdoor Education

In 2023, The Year 3 children experienced a sleepover the Year 4 teachers planned a two-day camp at Nunyara at Belair and 3-day camp at Mylor Baptist camp for the Years 5 to 6.

Canteen

Our canteen continued to remain open 5 days a week providing a valuable service to our community through the availability of recess and lunch four days a week. In its first year of 5 days a week the canteen had a loss of \$4359.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

YMCA continued to provide a valuable service in offering quality Before School, After School and Vacation Care programs. The service licence is for 90 children to meet community needs, especially during Vacation Care excursion days.

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION OF STAFF AT WHITEFRIARS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

4 members of the Leadership Team (Principal, Deputy Principal, Assistant Principal Religious Mission and Leader of Learning).

26 class teachers, 4 specialist curriculum teachers (Science, Performing Arts, PE and Italian), English as an Additional Language.

There were 17 non-teaching staff members covering administration, finance, curriculum support, library, maintenance and work health and safety.

There were no indigenous members of staff.

STAFF RETENTION

Whitefriars Catholic School continues to maintain high staff retention for a school with over 60 staff members.

At the end of 2023:

- Two staff members retired: Carmela Sartoretto (Teacher) and Lyn Harrison (Finance Officer)
- One teacher resigned: Franca Notarangelo
- Two teachers won permanency at other Catholic Schools: Ellie Gillard and Matthew Annetta
- Two teachers ended their contracts: Gabrielle Gonos and Lisa Benwell.

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School appointed:

- three permanent teachers: Hayley Moffat, David Monti, Maree Conte
- four replacement teachers: Chantel Farina, Matthew Hiern, Vy Ly Hannah Dalidowicz
- two temporary teachers: Bianca Holler (Reception Transition teacher) and Bethany Gibbons (Performing Arts Teacher)
- A new permanent Finance Officer (Pauline Tirimacco)

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

In 2023, there were 38 teachers including members of the Leadership Team who all hold a Bachelor of Education.

In addition, the Principal and the APRIM hold a Masters' Degree, whilst the Deputy Principal and one of teachers are currently studying a master's degree in Catholic Educational Leadership.

2023 STUDENT PROFILE

Total Enrolments (August Census)	608 Female: 303 Male: 305
Indigenous Students	8
English as Additional Language Dialect	216
Students on Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD)	110 (18.2%)

The 2023 (August Census) enrolments were made up of the following year level cohorts:

Reception	117
Year 1	87
Year 2	87

Year 3	86
Year 4	86
Year 5	86
Year 6	59
TOTAL	608

Student Attendance

The average attendance for students in 2023 increased from the previous year by 2.6%.

Student Attendance	2022	2023
Term 1	86.9%	93.0%
Term 2	90.6%	91.2%
Term 3	91.0%	92.2%
Term 4	90.3%	92.3%
YEAR TOTAL	89.6%	92.2%

Benchmark Results - NAPLAN

In 2023, Whitefriars Catholic School achieved above Australian Average and State Average in all 5 NAPLAN Areas (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Numeracy).

Please note that in 2020, NAPLAN online was cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Year 3				
	2019	2021	2022	2023 (New NAPLAN Format)
Reading	98%	99%	100%	98% Mean Score: 413.6 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Writing	100%	99%	97%	98% Mean Score: 450.1 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Spelling	98%	98%	100%	98% Mean Score: 445.2 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Grammar and Punctuation	96%	99%	100%	98% Mean Score: 432.5 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Numeracy	100%	96%	100%	98% Mean Score: 416.8 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Year 5				
	2019	2021	2022	2023 (New NAPLAN Format)
Reading	100	96	99	99% Mean Score: 513.3 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Writing	100	96	100	99% Mean Score: 509.3 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Spelling	100	98	100	98%

				Mean Score: 528.2 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Grammar and Punctuation	100	98	100	98% Mean Score: 526.9 School Proficiency Level: Strong
Numeracy	98	95	99	99% Mean Score: 517.8 School Proficiency Level: Strong

2023 SCHOOL INCOME

Government Federal	6,239,568
Government State	1,750,180
Tuition fees	1,142,750
Student Contribution	116,497
Other Recurrent	195,263
CEO Salary Adjustments	69,435
Capital Income - CEO	142,065
Capital – Government Grants	575,883
TOTAL	\$10,231,641

