St Joseph’s School, Barmera

School Performance Report 2015

Contextual Information

Name: St Joseph’s School, Barmera
School Address: 8 Joyce St, Barmera, SA 5345
School Phone: (08) 8588 2154
School Fax: (08) 8588 2986
Principal: Mr Lee Abela
Email: info@stjobarmera.catholic.edu.au

School Information Statement

St Joseph’s School, Barmera was established in 1954 by the Sisters of St Joseph and continues to provide educational opportunities that reflect high standards of contemporary practice in education. A focus on the use of emerging technologies ensures that students are connected to the global environment as they make sense of their world and experience learning for the 21st century. All this has occurred from the simplest of beginnings when a couple of Josephite Sisters following a vocation to reach out to all children, in the poorest of communities, ventured into Barmera and the journey that is St Joseph’s School began. Close school, parish and community relationships continue to be a feature of the school.

Summary of 2015

This year has been a significant year for me, as I come to the end of my fourth year as Principal of St Joseph’s School, Barmera. A Principals’ length of time at a school isn’t prescribed but there definitely is a itch that comes at the end of the third year. This year has been a year of clarity for me and at the end of year School Board meeting, I spoke with confidence and emotion, indicating that I know I am absolutely in the right place and how deeply connected I am to this great school and community.

There have been many grace filled moments I have experience this year, which occurs every year but the intensity of these moments this year have been overwhelming. I have very high expectations of your child and there has rarely been a moment where they have disappointed. I acknowledge the abundant amount you trust I am instilled with, in caring for and educating your child. It is a responsibility I do not take for granted and take seriously. I also believe every staff member feels the same way.
This year our students have been involved in many exciting learning opportunities;

- Excursion to the Berri Marina
  - Tadpole hunting
- Shove Tuesday/Ash Wednesday
- In 2 Cricket Clinic
- Clean Up Australia Day
- Lenten Breakfast
- SAPSASA Swimming
- Basketball Clinic
- Hockey Clinic
- Year 3-5 Class visit to Tauondi (Adelaide)
- R-2 Class visit to the Adelaide Zoo
- Celebration of St Joseph’s Day
- Harmony Day
- Bike Ed program
- Chrism mass
- Holy Week
- SAPSASA Netball
- SAPSASA Cross Country
- ANZAC Celebration and Play
- Young Mary Incursion
- SAPSASA Renmark
- National Simultaneous Story Time
- SAPSASA Basketball
- Catholic Education Week
  - Twilight Carnival
  - Coin Line
  - Mass and Celebration at OLOR
- St Mary of the cross Feast Day
- Gala Night
- SAPSASA Athletics
- Mini Relay for Life
- Qusetacom Science Circus
- CPR Training
- Book Week
- House Team Squabble
- Visits to Public Library
- Night of Lights
- Year 6/7 Angles excursion at Bella Lavender
- Bush Kinder
- Cyber safety with SAPOL
- Year 3-5 Fossil Hunting
- Year R-2 Loxton Historical Village
- Remembrance Day
- Year 3-5 Camp at Camp Kedron
- Year 6/7 Canberra Trip
- Sports Day
- Carols Night
- Year 3-5 Carol singing at Bonney Lodge
- Splash Day
- Year 3-5 Market Day
- And more….

Over the last four years there have been many physical changes in the school as well as many different ways we respond to student learning, behaviour, understanding, acceptance and tolerance. All which have contributed to the success of the school and your child. I can not tell you how many times I have heard people refer to our school as a family and how stand out is our care for students and families. The changes over the year has enhanced this family feel.

Throughout the year we have had many opportunities to come together, I thank the staff, students and families for contributing to our community.
This year we have welcomed the following staff into our school community, Giulia Del Zoppo, Brad Ferrall, and Stephen Heuzenroeder. They have joined the amazing team of staff that already exist within the school. We also have welcomed the following students into the school, Reception - Meg Kassulke, Mikayla Rayner, Joshua Gilgen, Rowan Johnson and Angus Chabrel. Year 1 - Jeffrey Hunter and Joshua Butler. Year 2 - Christian Mitolo and Dejai Schapel. Year 3 - Harmony Butler and Lachlan Cooper. Year 5 - Daniella Biggs. Year 6 - Kloe Schapel, Massimo Mitolo, Jasper Harding and Oscar Harding. It is uncommon for a school to gain so many students across a variety of year levels, there are many reasons why families move schools. For me it is an indicator that we have an increasingly positive reputation in our community.

