



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Principal: Steve Miranda

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### **Introduction**

This year our school celebrates its 105<sup>th</sup> year. A great history established by the Presentation sister in 1912 that has continued and developed for many years and will continue to do so with the many years of history and commitment to education of future generations of Goomalling.

In 2017 we have been able to maintain our student enrolments, maintain 4 teaching classes and relevant staffing, provide specialist support programs and provide our students with programs in Science, Art, Music, Indonesian and PE. In 2018 we are expected to start the year with 70 enrolments which is a positive step in the schools future.

### **SCHOOL AND PARISH RELATIONSHIPS**

I value the schools cooperative relationship with Fr Patrick and I take this opportunity to acknowledge the work Father has done in our community. Fr Patrick is very much committed to working with the school but also outside with many agencies and people.

There is a developing close working relationship with the parish and school. Our School Parish Masses have also been a positive experience for our community, involving students and staff in these celebrations and in particular our school choir led by Cherie Broadhurst.

We have continued with the Making Jesus Real Program and love displaying our MJR Recipients on the Wall of Fame near the office.

### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

Our curriculum focus in 2017 was to continue to improve our Numeracy outcomes and in the area of Spelling. A new spelling program was introduced into the school based on the Diana Rigg Approach. All teaching and support staff were in-serviced and results have shown an improvement in the area of spelling with some students improving by up the 3 chronological years. In complimenting this focus, staff have continued to embrace a culture of continuous improvement in all learning areas.

We have continued to offer individual tuition to children using the Reading Tutor Program and also implemented to full Minilit literacy program run by Tanya Forward as well as still providing extra support for children requiring differentiation in all classes.

Teachers also experimented with what we call Visible Learning, making learning intentions and success criteria very explicit to students. This aids in understanding the purpose of each lesson and what students need to need to demonstrate for success.

The Sporting arena has had many highlight in 2017. The students participated enthusiastically in swimming, cross country, athletics and cricket interschool carnivals. After many, many years, Sacred Heart took home a VPSSA Shield. Also very recently Sacred Heart were the winners of the Dowerin T20 Cricket Cup. We congratulate and acknowledge the collective talent of our students in the sporting domain and look forward to their development in 2018.

### **STAFFING**

I acknowledge the contributions of all our staff during 2017, both teaching and non-teaching. The dedication and commitment to our students and school are very much noted.

The staffing for 2018 is...

In 2017 we farewell Catherine Mills, Sue Upton and Rachel Clarke. With this, we were able to welcome back Bronwyn Smith to her fill time teaching role. The last placement will be conducted next week.

In 2018 I will be starting the year and then taking Long service Leave from Week 2. My replacement will be Diane Scobble who is currently an Assistant Principal at OLA Dianella.

### **SCHOOL BOARD & P&F**

Our School Board plays a pivotal role in the development of our school and I extend my sincerest gratitude and appreciation to the School Board members, led by Chairperson Travis Robert. This year, Geoff Romero, Sue Upton and Ash Lord be stepping down from the school board after many years. With this, I would also like to thank the members of our board for their commitment and also for their support, knowledge and understanding of the school context in which we work in.

I would formally like to acknowledge the 2017 P and F association. Your contributions to the school, through community building events and fund raising have been fantastic. From cake stalls to football tipping, catering and organising key events. This year we also farewell Lara Lord and Annette Syred who will be stepping down in 2018 to join the Board. We sincerely thank Lara for her long service to our school.

### **OUR STUDENTS & PARENTS**

John Hattie is the world leaders in educational research and he identifies the biggest contributing factor to student achievement is quality teachers. As a principal I am extremely proud and fortunate to have such dedicated and hard working Teachers and support staff. I sincerely thank all our staff for all they have done for our students in 2017.

We farewell four of our graduating students and three families at the end of 2017 and we wish them every success as they continue with their education. We sincerely hope that the values instilled in them at Sacred Heart will continue to provide the benchmark for their interactions with others into the future.

I look forward to working with the parents, staff and students of Sacred Heart School to continue providing the very best we can for our children in 2018 and beyond.

Thank you.