



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

ST FRANCIS XAVIER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lake Cargelligo, NSW

2012 School Report to the Community



SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: Conapaira St, Lake Cargelligo NSW 2672

Principal: Mrs Jacinta Elwin

Parish Priest: Fr. Mayne Murphy

School Board / Council Chair: Mrs Leanne Middleton

Telephone: (02) 68981611

Fax: (02) 68981626

Email: jacinta.elwin@cg.catholic.edu.au

Website: www.sfxlake.nsw.edu.au

This report was prepared by:

Mrs Jacinta Elwin

PRINCIPAL

MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Principal's Message

As we come to the end of another successful school year, we use this Annual Report to share our accomplishments with both our school and the wider community. Our mission at St Francis Xavier School is to nurture the child in a Catholic Community where Christ is our focus, and where children are actively involved in learning. During 2012 we have continued to work on improvements in Literacy and Numeracy with National Partnership funding and the ongoing support of the CEO consultants. Through our Cultural Immersion Program we continue to build stronger relationships with the wider community. Our students have achieved success in Eisteddfods, public speaking, competitions and in sport.

Community Council Message

Our Council has had a very successful year fundraising and providing our students with many cultural and educational experiences through the benefit of this fundraising. This year has seen another change in leadership at St Francis Xavier School, but the Council has worked alongside the principal to see the school achieve its goals. We have also had many changes in the committee but there has continued to be a small, strong supportive group of parents that want what is best for the school community and have worked hard throughout the year to achieve this. Highlights have been the successful School Fete / Car Boot Sale and the tremendous success in catering.

Student Representative's Message

2012 has been a great year with many exciting activities. Highlights have been the Stage 3 Canberra excursion, our successful Fete with each class organising stalls (like our Haunted House), competing in Eisteddfods for verse speaking and singing (we won 3 trophies) and special visitors like 'Heaps Decent' and 'Snake Tails'.

We also started our own garden; growing fruit trees, native bush tucker and vegetables (which we have harvested and used in cooking). Into our garden we will place our award winning Picasso Cow. We have also started a very successful breakfast program and have had special food days like our Dairy day and our Multicultural feast for St Francis Xavier Feast day.

SCHOOL FEATURES

St Francis Xavier is a Catholic Primary School located in Lake Cargelligo. The school caters for students in Kindergarten - Year 6, and has a current enrolment of 47 students.

Students attending this school come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities consisting of 45% male and 55% female students; 58% indigenous students; and 2% Language Background other than English (LBOTE).

The school employs 15 staff comprising 7 teachers and 8 non-teaching staff, the latter being employed in a variety of capacities including learning support, clerical support, bursar, cleaner and grounds maintenance .

St Francis Xavier School is set in the rural area of central -western NSW, and the families gather from all parts of the surrounding area. St Francis Xavier School was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph in February 1929. The school continues to be committed to follow in the footsteps of the Sisters of St Joseph through partnership with Indigenous families, who are now an integral part of the school community.

The school prides itself on a family feel and appreciates the continued support of families at the school in running educational activities, fundraising and creating an atmosphere of care and concern for all students.

St Francis Xavier School is a small rural school. However, with the use of extensive technology and modern teaching programs, students participate in a creative and engaging curriculum that caters for all individual differences.

2012 has seen the St Francis Xavier School celebrate many events. These have included Sacramental celebrations, feast days, Holy Week and Easter, 'Close the Gap' Day, 'Reconciliation Week', NAIDOC week, ANZAC day, Catholic School's Week and Bookweek.

Since 2009 St Francis Xavier School has been involved in a number of Federally funded programs such as National Partnerships, which have been targeted at improving Literacy and Numeracy levels of all students. Individual children can be identified early and receive Reading Recovery (RR) and Numeracy Improvement (NIP) in order to optimise their acquisition of the basic skills.

An increasing number of our students sit the UNSW exams ,English, Maths, Computing, Science annually and within the school there is a growing awareness and willingness to strive for academic excellence.

The school participated successfully in many local events including the 'Blue Water's Art Exhibition' and the Lake Cargelligo Show. Success was also achieved in a range of other activities including public speaking at the Western Region level, CWA Public Speaking competition and the Harmony Day Poster competition (seeing one of our students travelling to NSW Parliament House to receive her award). Individual students, our verse speaking choir and singing choir received many awards and trophies at two local Eisteddfods this year as well. A significant number of our students were involved in cultural events, at the school or in the community.

As an Archdiocesan school students have had the opportunity to participate beyond the local community in swimming, cross-country and athletics events. Our students also participated successfully in various AFL and touch football events held the region.

The school's website can be found at www.sfxlake.nsw.edu.au

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St Francis Xavier School follows the Archdiocesan Religious Education Curriculum, *Treasures New and Old*.

