

# Annual Report 2020

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2020

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St John the Apostle Parish  
School



SAINT JOHN  
THE APOSTLE  
PARISH SCHOOL

**RAISING  
HEARTS  
AND  
MINDS**



# St John the Apostle Parish School

*A place of...*

## *Welcome, Love and Truth*

Spirited by our Catholic faith and in partnership with parents, parish and the wider community, we are committed to providing a high-quality, holistic and contemporary education for our students.

### Vision Statement

We respond to the message of St Luke the Evangelist, by being a welcoming and inclusive school community, as part of the Noarlunga/Seaford Parish.

We acknowledge the writing of St John the Apostle, God is Love (1 Jn 4:8), by striving to love one another as God loves us.

We continue the tradition of St Dominic, by seeking truth and justice through lifelong learning and prayerful reflection.

### Core Values And Student Outcomes



# SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Hello and thank you for the opportunity to present the 2020 School Board Chairperson's Report.

The 2020 school year had certainly thrown many challenges. Reflecting on the complications and uncertainty that COVID19 presented such as having to rethink the delivery of an entire curriculum to students mixed between the classroom and home. While at the same time maintaining some sort of normality. This has given me the opportunity to realise the hard work and commitment it has taken St Johns staff, students, and families to make the 2020 year as successful as it was. It is a credit to all parties to have committed themselves to maintain an as normal school year to the most important part of our school, The Students.

In 2020 the St Johns community was able to appreciate the hard work that had been applied to create a staged master plan. Opening stage 1 was a significant milestone. We have been able to incorporate a high level of inclusivity to the school by the installation of a lift and ramps, revitalizing classrooms, adding additional learning spaces, and creating a standalone OSHC space. All to a fantastic quality. I'm sure our staff and students have enjoyed the new spaces and fantastic views. These additions have certainly enhanced the stature of our school.

Our school continues to grow, enrolments are high and ongoing waiting lists provide evidence the schools mission is being heard by the local and surrounding communities. Families considering St Johns as their first preference is a credit to the staff and whole school community.

We consistently provide excellent opportunities for students to excel in education, sporting and social events while committing to the values in spiritual education and pastoral care. This is enhanced by the encouragement for families to interact through mass, class reading and general valued volunteering for the school. As the Chairperson and parent, it is encouraging to see how well our students and families strive in the above areas.

2020 had many COVID challenges and achievements I would like to recognise a couple of these our school managed well:

## **Challenges**

- The ability to adapt in short periods of time to maintain the required level of education to students, particularly our senior students heading to high school in 2021.
- Caring and nurturing our new reception students and families into a very unpredictable school year

## **Achievements**

- The school was able to provide financial relief for families affected by COVID without compromising on the level of service the school delivers. This would have provided a level of financial and wellbeing relief for families facing uncertain times.
- Senior students camp, the school was given no option to continue the Canberra camp which caused great disappointment. Quickly a second option was presented locally at West Beach. Although cut short by COVID a great achievement and effort to have provided this opportunity to the senior students.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the school's leadership in 2020, Principal Dee Anne Peters and APRIM Jamie Mulcahy. Their guidance and leadership maintained a strong school community. We have excellent teachers and staff who continually commit themselves to educate and care for our students. A great OSHC team who manage our out of hours school care. Our P&F continue to run and assist with numerous activities around the school despite the challenges of a tough 2020 year. It has been a difficult time to create the social interactions which ultimately lead to new friendships and the willingness to volunteer and help around the school. Thank you, Fiona, Rachel and all the P&F volunteers for all their hard work in 2020.

We thank our outgoing chairperson Kristy McGregor for all her hard work as the chair and board member over several years.

The board collectively continues to undertake its role on behalf of all the families at St Johns. We will provide that oversight for strategic planning, financial management and general direction of the school.

As chairperson and parent, I thank all the Board Members for giving up their time and for their ongoing support and input.

Late in term 4 I received a phone call from Dee-Anne informing me she had accepted the role as Principal at St. Therese. Starting term 1 2021. Dee-Anne had worked tirelessly as acting principle at St Johns before winning the role as substantive principle at which point, she provided excellent leadership to the school.

On behalf of the whole St Johns School Community, we say thank you Dee-Anne.

The attitude of school helps drive that of the community, our school needs to be that place our kids can feel safe and comfortable to flourish. I believe at St Johns we have continue to establish a great leadership team and staff to provide that place.

Simon Jones  
Chairperson - St John the Apostle School Board 2020

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This annual report is the journey of St John the Apostle Parish School in 2020, highlighting the creative, supportive nature of the school to ensure all learners achieve educational excellence.

