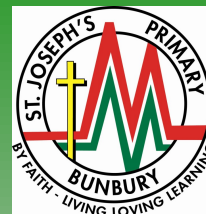


# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BUNBURY





## **HISTORY**

Catholic Education was first established in Bunbury by the Sisters of Mercy in 1898. Their tradition of faith and service was continued when St Mary's opened in South Bunbury in 1904, and again when the Marist Brothers opened a college for boys in 1954. In 1972 a School Board was formed to review the provision of Catholic Education in Bunbury and to plan for future needs. The following year the college became the co-educational Bunbury Catholic College.

In 1978 the junior school, which had been established at St Thomas' in Carey Park, was amalgamated with St Mary's, catering for all the junior primary children in Catholic schools in Bunbury. St Joseph's, in the centre of town, was the site for middle and upper primary children. The Sisters of Mercy were, by then, ready to move into other areas of service in Bunbury. So the central town site, focused on the old convent, was sold and the present St Joseph's building was commenced on the boundary of Glen Padden on four hectares of land made available through the generous donation of Deacon Michael and Phyllis Flynn.

The school moved out from town in 1982. In 1985 separate School Boards were formed for secondary and primary schools and over a transitional period, St Mary's and St Joseph's developed the resources to accept enrolments for Pre-Primary to Year Seven children on each site. At the end of 1992 Bunbury Catholic Primary School ceased to exist and St Mary's and St Joseph's became fully independent primary schools.

## **THE PRESENT**

St Joseph's is now a double stream primary school catering for approximately 500 students. The school is located four kilometres from the main Mass centre, being St Patrick's Cathedral. The school has a purpose-built Chapel which is used for weekly staff prayer and year level liturgies. The covered assembly area is also used for whole school Masses.

During recent years the school has experienced steady student population growth. Strong housing development in the southern Bunbury region, particularly in Dalyellup, has contributed to this growth. We now cater for Three Year Old Kindergarten to Year Six students and are welcoming towards students with disabilities. Generally, this increase in enrolments has resulted in some classes reaching capacity, whilst others are in the vicinity of 30 students.

## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

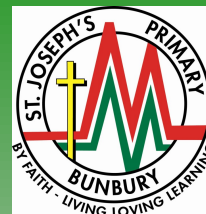
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Community, we trust that each family's association with the school will be both happy and rewarding. The time students spend in primary education is a most significant period in their life and in the life of their families. St Joseph's has a strong sense of community which embraces the importance of a vibrant partnership between home and school. Our school motto of *By Faith: Living, Loving and Learning*, assists us in focusing on what is truly important to us at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. We recognise that parents are the prime educators of their children and therefore a strong sense of parent participation is encouraged within the school, both informally and formally.

We are committed to following the Bishops' Mandate and achieving CEWA's Vision for Learning. The pursuit of academic excellence and the education of the whole person in a safe and happy school setting are our highest priorities. We hope students enjoy their time at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School and we look forward to working with the school community in providing a quality Catholic education for each child.

## **Riley Horrocks**







### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Community continues the mission of our Sisters of Mercy founders.

Staff, students and parents work collaboratively in an inclusive environment to empower the whole child to grow and learn about God, themselves and the world.

Through the provision of excellence in education, the students are supported in becoming compassionate, resilient and active members of their community who have the courage to act on their beliefs.

### OUR VISION STATEMENT

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a Christ-centred community, within the Bunbury Parish, which aspires to educate and develop the whole child in a caring, Catholic environment, recognising and respecting the uniqueness, dignity and the rights of others.

### OUR SCHOOL MOTTO

'By Faith - Living, Loving, Learning'

- ◆ **Living:** We try to live the way that Jesus showed us to and it gives us our incentive to behave and succeed to the best of our ability.
- ◆ **Loving:** Reminds us that we must love everyone equally and forgive those who do us wrong.
- ◆ **Learning:** We learn the way of God through working to our maximum capacity.