I have said for many years that the students at our school stand out when they are in the public arena. They display respectful behaviour and wear their uniform with pride. I know the staff see it regularly, I think this year we have more parents notice this and for the first time I have heard many students make mention of how well behaviour they are at events and have become aware of the behaviours of others around them. I think this awareness is significant and again contributes to the success of our school and children.

It has been a great year and I am so proud of the school we have created together. Our school continues to get stronger every year. Over the last few years the school has been committed to the financial responsibility it is entrusted with. Over the last couple of years, the school has paid out the two loans which it held. In addition to this the school fees have not changed in the last 3 years and the school has been able to have a healthy bank balance.

The school is not designed to run at a profit and only charges families cost price for excursions, camps and activities. When money is accumulated it is important that this money goes back into the school. The money should be spent on increasing learning outcomes for students, maintaining the school building, gardens and learning space, allowing the school to run smoothly and teaching and learning resources.

In 2015 the school has spent a significant amount of money for the above mentioned outcomes. We have spent money on;

- 2 new shipping containers for storage
- Rendered and painted the front of the O'Conner building and replaced the front of the gables
- Installed new blinds in the Year 6/7, Old Art Room, tuck shop and photocopier room
- Installed new blinds for the playgroup and Occasional Care area and the front of the building painted
- Painting in the Admin/library area.
- Installed new flooring in the staff room.
- Purchased 2 new library shelves.
- Added new cupboards to the Bursars Office
- Installed a Jumping Pillow thanks to the P&F, included new fencing and softfall
- Added Lights in the multipurpose courts and power points. Four flood lights on the outside of the courts.
• Purchased a new ride on lawnmower
• Tidied trees down the driveway and around the school
• Installed an outdoor hammock learning area
• Tidied the plumbing on the decking of the playgroup/occasional care area
• 12 new laptops
• 8 new desktop computers
• 9 new 24” monitors
• New SAPSASA sport tops and singlets
• Refilled the sandpit with fresh sand
• Construction of Early Years Bike Track

This year we have and will farewell Jarra Reynolds, Brad Ferrall and Giulia Del Zoppo. I would like to thank them for their contributions to the school and wish them well for the future.

God Bless and take care,

Mr Lee Abela
Staff Profile

*Our staff consisted of:*
- Teaching staff: 6 teachers making up 4.4 FTE
- ESO staff: 3 ESO’s making up 1.86 FTE

Staff Attendance

The average staff attendance rate during 2015 was 95.3%. This figure does not include teachers on planned long service leave or maternity leave.

Teacher Qualifications

All teaching staff hold a Bachelor Degree in Education. One staff member holds an additional degree. Four of the staff have begun a Graduate Certificate in Religious Education

ESO Qualifications

Two ESO’s have completed a Cert 4 in Educational Service. One ESO has completed a Cert 3 in Business Administration. In addition to this one of the ESO’s has completed training in the ‘DRUMBeat Program’.

Student Profile

The following information describes our student body totaling 53 students in 2015;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reception</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student attendance

The average student attendance rate for the school during 2015 was 91%. School attendance rates by class are shown in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
<td>87.50%</td>
<td>90.64%</td>
<td>94.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>86.98%</td>
<td>87.11%</td>
<td>90.04%</td>
<td>87.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>93.92%</td>
<td>87.80%</td>
<td>96.35%</td>
<td>93.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>92.55%</td>
<td>89.58%</td>
<td>88.39%</td>
<td>92.31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Parents are required to provide a written explanation for any student absences, as well as having the opportunity to contact the school office by phone. There are well-established school practices in place that require staff to follow up any unexplained absences. Each year a number of our students travel interstate and overseas for extended periods of time to visit relatives or holidays.

**NAPLAN Results**

NAPLAN results in a small school sometimes can be misleading - the affect of 1 child not achieving the National Benchmark out of a group of 7 students appear worse than the reality.

Students sit for the NAPLAN test in years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It is important to acknowledge that NAPLAN data is only one for of data that we collect on students and does not reflect current teaching approaches or assessment.

For the Year 3 students, this would be the first time that would have participated in an assessment like this. Therefore the Year 3 data acts as a benchmark to later inform us on student progress in later assessments.

