

# **HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL AGM REPORT**



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to the Elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hope of their people



## **SCHOOL VALUES.**

### **POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS.**

#### **SHARING.**

#### **SUPPORT.**



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Families

It is my pleasure to present my Principal's Report for the 2022 School Year.

It was a year of great achievement coming out of the three year period of dealing with the COVID-19 epidemic.

Our commitment to our Catholic Identity has stood us in good stead as the Parish as well as the school has dealt with unprecedented change. Our Mass Centre was temporarily moved to Pope John Paul 11 Hall due to the need for more space to achieve social distancing. The congregation continues to grow and we look forward to boosting the Sacramental Program for children in the school. We thank Fr Shibu and Fr Santos together with Louise Svensdotter and our APRIM Michael Urdanoff for their great work in enhancing the faith life of the community.

We completed the Billabongs Project in late 2022 providing the final piece in the Curiosity puzzle. This together with our market gardens comprises our hands-on approach to Ecology at Holy Family.

Our students enjoy the benefits of our unique pedagogy enabling them to engage in their learning using our unique learning spaces, the latest technology and the expertise of our teachers and educators. At Holy Family, learning is our work!

Our School Values of Positive Emotion, Trust and Support underpin the work of our staff and students everyday.

Led by our School Board (and indeed the whole community) we achieved a ten year dream of establishing our own Early Learning Program for 3-5 year olds. This program is already at 75% capacity

and is being enjoyed by the children, the staff and the families. The children are provided with Long Day Care and Preschool from 6.30am until 6pm.

We have also established a highly successful Play Group in 2022 which now meets three times a week. This completes our Birth to Yr6 curriculum.

In December we farewelled our Deputy Principal Adam Slater who has been a popular member of our community for 8 years. I wish Adam well in his first appointment as Principal at Norwood.

Finally, I acknowledge the work and commitment of our school staff during these testing times. Every person on our staff plays a pivotal role in the delivery of our learning program.

Similarly, our parent representatives on School Board, P&F and volunteers have performed brilliantly in their supportive roles. They truly epitomise our values of positivity, trust and support. I thank you one and all!

**KERRY WHITE**  
Principal

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Welcome to the Holy Family Catholic School – Parafield Gardens AGM for the 2022 school year.

Last year I was given the fortune to serve my fourth term as the School Board Chairperson.

My role as chairperson of the School Board has been to work with Mr. Kerry White and Mr. Adam Slater in supporting the vision of the school and to be accessible to Kerry, the School Board and the Holy Family community with the goal of providing outstanding learning experiences in a safe and nurturing environment. This also includes being the spokesperson at School Board functions and provide feedback to the Board on the administration of the school. As the Chairperson of the school board but also as a parent, it is encouraging to see the students continue to excel in their academic, religious, sporting, and social environments.

During 2022, we have finally as a community been able to perform tasks in the same manner as previously experienced prior to 2020. Whilst Covid and the restrictions placed upon us are in the past, it is wise to be mindful, we are still facing many challenges as a school and community.

During 2022, we have witnessed fewer challenges than that of the previous 3 years, however, once again - The School Leadership team, School Board, Staff, students, and their families must be commended by their vigilance in following the regulations imposed by our governing bodies in early 2022. Lift of such restrictions has had a great “positive” effect on all with the inclusion once again of parents attending assembly and our Spring Fair which was back in full swing.

The Spring Fair brought about a new found energy for the community and was one of the spectacles for 2022. The school finally had the chance of celebrating our newest building ‘Curiosity Central’ to the wider community and with the building’s focus on being totally off grid. Also, during the Spring Fair, the Curiosity Building showed its excellence in design, tailoring

the food and beverage under the verandah area, all power for this was generated by the building design with external 3 phase power points.

Some of the great results for 2022 were:

- Our New Learning Hub “Curiosity Central” was finally on show at the Spring Fair. This building is state of the art and totally off grid.
- ELC Holy Family will now become integrated within the HFCS structure, as at early January 2023, ensuring all families are welcome within the gates of HFCS.
- The Billabongs are now under construction (almost completed), with the first Gudgeon tenant due early-2023. These billabongs will give a safe environment for the endangered Purple Spotted Gudgeon that the school has successfully implemented a breeding program to ensure this species of fish remains for generations to come.

The School Board appreciates the commitment of the school staff, teachers, ESOs, Canteen, Uniform Shop, OSHC and ELC teams for their commitment to the wellbeing and education of our children. Their dedication to our community has been evident through the continued positive culture which permeates throughout the school.

To the Board. It is an important role ‘Board Member’ and I thank you all for the giving of your time and valued experience. Thank you to Joan Young and Deacon Arturo for the continued support you have provided from the Parish.

I would like to take this opportunity to also thank Kerry White, Adam Slater and Nicholas Bartold for their continued leadership and professionalism in ensuring our children are provided with the best possible education. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to thank our many volunteers who have so generously given their time and expertise to make Holy Family a fantastic community.

A special thanks to Mr. Adam Slater for his outstanding contribution and professionalism he has given to the Holy Family Community throughout his tenure at HFCS. On behalf of the school, I would like to congratulate and wish Mr Slater the best of luck in his future as Principal of St Joseph’s Norwood in 2023.