The staff at St John the Apostle School are committed to the dignity and worth of every child to achieve their full potential. This was evident in the way staff embraced the challenges presented by COVID-19 in 2020. The teachers worked to explore new ways in which their teaching and learning programs could remain during lock down, ensuring that all students were supported to continue their rich learning experiences. All staff were open to new ways of working and supporting the additional hygiene practices that have become part of school life. The staff worked hard to continue connecting with families in different ways to ensure the strong school and parent partnership continued with teachers connecting with families after school and outside rather than in classrooms due to covid restrictions. Whilst 2020 presented challenges not experienced before, the creative team of St John's staff worked to make certain that the students at St John's were provided with rich opportunities and experiences for learning and that as many of the annual events that were possible occurred or were adapted which included Sports Day, School disco and the year 6 camp.

St John's were extremely fortunate to have a new building project completed during 2020. The new spaces with sea views provide modern calm spaces for students to learn in. The additional building has enabled the school to have four new classroom spaces that allow for flexible usage. One space has been utilised for art and performing arts, two are for general class purpose and the fourth classroom has been utilised as a space for intervention and a student break out area. A learning deck area was also incorporated in the new building which has created another play area for children to use during recess and lunch. The additional spaces connect seamlessly with the remainder of the school whilst being ascetically pleasing.

During 2020, 18 Winnerah road previously purchased by the school and rented out was renovated to enable our OSHC service to have a safe and purpose-built facility for both before and after school. The renovations to the property have created open safe spaces for the students and staff to use which included renovated amenities, garden space, office area, new carpet, and storage in a homely environment. The addition of this space has freed up other spaces in the school. The pickup and drop off are convenient for parents and the location being directly next door to the school makes it a smooth transition for students both before and after school. The new OSHC space can cater for up to 30 students with enrolments close to this each afternoon. This space was ready for use in term 4 2020.

Throughout 2021 providing educational excellence for our students continued to be a focus for the teaching and learning programs. The staff were able to continue with professional learning to reflect and refine their current programs. Significant professional learning time

was allocated to professional learning communities where staff collaborate to reflect, plan and program to provide learning experiences that build on previously acquired skills and knowledge students have demonstrated. Literacy continued to be a focus with St John's engaging in effective spelling using an inquiry based approach which was led by Lynda Lovell.

Professional learning was also provided on the religious education new crossways curriculum as it was implemented in 2020. All teaching staff were supported in understanding and using this updated curriculum to plan and program for their students.

All teaching staff completed their second year of the Berry Street training. This has complemented the trauma sensitive school training previously undertaken by the staff. The Berry Street Educational Model (BSEM) highlights the importance the development of the whole child is in education. Through the program students are supported to feel confident as learners, manage themselves when faced with new challenges, minimise their fears and help them to manage their feelings and emotions. The curriculum is purposefully designed to support the sequential developments of students' physical, psychological, social and emotional capacities. Whilst there is the curriculum structure the school has embedded staff have been able to incorporate the skills learnt and ideas presented into their classrooms in their daily practice.

SEQTA a learning management system was introduced to all Catholic Primary schools in 2020 with staff undertaking training in recording pastoral care notes and absenteeism. The Individual Education Plans (IEP's) for those students requiring adjustments to their learning programs were all replaced by CESA's Personal Plans for Learning (PPL). Staff were provided with professional development on how to use this new document. This plan allows for consistency across all Catholic schools in South Australia on the documentation of adjustments some students require to engage in the curriculum.

On behalf of Dee-anne Peters I would like to thank the following;

Thank you to the parent community for their support and continued partnership as the school managed changes due to the pandemic. Thank you for your understanding and for working with us as we were unable to have parents on site which is not what we believe or is usual practice at St John's.

Thanks also to the School Board for your support throughout the 2020 year and adapting to online meetings, additional emails, and changes during the year. Thank you for volunteering your time and expertise in providing guidance, advice and oversight of the school, its finances and mission.

Finally thank you to the amazing St John's staff who continued to work to support St John's to be an amazing school and a place of welcome, love and truth. Our students were well cared for and school remained a place for learning and social connection especially when other sporting and social events were cancelled during the year. Thank you for being the face of Jesus for all in our community working together and adapting with such professionalism with the different challenges presented during the 2020 school year.

Leanne Johansen – Principal



## RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND MISSION REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I present to you my first Religious Identity and Mission Annual Report for St John the Apostle School, 2020. What a year to start in a new school and parish community.

We started the year by celebrating a Year 3 to 6 and Reception to Year 2 Opening of Year School Mass. The purpose of the Mass was to celebrate the beginning of a new school year, the love God has for us all and our unique qualities. To ask God for a full year of learning and reaching our full potential and beyond. We also asked The Lord that St John the Apostle Parish School continues to be an enriching environment that sees Christ's light shine in all of us as we join together to work in unity and respect with one another. We celebrated both Masses with Fr Selva.

On Wednesday 26 March, we also celebrated our Ash Wednesday Mass with Father Selva. This was planned as an outdoor Mass on the oval, but unfortunately, we had to move the Mass and entire school into the Year 5/6 learning space due to inclement weather.