The graph below represents the amount of students achieving National Benchmark or above;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Student size</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>P&amp;G</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 out of 2</td>
<td>2 out of 2</td>
<td>1 out of 2</td>
<td>2 out of 2</td>
<td>2 out of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4 out of 6</td>
<td>6 out of 6</td>
<td>4 out of 6</td>
<td>5 out of 6</td>
<td>4 out of 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>7 out of 7</td>
<td>7 out of 8</td>
<td>6 out of 7</td>
<td>5 out of 7</td>
<td>8 out of 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: In the event a child did not achieve benchmark, they have shown improvement from their previous test.

Overall, looking at all tests per year level:

- 90% of students achieved National Benchmark or greater in Year 3
- 77% of students achieved National Benchmark or greater in Year 5
- 89% of students achieved National Benchmark or greater in Year 7
- Across the school 85% of students achieved National Benchmark or greater
Parent Satisfaction Surveys

This year four different surveys were sent out to families targeting specific information.

Survey 1: Original family to the school

Q1. Have you seen improvements in the school over the last 4 years?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices –</th>
<th>Responses –</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>100.00% 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.00% 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>0.00% 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:
- Responsible financial management and a positive outlook.
- Improved access to facilities such as computers, more non-traditional teaching methods and classroom setup. Children appear more settled.
- Student behavior...Happiness of students...Technology..
- Many improvements; student learning, learning environments, school environment, perception of school within the community
- School facilities have improved and general staffing has improved
- Even though numbers attending the school are low the school as a whole has become a much closer community and the learning and social atmosphere for the students has improved.
- What are some of the improvements you have seen in the school?
- Student behavior...Happiness of students...Technology..
- Improved play areas for students, new and exciting learning spaces for students, excellent staff, the school caters for all students and different types of learning and abilities.
- Improvement in student behaviour
- Stimulus funding saw the admin/library/court all undergo massive improvements. The school has become more relevant and contemporary under the current principal and staffing structures.

Q2. Have you heard people outside of the school, talk about the school? If so, what are they saying about the school?

- No.
- Surprise at the facilities the school has. The positive and well mannered behavior of students.
Many people still talk about the school as a "private" school....people tend to change their view of the school once they have been inside and seen the many wonderful facilities and learning the school has to offer.

The education at St Joseph's is not as good as other schools.

Kindy is happy the school involves them in activities

I haven't really had much comment

Yes I have heard positive feedback about the school.

Q3. Given the amount of change the school has gone through in the last 4 years, has there been anything you have not agreed with?

• The drop in student numbers; this is, however, out of the school's control.
• No I have only seen positive changes
• I feel at times kids seem to choose if they do or do not want to do something... in life you don't always get to choose what you do and do not want to do.. sometimes you just have to get in and do it...I don't think this is a bad skill to have..
• no
• My son doesn't like the early lunch
• Not really most of the changes have been well communicated and thought through.
• No I think all has been positive.

Q4. Are you able to identify any areas for improvement?

• It is difficult in a small community, however recruitment of more students through increased showcasing and advertising of our school.
• No my children are generally happy at school and are often excited about their learning. I can see the progress they are making academically spiritually and emotionally. As a parent I don't think there is any more I could ask for.
• Our position within the community can be further improved, although it has improved lots over the past 4 years, including a really good connection with the local kindy. It is really difficult to change the perception of a community whose experiences with the school in the past have been less positive.
• Sometimes the communication to parents is a bit hit and miss.
• Nil

Q5. Would you recommend St Joseph's School, Barmera to your friends and family?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices –</th>
<th>Responses –</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comments:

- Sound, responsible leadership. It also has a "good feel" and is not dominated by its Catholic identity.
- As above
- the enthusiasm of the staff, the enjoyment the students have with the school.. the passion for learning..
- Fantastic school, fantastic staff, a positive learning environment where students are able to be themselves and learn within their own abilities.
- Feel like they care about children
- Great facilities, solid education, progressive, good core values.
- Personal experience with my children attending.

Q6. What has been the stand out improvement for your child?

- Nurturing of my child's strengths, and development of positive relationships.
- My son has been engaged and challenged. My daughter has been able to progress in a nurturing non judgmental environment. She may never win an academic or sporting award but she has had the opportunity to stand proudly in front of the school and be acknowledged for her own special talents.
- Confidence has grown in the safe environment..
- St Joseph's is such a welcoming community and belonging to it is a privilege to us. My child is nurtured, encouraged and guided to be the best she can be at all times.
- Not feeling anxious to go to school
- Her leadership skills have improved.
- Learning levels achieved and continuous interest in all school activities.

