



## **WARLAWURRU CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

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### *Annual Report to the School Community for the 2017 School Year*

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12 December 2017

Dear Parents, Staff, Carers and Friends,

The purpose of this Report is to provide you with a snapshot of the effectiveness of significant plans and policies that were in place in the 2017 school year. In it you will read not only of our successes, but also areas that we need to concentrate on in 2018 as we strive to provide every child in our school with the opportunity to flourish. 2017 saw ups and downs for Warlawurru Catholic School, there was a terrible accident in Term 1 that affected staff and students. Until a permanent principal was found two acting Principals were in place for Term 1 and early Term 2. In mid Term 2, two new teachers and a Principal were employed.

2017 was also a wonderful year of celebrations and community involvement. The School celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with over 300 ex-teachers, principals and students from all over Australia attending. We also had over 200 parents, caregivers and friends attend our Christmas Concert and Carols by Candle Light. Many new community partnerships were developed and we aim to continue these relationships into 2018 and onwards.

#### **Annual School Improvement Plan.**

The purpose of the Annual School Improvement Plan (ASIP) is to provide a focus for the year ahead. It comprises four outcomes: Learning, Engagement, Accountability and Discipleship. The table on the following page outlines our main focus areas over the past year, our achievement in these area and our focus for the 2018 school year.

Outcome	Main Focus Area	Achievement	2018 Focus
<b>Learning</b>	<p>Literacy through Direct Instruction.</p> <p>Implementation of West Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Humanities and Social Sciences, Science, Physical Education.</p> <p>Attendance improvement</p>	<p>All children making progress in reading, language (Standard Australian English), and vocabulary.</p> <p>Children performed at Grade average in Art and Physical Education.</p> <p>Reading Recovery successfully implemented with outstanding results.</p> <p>Large increase of numbers of students attending school regularly.</p> <p>Introduction of Transition Class for students who are long term non-attendees and or from other schools</p>	<p>Implement literacy programs from Pre-primary – Year 6. Continue with Spelling Mastery across all year levels.</p> <p>Continue with Reading recovery Program for struggling Year 1 students</p> <p>Keep accurate data on students progression and achievements e.g. MAI data</p> <p>Continue to discourage truancy and encourage attendance.</p> <p>Continue to work with families and community elders on the importance of sending children to school</p> <p>Continue and develop the Transition Class concept</p>
Outcome	Main Focus Area	Achievement	2018 Focus
<b>Engagement</b>	<p>Increase community involvement in the school with a particular focus on encouraging parents to come to Masses, Assemblies and other whole school events.</p> <p>Weekly newsletter incorporating photos and students 'achievements</p>	<p>Large number of families attended events such as Warlawurru's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, NAIDOC Day celebration, Book Week Dress up day and the Christmas Concert.</p> <p>An increased number of parents are attending school Masses.</p> <p>Partnerships created with community services; such as-sharing resources with Yura Yungi, working with the local RAS team on truancy, local business supporting no school aged students served during school hours. Police attendance and involvement at our end of year breakup party.</p> <p>Created a multi-purpose room that is used for a variety of activities such as; Masses, Art, Science and Professional Development days.</p>	<p>Continue to recognise parents/carers as first educators of their child and ensure that they are kept informed of all aspects of their child's learning journey.</p> <p>Continue to create a culture of the school community coming together through a range of regular events such as Masses, assemblies, class celebrations etc.</p> <p>Continue to build upon and create new community partnerships.</p> <p>Work on establishing a school board and P&amp;F.</p> <p>Multi-purpose room used more e.g. combined professional development days</p>

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Main Focus Area</b>	<b>Achievement</b>	<b>2018 Focus</b>
<b>Accountability</b>	<p>Develop a Capital Development Plan to provide updates to the school and its facilities.</p> <p>Weekly Newsletter that incorporates school, parish and local news information</p>	<p>New classroom furniture for the Junior Primary classroom.</p> <p>New slide for the playground</p> <p>Developed a School Community Partnership Agreement</p> <p>Good working relationships with community groups and government departments</p> <p>Newsletter has a distribution of over 250 copies per week, local business' actively distributing and participating in the contents.</p>	<p>Ongoing development of the school, in particular the early learning centre in order to comply with National Quality Standards.</p> <p>Continue to work on the SCPA</p> <p>Ensure MAI and EYLD data are meaningful and up to date</p> <p>Continue to expand working relationships and partnerships with Community Services and Departments.</p> <p>Continue to expand the newsletter distribution and contributions. Expand exposure by emailing and website.</p>
<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Main Focus Area</b>	<b>Achievement</b>	<b>2018 Focus</b>
<b>Discipleship</b>	<p>Masses and liturgies from Pre-primary to Year 6</p> <p>Work with the St Mary's Halls Creek Parish</p> <p>Ensure that all children and staff are treated equally with respect and dignity and teach children to treat others in the same way</p>	<p>Positive Behaviour Management strategies were developed and implemented throughout the school.</p> <p>Children were taught how to behave in various situations in order to stay safe and to learn well in class.</p> <p>Introduced fortnightly Masses or Liturgies, with students and staff actively involved</p> <p>Liturgical dances incorporated into Mass.</p> <p>Advertised St Mary Halls Creek Mass times and include an article from Father John in the weekly News letter</p> <p>Community Masses held at Warlawurru</p>	<p>Ongoing teaching, modelling and implementation of PATHs and in RE classes across all year levels.</p> <p>Reward system for children who demonstrate good qualities and leadership</p> <p>Continue to have fortnightly liturgies or masses and implement class Masses/Liturgies under the guidance of the REC</p> <p>Continue liturgical dance across more class levels</p> <p>Continue to work with Father John and the Halls Creek Parish to evangelise and inform of Parish and School activities and Masses</p>