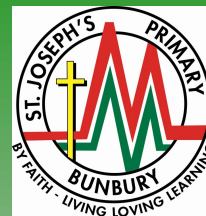
Our FAITH is the energy which drives our lives.

### OUR SCHOOL VALUES

As a learning community following the example of Jesus, the School Values which underpin our approach are:

- ◆ **Respect**
- ◆ **Responsibility**
- ◆ **Cooperation**
- ◆ **Consideration**



**CEWA STRATEGIC DIRECTION - INSPIRING CHRIST CENTRED LEADERS**

Following from the example of Venerable Catherine McAuley, Sisters of Mercy and our Vision, staff 'aspire to educate and develop the whole child in a caring, Catholic environment'. We welcome and provide opportunities for the poor, marginalised and vulnerable as a sign of our faith in action.

The staff aim to give students the opportunity to learn in a safe environment where faith is integral to all activities. The love of Christ is the central focus for our school endeavours and is promoted through the Making Jesus Real program. Teachers are committed to the goals of Catholic Education, endeavouring to provide experiences where students learn and enjoy success. We believe school life is an extension of the education parents give at home. The staff have striven to continue to strengthen the partnership between your families and school. As a school we are committed to providing excellence in learning through the provision of best practice in curriculum. The challenging learning programmes teachers provide are rewarding and prepare students for the future.

Our sacramental programmes are central to our mission as a Catholic school. Each time students participate in these programmes they take an important step on their faith journey. With the staffs' and school priest's spiritual guidance students are supported to follow Christian values.

We strive for a close connection with the St Patrick's Cathedral Parish.

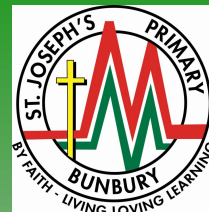
**OUR STRATEGIC & OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES**

- ◆ Continue to enhance opportunities for the personal faith development of students, staff and parents
- ◆ Promote Christian values and provide behaviour support through the Making Jesus Real Program
- ◆ Increase Student Ministry initiatives in the areas of Community and Culture, Missions and Outreach, Environment and Sustainability, and Sport and Recreation
- ◆ Create meaningful prayer spaces within the school for students and staff which focus on Mercy charisms
- ◆ Annual commitments to welcoming the marginalised and fundraising for: Caritas, Catholic Missions, St Vincent DePaul and Bishop's Gold Coin Days for Catholic Care
- ◆ Continue to strengthen parish / school relationships

**KEY SUCCESS MEASURES**

- ◆ Annual review and implementation of the school Evangelisation Plan focus areas indicates that personal and community faith has been supported through the use of prayer spaces
- ◆ Review of the Catholic culture of the school through the School Climate Survey and Quality Catholic Schools documents and National Quality Standards indicates that staff and student leadership has been fostered through the charisms and relationships with parish
- ◆ Observable increase in publicity and events referring to the school's mission and Mercy charisms
- ◆ Staff and students have a raised understanding of Catholic social justice teaching which is reflected in school community events





## CEWA STRATEGIC DIRECTION - CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE

In reflecting on our motto we plan for and can acknowledge the many successes we enjoy during the school year at St Joseph's. We aspire to assist students to be resilient and to have the courage to act on their beliefs. In our school, staff help students to develop the Christian values, knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours needed to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. The West Australian Curriculum and the CEWA Religion Units of Work are incorporated through the SCSA Learning and Teaching Cycle.

## OUR STRATEGIC & OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

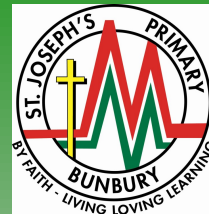
- ◆ Develop the whole child and enable every child to achieve success
- ◆ Every student is able to take the good with the bad and learn to have a growth mindset
- ◆ Increase incorporation of 1-1 devices enabling more students to gain necessary technological skills
- ◆ Provide opportunities for students to show initiative, have inquiring minds, problem solve, use scientific inquiry and thinking skills
- ◆ Encourage creativity through The Arts and STEAM
- ◆ We aim for functional excellence in the everyday application of language, literacy and literature
- ◆ Develop a scope and sequence for The BIG Six components of literacy learning according to the West Australian Curriculum requirements
- ◆ Improve literacy and mathematical skills through learning support and extension programs
- ◆ Use Brightpath assessment and data from standardised tests to inform teaching
- ◆ Provide educational support for special needs students
- ◆ Work in partnership with parents
- ◆ Facilitate co-curricula activities - drama club, swim club and running club