Shrove Tuesday was celebrated with the traditional St Johns pancake breakfast. Children were asked to make a gold coin donation and close to \$400 was raised for Project Compassion.

Unfortunately, due to Covid – 19 restrictions, we were no longer allowed to celebrate class Masses. Instead, every Tuesday morning, we started celebrating Outdoor Class Liturgies on the oval.

On the first Tuesday back at school of Term 2, we celebrated two Easter Joy Liturgies, reminding us that Jesus brings us peace and joy.

In Week 2 of Term 2, we celebrated Catholic Education with a Year 1/2 Outdoor Liturgy. The tag line for Catholic Education Week is, 'Raising Hearts and Minds.' Every day at St John the Apostle Parish Catholic School, we endeavour to raise the hearts and minds of our students.

During our class Liturgies, we asked the Lord to keep us under the shadow of his mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. In this time of anxiety, to give us the strength to comfort the fearful, tend to the sick and to assure the isolated of our love.

On Monday 3 August, we welcomed Fr Josy back to St John the Apostle to celebrate our St Dominic Mass.

After the Mass, students took part in the first ever 'St John the Apostle Parish School Walk for Water' as part of our St Dominic celebrations. We educated our students about social justice and ethical issues within our world and empowering them to change the lives for people who are less fortunate than ourselves.

The 'Walk for Water' started with different year levels walking for different amounts of time whilst carrying different sized containers of water.

Students were required to gather sponsors for the Walk for Water.

The children were sponsored for each lap they walk around the perimeter of the school for the following amount of time:

- Year 3/4 and 5/6 students will walk for 60 minutes.
- Year 1/2 students will walk for 45 minutes.
- Reception students will walk for 30 minutes.

50% of the money raised was donated to Catholic Charities, the other 50% was donated to the Dominican Sisters. Annie O'Neill from Catholic Charities visited each class to share with our students her role and the Me4U website. Annie was also a guest at our Walk for Water. Our Walk for Water ended up raising \$4016. We presented Annie O'Neill with half the money at the end of last year during a Catholic Charities Committee Meeting. The other half of the money was donated to past St John the Apostle

Principal Sister Enid Wood and Sister Bernadette Kiley during our Monday morning Flag Raising and Class Awards ceremony on May 10, 2021.

At the beginning of Term 3, students started celebrating Weekly Class Masses again in the St John the Apostle School Chapel with Fr Dev. It was fantastic to welcome Fr Dev to our school community.

In Term 1, Jamie Mulcahy worked closely with Jeremy Gramp from NRM (Natural Resource Management) to apply for an Adelaide and Mount Lofty NRM Board's School Environment Grant.

Our School Environmental Grant to undertake our project entitled, "St John the Apostle Parish School Biodiversity Frog Pond and Native Garden," was successful. This project was built near the cubby house, in the existing Butterfly Garden.

The financial support for this project was made possible by the NRM Levy paid by all ratepayers within the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Rangers Region. The grant was for \$1572.43. 2020 Environmental Leaders started this project, and the 2021 Environmental Leaders are currently finishing this project.

The 2020 / 2021 Sacramental Program started in Term 4. The sessions looked a bit different in 2020, due to covid restrictions. The children attended the Reconciliation preparation sessions at school. Unfortunately, parents were not allowed to attend. Fr Josy and Fr Prathap came into the school to conduct the Reconciliation with the children in the chapel. In Term 2, 2021, we will be able to celebrate Confirmation and First Holy Communion, the same way we have in the past, with family involvement in the preparation sessions. Thank you, Fr Josy, for your support and flexibility for our Sacramental students to start their journey in Term 4.

At the end of last year, we applied for funding through the Grassroots Grant program offered by the Government of South Australia, Green Adelaide Board.

On behalf of the state government and the Green Adelaide Board, we received a letter from David Speirs MP, Minister for Environment and Water on the 20 January 2021, congratulating us on securing funding of \$2694.50 for our project, 'St John the Apostle school Native Biodiversity Garden'.

At St Johns, we are extremely keen to develop the school yard by creating more environmentally friendly areas for the children to play and learn in and providing an important habitat for local native animals.

Through this project, we plan to raise student and community awareness of local biodiversity and how to care for fragile environments by building a native garden. The 2021 Environmental Leaders are planning on planting appropriate native plants to promote biodiversity. This will be located near our new building. A lot of the original garden was destroyed during the build, so we would like to create a new native garden.

This would be an excellent place for the native garden as it will be very visible to parents and visitors from Carmichael Road when they drive past the school. This will provide teachers, students, and families with an outdoor education space to be actively involved in. We are enthusiastic about St John the Apostle School continuing this exciting ecological journey.

Once we have finished our Native Garden and Frog Pond project, we will start this exciting new project, working closely with Green Adelaide.

