

Principal's Message 2022

As part of our required reporting procedures for Catholic Education WA I will use the four headings of Catholic Identity, Education, Community and Stewardship to present our achievements for this year 2022.

Education

This year our major curriculum focus has been in the Maths learning area with a specific focus on assessment. We have worked with both Dr Paul Swan and Mr. Ben Saulsman from CEWA to improve our understanding of the Maths content and the pedagogy we use to teach it. The ongoing Mini Lit and Math's Lit has continued to consolidate children's knowledge in small groups and the progress of the children in the lessons has been excellent.

This year's NAPLAN results have shown continued improvement in both overall results and student growth over time. We have also had a marked improvement in like school comparisons this year which has demonstrated that in the Currambine area we are the leading primary school.

Community

COVID 19 once again hit us early in the year and we have had a few disruptions because of this throughout the first part of the year. We have adapted where needed and made changes to protocols and procedures due to the advice from the health department. COVID seems to be with us for the near future and moving into 2023 will be once again a different and interesting time.

The P&F have done an amazing job this year, without much fan fair. Our usual Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls were well patronized, and the biannual Colour Run was a huge success. At the AGM the P&F were able to pledge more funds towards stage one of the junior playground refurbishments and they will also be looking at shade sails in the senior playground. A big thank you to Mrs. Howarth and her hard-working committee members.

We now have a regular coffee van coming to school on a Friday morning so that during running club parents can join together with a hot beverage.

The students this year have come up with several new initiatives which have been very successful. We now have a flourishing Lego club, a comic club, and a recycling group. It has been wonderful to see these initiatives coming to life over the year.

Stewardship

With many schools in WA finding, it hard to balance their budgets, we have been fortunate this year to have been able to work with a small negative budget and complete some major works needed around the school. We have had all the gutters around the tech hub replaced which was badly needed. A lot of this has been because of the careful and meticulous work of Mrs. Henderson our school Finance office supported by Mr. Rafferty our School Advisory Council treasurer.

Our online presents on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter have been a big focus once again this year and has really put our information out in the community in a very positive way. We teamed up with Prendiville College and St Simon Peter Primary school in a social media collaboration which saw the schools profile spread throughout the community. Special thanks to Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Admans who have implemented all these continued improvements.

A huge thank you to Mr. Jacob and all of our School Advisory Council members. Gareth has been a driving force behind the council with ideas and support in many quarters from our other Council members during the year, thank you.

Catholic Identity

Once again, this year the sacramental process has aligned itself with that of the Perth Diocese Guidelines by being, Parish based, school supported, and family focused. With the support of Fr Francis, Fr Marius, and the parish we were able to complete all of the sacraments by the end of October. Through the hard work of Mr. Purcell and the sacramental years teachers all of the meetings, workshops and retreats were well received and patronized. We have been very blessed this year in having Fr Francis and Fr Marius as our school priests sharing the role through the year. Both priests have been regular participants in all activities at the school, being whole school masses, reconciliation, class masses, sacramental talks, and playground visits. Their presence has helped us by giving spiritual and moral guidance as well as support.

I sincerely thank all our **staff**. I acknowledge both the collective and individual

contributions that you each bring to our school as you work alongside our students. Each day you touch the lives of our students in so many ways. Building on the foundations from family, your kindness, patience, dedication, and genuine care for our students, contributes significantly to our students 'blossoming' as they grow into polite, considerate, and hardworking young individuals, who represent the spirit of Francis Jordan Catholic School so well. Thank you for the time you give to provide this valuable support to our students.

Teaching is one of the most rewarding professions in that it gives teachers an opportunity to make an impact on a future generation, however it is also extremely challenging and never easy. No one with actual teaching experience would tell you otherwise. Being a teacher takes patience, dedication, passion, and the ability to do more with less. It is a journey often filled with just as many valleys as mountains. There is the perception that teachers only work from 8-3 each day and have way too many holidays! Our teachers at Francis Jordan are dedicated and go over and above on many occasions throughout the year.

Finally, our students, you constantly impress me with your love of learning, joy of friendships and attitude to life. To our Year 6 cohort, you will be missed next year, and I am sure that once the high schools you are going to realize the quality people, they are welcoming you will flourish like you have here at Francis Jordan.

To all the staff leaving us at the end of the year I wish them well in whatever life has before them. We thank you all for your dedication and hard work over many years.

We also say **farewell** to those families who are leaving or relocating away from our school, we wish you well as you embark on your journey to new places and new communities. I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide your onward journey.

As always at this time of year, I wish everyone a Christ filled Christmas and safe journeys over the break and look forward to seeing everyone back safe and refreshed for 2023.

Thank you.

Chris Dunning

Principal