



Christ The King Primary School

2023 Annual School Report



Christ The King Primary School
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Introduction

About the Annual School Report

Christ The King Primary School is registered by the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) as a member of the Catholic system of schools in the Diocese of Parramatta.

The Annual School Report provides parents and carers and the wider school community with fair, accurate and objective information about various aspects of school performance and development. The Report describes the achievement of school development priorities in 2023 and gives information about the next years priorities.

This Report is a legislative requirement under the Schools Assistance Act 2008 and the Education Amendment Act 2004.

The information in this Report is complemented by the school website where other school publications and news can be viewed or obtained from the school.

Key Messages

From the Principal Mr. Anthony Hughes

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2023 Annual School Report for Christ The King Primary School, North Rocks.

Throughout 2023 school continued to strive for academic excellence and provided increased opportunities for students to participate in extra-curricular activities, following a two year hiatus peppered by interruptions and restrictions. Our school enjoyed a strong reputation in the local community for academic excellence; the faith development of our children and the strength of the parent teacher partnership in education. This was owing to our positive and enthusiastic student population, our supportive parents, our talented and highly skilled staff and supportive parish priest who all worked together to build our spirit-filled community.

Our school song proclaims that our community is indeed a community of love, with Christ as our centre. I am extremely proud of this unique and outstanding community whose members support, and work with one another to provide quality Catholic education for the children in our care.

I congratulate our community for providing our children with so many opportunities in which to excel. We believe at Christ the King Primary School we are a community of learners, and especially that the children see themselves as learners. We are proud of their many sporting achievements, participation in debating and public speaking and especially in the academic gains made this year.

At Christ The King Primary School, our mission is to:

- Promote our faith formation
- Nurture our students
- Provide quality learning and teaching
- Grow as a community
- Treat and respect each individual person

We thank our Lord for our many blessings received during 2023.

The Annual School Report is a government initiative that allows our parents and carers to gain information about some of the structures and performance of our school and its role in the wider community. It is, however, a written document that cannot replace that very real and human need for personal interaction. We invite all parents and carers who wish to discuss any aspect of this report to make contact and work with us collaboratively.

From the Parents/Carers

Parents have significant involvement in the learning and pastoral life of the school. They are generally active participants at masses and liturgies. Parents supported learning in all grades by contributing to the children's learning activities throughout 2023 to a greater extent, post the pandemic lockdown. Parents are forthcoming to assist with children's

extras curricular activities including excursions, assisting in classrooms and participating in regular events and celebrations.

Instead of a Parent and Friends Committee, School Event groups, made up of volunteer parents worked successfully throughout the year. Parents had volunteered to take up positions on various event committees to assist the organisation and facilitation of a specific events. This initiative has proven most productive in involving parents within the school and parish community.

In 2023 class parents continued to act as the communication link between the classroom teachers and the grade parent body. Parents continued to communicate with their class parents using a variety of social media applications.

Midway through 2023, the school successfully transitioned to the Parent Compass communication portal.

Parents and carers were formally surveyed in a centrally administered feedback system that provided information to staff about their child's experience and their own experience of school. The results will be used to look at further improvements at the school.

From the Students

Our student leaders were selected to positions of responsibility and leadership by the staff to have a specific role at Christ The King Primary School. Their leadership responsibilities included organising and running the morning assemblies; Positive Behaviour Support for Learning (PBS4L) focus; flag raising; special ambassadors to important events; leading student teams and taking on various tasks as requested by the principal. Each of our Year 6 students also belonged to a leadership team that focused on portfolios such as sport, students' welfare, youth and the environment. These leadership positions included two student captains, eight student prefects and eight sport colour house captains.

All Year 6 students had a special role in showing leadership, good examples and responsibility to the rest of the student population. They took this role very seriously and lived up to the high expectations asked of them.

Our students had wonderful facilities, playing spaces, learning spaces and technological resources to assist them with their learning and leisure.

They were acted as tour guides in Catholic Schools Week and assisted with other celebrations in 2023 as ambassadors for CTK.

Students at the school were formally surveyed in a centrally administered feedback system that provided information to staff about the students and their experience of school.

School Context

History of the school

In 1969, a new school was planned for the area and the Holy Faith Sisters were invited to lead and work in the School. They began teaching children from Kindergarten to Year 2 in St Gerard's Hall in Carlingford in 1973 until the first school building was completed in 1974 at North Rocks. The establishment of a Catholic community was as a result of the passion and efforts of our founding Parish Priest, the Reverend Fr Eric Burton, who was our Parish Priest for 45 years. Fr Burton passed away in September 2018. The staff aimed to provide an environment that strived for excellence in education and to instil Catholic values in every student who attended the School. They wanted our learning to be Christ-centred and as our School song highlights, within a community of love. Fr Eric Burton named the Parish and our School 'Christ The King'. He saw that Christ was the shepherd who served His people. He wanted us to serve each other as Christ has served us. It is the vision that continues today. We continue to build our community, working together for the common good, so that our School continues to grow into a just and safe place where our School rules, based on gospel values, are instilled and practised by all members within our School environment.