## Staffing at Warlawurru Catholic School

The school is incredibly lucky to have a dedicated and experienced staff who work hard every day to ensure that each child is given the opportunity to learn and flourish. After four years Miss Rosie has decided it was time for her to be closer to her family in Perth, and Miss Marketa also returns to Perth and therefore we are currently looking for quality teachers to replace them.

We are privileged to have Miss Christine, Miss Andrea and Miss Deb remain, along with our Aboriginal Teacher's Assistants; Miss Anansa, Miss Yvonne, Mr Graham, Miss Andrea, Miss Florence, Miss Jocelyn and Miss Dorothy

Mr Eddie will continue to work as Gardener/Handyman, we are also currently looking to employ another administrative person. Mr Steve will be helping at the school in various positions, including driving the bus, while Mr Warren will continue to be in charge of the canteen and drive the bus.

## Financial and Infrastructure Report

In 2017, Warlawurru Catholic School will begin the year debt free. While this was indeed good news, the budget for the year ahead was tight due to a decrease in funding from the State Government. The school has also had to repay \$30,000 that it received from the State in February 2016 for children who did not come to school regularly enough.

In 2018 a Capital Development Plan will need to be drawn up for the years ahead. Items to be considered are:

- Building of a dedicated Early Learning Centre for 3 and 4 year old Kindergartens
- Replacement of the big bus and the small bus in 2018
- Turn-over of the school car at the end of 2018.

Discussion will be held in 2018 with consultants from the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia to see how these matters can be progressed.

## School Community Partnership Agreement

In 2017, consultations were held with community leaders, our Aboriginal Teacher Assistants, families of students, local community services and government agencies, students and staff. A SCPA was drawn up and will continue to develop as the relationships and partnerships expand and develop. A copy of the SCPA is available on the Warlawurru Catholic School website.

## School Attendance

The average school attendance during the 2017 school year was just over 70%. This figure takes into account that some children attended over 95% of the time and others under 10%. It also takes into account the very low attendance rate early in the year and the increased attendance in Semester 2. Reasons given for non-attendance in 2017 were as follows:

- Sick
- Royalties
- Travelling to other communities to visit families
- Sorry time
- Funerals
- Child decided not to go, due to unclean clothes, not finished breakfast, un-brushed hair etc

The child deciding not to go to school used to be the most common reason given for not coming to school, tactics such as having clean clothes, and hair ties/brushes available at school and giving the children a boiled egg on the bus has rectified many of these issues and as a result our attendance has improved.

In 2018 the School will continue to work closely with families, the Department of Education's attendance officers as well as the Department of Child Protection, Family Services and local businesses Attendance issues formed a key consideration in the School Community Partnership Agreement.

## Positive Behaviour Management Strategies

All staff have continued to teach positive behaviour management strategies to children across all areas of the school. The emphasis is on children being taught how to be resilient, responsible, respectful, and safe in all parts of the school – e.g. classroom, playground, canteen, assembly, bus. Children are also taught how to listen and learn inside the classroom. All staff, teaching and non-teaching, are encouraged to model and demonstrate these behaviours.

## Code of Conduct

From January 2017 all schools have had a Code of Conduct in place. The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to describe minimum standards of conduct in all behaviour and decision making to ensure the safety and well-being of students, staff and the School community. The Code applies to staff, students, volunteers, parents and guardians as applicable. A copy of the Code of Conduct is available on the Warlawurru website.

## Looking forwards to a bright future

Our whole school community looks forward to the 2018 school year with great anticipation and excitement. The School has a good foundation and many projects have been started and more are in the planning. The future for our children and the School is bright.

We pray, that with the help of our heavenly Father and the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will continue to have the strength, health and vision to assist our children and their families to live with respect and dignity in the world of which they are a part.

God bless

Ms Katherine Coulter

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Principal