I have enjoyed working with the St John the Apostle Community and getting to know you all throughout 2020. I am very excited to continue working with newly appointed principal, Leanne Johansen, and the school community over many years to come.

God bless.

Jamie Mulcahy - APRIM (Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Missions)



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION REPORT

In 2020 we welcomed new families and students with disability to St John the Apostle. I felt privileged in my role to meet and support these families in our community.

As part of our reporting to CESA on Students with a Disability we collected data for the NCCD (Nationally Consistent Collection of Data). Staff worked in consultation with parents/carers, students, outside agencies and CESA consultants to inform planning and adjustments to support students with a disability. Catholic Education of SA replaced IEP's (Individual Education Plans) for PPL's (Personalised Plan for Learning). We held professional learning with teachers to consider the planning process and learning supports available which provide adjustments for access, participation and learning for students. Due to COVID-19 staff had regular communication with families throughout the year to review adjustments to support students.

We participated in our first year of the Purple Orange Project (Inclusive Schools Communities Project) in 2020. I attended one network day at a school in the Northern Suburbs of Adelaide to discuss the project and inclusion tools they have used so far. Due to COVID-19 network meetings were cancelled, however I participated via some Zoom meetings to discuss inclusion for students with a disability. As a staff we regularly discussed inclusion at St John the Apostle and ways teachers and ESO's could work with students to support them to participate and learn at school.

As an initiative of the project, I took all of our ESO staff on an immersion visit to Antonio Catholic School with the theme of 'Inclusion'. We were met by Tanya DiLernia (Inclusive Education Co-ordinator) who spoke to us about Antonio's involvement in the Purple Orange Project for the past 2 years and changes that have been made in the school to be more inclusive of all students and families. ESO staff toured classrooms and then participated in an inclusion tool to review what we do at St John the Apostle. Feedback from the visit was positive and ESO staff met with me to discuss learning and inclusion further throughout the year.

Following this CESA commissioned a review for Students with Disability in 2020. They listened to the views of students with disability, their parents/carers/guardians, community members, school leaders, staff in schools and the Catholic Education Office, and disability agencies. The review's purpose was to identify what Catholic Education in South Australia is doing well, what it should do less of, and what it should do better. We had 7 students from our NCCD data ranging from Year 1 to 6 chosen to be interviewed by Mary Carmody to discuss their views on how St John the Apostle supported inclusion for students with a disability. The feedback we received from Mary was exceptionally positive. One thing that stood out to me was that students felt they could go to their teachers for help if they needed it and if they had a problem, it was always followed up.

In 2021 our goals are:

- To continue using Personalised Plans for Learning to plan and make adjustments to support students.
- Introduce a new school and system wide approach to collecting evidence for the NCCD (Nationally Consistent Collection of Data) using SEQTA.
- To continue to work with our cluster schools in the moderation process for the NCCD.
- To identify an area, we can work with cluster schools to support inclusive practices in all our schools with new funding available from CESA in 2021.

Lynda Lovell – Inclusive Education Coordinator

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION / SPORT REPORT

COVID hit in 2020 but it did not stop sport going ahead in many ways and St John the Apostle saw many celebrations in Physical Education. Justin Marsh took specialist Physical Education lessons. Our Years R-2 focus was on fundamental movement skills, while our Year 3-6 students focused on game sense and skill development.

### Sporting School Grants

At the end of 2019 we again applied for an Australian School Sporting Grant. Sporting Schools is a \$240 million Australian Government initiative designed to help schools to increase children's participation in sport, and to connect them with community sporting opportunities. Sporting Schools programs are provided free to children and their families to help students build the confidence and capability to be active for life. To help achieve this, Sport Australia has partnered with more than 30 national sporting organisations (NSOs)

We were unsuccessful with our application in term 1 and then with the impact of COVID the sporting grants were distributed differently.

Term 2 – We received a grant of \$650 to put towards the purchase of sporting equipment.

Term 3 – We successfully won a grant for \$3000 allowing us to run 4 weeks of Hockey as well as purchase new hockey equipment for the school.

Term 4 – We were successful again being awarded another \$3000 plus a bonus of \$1000. This allowed us to introduce Table Tennis for 4 weeks and purchase tables, bats, and balls for future use. Each grant allowed each of our 9 classes, 4 lessons of each sport offered.

This was an amazing opportunity for our school that we will continue to be involved with in the future.

In 2020 we participated in the South Australian Catholic Primary School's Sporting Association (SACPSSA) carnivals throughout the year. Squads represented our school in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country. All students from Years 3-6 participated in the Netball carnival and students from Yr 5-6 participated in the Touch Football Carnival.

We had 30 students' trial for the SACPSSA Swimming carnival in Term 1. The 18 selected students trained for 2 weeks on a Monday and Tuesday night. On Tuesday 12th March we went and participated in the carnival at the UNISA Magill pool. A big congratulation needs to go to our team who participated fantastically on the day.