In conclusion, 2022 with only a few minor restrictions early in the year has been a breath of fresh air. For me, it has been a privilege to Chair this board once again and I am truly grateful for the opportunity. Whilst 2023 is well on its way to being another successful year, Holy Family Catholic School Parafield Gardens School Board will continue to work to promote excellence in education and co-curricular activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for 2023. Thank you.

DAVID GARRICK  
HFCS Chairperson 2022





## **TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCE**

### Unaudited Treasurer's Report 2022

Resulting from continued careful financial management at Holy Family Catholic School, the school's current assets stand at \$4,518,008.25. The school also has no outstanding debts, also due to good financial management the new buildings have been paid for. Holy Family Catholic School is now also able to provide an affordable school bus service for children who require it.

#### **Enrolments:**

August Census 567 students enrolled.

#### **Summary of Results:**

With extensive planning and careful expense management Holy Family Catholic School has provided the school and wider community with new buildings and is also now debt free, all involved in the school's financial management should be congratulated.

**NORMA GRAY**

Treasurer

Catholic Identity – We are all created in the Image of God.

Ecology – Preserving God's Creation.

Pedagogy – Each child is intelligent and has 100 languages to share.

## **APRIM'S REPORT**

In 2022, I would outline the Religious Identity and Mission of Holy Family Catholic School through the ACARA & Crossways General Capabilities.

### **Literacy & Numeracy**

Staff and Students encompass the knowledge and skills they need to access, understand, analyse and evaluate information; make meaning; express thoughts and emotions; present ideas and opinions; interact with others; and participate in that, which shapes the Catholic Identity at Holy Family Catholic School, as well as their lives beyond school.

The Religious Literacy and Numeracy Capabilities provocations (questions) and Investigations (process) are influenced from the core content of the Crossways, 5 strands, God us and Faith, Church and our World, Sacred Texts, Moral Life and Sacramentality and Prayer.

Investigations and provocations are created around key ideas such as the `Liturgical Season, `Holy Week, Social Justice and Special Events. Students are provided with a variety of materials that will engage them in their learning, such as during Holy Week, when making palms and crosses or creating dioramas of the Last Supper.

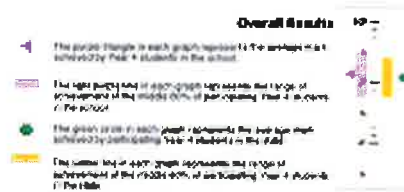
The success of the Religious Education Pedagogical approach resulted in our Year 4 students being above the State average in the Religious Education and Literacy Assessment Tool for South Australian Catholic Schools.



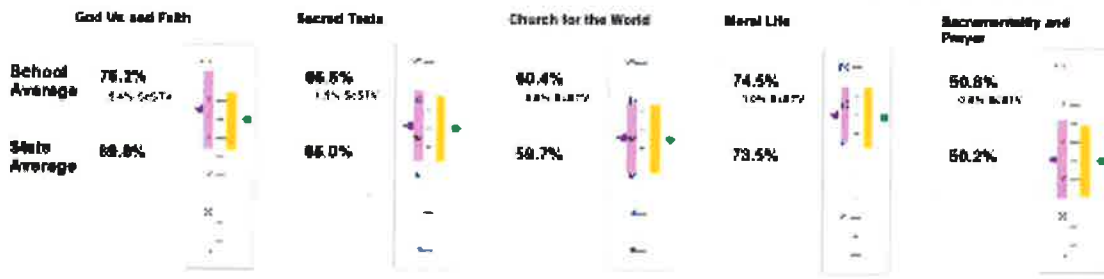
**2022 RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENT - YEAR 4**

**Holy Family Catholic School PARAFIELD GARDENS School Summary**

The average total for all Year 4's in this school is 22.9 out of 35 or 65.4%  
 The average total for all Year 4's in South Australia is 22.3 out of 35 or 63.4%  
 This school's average is 1.1% above the state average



**KEY IDEAS**



**KEY** Difference between the school and the state average is the School State Variance

In Numeracy, looking at the key numbers that are used in the scripture stories as well as the sequencing of events and how they fit in the Liturgical Year.

The cornerstone of these investigations are the Gospel recounts of the Holy Week Events, where we critically reflect using the 24 Character Strengths of Jesus, the person and his actions and words that he displays during these events. Additionally, we can also contrast Jesus' reactions with those of the disciples, Romans, Pharisees and the people of Jerusalem.

**Critical and Creative Thinking**

Staff and Students learn to generate and evaluate knowledge, clarify concepts and ideas, seek possibilities, consider alternatives and solve problems. Moreover, students think broadly and deeply using skills, behaviours and dispositions, such as reason, logic, resourcefulness, imagination and innovation in all learning areas that embrace our Catholic Ethos. This is evident by our Mission Week,

where creative charitable activities raise money for Fred's Van, Catherine House and Loreto Vietnam Orphanage (\$4,100 this year).