Q7. In a sentence or two can you make a comment about your time or your experiences with the school

- It has been a positive and inclusive experience.
- I have been associated with the school since 2000, and have seen many ups and downs. St Jo's has allowed my children to grow academically with extra support that is otherwise not available and has nurtured them. I see the last few years as a period of stability. It seemed for a long time that there was a series of caretaker principals with their own ideas and idiosyncrasies. Whilst not necessarily a bad thing it felt unsettled and a little worrying that maybe the principal next year won't value a particular model or program that was working well for my child. I am confident and feel secure with the direction the school is taking now and in the future.
- I have found the principal and the staff of the school very approachable and have done so on occasions. Their response to my concerns have always been dealt with quickly and professionally. My children have enjoyed and still enjoy their time at school. As a parent, that is all that you can ask for.
• My experience with the school has been a positive one in all aspects. If I have ever felt the need to discuss a concern I have felt supported and understood and the school has worked with me to resolve the issue.
• All schools have ups and downs but most times problems are sorted out and the school makes themselves approachable
• The school ticks all the boxes in what you want for your child's primary education years, there is however an issue will recruiting good families to the school. This will continue to be a challenge moving forward.
• It has been an enjoyable experience where one has always been made too feel welcome, and pleasing to see the commitment of all staff towards the students.

Survey 2: New family to the school that have moved from another school

Q1. Why have you chosen to send your child to St Joseph’s School, Barmera?

• Recommended, not happy at previous school, eldest child had diagnosis of Aspergers Disorder. Previously attended this school myself.
• We moved interstate and wanted a small school which has the same Christian values we instill at home.
• I moved into the area and I liked the school over the public school because of the small number of students.
• Because I feel that my children will get the best learning opportunities and it has a warm friendly family environment at St Joseph’s which is important to me as a mum.
• Moved into the area.
• Smaller classes.
• Both my husband and I decided that previous school was not suited for our youngest son. We decided that St Joseph's in Barmera will provide him with best opportunities.
• A better learning environment as well as a Catholic Education

Q2. Are you happy with the progress that your child has made so far?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices –</th>
<th>Responses –</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very happy</td>
<td>75.00% 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happy</td>
<td>25.00% 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not happy</td>
<td>0.00% 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:
• Very proud of the progress my eldest son has achieved. Can not believe how far that he has come since starting at St Joseph's
Q3. What improvements have you seen in your child/ren since moving your child to the school?

- Ability to make friends, has just started playing a team sport this year which he has never been able to do before and stick through a whole season of sport. Outbursts at school has also decreased and general happiness to go to school rather then dread it like at his previous school.
- She is more out going and her learning has improved immensley.
- I have seen some great progress with my Son's reading and writing skills also his confidence has improved because of the great support that is provided to him by the other student's at the school and the staff members.
- They have more confidence to challenge themselves to achieve new things.
- Independence, they aren't getting bullied.
- Feeling more confident.
- We decided to enrol both our children at St Joseph's. Our youngest son has shown improvement in his reading and writing as well as his numeracy. Our older son is benefiting from the change as well.
- Better social skills

Q4. Would you recommend St Joseph's School, Barmera to your friends and family?

- Most definitely and I have, and I continue to praise the achievements the school and my children have made to everyone when I talk about my children's education
- Absolutely
- Yes I would highly recommend this school to my family and friends.
- Yes of course
- Yes
- YES
- Definitely.
- Yes

Q5. Are you able to identify any areas for improvement?

- The school continues to grow and adapt and improve all the time.
- Sometimes the communication on things that are happening in the school could be improved. But that is a minor thing.
- Currently I haven't been able to identify any areas of improvement as the staff and students all do a great job.
- No .... it's a great school within a great community I wouldn't change that.
- Lack of music lessons, festival of music.
- My son would like more excursions: suggests Almond Co wants to see how machines work and has other ideas also but is concerned about children's allergies
- As a parent, I am very happy with the school- staff is very friendly, great communication and may children are provided with great learning opportunities.
Q6. In a sentence or two can you make a comment about your time or your experiences with the school.

