



# St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

## School Compliance Data 2023

### 1. CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School is situated approximately 300km south of Perth in the town of Margaret River. The school opened in 1993 with an initial enrolment of students from Pre-Primary to Year Four. Over time, the school has developed into a single-stream Primary school to meet community needs offering classes from Pre-Kindergarten to Year Six. The school serves the community of St Thomas More and has a very strong and close relationship with the Parish. At St Thomas More we provide our students with an education that prepares them for life with opportunities for deep learning, in order for them to develop appropriate social, emotional, spiritual, physical, cognitive, creative skills and acquisition of knowledge about our world. Our school fosters confidence, independence and lifelong learning with an attitude which promotes achievement of the full potential of all individuals in an environment embedded in gospel values.

The school strives for excellence in all areas and involves the parents and community in the education of the children. A well-balanced curriculum with a focus on establishing a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy skills, as one of the keys to successful, lifelong learning is offered. Intervention and support programs ensure the needs of every child are met. Our curriculum offers students the opportunity to strive for excellence, develop resiliency and provides academic programs that stimulate and challenge each child. A One to One BYOD iPad program operates from Years 3-6 to assist the students develop greater 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning skills and other devices are available for students in the younger years to access. The school offers an expanded curriculum encompassing the specialist areas of Indonesian, Visual Arts, Physical Education and Music.

The school has a large oval, numerous play areas, including Nature Play and a hardcourt. Within the school complex are two large undercover areas and a separate play area for Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students. The school participates in sustainability programs including the use of rainwater water storage tanks used for watering the grounds and flushing through the toilets, a bank of solar panels on the library roof, the oval being watered by recycled water provided by the Water Corporation and a sizeable vegetable garden and chicken coup.

The School enjoys excellent support from the School Advisory Council and a very active Parents and Friends Association. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the school through a number of avenues. The parents of students are welcome in the school and are regularly in classes to help teachers or offer their support through assisting at whole school events or as needed.

## 2. TEACHER STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The teaching staff of St Thomas More Catholic Primary School hold the necessary qualifications required by the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia. All members of the teaching staff were TRBWA registered and were suitably qualified. The teaching staff qualifications in 2023 were as follows: 28 staff members.

Of these, 9 were full time and 17 were part time. 2 staff members were on leave for 2023. 1 Indigenous staff member was employed in 2023. Staff qualifications were as follows:

QUALIFICATIONS	NUMBER
Master Degree	4
Bachelor Degree	12
Certificate	4
Graduate Diploma	2
Diploma	4
No Qualification	2

## 3. WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

TYPE OF STAFF	NUMBER
Teaching Staff	17
Non-Teaching Staff	11
Male Staff Members	5
Female Staff Members	23
Indigenous Staff Members	1

## 4. STUDENT ATTENDANCE

YEAR LEVEL	ATTENDANCE RATE
Pre Primary	85%
Year One	86%
Year Two	86%
Year Three	85%
Year Four	86%
Year Five	86%
Year Six	84%

The average attendance rate for the whole school for 2023 was 85%.

## THE PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH NON-ATTENDANCE:

- Electronic recording of attendance/absence is conducted using the SEQTA attendance system.
- The school contacts parents early each school day via text message to follow up unexplained school absences, requesting parents to make contact with the school to explain a student's absence.
- Parents are requested to send a written note to acknowledge the days that their child was absent – this can be done through the website for ease.
- Prolonged periods of absence are brought to the attention of the Principal by the child's class teacher. This is then followed up by a member of the Leadership team.

## 5. NAPLAN ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS

YEAR 5	
Test	School Results
Reading	484
Writing	516
Grammar and Punctuation	478
Spelling	495
Numeracy	470

YEAR 3	
Test	School Results
Reading	422
Writing	416
Grammar and Punctuation	413
Spelling	412
Numeracy	417

## 6. PARENT, STUDENT AND TEACHER SATISFACTION

Through the Tell Them From Me Survey, the staff, parents and students were given the opportunity to report on their satisfaction with the school.

**Parents believe:**

- That the staff care about their students.
- That there are high expectations set for student behaviour.
- There is a high level of quality of teaching. The children enjoy and are motivated by the teaching and learning provided by the school.
- There is a strong focus on student wellbeing with the school providing a safe and caring environment.
- The needs of the children are at the forefront of all decisions made.
- There are clear values that are taught and reinforced at the school.
- There is a strong sense of community.
- Teachers are viewed as being enthusiastic, supportive and passionate about their work.
- The school provides an environment that allows the students' faith to grow.
- That Catholic perspectives are embedded into school life.