Location / Drawing Area

Christ The King Primary School is located on Statham Avenue, North Rocks and draws on students from North Rocks and parts of Oatlands, Carlingford and Baulkham Hills. It serves the Parish of Christ The King North Rocks, and has been situated on this site since 1973. We are situated in close proximity to St Monica's Primary School North Parramatta and nearby North Rocks Public School. We are a feeder school to St Patricks Marist College Dundas, Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta and Oakhill College Castle Hill. We are situated close to North Rocks Shopping Centre and serviced by local buses. Students walk to school but the majority of the children use our drive through system.

Workforce Composition

Staffing Profile

Staffing Profile	
Total Number of Staff	33
Number of staff who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	0
Number of full time teaching staff	16
Number of part time teaching staff	8
Number of non-teaching staff	9

Total number of teaching staff by NESA accreditation level

Teachers at the school are either accredited as conditional, provisional or proficient as defined by the Teacher Accreditation Act 2004 (NSW). Accreditation at the levels of Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher is voluntary.

The contracted number of accredited teachers within Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) are as follows:

Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) accredited teachers	
Conditional Teachers	363
Provisional Teachers	125
Proficient Teachers and/or above	3495

Teacher status at Christ The King Primary School can be sourced directly from the school.

Professional Learning

The ongoing professional development of each staff member working within CSPD is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including: whole of school staff days, subject-specific engagements, conferences, meetings and a range of professional learning opportunities provided by CSPD.

The school takes responsibility for planning, implementing, evaluating and tracking its staff's professional learning and individual staff members take responsibility for their ongoing professional development. All teachers have been involved in professional learning opportunities during the year related to improving student outcomes.

Specific and focused Professional Learning for the staff of the school this year has included:

- Professional learning continued for the implementation and development of the new Mathematics and English Syllabi to enable the establishment of a new learning scope and sequences
- Teachers continued to refine the scope and sequences for the revised Religious Education Curriculum with an emphasis on the different levels of scriptural understanding.
- Re-ignition of inquiry based pedagogy across all grades for new staff learning and consolidation of agreed staff practices that promotes collaborative learning for all.

Catholic Identity and Religious Education

Prayer, Liturgical Life and Faith Experiences

Education within the Diocese of Parramatta is a ministry of the Catholic Church, walking with humility in the way of Jesus, serving all of God's people. The Gospel messages of love, forgiveness, tolerance and compassion are lived experiences that are visibly evidenced at school. We offer families high-quality accessible education that challenges each student to discover a meaningful, hope-filled and flourishing life. Our caring teachers share faith and learning with students, including through their own example. Every day, be it in the playground, at an assembly or in the classroom our students experience a genuinely religious way of understanding the world. The invitation to meaningful prayer and liturgy, as well as participation in the Sacraments, nurture and give expression to the religious dimension of school life in the context of the Church's celebration of the liturgical year.

Social Justice

All students at the school are encouraged to regularly engage in activities to support Catholic Mission with fundraising and awareness-raising initiatives. Students are encouraged to work closely with their local parish, community groups, support local charities and participate in outreach or immersion experiences for the benefit of the whole community and the student's personal development.

This year students and staff from the school engaged in the following initiatives and activities:

- Our stage three students were invited to join the school FIAT team as a catalyst to promote reaching out to those in need in our wider community .
- The whole student body was involved in the St Vincent de Paul winter appeal with our senior students participating in a modified "Winter Sleep Out".
- The community was involved in the "Build a Bag" initiative where essential personal items were provided by the community for the homeless in our area.

All of these initiatives enabled the students and staff to practise their faith through action as Jesus demonstrated in the Gospels.

School, Home and Parish Partnerships

Parents and carers have been actively encouraged to engage in a variety of school activities including parent forums, information evenings, parent/teacher/student meetings, liturgies, social events and opportunities to provide feedback. Regular communication with parents and carers occurred through phone calls, meetings and the Compass information platform.

Religious Education

At the heart of our school is the Religious Education program. It is through this area of study that students learn to value the Catholic identity, traditions, values and Christ's teaching. Our Religious Education program is embodied by the quality of our relationships and how we deal with the daily issues of life.