- Very happy and relieved to have my children attend this wonderful school that wouldn't continue to achieve it's high standard without the wonderful teachers and staff of St Joseph's.
- Loved it and the main reason we chose St Joseph's was because of Lee. He is involved and cares deeply about the school and enduring it's success
- Excellent school that provides a very supportive environment for the children which promotes their interest in learning.
- I had some hard times this year and really needed help the school had offer to help us through this tough time. The staff (school) were compassionate and sincere. I am truly grateful.
- Very friendly and welcoming. Kids are enjoying their class and appear to have settled in quickly.
- Moving forward more approachable.
- It was by far the best decision I have made for my children to enrol them at St Joseph's Barmera. I see my children improve in their learning every day. Thank you for the opportunity to take part in this survey.
- Great school for learning.

Survey 3: New Family to the school – Reception

Q1. Why did you choose St Joseph's School, Barmera as the school for your child?
- Previous siblings attended the school. Also a bad experience at another school.
- We have other children already going to school at St Joseph's and are very happy.
- Because we thought our child would get 'lost” at other schools. We like the fact it is smaller, we love the sense of belonging (when we first attended playgroup it just felt so "right" and everyone was so welcoming and helpful) and the passion the teachers/staff have for the children and in exposing them to many different opportunities and experiences. I am catholic and we also wanted our children to be exposed to the religious aspects in their life and how to integrate that in every day life.
- My other child was attending.

Q2. Are you happy with the progress that your child has made so far?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices –</th>
<th>Responses –</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>–</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Very Happy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Happy</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Not Happy</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Type here]
Q3. What has been the stand out improvement for your child?

- Finding his confidence, especially dealing with staff and other students.
- Settled very well into school routine and school work
- Just to see how much he has "grown" as a person.
- Her reading

Q4. Would you recommend St Joseph's School, Barmera to your friends and family?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices –</th>
<th>Responses –</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments:

- There seems to be a very comforting sense of interaction between the different year levels, with most students getting along with each other. Also, I have been impressed with staff conduct and professionalism.
- Honestly, because we are blown away with the growth of our son both academically and personally. At kindy and before, he kept to himself, wouldn't willingly interact/participate in activities or with other adults. Since attending Joeys it is like the "door has been unlocked" and the real child is shining through. He is happy, we are happy.

Q5: Are you able to identify any area's for improvement?

- Whole school community involvement, such as gala night, and other opportunities for all parents, staff and students to be encouraged to participate.
- We think that having an extra male staff member has been a great thing this year, we do think that maybe it is a bit too "female top heavy" at times and that children need the balance of both male and female role models.

Q6: In a sentence or two can you make a comment about your time or your experiences with the school

- The school displays a positive outlook with sound leadership.
- Very welcoming and caring school.
- As parents, each day when our son comes home from school happy and excited to share his new learnings of the day, it is a reconfirmation that we made the absolute right decision in sending him to St Joseph's.
- Very friendly the staff is great. Great family atmosphere.
**Survey 4: Family that has had a child to move to High School**

Q1: How has your child found moving from St Joseph's School, Barmera to a larger school?

- Quite smoothly from a social point of view and there has been continued improvement in her study results.
- Good
- Ok
- Her transition has been a smooth one.

Q2: Do you think your child was adequately prepared academically for High School?

- Yes our youngest child had learning difficulties which have shown not to be a large impediment in her learning
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes

Q3. Were you happy with the education that your child received (including support if applicable) at St Joseph's School, Barmera?

- Yes
- Yes
- Yes especially in my child's early years
- Yes very happy

Q4. Would you recommend St Joseph's School, Barmera to your friends and family?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices –</th>
<th>Responses –</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q5. Are you able to identify any areas for improvement?

- I'm not in a position to give this accurately
- No
- No
- Trying to keep a gender balance in staff is something that could be improved although difficult at times.
Q6. In a sentence or two can you make a comment about your time or your experiences with the school.

- All three of our children attended the school over a 12 year period. All of our experiences have been great the good and the bad. Overall I could not have asked for better preparation.
- My child was very happy and enjoyed attending school.
- Teachers make a school. I think a couple of years ago had a teacher whose passion wasn't teaching, now the teacher teaching the upper class is excellent.
- Our daughter had a very positive experience in her primary years, the quality of education at St Jo Barmera has been franked by her excellent results so far in high school.

