

# SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SCHOOL COMPLIANCE DATA 2016



### **INTRODUCTION**

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School is situated approximately 300km south of Perth. The school opened in 1993 with an initial enrolment of students from pre-primary to year four. The school has developed into a full single stream primary school in line with community needs.

The school strives for excellence in all areas and involves the parents and community in the education of the children. The community hopes to lead the children to an integration of faith, life and learning and in so doing prepare them for their place in society. This endeavour is carried out in a caring environment where individual needs are catered for in a spirit of compassion, understanding and encouragement. A team approach to education is a feature of St Thomas More. Staff work collaboratively in an easy going, friendly and respectful environment.

The school offers an expanded curriculum encompassing the specialist areas of LOTE, The Arts, Sport, Music and Information Technology.

The school has a large oval, numerous play areas and a basketball/netball court. Within the school complex are two large undercover areas and a separate play area for kindergarten and pre-primary students. The school participates in sustainability programs through outside agencies such as the Cape to Cape Catchments Group, yet is actively involved in this area with rainwater water storage tanks used for watering the grounds and flushing through the toilets. There is a bank of solar panels on the new library roof, the oval is now watered by recycled water provided by the shire and a sizeable vegetable garden exists.

The School enjoys excellent support from the School Board and a very active Parents and Friends Association. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the school through the Parents and Friends Association and other activities. One of the strong points of the school is the very supportive Parents and friends Association, who raise and spend upwards of \$20 000 in the school each year. This gives students extra resources, access to cultural visits and bus travel that the school, or the parents would normally have to pay for.

The parents of the children are welcome in the school and are regularly in classes to help teachers, especially in the Junior Primary, and for discussions with teachers regarding the progress of their children.

As a school we try and have as close a relationship as possible with the parish. The Parish Priest has a presence in the school and is welcomed into classrooms and to all staff functions. The Assistant Principal is the Chair of the St Thomas More Parish Pastoral Council and the Principal is a member of the STMPPC. The school has a successful Liturgical Program with regular weekday masses, reconciliation services and Sunday School Masses according the feast days that are important to our local school and parish. The Principal and the Assistant Principal (Religious Education Co-ordinator) work closely with the Parish Priest to develop this Program. Sacramental Preparation is completed by the school, in the class Religious Education Program, the parents and the parish are involved as much as possible in these.

## **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT INFORMATION**

Our Learning Goal this year focussed upon the Future Direction of IT within the school and deciding upon a platform for the future of IT within the school. We have made this decision, which will be the Mac platform for the students. Based on information from the recent IT survey, we will be working with parents in year 5 and 6 next year to provide the best solution to the Technology Education at the school, and also with the year 3 and 4 parents to drive the implementation of a 1:1 laptop program in 2018 for students in year 4 and 5.

The Engagement focus has been on improving open communication and transparent decision making processes. The school has continued to work on these on many levels, staff, student, parent, School Board, P&F. The belief of the school board and the staff is that we have made many improvements across all of these areas this year.

A Consistent Approach to testing has been the focus in the area of Stewardship. The school has worked this year with regard to the testing and assessments that take place, where the data/results are stored, and what and how the data will be used to drive the curriculum direction of the school. We have just completed the Online Progressive Achievement Tests, which are standardised tests, and the school has achieved excellent results in comparison with other students who have completed these reliable standardised tests. We will use this information to determine the future direction of the school teaching and learning program.

Our goal with regard to discipleship has been to continue to develop the positive relationship between the school and our parish. The School has been working on ways that we can try to have more of our families engage with the parish. A lot harder and more complex than it sounds. Some things we are doing include;

- Fr Mars joins the staff for morning tea on Wednesdays, then will stay and speak to a different class each week.
- In 2017, we will be changing our Assembly day to allow Fr Mars the opportunity to join us as a whole school once a week.
- Last Sunday we had a family mass. Using school based Hymns, Staff presented the mass, and we used the child's Eucharistic prayer. I had positive comments about the mass, even though there weren't too many school families in attendance. It is a busy time, and people are happy to pretty much do anything but come to mass. We will continue with these masses next year.