CSPD schools use Sharing Our Story, a Religious Education curriculum that has been used for more than 20 years. In all subject areas, we offer an education completely consistent with the teaching of the Church on the dignity of all aspects of the human person. We also appreciate the need to provide age-appropriate learning opportunities.

Professional Learning of Staff in Religious Education

Professional Learning in Religious Education offered to staff this year included:

- Implementation of the Enhancing Catholic School Identity survey with students, staff and families within our community.
- Collaborative planning and professional learning with all teachers of Religion for the reconnecting units for Sharing our Story each term.
- Whole staff Formation Day based on the Mercy Charism and the role of Catherine McAuley in education at OLMC Convent Parramatta.

Learning and Teaching

National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The purpose of NAPLAN is to provide information to parents and carers and teachers about the achievements of students in literacy and numeracy. Questions are based mostly on the literacy and numeracy knowledge and skills students have learnt from previous years of schooling.

Each year the results are analysed by the school to inform teaching and learning with a view to improving student performance. Commencing in 2023, NAPLAN test results are reported using proficiency standards. Students' results show how they performed in each of the NAPLAN assessment areas against 4 proficiency levels:

- Exceeding: The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing
- Strong: The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing
- Developing: The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing
- Needs additional support: The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

The percentages of students achieving at Exceeding and Strong proficiency levels are reported in the table on the next page.

NAPLAN Results Year 3 2023

Year 3	Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
	School	Australia
Reading	97%	67%
Writing	97%	76%
Spelling	91%	61%
Grammar and Punctuation	76%	54%
Numeracy	88%	65%

NAPLAN Results Year 5 2023

Year 5	Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
	School	Australia
Reading	88%	74%
Writing	91%	66%
Spelling	81%	69%
Grammar and Punctuation	77%	64%
Numeracy	79%	68%

Student Profile

Enrolment Policy

Christ The King Primary School follows the Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) Enrolment Policy Procedures and Guidelines. The full text or a link to the full text of the school's enrolment policies, including all prerequisites for continuing enrolment, can be obtained from the school office or can be accessed on the school's website.

Student enrolments

Student enrolments 2023	
Number of Boys	Number of Girls
174	148
Total Enrolments: 322	

Student attendance

Student attendance rates 2023			
Year	Attendance Rate	Year	Attendance Rate
K	94%	4	92%
1	94%	5	94%
2	94%	6	94%
3	94%	School Average: 94%	

Managing non attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents and carers, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

The compulsory schooling age range is 6-17. Parents and carers are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, explaining the absences of their children in writing within several days to the school, and taking measures to resolve attendance issues involving their children.

School staff, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. They maintain accurate records of students' attendance, follow up unexplained absences through written and verbal communication, implement programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise, and provide clear information to students and parents/carers regarding attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance.

The school principal or their delegate may grant permission for late arrival or early departure from school, leave or exemption from attendance only in individual cases, on written request from parents and carers. For longer exemptions, an application for approval is made through Diocesan authorities. The principal/delegate will undertake all reasonable measures to contact parents/carers promptly if an unexplained absence occurs. If truancy is suspected, the principal will contact the parents/carers to ascertain the reason for the absence. If a satisfactory response is not received, the matter will be referred to the relevant staff at CSPD who will follow up unexplained absences as per legislative requirements.

Characteristics of the student body

The table below shows the number of students in each of the categories listed.

Student Body Characteristics	
Language background other than English (LBOTE)	10
Students with disabilities (SWD)	56
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	1

Wellbeing

The wellbeing and safety of all students is central to the purpose of Catholic Education and we acknowledge that healthy relationships and exceptional pastoral care are core to each child's positive experience at school. Christ The King Primary School is a place where students are nurtured to grow, to belong and to be safe.

A sense of wellbeing and connectedness promotes optimal development of the person as a whole and contributes to academic success. We have a strong focus on pastoral care and our school has a counsellor to support our students. CSPD provides resourcing for additional wellbeing initiatives and teams to support attendance, behaviour and intervention for students at risk.

Our wellbeing initiatives include:

- Revamp and reignition of our school wellbeing Programme PBS4L that involved regular "reteaching" of the various aspects of the three PBS4L pillars.
- Weekly assemblies acknowledging student achievement , positive behaviours and general effort across all aspects of school life.
- Revamping of our PBS4L tokens to acknowledge the top students in each grade with an onsite reward activity each semester funded by the school.

Christ The King Primary School bases student wellbeing on the [CSPD Student Wellbeing Policy \(2022\)](#) and the [CSPD Student Wellbeing Framework](#). The guidelines identify the rights and responsibilities of every student in the school and are based on the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. Corporal punishment is expressly forbidden at the school.