Our Year 5 team were crowned age champions for Division 5 and awarded the Age champion pennant.

Cadel Garner was crowned the Yr 5 Age Champion for the second year running for our division. The effort and enthusiasm shown throughout the day was exceptional and each swimmer was a wonderful advocate of what we strive for as a school.

COVID forced a change of date to the SACPSSA Netball Carnival, this year. We attended the carnival on Tuesday 28th July and took 11 teams (108 students) from Years 3-6 to Priceline Stadium for the day. We had magnificent weather for the carnival this year. The students played very well and once again showed great team spirit.

54 students from Years 3-6 participated in the Cross Country Carnival which was held at Prince Alfred College Oval on Thursday 6th August. The commitment from all squad members was outstanding. Students happily trained during their recess and lunch play in order to prepare.

We took all Years 5-6 students on Tuesday 1st September to participate in the SACPSSA Touch Football Carnival held in the city at the SA Hockey Grounds. The participation and behaviour from all the students were outstanding. We were very competitive on the day and achieved some fantastic results, as well as showing great teamwork and sportsmanship towards all other teams. Thank you to all those parents who assisted us on the day.

2020 saw the Athletics carnival moved to Term 4. On Wednesday 3rd November, Justin, Bec, Becky and Bronni took 37 students to the SACPSSA Carnival at Santos Stadium. Our squad showed great dedication and trained during their recess and lunch play in preparation for the carnival. The weather was perfect, and our students were a wonderful example of what we strive to be at St John the Apostle.

Our boys finished 2nd in Section 5 Division and the girls finished 7th. We were so proud of our student's excellent behaviour and outstanding sportsmanship and all our students should be very proud of their achievements.

The Catholic School regional Carnival was held at Cardijn College in Term 4 on Tuesday 27th October. This was an excellent experience for our students to participate and mix with the other students in the region. The day was very well organised by the Cardijn students. The sports included Soccer, Football and Netball. A special mention goes to Oscar Hogarth who was awarded the best and fairest award for the Soccer competition. We look forward to attending in 2021.

Sports Day in 2020 was held in Term 4 on Friday 30th October. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, Sports Day had to be held during the day and with reduced spectators and not as the traditional twilight event. Sports Day included sprint races, a variety of team based events showing the wonderful skills of our students, mixed year level relays and our body moving Health Hustle.

Congratulations to St John's team who took out the Sports Day trophy and to St Luke's team who won the Tiggeman Cup trophy. Well done to all our Sports Captains who showed great leadership and sportsmanship throughout the event.

Special mention must go to Nicole Edmonds who coordinated the Subway dinner for all the students and staff.

COVID restrictions and shutdowns in Term 1 and 2 unfortunately caused our normal Yr 6 Aquatics, Yr 5 Water Safety (Term 1) and Reception to Yr 4 Swimming lessons (Term 2) to be cancelled. This was extremely disappointing for all. Term 4 saw restrictions lifted giving us the opportunity to change swimming a little and run Yr 3-5 Water Safety on Monday 23rd November (the day after lockdown was lifted) and Reception to Yr 2 Water Safety and Yr 6 Aquatics on Friday 27th November at Port Noarlunga Beach. The Year 3-5 classes had a wonderful time on the Monday, however, 40+ degree weather forced us to cancel the Reception to Yr 2 and Yr 6 day. This was heartbreaking but the safety of all our students is our number one priority. Let us hope 2021 bring us more success and fun with Swimming, Water Safety and Aquatics.

School soccer continued again in 2020, however with a shortened season and with no after school training. We again made links with Seaford Soccer Club and used their facilities as our home ground. We had 91 students participate in the Saturday morning competition.

We would like to say a special thank you to Chrissy Hadfield for taking on the role as school soccer co-ordinator. This was Chrissy's last year as the coordinator as her children have now all moved on to

High School. The work she has done over the last few years has been wonderful and we as a school community are so grateful for the work she has done.

School Netball for 2020 was played at SUNA. We had 10 female players from Years 5 and 6 participate in weekly games held on Tuesday nights (U13 competition). It is wonderful to see so many of our students participating in Out of Hours School Sport.

In Term 1 we nominated a Yr 5/6 School Basketball team that played at Morphett Vale Basketball Stadium. We had 10 boys' players from Years 5 and 6 participate in weekly games held on Monday nights (U13 competition). Unfortunately, COVID put a halt to this. We were able to restart this in Term 4 with great success. We are looking forward to the possibility of more teams in Term 4 2021.

A big thank you needs to go to all the parents who assisted us as coaches, team managers, umpires, and supporters this year with Out of School Hours Sport. Parent support is essential for these competitions to run and without this we would not be a part of this fantastic experience for our students. School sport is a key area in the development of skills, understanding of the games and teamwork.