## KEY SUCCESS MEASURES

- ◆ Differentiated lessons occur in all classes for literacy and mathematics
- ◆ Increased number of students demonstrating greater progress. Results shown in Brightpath assessment, standardised testing, NAPLAN, BRLA and competitions
- ◆ Class work shows evidence of meeting SCSA achievement standards
- ◆ Staff Forward planning documents and annual school quality improvement plans are written, and reviewed through internal and external audits e.g. Admin Appraisal, School Improvement Plan, Quality Catholic Schools and National Quality Standards







## CEWA STRATEGIC DIRECTION - CATHOLIC PASTORAL COMMUNITIES

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School members are committed to being inclusive, welcoming and supportive of all. Our school community embraces multiculturalism and follows the Mercy traditions of recognising and respecting the uniqueness, dignity and rights of others. We ensure an open process for communication with families, parish and the Bunbury community. We aim to promote engagement across all contexts through the building of relationships and the promotion of the school. Most importantly we provide a safe, friendly environment which cares for the wellbeing of our school community. The pastoral care of students, families and staff members is our prime goal.

## OUR STRATEGIC & OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

- ♦ Welcoming students and families with diverse learning and support needs and valuing their family and cultural backgrounds
- ♦ Work in partnership with the Transforming Lives Engagement Officer in being advocates for the Transforming Lives Strategy 2025 and ensuring that Aboriginal Education Plans in place
- ♦ Increasing the school community's cultural competency
- ♦ Commitment to building positive relationships with students, parents, colleagues, parish and the wider community
- ♦ Provide professional development opportunities for staff to support lead teachers, build staff capacity and in turn maximise student learning and engagement
- ♦ Maximise communication and marketing through the school website, newsletters, signage and local media to maintain and increase parent - school links and promote our Catholic school in the Bunbury community

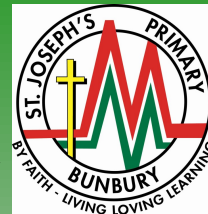
## KEY SUCCESS MEASURES

- ♦ Increased marketing of the school through various advertising initiatives has increased enrolments
- ♦ Staff feedback is obtained and feedback informs annual school improvement plans and classroom teaching
- ♦ School Climate Survey results are favourable and shows an increasing percentile in pastoral care and community engagement
- ♦ Decision making for marketing is based on statistics from new enrolments and parent feedback



COMMUNITY

## **CEWA STRATEGIC DIRECTION - ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE and SUSTAINABLE SYSTEM of SCHOOLS**



St Joseph's Catholic School community endeavours fulfil the mission of Jesus by bringing the message of the Gospel to all. We do this as part of, and with the support of the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia. Thus we promote understanding and have a responsibility in assisting to fulfil Catholic Education's Mission and Strategic Directions.

### **OUR STRATEGIC & OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES**

- ◆ In consultation with the School Board, the Administration Team make informed decisions which follow all CECWA policies to ensure the school community will benefit
- ◆ Annual commitments to respecting the uniqueness, dignity and rights of others when setting school fees, levies and budgets
- ◆ Provision of modern resources, facilities and playgrounds which enhance learning
- ◆ Distribution of finances for all school expenditure is transparent, inclusive and relates to the diverse needs of students
- ◆ Leadership committees are developed to assist in the running of subject and co curricula areas to support classroom learning and teaching
- ◆ Staff are provided with opportunities for further study and religious accreditation and are supported in their professional development
- ◆ Annual audits and staff appraisal to achieve quality teaching and learning