Related policies include:

- [Bullying of Students - Prevention and Response Procedure \(2022\)](#)
- [Student Use Of Digital Devices And Online Services Policy \(2022\)](#)
- [Guidelines for Parents and Carers in Raising Complaints \(2023\)](#)
- [Student Wellbeing Policy \(2022\)](#)
- [Student Wellbeing Framework](#)
- [Student Attendance Policy \(2021\)](#)
- [Student Attendance Procedures \(2022\)](#)
- [Bullying of Students - Prevention and Response Procedure \(2022\)](#)
- [Weapons Procedures \(2022\)](#)
- [Banned Substances Student Procedures \(2022\)](#)
- [Family and School Partnership Principles](#)

Actions promoting respect and responsibility

Christ The King Primary School actively promotes respect for others and responsibility for self. During the past year, our community has engaged with the following actions and opportunities:

- Focussed aligned activities through the school PBS4L initiative that focused on and individual RESPECT for self, others and the environment each term.

- Celebrated Naidoc week with in class activities utilising Jarara resources, and Down Syndrome Orange day and Kids cancer crazy sock awareness days.
- Stage 3 students have the responsibility of being senior buddies for our Kindergarten and and year 1 students to support and be there for them.

Community Satisfaction

During 2023, CSPD and our school utilised a variety of measures to obtain feedback from parents and carers, students and staff regarding community satisfaction.

Areas of strength from the parents/carers feedback include:

- Parents always feel welcome when they visit the school and have regular access to teachers to discuss their children's progress at school.
- Effective communication channels exist through school newsletters, parent compass portal, email and access to both principal and teachers.
- Teachers have high expectations of their students and strive to challenge their students across all key learning areas in differentiated classrooms.

Areas of strength from the student feedback include:

- Students have developed positive relationships /friends at school they can trust and who encourage them to make positive choices in a safe environment
- Students acknowledge the amount of extra curricular activities they can access such as sport, creative arts, Chess, Coding, FIAT and interest clubs.
- Students have a an appreciation that their learning at school is useful and interesting in assisting them prepare for the their future endeavours.

Areas of strength from the staff feedback include:

- Staff are challenged and encouraged to explore various ways of enhancing the teaching and learning in the learning classrooms support by leadership.
- Teachers enjoy the collaborative project working with their peers and mentors in being able to share teaching and learning ideas and pedagogies.
- Teachers have a clear understanding of what is expected as both a teacher and staff team member by the school leadership team and principal.

School Improvement and Learning

Priorities

Current Year Priorities		
Priority 1	For students to be challenged across all Key Learning Areas, in order for them to develop deeper knowledge and skills and transfer their understanding across different contexts focussing on teaching explicit comprehension strategies years K-6.	Still Working Towards.
Priority 2	Maths - For all students to develop their understanding of multiplication and division concepts in order to apply their skills to challenging tasks, and therefore improve by at least one growth point by the end of 2023.	Still Working Towards.

Projected School Priorities		
Priority 1	Students to improve their writing accuracy with a focus on their spelling to improve by at least one years growth point by the end of 2024. This will involve the introduction of the Seven Step Writing programme and Sound Waves spelling initiatives.	
Priority 2	Students will build by at least one year , their understanding and fluency skills to solve problems of increasing difficulty evidenced through PAT-M Data. This focuses on working mathematically developing reasoning, fluency and understanding skills.	

Financial Statement

Financial information is based on the detailed information provided to the Commonwealth and State Government in the Financial Questionnaire.

School Financial Information for 2023 is detailed below:

Recurrent and Capital Income	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants ¹	\$3,987,034
Government Capital Grants ²	\$0
State Recurrent Grants ³	\$1,049,189
Fees and Private Income ⁴	\$959,025
Other Capital Income ⁵	\$153,921
Total Income	\$6,149,169

Recurrent and Capital Expenditure	
Capital Expenditure ⁶	\$114,901
Salaries and Related Expenses ⁷	\$4,382,525
Non-Salary Expenses ⁸	\$1,552,811
Total Expenditure	\$6,050,237

¹ Commonwealth relates to Commonwealth Recurrent Grants including per capita funding and special purpose grants

² Capital relates to Government Capital Grants received for construction of school assets

³ State relates to State Recurrent Grants including per capita funding, interest subsidy and special purpose grants

⁴ Fees relate to Diocesan and school based fees, excursions and other private income from parents/carers

⁵ Other refers to Other Capital Income including amounts charged for Diocesan Building Levy from parents

⁶ Capital Expenditure refers to expenses incurred mainly for School Buildings, Furniture and Equipment

⁷ Salaries refers to the total of all Salaries, allowances and related expenses such as superannuation, workers compensation and leave

⁸ Non-Salary refers to all other Non-Salary Recurrent Expenses