



Our Lady of the Angels Primary School

Our Lady of the Angels Primary School
1 Wellgate Avenue
Kellyville 2155
0288087000
OLA@parra.catholic.edu.au
www.olarousehill.catholic.edu.au



Catholic Schools
Parramatta Diocese

2024 Annual School Report



Introduction

About the Annual School Report

Our Lady of the Angels 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 2024 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. Tony Calabria

Our faith in Christ's teaching is at the centre of all we do to nurture each child, spiritually, emotionally, academically and physically in the footsteps of our patrons, Mary and St Francis. I am proud to present to you the 2024 Annual School Report for Our Lady of the Angels Primary School, Rouse Hill. Our School is dedicated to the education of students from Kindergarten to Year 6. At Our Lady of the Angels Primary School, we aim to provide a comprehensive and balanced curriculum that engages students in quality learning experiences across the six mandated Key Learning Areas and Religious Education. We endeavour to ensure that each of our students develops a love of learning, a thirst for knowledge, a healthy self-esteem, a respect for others and a desire to know and follow God. We strive to establish a welcoming community where parents work in partnership with the teachers to support all aspects of their child's development: academic, social, emotional, physical and spiritual. Our educational endeavours combine so that our students will be confident life-long learners, who are encouraged to serve others and to embrace the fullness of life in their society as they become effective global citizens. Our school motto, 'Faith Seeking Understanding', stems from the knowledge that the members of our community are united in the same Catholic faith. It is our mission, as educators, parents, children, priest and parish to grow into a deeper understanding of this faith as we live and learn together.

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

Our Lady of the Angels Primary School recognises parents as the primary educators of the students in our care and values the contribution made by parents at all levels. In 2024, Parents and Friends (P&F) meetings were held each term. The P&F were involved in many school events including Kindergarten Tea and Tissues, Kindergarten Welcoming BBQ, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparent's Day, International Teacher's Day, Children's Disco, the Parish Fiesta and various fundraising activities. Parents are also an integral part of student learning and are invited to attend the learning spaces to assist with special learning days, gross motor skill development, literacy and numeracy groups. Our Lady of the Angels Primary School excels at communicating with parents on a regular basis. The school newsletter is emailed every week which details all aspects of school life. Parents were also regularly communicated with via email and social media during the year. Our Lady of the Angels Facebook page was extremely well received and a popular form of communication.

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

All students can achieve academic, social and emotional success within a supportive environment that promotes passion, creativity, trust, collaboration and reflection. Our children enjoy the comfort of a rich, well-resourced learning environment along with well-manicured surroundings which help to enrich their experiences and form the basis of a real love for education and our environment. Our students have wonderful facilities such as playing spaces including a large grass oval, modern learning spaces, and technological resources to assist them with their learning and leisure. Throughout 2024, students continued to be exposed to a range of rich learning experiences and the opportunity to be part of lunchtime activities, such as Mini Franciscans, Faith in Action Team, choir, Lego Club and Games Club. The students were also involved in Maths Olympiad, the Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) Voice of Youth Public Speaking Competition, debating and numerous sports gala days. The Student Representative Council (SRC) members were elected by their peers at the beginning of the year. The end of the year also saw school and sports colour captains and vice captains elected.

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

Our Lady of the Angels Parish Rouse Hill, began in May 2007. In 2009, a foundation class of 19 Kindergarten students utilised Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School Kellyville, as the proposed new school was being built. Our Lady of the Angels officially opened in February 2010 for Kindergarten to Year 2 with 66 students. Demand soon saw building works in place to cater for a three-stream school. The construction of the school was finalised in 2016. The school now accommodates 21 class groups with an enrolment of approximately 600 students. Our appreciation goes to the Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD) for its provision of these exceptional 21st century learning spaces and grounds for the students. Our beautiful Parish church was built in 2015. In May 2020, our foundation Parish Priest moved to Tasmania to continue his ministry in the Archdiocese of Hobart. He was the shepherd of our flock since the inception of the parish in 2007. Our current Parish Priests are amazing men of faith who lead Our Lady of the Angels faith community. Our Lady of the Angels has grown and flourished into one of the most sought after, dynamic and vibrant parish/school communities.

Location / Drawing Area

Our Lady of the Angels Primary School is located in Kellyville on the corner of Wellgate Avenue and Withers Road. It is surrounded predominantly by parkland with Bruce Purser Reserve on the opposite corner, Commercial Road Reserve diagonally opposite and a housing estate and Kellyville netball courts next door. In 2016, much of the surrounding bushland was cleared and subdivided for housing, increasing the demand for enrolments. The construction of semi-high density housing was recently completed on adjacent properties, previously comprising of bushland. Although it serves the parish community of Rouse Hill, Our Lady of the Angels Primary School welcomes all students who are seeking an education that embraces the Catholic enrolment availability. Enrolments are accepted and processed according to the Enrolment Policy criteria.