**Students believe:**

- That their level of happiness is high at school.
- The teachers assist in improving learning and make learning interesting, enjoyable and inspiring.
- The teaching staff are friendly and understanding.
- They are safe at school and are proud to be a part of this school.
- There are good school values and rules.
- They are motivated to achieve and learn. They have a positive perception of their ability to learn.
- Teachers have a high but achievable expectation for success.

**Staff believe:**

- A safe and caring environment is provided for all.
- There is improvement occurring within the school.
- There are strong, positive relationships between the parents and staff
- They are engaged with their teaching and are enthusiastic.
- That parents are engaged in collaborating with staff to achieve student outcomes.
- Students are motivated to learn and want to do well.
- Strong attention is paid to students' wellbeing.
- That there is a quality teaching and learning environment that maximizes outcomes for students.

## 7. SCHOOL INCOME

Financial information is available at <http://www.myschool.wa.edu.au>

## 8. ANNUAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The school staff have collaborated in working towards achieving the goals that were set in the 2023 School Improvement Plan. The areas of improvement are outlined below.

## **EVANGELISATION:**

- Students to understand the elements and traditions of the Mass
- Students to develop their use of formal and informal prayer
- Students to develop their knowledge of Jesus & Sacraments and Prayer
- Develop a visible presence of iconography and sacred spaces throughout the school

## **ABORIGINAL EDUCATION:**

- Students to develop their understanding of Aboriginal perspectives
- Identify and make connections with the Wardandi people

## **CURRICULUM:**

- To improve student outcomes in spelling and phonics through the implementation of programs including Letters and Sounds and Soundwaves.
- To improve student outcomes in reading through the implementation of Literacy Blocks, Guided Reading and staff discussions around best practice through PLC meetings

## **EARLY YEARS:**

- 1.1.2 – Ensuring each child's current knowledge, strengths, ideas, culture, abilities and interests are at the foundation of programming.
- 3.2.1 – Planning to utilise outdoor and indoor spaces which are organised and adapted to support each child's participation engage every child in quality experiences in both built and natural environments.

## **ADDITIONAL FOCUS:**

- To increase student numbers across the school through promotion and marketing
- Work towards ensuring the school is financially viable and can produce a balanced budget.

## **PART 2: ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY**

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School Advisory Council – Chair Report 2023

As an advisory committee it is our role to support Russell, Nicolle and the staff with their decisions with the current and future welfare of the school. This year luckily for us, has been a quieter year and therefore the decisions that have been made have been done with little stress.

One of our main objectives each year is work with Russell to maintain a balanced budget and we are super proud that this is the first time in many years that we have seen the positive signs. It's never an easy task but with our superstar Treasurer everything has been crossed and dotted and we are focusing on the new budget for 2024.

We have worked with Russell and Chris on changing the new path at the east end of the school which has made it 1000 times more safer for all of us as we enter the school. This has been a thorn in my side for the 7 years on the committee and am thankful to all who made this happen.

We along with the P & F were involved in a whole school review with CEWA and the reports coming back were glowing and all involved noted that we had such a great community amongst the parent and teacher at our school.

The school has been overwhelmed with the response from the 3 year old program, and with some little adjustments we were able to add a second day to the week. This is and will help with the future enrolments into Kindy and so on.

It is with delight that I announce that there will not be an increase in school fees for a second year in a row. This is due to Janelle and Russell working well together to keep the costs down and keeping to the budgets that were set.

I would just like to thank my fellow Advisory committee for all their efforts this year. To our Treasurer Janelle. The work you put in is above and beyond and your skillset and knowledge is very much appreciated.

Jonika. Our secretary, thank you for the fast fingers contributions and ongoing support. Being able to bounce ideas off you has really helped over the past 12 months.

To Iwo, Jenni and Kristal. I understand that time is very valuable these days and I thank you for your support and look forward to working with you in 2024

I would like to say a huge thank you, but also a sad farewell the Sharna. Your support in our meetings has been extremely valuable and you sure will be missed. Not only from the school advisory committee but also from the P&F.

Thank you to Father Mat and the Parish council committee for you time and efforts and the support you bring to the Advisory group.

And finally to Russell, Nicolle and the whole staff. Thank you for your leadership and your efforts to making our school an amazing place for our children to learn. I look forward to working with you in my final year as Chair in 2024.

Thank you

Joel Lawrance

#### 2024 PROVISIONAL BUDGET

<b>BUDGETED OPERATIONS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>Income</b>	\$3 047 264
<b>Expenditure</b>	\$2 833 400
<b>ESTIMATED RESULT FOR 2024</b>	<b>\$213 864</b>