In RE the pedagogical inquiry approach enables the students to learn about a topic that gives a purpose and a meaning to their lives. For example, in Year 5/6 their projects on Saints allowed the students to research the life of a Saint centred on the questioning of What they already knew and What they wanted to know more about? Therefore, they were able to expand on their prior knowledge, find more about the life of the Saint and how that Saint inspires them in their own faith journey.

### **Personal and Social Capability**

Personal and social capability involves students in a range of practices, including recognising and regulating emotions, developing empathy and understanding in our decision making centred on the Gospel values.

Staff and students are able to express their unconditional positive regard through their respect for God's creation in our Fish Farm, MUDLA, Billabongs and the different trees and plants we have in our school while keeping our hard areas and green spaces tidy. Our school voices their words and actions in prayer, liturgies, masses and assemblies, which promotes positive relationships, sharing and support for one another, as well as all creation.

Furthermore, this displays the staff and student spirituality in developing and encouraging their relationship with God, through engaging speakers, leading prayer and planning and contributing and sharing with other classes and staff meeting presentations.

## **Intercultural & Ethical Understanding**

Staff and Students develop intercultural and ethical understanding, as they learn to value their own cultures, languages and beliefs, and those of others, while understanding how that reasoning can assist ethical judgement, both in a Religious and Social Context.

The Made in the Image of God, 'Relationships Unit', explores not only our own personal well-being, but how our responses affect our relationships with others. By creating a welcoming, inclusive, environment that embraces our diversity through listening and interacting with the hundred languages, our different cultural and religious backgrounds are valued.

## **Information and Communication Technology**

Staff and Students learn to use ICT effectively and appropriately to access, create and communicate information and ideas, solve problems and work collaboratively in all learning areas at school and in their lives beyond school as a tool for expressing their faith.

Students at all year levels, make power point, keynote and iMovie presentations that represent the bible stories of the Catholic Tradition using text, symbols, music and dance to express their faith.

## STAFF REPORT

Holy Family Catholic School, like all schools in South Australia, started the 2022 school year a little differently. The first two weeks of term one, saw teachers lead classes in an online format while children conducted their learning from home. Whilst not unprecedented after stints of online learning previously, it was nonetheless a unique way to commence the school year. There was much anticipation and excitement when the gates were open for all to return. Holy Family welcomed eleven new classroom teachers in 2022. Significantly, this elevated the number of staff who are alumni of Holy Family to eight.

The appointment of Jake Winters to Leader of Learning and Literacy Co-Ordinator was a notable staffing change.

The school's partnership with Lisa Burman continued in 2022. Lisa acts as a literacy consultant working directly with cohorts of teachers in developing pedagogy and developing predicted flow within units of literacy learning. Lisa worked closely with staff across all year levels providing feedback while visiting classes for 'in-action' days.

Nicholas De Palma worked across cohorts as Numeracy Coach where he conducted in class inquiries, specifically relating to low floor, high ceiling tasks based on Jo Boaler's mindset mathematics learning. Nicholas provided staff with opportunities for analysis and interpretation of data pertaining to numeracy learning to inform and target specific gaps across the strands of mathematics.

In Term 3, Adam Slater shared the 2022 NAPLAN data with staff. Highlighting that the school is tracking above the northern region, state, and national averages for spelling. The longitudinal data shows the investment of resources within the school has been showing signs of success recently.

Holy Family welcomed back digital technology pedagogical expert Paul Hamilton to work with staff over two days of professional development. The first day saw Paul present pedagogical strategies pertaining to:

- App Prototyping, pitching, and showcasing;
- Inquiry into how this might look for students at different year levels;
- How teachers can integrate different tools to explore new skills;
- Use of 3D and animation modelling program, CoSpaces.

On the second day, Paul worked with teaching cohorts on integrating Apple technology in a creative manner, assisting with developing learning designs specific to the classroom's current learning.

Throughout the year, a cohort of ten staff continued the learning partnership with the University of Adelaide Master of Education (Education Leadership/Wellbeing) program, completing two more units for the year. This partnership will continue into 2023.

The MUDLA continues to be a magnificent unique feature for student learning. Through the support of student leaders who conduct regular feeding and maintenance schedules, these spaces assist to sustain learning improvement and empowerment for learning opportunities.

Holy Family remains committed to a breeding program for the Southern Purple Spotted Gudgeon, with the program pivoting into the next stage of species rejuvenation as the construction of a network of four Billabongs that will house the gudgeon in a habitat that mimics the native ecosystems in the Murraylands came closer to completion.

2022 was a year where Holy Family Catholic School staff displayed tremendous commitment to the improvement of student learning and

wellbeing outcomes through the aforementioned partnerships and shared learning experiences. It was also a year where many staff said farewell as they embarked on new chapters in their own professional journeys. We thank the departing staff for their service and wish them well in their future endeavours. A particular mention must go to Deputy Principal, Adam Slater who we say farewell to after securing a principalship at St Joseph's Memorial School, Norwood. Excitingly, this means that in 2023 we celebrate the appointment of teaching staff into new roles at Holy Family Catholic School along with welcoming several new teachers and many educational support services staff to the Holy Family community.

**NICHOLAS BARTOLD**  
Staff Representative