2023 SCHOOL EXPENDITURE

Tuition

Teaching Salaries + Super	4,400,933
Salary Support Staff	505,031
Worker's Compensation	62,254
Class, Library & Computing	225,368
Sport, Excursions, Camps	148,007
Miscellaneous Tuition	22,770
Sub-total	\$5,364,363

Administration

Salaries + Super	385,765
Maintenance, Grounds & Cleaning	257,883
Utilities & insurance	181,558
Other Administration	179,754
CEO Levies	481,977
Staff Training	37,236
Loan Interest	119,350
Depreciation	697,388
Sub-total	\$2,340,911

Capital

Fixed Equipment & Improvements	1,357,707
Furniture & Equipment	393,437
Computer Equipment	174,656
Building Project - Work in Progress	59,602
Sub-total	\$1,985,402
Total Expenditure	\$4,326,313

Live, Learn, Lead Survey Parents Results

Following several years where we sent a consistent School Community Survey. This year we have moved to the LLL Survey. One of my goals in 2023 is to increase the number of parents that respond to the survey as in our first year it was low at 42 participants.

Parents and Caregivers (Out of 6)

Each category was 1 to 6, with 6 being the maximum.

In each of the Balance Scorecard Quadrant the results were positive with the mean being:

	2022	2023
Catholic Identity		

Catholic Education	4.72	4.82
Learning and Well-Being		
Learning Support	4.31	4.3
Enjoyment of School	4.72	4.47
Autonomy and Independence	4.21	4.34
Community		
Welcoming Community	5.14	4.98
Parent-School Partnership	4.49	4.41
Safe School	4.88	4.70
Resourcing		
Infrastructure	4.83	4.61

Student Perceptions (Out of 5)

Each category was 1 to 6, with 6 being the maximum.

In each of the Balance Scorecard Quadrant the results were positive with the mean being:

	2023 Yr 2-4	2023 Yr 5/6
Catholic Identity		
Catholic Education	4.60	4.48
Religious Education Class	4.44	4.35
Learning and Well-Being		
Learning Support	4.56	4.55
Student Influence	3.90	3.59
Autonomy and Independence	4.40	4.45
Community		
Welcoming and Safe Community	4.32	4.43
Resourcing		
Infrastructure	4.32	4.43

Conclusion

I would like to acknowledge and thank our eight 2023 School House Captains for their leadership this year and thank you being great role models.

- Joseph (Blue): Japjot Singh & Alexandra Falcone
- MacKillop (Yellow): Lenny Loveridge & Edel Lehmann
- Patrick (Green): Arlo Cockshell & Eliza Fletcher
- Tenison (Red): Bailey Tunbridge & Ivory Girdham

I also would like to thank our 2023 Performing Arts Leaders

1. Scarlett Twigden
2. Daniel Osorios Dos Santos
3. Sahara Cabrera
4. Stella Robertson
5. Natalia Tasovac
6. Dias Karabegovic
7. Luka Vujanic
8. Olivia Williams
9. Ava Della Foresta

10. Leah Jarrett
11. Lina Berisa

As school, we are continuing to build a school community that provides a caring learning environment. Staff, together with our families, continue to nurture the children at our school to help them fulfil their potential. I thank the staff for their professional, respectful and caring approach and for providing quality teaching and learning experiences for our children. Their commitment to continuing God's mission through our Josephite lens is a great gift to Whitefriars Catholic School.

I thank Fr Charles Lukati, our Parish Priest and Fr Sam Arockiasamy, our Assistant Parish Priest, and the Parish staff for their support to our school and parish community.

We have many volunteers at our school, and I thank those volunteers who, as parents, grandparents and wider community members, give generously of their time, talents and insights in so many ways. I especially thank the School Board and Parent and Friends for their efforts in working to continue building our community.

Thank you to following leaders in our school community who served on the School Board in 2023:

1. Father Charles Lukati (President)
2. Samara Bell (Chairperson)
3. Sarah Hutson (Parent Rep) - Secretary
4. Celeste Dwarka (Parent Rep)
5. Amanda Fletcher (Parent Rep)
6. Jade Lehmann (Parent Rep) Finance and Canteen
7. Pania Rawlins (Parent Rep) - Sport
8. Andreia Santos (Parent Rep) - Finance
9. Lina Sotiropoulos (Parent Rep) – P&F Chairperson
10. Sam Williams (Parent Rep)
11. Phuong Chi Twigden (Staff Rep)
12. Catia Frasca (Deputy Principal)

Kind Regards
Frank Congedi
February 2024