## **STAFFING**

In 2016, there were 25 staff members.

Of these 25, 9 were full time, and 16 were part time. There were 5 male staff members and 20 female staff members. There were 16 teaching staff and 9 non teaching staff.

There were no Indigenous staff employed in 2016.

Staff qualifications were as follows;

<b>1</b>	<b>Masters of Education (Religious Education)</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Bachelor of Education</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Bachelor of Arts – Education</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Graduate Diploma of Education</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Diploma of Teaching</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Bachelor of Psychology</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Professional Certificate of Instructional Leadership</b>

### **NUMBER OF DAYS SCHOOL WAS IN OPERATION/STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

For the **185** days that the school was in operation in 2014, the **171** students from Pre Primary – Year 6 had a total of 2447 **days absent** with an average of **14.3** absent days per child.

Class	Number of students	Possible number of days of attendance	Number of days absent	Percentage of attendance
<b>Pre Primary</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5365</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>90.1%</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4440</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>90.6%</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4995</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>92.7%</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4070</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>92.7%</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5550</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>92.1%</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3885</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>94.9%</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3330</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>93.6%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>31635</b>	<b>2447</b>	<b>92.2%</b>

An electronic school register of absences is taken each day by classroom teachers. Parents are to inform the school if planned absences occur, however, if an unplanned absence eventuates, the parent must ring the school. If no notification is received from parents, the school rings each parent to inform them of the child's non presentation for school.

96.43% of absences were classed as "Resolved Absences" according to the SEQTA School Management System.

Classroom teachers contact parents by phone or in writing if and when a student's absences become a concern. Absences are totalled by semester and recorded on the students formal Academic Report. Should attendance become a concern to teachers, this is discussed with the Principal and then, parents.

### **POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS**

The 18 year 6 students that left St Thomas More Catholic Primary School in 2016 are now attending Secondary Schools:

<b>YEAR 6</b>	
MARGARET RIVER SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	<b>15</b>
SAINT MARYMACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE	<b>3</b>

### **PARENT, STAFF AND STUDENT SATISFACTION.**

Results from the INSIGHT SRC school wide surveys, conducted in May 2016 show a very positive staff culture exists and that the students were generally happy with the school.

The parents in the school are also generally well satisfied with the school.

The results from this survey will be reflected in the future school Annual Improvement Plan(s).

## **NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM IN LITERACY AND NUMERACY.**

2015 NAPLAN DATA (myschool website)

### **YEAR 3 2015**

<b>NAPLAN TEST AREA</b>	<b>STM CPS MEAN</b>	<b>NATIONAL MEAN</b>
READING	459.8	425.7
WRITING	446.0	420.5
SPELLING	422.0	420.1
PUNCTUATION & GRAMMAR	420.7	436.3
NUMERACY	425.7	402.2

### **YEAR 5 2015**

<b>NAPLAN TEST AREA</b>	<b>STM CPS MEAN</b>	<b>NATIONAL MEAN</b>
READING	491.4	501.7
WRITING	466.5	475.4
SPELLING	504.1	492.9
PUNCTUATION & GRAMMAR	512.8	505.0
NUMERACY	494.0	492.9

### **Year 3**

100 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Reading

100 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Writing

100 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Spelling

91 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Grammar and Punctuation

100 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Numeracy

### **Year 5**

90 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Reading

95 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Writing

95 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Spelling

100 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Grammar and Punctuation

95 % of students were at or above the minimum standard in Numeracy

### ***SCHOOL FINANCES (as per the mySchool website)***

School finance information can be found at;

<https://www.myschool.edu.au/Finance/Index/101234/StThomasMoreCatholicPrimarySchool/49001/2015>