In 2020 we continued our involvement in the South Australian Primary School - SAPSASA program. This program gave our students with sporting talents the opportunity to represent the Onkaparinga District. As a part of our affiliation with SAPSASA we also entered a Knock-Out Boys Soccer team and a Knock-Out Girls Netball team in the Yr 6/7 competition. Unfortunately, this year we did not make it through to the next round, coming up against

some tough competition and schools that still had Year 7 students. Both teams should be very proud of themselves. We are sure to continue our affiliation with SAPSASA in 2021.

2020 has been a fantastic year for sports at St. John the Apostle. We hope to continue not only the amazing achievements but also the wonderful participation and great sportsmanship shown throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone for their support in Physical Education in 2020.

Yours in Sport - Justin Marsh - POR Sport



## CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S MUSIC FESTIVAL CHOIR

This year was the 31st year of the Catholic Education choir event. The Festival celebrates the versatility and talents of the young people in our Catholic schools across the state.

2020 was my fifth year as Choir Trainer and it certainly proved to be challenging due to COVID. The children rehearsed for three terms mastering their repertoire and were assisted and assessed regularly by Ms Denise Rothall the Festival Choir Coordinator.

24 students from year 5 and 6 were a part of the choir this year. The festival looked a lot different for the students with no opportunity to perform at the Festival Theatre and no hub assessments or combined choir rehearsals. The songs were cut to six instead of the standard 9 songs.

The Catholic School Music Festival was recorded at Sacred Heart College in their theatre on the 21 September 2020. St Johns was a part of the first recording and they featured in various rows. This was the first time they came together with the other schools to perform for the first time. This was a very different experience for the students as they were able to learn all about the recording process. When the recording was edited, a link was sent out to the parents for them to watch at home.

The students showed true resilience throughout the year and persisted with learning their songs even though they didn't get to experience a true Catholic School Music Festival event. They all performed very well and still enjoyed the opportunity to sing with other students from catholic schools in South Australia.

Lisa Martin - Choir Trainer May 2020



## OSHC REPORT

An overview of highlights in 2020

St Johns OSHC offers quality care, we follow the National Quality Framework and "My Time our Place" aiming to improve children's learning while having fun.

OSHC is guided through the Education Standard Board.

We review our Quality Improvement Plan annually including the St John community, educators, families/caregivers, and children for any improvement.

OSHC is accredited every 3 years and our new premises will be accredited this year or early next year.

### Staffing

OSHC has 4 educators which include the director, 1 certified supervisor, 1 educator working towards and 1 unqualified. Staff meetings are held every term.

### Finances

OSHC ran at a loss last year due to covid, our parents were not charged, and our numbers had to be reduced to 10. OSHC educators were reduced to the director only and covered by ESO's. The educators were covered by job keeper. OSHC accounts are sent home weekly via email.

### Professional Development

Due to covid most of the professional development was cancelled and then reinstated using zoom meetings. Staff are all trained in first aid, mandated notification, and hold current police checks.

The OSHC website booking form is working well and parents are using the system to logon and send emails for booking purposes.

OSHC moved into the new updated premises in the last term of 2020, and this is a positive move for parents/caregivers, children, the feedback has been wonderful.

Janine Jak - OSHC Director



## INDONESIAN HIGHLIGHTS

2020 was a very different year with some of the activities planned with our partner school in Indonesia on hold due to the situation in Indonesia - Indonesian students were studying online from home during the entire year and are not due to return to normal school contact lessons until June or July 2021. As such, much of the online collaboration between our two schools has not been possible. The online sessions between our schools will, however, be resuming during 2021.

Indonesian lessons are continuing to be conducted in the Computer Room enabling students to each have access to a computer and use a range of online language programs. Education Perfect and Quizlet continue to be used by all year five and year six students, both at school and also as a homework tool to consolidate and revise new vocabulary in a fun and engaging way. Education Perfect is also used as an Assessment tool.

All students from Reception to Year Six are encouraged to use conversational Indonesian during lessons to make basic requests, for greetings, and other commonly used phrases. In this way, students are able to develop confidence to use new vocabulary in an authentic way. This approach also assists students to develop competence in correct pronunciation.

Our school continues to be part of the CESA Engage with Asia program. An informational video was recorded in December 2020 to highlight the successful collaboration between selected CESA schools and their partner schools. Saint John the Apostle School was one of the schools selected to take part in the promotional video which has been sent to all South Australian CESA schools to encourage them to become involved. I would like to thank the staff who took part - Simone Mashford and Dee-Anne Peters and also students Lily Woodward and Daniel Ellis and the students from each class who participated in the activities that are included in the promotional video.