St Francis Xavier's Primary School is a Catholic community which endeavors to live the message of hope experienced in the Resurrection. 'For God and Australia', our school provides a 'Catholic Education' with a real-life and inclusive approach to Religious Education and Spiritual Formation.

Religious Education is important and valued in our school community because it gives the opportunity for all to develop and strengthen their relationship with God and all people.

Each school day is begun by praying together, and each Friday we join together with the school community in the parish mass which celebrates the weeks' achievements.

2012 students celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation, First Eucharist and Reconciliation. We also celebrate special feast days and Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Advent and Christmas together.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 and 5 sat the *National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy* (NAPLAN) in May this year. NAPLAN assessment results provide valuable information about student achievements in Literacy and Numeracy. An analysis of these results assists school planning and is used to support teaching and learning programs.

School and National Mean Scale Scores

YEAR 3	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	419	415	414	424	395
School	401	337	400	393	359

YEAR 5	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	493	476	494	490	488
School	452	360	436	419	436

Proportion of students at or above the National Minimum Standard

YEAR 3	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	94%	95%	94%	93%	94%
School	100%	83%	100%	100%	83%

YEAR 5	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	92%	92%	93%	90%	93%
School	57%	71%	71%	71%	86%

Proportion of students in each Achievement Band

YEAR 3	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 6	16.7%	0%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%
Band 5	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%
Band 4	16.7%	0%	0%	16.7%	0%

Band 3	33.3%	0%	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
Band 2	33.3%	50.0%	26.7%	16.7%	16.7%
Band 1	0%	16.7%	0%	0%	16.7%

YEAR 5	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 8	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Band 7	14.3%	0%	0%	14.3%	0%
Band 6	42.9%	14.3%	57.1%	0%	14.3%
Band 5	0%	28.6%	14.3%	42.9%	57.1%
Band 4	0%	28.6%	0%	14.3%	14.3%
Band 3	42.9%	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%	14.3%

The above tables show that our Year 3 class has shown improvements in most areas compared to the Year 3 class of 2011. Although our results still show many areas which we as a school community need to continue to work towards, the results of our students were in most cases a good indication of the student's abilities.

Though careful analysis of the results from NAPLAN we will continue to work to improve all students results in literacy and numeracy, but will also focus on problem solving and a variety of testing techniques so to assist the students with the format of the NAPLAN testing.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Enrolment Policy

In enrolling students we are directed by the Archdiocesan Enrolment Policy which can be found on the Annual Report page of the school's website or on the Catholic Education Office website at <http://www.ceog.catholic.edu.au/parents/Pages/GeneralPolicies.aspx>

St Francis Xavier School offers a full Orientation program for all perspective enrollments. The Orientation program begins in early Term 4 and goes over a 5 week period. This allows the students to gain confidence in their new environment. 2012 Kinder Orientation was 5 full days and was extremely successful for all our new Kindergarten students.

Behaviour

Behaviour management at St Francis Xavier School is coupled with the Pastoral Care Policy. It is based on a principle of rights and responsibilities so that students understand that the two go hand-in-hand. Each classroom has a list of rules set in positive terms developed by both the teacher and the students.

The aim of the policy is to build skills and attitudes that promote well maintained and respectful relationships with individuals and with the wider community.

Corporal punishment is expressly prohibited in this school. In addition we do not sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons to enforce discipline at our school.

The full text of the school's Pastoral Care and Welfare Policy is available on the school website or from the Front Office.

Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy

The school policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory environment. Any concerns raised are responded to promptly and fairly and confidentiality is always maintained. A full text of the school policy is available on the school website or from the Front Office.

PRIORITIES AND TARGETS

St Francis Xavier will continue to devote significant energy to raising standards of literacy and numeracy in a way that meets the needs of every student in our school, whatever their academic ability.

Above all, as a Catholic school, we will endeavour, in unison with parents, a child's first educators, to nurture a spirit of personal and social spirituality, in line with the stated aims of Catholic education.

St Francis Xavier receives Country Area Program Funding (CAP). Annually this funding is used to minimise some of the disadvantages that occur as a result of our location. We are most grateful to the Australian Government for this funding. In 2013 CAP funding will assist our staff in preparing the school for the changes in the new Board of Studies Curriculum, ensuring all staff are ready to implement any changes successfully and without disruption to student learning. CAP funding has assisted our school in keeping up with changes and innovation in technology. During 2013 St Francis Xavier will utilise some CAP funding to assist the teachers create units of work that enable staff to use technology pedagogy and content together to enable powerful learning for all students.

Finally we will continue to work with our Stage 3 students in Peer Support and other leadership programs and to continue to ensure our Pastoral Care and Behavioural Management policies and programs address the needs of our school community.