Workforce Composition

Staffing Profile

Staffing Profile	
Total Number of Staff	48
Number of staff who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	0
Number of full time teaching staff	27
Number of part time teaching staff	11
Number of non-teaching staff	10

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	458
Provisional Teachers	102
Proficient Teachers and/or above	3258

Teacher status at Our Lady of the Angels 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:

- All staff had the opportunity to continue developing their knowledge of syllabus content and effective delivery through Coaching and Mentoring.
- Staff undertook professional learning in the area of 'Leading Excellence in Mathematics'.
- Through professional learning, staff refined their skills of analysing data to determine students needs to make teaching more impactful.

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:

- Whole school Project Compassion campaign to support those less fortunate.
- Student Faith in Action Team visiting all classrooms to promote the significance of the Angelus Prayer.
- Vinnie's Winter Appeal (food toiletries, blankets etc) collection to support families in need.

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:

- Staff explored a variety of prayer experiences and how they can be incorporated in the lives of the students.
- Staff participated in professional learning raising understanding and knowledge of the new Diocesan Religious Curriculum.
- Staff analysed the data from our Catholic Identity survey and participated in a formation experience to assist staff to understand the data.

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 2024

Year 3	Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
	School	Australia
Reading	80%	66%
Writing	92%	77%
Spelling	74%	61%
Grammar and Punctuation	76%	54%
Numeracy	82%	63%

NAPLAN Results Year 5 2024

Year 5	Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
	School	Australia
Reading	88%	71%
Writing	85%	67%
Spelling	85%	68%
Grammar and Punctuation	86%	65%
Numeracy	88%	68%

Student Profile

Enrolment Policy

Our Lady of the Angels 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 2024	
Number of Boys	Number of Girls
283	305
Total Enrolments: 588	

Student attendance

Student attendance rates 2024			
Year	Attendance Rate	Year	Attendance Rate
K	95%	4	93%
1	94%	5	92%
2	93%	6	91%
3	94%	School Average: 93%	

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)	137
Students with disabilities (SWD)	120
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	2

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. Our Lady of the Angels 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:

- Introduction of 'Wellbeing Wednesdays' focussing on a weekly strategy to raise awareness of a healthy mind, wellbeing and positive social skills.
- Introduction of regular 'Pivot' wellbeing survey to gather data on student welfare and implement necessary strategies.
- Wellbeing performance for students and subsequent lessons promoting our focus on the importance of positive social interaction.

Our Lady of the Angels 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

Our Lady of the Angels 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:

- Harmony Day assembly for the entire school and parent community to promote inclusiveness and diversity.
- Intentional and strategic regular assemblies highlighting our school values of Respecting Self, Others and the Environment.
- Presentation by Constable West to senior students about respect, responsibility and the law.

Community Satisfaction

During 2024, 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:

- That students feel extremely safe at school and well looked after.
- Learning of the students is very well supported and results are excellent.
- Parents feel very welcome and included.

Areas of strength from the student feedback include:

- Students express a strong sense of positive belonging.
- Students believe teachers are responsive to their needs, encourage independence and that schooling is useful in their everyday life.
- Students feel that there are strong positive relationships throughout the school.

Areas of strength from the staff feedback include:

- Staff work collaboratively together as a team to achieve the learning outcomes for the students.
- Staff have the necessary resources to ensure optimal teaching and learning.
- Staff have clear expectations and communication.

School Improvement and Learning

Priorities

Current Year Priorities		
Priority 1	To have 80% of Years 2-6 students at or above the normed mean in the PAT-R Adaptive Standardised Test and to shift 20% of the Year 5 students NAPLAN levels of proficiency from 'strong' to 'exceeding' in 2025.	Still Working Towards.
Priority 2	By the end of 2024, students will demonstrate an increased understanding of scripture moving beyond surface level by applying the Literal, Spiritual and Application Senses and Three Worlds of the Text to their understanding.	Still Working Towards.
Projected School Priorities		
Priority 1	To improve literacy outcomes for all students in Kindergarten to Year 6.	
Priority 2	To improve students' understanding of the Catholic approach to engaging with Scripture.	

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 2024 is detailed below:

Recurrent and Capital Income	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants ¹	\$5,817,067
Government Capital Grants ²	\$0
State Recurrent Grants ³	\$1,529,487
Fees and Private Income ⁴	\$1,585,919
Other Capital Income ⁵	\$285,296
Total Income	\$9,217,769

Recurrent and Capital Expenditure	
Capital Expenditure ⁶	\$678,270
Salaries and Related Expenses ⁷	\$6,846,196
Non-Salary Expenses ⁸	\$2,431,703
Total Expenditure	\$9,956,169

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