### **KEY SUCCESS MEASURES**

- ◆ Through monthly School Board meetings initiative are implemented timeously
- ◆ Enrolment levels for students who are financially marginalised, Aboriginal, multicultural or have special needs are maintained and or increased
- ◆ The indoor and outdoor learning environment contains new and relevant educational resources
- ◆ Independent and annual Administration audits are completed successfully to meet school registration, National Quality Standards and AITSL requirements
- ◆ Leadership committees lead initiatives and staff professional development in the school
- ◆ Staff attend professional development and share their new knowledge at staff meetings



**STEWARDSHIP**





## Governance Structure

162  
Schools

Catholic Education  
Commission of  
Western Australia  
and Committees

Bishops of  
Western  
Australia

CEWA  
Offices

## CECWA Strategic Directions *Responding to God's call to serve our diverse communities*

### CECWA Strategic Focus Areas

#### Catholic Identity

The Church's purpose for education is to advance the mission that is based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

#### Access and Diversity

We strive to provide access for children and young adults whose parents seek a Catholic education for them, especially to the poor and marginalised.

#### Common Good and Stewardship

We make decisions responsibly and with discernment to serve and benefit the CEWA community as a whole, and to ensure the sustainability of our system of Catholic education.

#### Quality and Improvement

We strive to ensure Catholic education is committed to excellence, continual transformation and meeting all Church and Government requirements.

#### Leadership

We give witness to Gospel through our faith, actions, relationships and professional excellence in education.

#### Strategy

We strive to be Christ-centred, student-focused and evidence-based in our strategic direction setting.

1

### Inspiring Christ-centred Leaders

- a Contemporary models of Gospel leadership that are inclusive, flexible and responsive to the increasing requirements of church, governments and society.
- b Shared leadership and governance practices that embrace Catholic Social Teaching Principles emphasising common good, participation, subsidiarity and co-responsibility.
- c Inclusive leadership formation and development reflecting the commitment and diverse talents of staff, students, parents and community members.

2

### Catholic Schools of Excellence

- a Effective communities developing students as whole Christian persons.
- b Catholic schools witnessing effective, contemporary pedagogy and mission-inspired practice and outreach.
- c Shared understanding and commitment to a Catholic Vision for Learning across all schools.
- d Commitment to providing high quality Religious Education.

3

### Catholic Pastoral Communities

- a Inclusive communities welcoming and supporting students with diverse learning and social needs.
- b Shared understanding and commitment to the Transforming Lives Strategy 2025.
- c Open processes for conversation and engagement with all members of CEWA communities and their local Church.
- d Services to enhance the safety and wellbeing of students and staff across all contexts.

4

### Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable System of Schools

- a Initiatives ensuring the accessibility, affordability, sustainability and growth of schools.
- b Transparent and inclusive processes for distributing resources which build equity and co-responsibility across all schools.
- c Responsiveness to the diverse needs of students.

## Our Sports Factions

### McAuley

Named after Catherine McAuley (late 1700s-1841): founded of the Sisters of Mercy when she was 53. She had a great love for the poor. She was Irish and in her time Catholics were denied education and freedom of worship. Although she was born wealthy, her family became poor by the time she reached adolescence. She "wanted the rich to rub shoulders with the poor and the poor to touch the hearts of the rich."

### Valentine

Named after Br Valentine, a teacher who taught at St Joseph's and who aspired to live his life following the model of St Valentine.

### Xavier

Named after St Francis Xavier (1506-1552). St Francis Xavier was Spanish and is considered the greatest missionary since the Apostles because he spread the Gospel with great zeal. In ten years he travelled far and wide – mostly in Japan, China and India – a remarkable feat in those days. He cared greatly for the sick.

### MacKillop

Named after Mary MacKillop (1842-1909) who was born in Australia. The only acknowledged Australian saint. At 24 years of age, Mary founded the Sisters of St Joseph religious order. She established an education system which spread across Australia & New Zealand and developed institutions which gave people in crisis a chance of survival and a quality of life. She was outspoken and courageous.



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