The following link can be used to access and view the promotional video.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kwYA4DXV380>

Salam hangat  
Bu Donna - Indonesian Teacher

## CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY REPORT

As we all know 2020 looked different for many things, including Children's University, We still however had 18 children that chose to take part. CUA encourages children to be successful, independent learners and gives children an extra opportunity out of school hours to continue their learning journeys. Learning destinations and activities approved by CUA allow children to make new friends that have similar interests, develop leadership skills, explore and develop new talents and celebrate and be rewarded for their achievements. For any extra learning they complete they are awarded 'hours' in their passports. Activities can include sport, museum visits, art activities, library activities, online learning and much, much more. We were able to offer this to the children at a fee of \$16.50 (paid straight to the CUA).

The children earn their certificates for completing set amounts of hours.

30 hours – Bronze award  
65 hours – Silver award  
100 hours – Gold award.

The awards continue as they get older and go up to 1000 hours.

This year many of the activities were completed online but this did not deter the children that were taking part. We had 9 children that achieved an award and took part in their graduation. Again, looking slightly differently to normal, we were able to hold the ceremony at school and myself and Dee-Anne Peters had the pleasure of awarding the children their Certificates and Graduation bears. Children were then invited to have a Pizza lunch, which was supplied by the university. Overall a great year and we look forward to the achievements of 2021.

Vikki Maillard - 3/4 Teacher

## 2020 SCHOOL BOARD

**President** (Parish Priest) Fr Josy Sebastian

**Exec Officer** (Principal) Dee-anne Peters

**Ex- Officio**  
(Leadership Team Member) Jamie Mulcahy

### **Members**

Pastoral Parish Council (PPC Rep) vacant

### **Staff Representatives**

Simone Mashford

### **Parent Representatives**

- 1) Simon Jones (Chair) (2017/2018) re- elected 2019/2020
- 2) Danny Nyland (Deputy Chair) (2019/2020)
- 3) Jaimie Maiden (Finance)
- 4) Rachel Virgin (Parent Body rep) (2017/2018) re- elected 2019/2020
- 5) Tania Liston (2018)
- 6) Nicole Edmonds (2019)
- 7) Fiona Partington (Pastoral Care/ staff rep)
- 8) Murtaza Hussain (2019/2020)
- 9) Paul Daly (2019/2020)
- 10) Ryan Shaw (2020)
- 11) Lee Cooper (2020)

### **Retired in 2020.**

Nil

# St John the Apostle School Performance Report 2020



# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT

## School Context

St John the Apostle School is a co-educational Catholic parish primary school in the Dominican Tradition catering for students in Reception to Year 6 within the Southern Region Alliance of Catholic Schools (SRACS). We are located 30 km south of Adelaide in the coastal suburb of Christies Beach. We provide a welcoming environment where the staff, parents and parish work in partnership to provide a learning environment that is both exciting and fulfilling.

At St John's we aim to offer a broad curriculum that assists our students to grow and reach their full potential. The Key Learning Areas at St John's includes; Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Indonesian, Science, The Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. We employ a specialist Indonesian, Physical Education and Performing Arts Educators. The school also employs a School Counsellor two days a week to support students social and emotional wellbeing. A pastoral care worker is employed one day a week to support parent engagement and facilitate a playgroup for preschool children and their families.

At St John the Apostle School we offer both Before and After School care and we have a supportive parents and friends who assist with community building and fundraising for the school.

## Enrolment Data

Student Enrolments: 237 students

### Student Numbers by Year Level (August 2020)

|                 | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|-----------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Student Numbers | 50        | 37     | 40     | 27     | 26     | 30     | 27     |

## Student Community Profile percentage

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Percentage of Indigenous enrolments      | 2.2 % |
| Percentage of students with disabilities | 17.4% |
| School Card                              | 21.5% |
| Language Background other than English   | 8 %   |
| Catholic Students                        | 22%   |
| Non Catholic students                    | 78%   |

## Student Attendance

The average student attendance of our school in 2020 was 90.35%

### **A description of how non-attendance is managed by the school:**

Student attendance is taken in the morning and all absences are recorded on SEQTA – our student management system, along with other information such as whether it is a known or unexplained absence. Attendance is managed through building relationships with families and maintaining regular contact with parents. An SMS messaging service ensures all parents/carers are contacted if no reason for absence is provided. In the case of prolonged or continued non-attendance teachers

and/or administration staff bring this to the attention of the Principal. Action includes:

- Regular communication from classroom teacher to families to continue the learning program and to support student and family wellbeing.
- Contact with the parent/s from Principal to ascertain the reasons and to set goals to support regular attendance.
- Support for child and family with counselling service
- Ongoing absence is reported to the appropriate agencies to be followed up.

## Student Learning Outcomes

### **NAPLAN**

Due to Covid-19 the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy Tests (NAPLAN) were cancelled and there are no reports for the 2020 school year.