**Student Survey**

The Year 3-5 and Year 6/7 students were surveyed totaling 29 students. Interestingly, the only child that 'Strongly Disagreed' with 'I think being at school’ had all 'Agree or Strongly Agree’ for all the other responses. It was also interesting that some of the older students were challenged by question 3 and 8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student items</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>unsure</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. My teachers expect me to do my best.</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. My teachers provide me with useful feedback about my school work.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Teachers at my school treat students fairly.</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. My school is well maintained.</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I feel safe at my school.</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. I can talk to my teachers about my concerns.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Student behaviour is well managed at my school.</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. I like being at my school.</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. My school looks for ways to improve.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. My school takes students’ opinions seriously</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. My teachers motivate me to learn.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. My school gives me opportunities to do interesting things.</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students also indicated “What they like most about St Joseph’s School, Barmera?” This was an open question.

- Science – 9 responses
- Art – 1 response
- Jumping Pillow – 17 responses
- Seeing friends – 10 responses
- The teachers – 2 responses
- The subjects – 1 response
- Playing KP – 2 responses
- Music – 1 response
- SAPSASA – 2 responses
- Nice people – 2 responses
- PE – 7 responses
- Learning agreements – 2 responses
- Art - 1 response
- Maths - 1 response
- There is always someone to talk to when in need - 1 response
- The equipment the school has - 3 responses
- How lucky we are to have what we have got - 2 responses
- Hammocks - 4 responses
- Learning opportunities - 1 response
- Book fair - 1 response
- PRC - 1 response
- Everything - 1 response
- Gala night - 1 response
- New ideas the school has - 1 response
- Size of the school - 2 responses
- Oval size -1 response
## Staff Satisfaction Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Unsure</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I like coming to work at St Joseph’s School, Barmera</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I am continuing to grow as a professional at St Joseph’s School, Barmera</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. I feel safe at St Joseph’s School, Barmera</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. I am kept informed about decisions that are made in the school</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I feel comfortable approaching my colleagues with questions or problems</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The school leaderships listens to the views of students, parents and staff and takes suggestions into account</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. I feel valued and supported by the students and parents in the school community</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Staff have access to a range of Professional Learning opportunities</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The facilities at St Joseph’s School, Barmera are well maintained and presented</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. I feel like a valued member of the school community.</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resource Management

Enrolments at St Joseph’s School remain consistent which has allowed our funding to continue to resource our school to provide the best education and care for our students. Mrs Tricia Kingham and our Finance Committee are to be commended on their management of resources.

School Income

Broken down by funding source:

School Fee income $61315
Other/Private income $110620
State Government Recurrent Grant $139379
Australian Government Recurrent Grant $625686
Total Recurrent Grant $937002
Capital fee income $0
Total Capital income $0
Total Income $937002
School Improvement

Self-assessment process

In working with the School Board and staff the school reflected upon what can be improved upon at St Joseph’s School.

2015 School Improvement Plan

In 2015 the school was working towards developing a School Improvement Plan. Creating the strategic direction for the school and making links with the Continuous Improvement Framework

Relationships

- Policy focus
- Vision and Mission
- Contemporary catholic identity in the spirit of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop
- Promotion/celebrating the good
  - Promotion after working out the why (golden circle)
  - Testimonials
  - School visibility (not be hidden)
  - Celebrating the good and how to communicate it

Learning

- Literacy Outcomes
- Continue on learning journey in inquiry/discover
- Veggie garden development AND curriculum integration

Community

- Building the Occasional Care and Playgroup
- Maintaining the relationship with the Kindergarten
- Find opportunities to invite community in

Progress towards achievement of 2014 goals

The school was committed to focus on three broad areas of improvement – Relationships, Learning and Community.

Relationships

- Strengthening the relationships between staff and students – especially the students that some staff don’t interact with regularly eg R-2 teacher with Year 6/7 students
• Internally we have working on ‘every child is enrolled at St Joseph’s School, Barmera’ – we are all responsible for every person in the school. What this actually looks like

Learning
• Reflecting on the “busyness of classrooms” and reducing clutter and excessive visual displays
• Making changes to classroom layout to reflect the learning and behavioural needs of students.

Community
• Strengthening our relationships in the community – Barmera market Stall, WASP and Bush Kinder with Barmera Kindergarten
• Holding a community event – Gala night