### **Running Record Benchmark**

We aim to have all students reading PM Benchmark readers at Level 24 by completion of Year 2. This is clearly articulated in our shared agreement on Literacy assessment.

#### Other Forms of Student Assessment

At St Johns we have extensive shared agreements to assess and monitor student growth and academic achievement. Students are assessed informally every day by their teachers, and teachers are aware of student growth points and academic attainment. This informs tailored teaching for students.

1. All students receive a literacy audit (February & November). The results of these standardised tests inform and direct teacher's programming and the delivery of support programs to individual students.
2. All students receive two written reports (Semester 1 & Semester 2) throughout the school year. The report is based on the assessment and observation of knowledge, skills, attitudes and understandings demonstrated throughout the year. The outcomes in the report are derived from the Australian Curriculum.
3. They are directly related to the specific year level the child is in. The report complies with the Australian Government requirements under the Schools Assistance (*Learning Together – Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity*) – Act 2004 The report incorporates the Australian Government's A – E grading system. Parents can ask the school to provide them



with written information that clearly shows the child's achievement in the subjects studied in comparison to that of other children in the child's peer group at the school. This information will show the number of students in each of the achievement levels A-E.

4. Upon entering Reception, all students complete the Phonological Assessment Screening Test (PAST) to determine phonological knowledge. This information assists the teachers in developing individual oral language programs for beginning reading program.
5. All children in Reception to Year 2 complete the First Years of Schooling Assessment. This information is collated by Catholic Education SA (CESA).
6. Children in Year 1-6 undertake the Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT)- Reading Comprehension and PAT- Mathematics (ACER) tests annually. The results of these standardised tests inform and direct teacher's programming and the delivery of support programs to individual students.

## Work force composition

St John the Apostle Parish school has 16 teaching staff, including 12% Male and 88% Female, 25% of these are part time. In addition, there are 20 Educational, Administration and Maintenance staff. The school Leadership team comprises of the Principal, APRIM (0.6), Inclusive Education/Literacy Coach (0.6) and 2 teachers.

There were no self-identified indigenous staff members in 2020.

## Teacher Qualifications

In our school we are fortunate to have a number of teachers with two or more qualifications in education

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Master's Degrees                       | 3  |
| Bachelor's Degrees                     | 20 |
| Graduate Diploma in Catholic Education | 9  |

In addition to these formal qualifications all staff are required to undertake regular, ongoing professional development.

Professional development undertaken in 2020 included:

- Work, Health & Safety required courses (Learning Manager)
- Berry Street Educational Model
- Restorative Justice
- Religious Education New Crossways Curriculum "Wisdom' Strand
- Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL)- professional Standards self-reflection for teachers
- ACCELERUS Training for Reports and Student Tracking Education
- Disability Standards for Education Leadership
- WHS for Officers Training
- Strategic Planning
- Employee Relations Seminars
- National Consistency Collection of Data (NCCD)
- SEQTA

## Student, Parent and Staff Satisfaction

### Parent Satisfaction

Throughout the year, through formal and informal meetings and various means of written communication, parents were kept informed of developments within the school. Many avenues are provided for parents and students to express any concerns or views. We are extremely proud of our open-door policy with parent, staff and student feedback welcomed and encouraged at all levels. St Johns has an active and supportive parent community, Student Representative Council and staff leadership team.

### Staff Satisfaction

Staff turnover at St. Johns continues to be minimal. Staff leaving during the year was associated with maternity leave. This low turnover of staff would tend to indicate a high degree of staff satisfaction within St. Johns.

### Student Satisfaction

Participation levels in school-based activities was exceptional at St Johns in 2020. Students were fully engaged in their academic program, participated fully in numerous co-curricular activities and continued to be engaged with the Noarlunga parish.

St John the Apostle School is committed to providing opportunities to monitor the satisfaction levels of our school community stakeholders and encourages ongoing feedback.

## Finance

### Income

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Federal Government Grants | \$ 2,097,393 |
| State Government Grants   | \$ 680,960   |
| School Fees               | \$ 482,982   |
| Other Income              | \$ 1,520,641 |

(Includes School Card, resource charges, interest income, donations for recurrent purposes, long service leave, paid parental leave, staff allowances and rebates and reimbursements for costs paid by the school

TOTAL \$4,781,977

### Expenses

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Employee</b>    | <b>\$2,393,342</b> |
| <b>Maintenance</b> | <b>\$ 79,986</b>   |
| <b>Levies</b>      | <b>\$ 147,286</b>  |
| <b>Other</b>       | <b>\$ 665,016</b>  |

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Operating Surplus/loss</b> | <b>\$1,496,347</b> |
| <b>Net Finance Costs</b>      | <b>(\$41,476)</b>  |
| <b>Total Profit/Loss</b>      | <b>\$1,454,871</b> |

**Net movement in Cash**                    **\$ 165,446**

Leanne Johansen  
Principal 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021