



2015 Annual Report

St Maria Goretti School, Inglewood

A Catholic co-educational school of the Diocese of Toowoomba

"Send Forth Thy Light"

Address	PO Box 59 Elizabeth St Inglewood QLD 4387	Phone	07 46521109
Year Levels	Prep – Year 6	Fax	07 46521321
Enrolment	29	Email	inglewood@twb.catholic.edu.au
Principal	Mrs Paula O'Rourke	Boarders	No
Vacation Care	No	After School Care	No

Our Mission

St Maria Goretti Primary School is dedicated to educating children and developing skills, attitudes and values that will enable our students to participate as active and informed citizens. It does this within the tradition of the Sisters of St Joseph, founded by Mary MacKillop, where Christian values are an everyday lived experience.

At St Maria Goretti, we try to create a place where:

- We value the example of Jesus and believe He lives in all people
- People speak nicely to each other
- Students feel comfortable talking to and approaching others
- Each child is known and understood
- Children are happy, cared for and nurtured
- Everybody is treated with dignity and respect
- We promote and encourage each child's self-esteem
- Individual learning and development needs are catered for
- Curriculum is dynamic and exciting
- Children are dealt with fairly and consistently
- Positive reinforcement is the dominant behaviour management strategy
- The school's appearance is appealing and welcoming

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

- MacIntyre Young Writers Competition
- Instrumental Music Program
- An engaging curriculum aligned to the ACARA, QSA and Toowoomba Catholic Education Guidelines
- “You Can Do It” program
- Daniel Morcombe Curriculum & “Safe Start” Child Protection Program
- Laptops and iPads for use in classrooms to support the implementation of the curriculum.

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Celebration of Maria Goretti - feast day 6th July
- Celebration of St Mary of the Cross (MacKillop), feast day 8th August
- Inglewood Show
- Local ANZAC Day march
- Lenten and Holy Week liturgies and other school liturgies
- NAIDOC Celebrations
- Sports participation: Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics, Soccer
- Opportunities for regional/state sport selection
- Year 6 Camp to Canberra
- After School Track and Field Training Program
- St Mary’s Shield Soccer competition
- Participation in the Goondiwindi Apex Eisteddfod
- Excursions to Empire Theatre, Cobb & Co Museum in Toowoomba
- Whole school camp
- ICAS tests – English, Spelling, Science, Maths, Writing.
- Participation in Holy Name Primary School, Toowoomba, Art Competition

Social Climate

St Maria Goretti School is a special place where our program aims to:

- Create an environment where the Good News of the Gospel is encountered, experienced and celebrated
- Discover and encourage the uniqueness of each child to shine
- Provide a solid foundation for learning
- Develop confidence in literacy and numeracy skills
- Promote positive values and self-esteem
- Promote and integrate Information and Computer Technologies in all curriculum areas
- Encourage music, art and drama abilities
- Provide a wide range of sporting skills
- Maintain excellent modern facilities and resources in pleasant surroundings
- Enter children in academic and sporting competitions
- Celebrate life and living!

St Maria Goretti School is committed to responding to bullying. The School Board has endorsed an anti-bullying policy. Procedures for responding to bullying are stated clearly in the parent handbook and are embedded in our behaviour management plan.



The behaviour management procedures for bullying include:

1. Warning with sitting out.
2. Further investigation by Principal with victim and bully and a Think sheet is completed. Students identified as engaging in a bullying activity where disrespect for another is shown, will not be included in extra-curricular activities or excursions. Parents are informed through a FYI (school based response sheet for parents) sheet in their child's KIT book.
3. If situations of bullying continue, the identified student is then placed on a positive behaviour plan which continues to include exclusion from extra curricula activities. Parents are involved in this meeting and continue to be involved with further meetings with their child's teacher to monitor progress. Further incidents involve Principal intervention. If the situation deteriorates, support is gathered from external facilities such as Toowoomba Catholic Education Office.
4. The victim is supported through classroom strategies and support from the school counsellor.

Strategies identified by the school to promote positive behaviour include:

1. Openly talking about bullying to the students and parents
2. Establishment of a peer mediation program
3. Survey the students
4. Encourage the reporting of bullying
5. Establish comment boxes
6. Engage the students in self-esteem skill development and empower them to take responsibility for themselves. Provide opportunities for students to practice the skills.
7. Keep parents informed and educated
8. Whole school participation in the "You Can Do It" program

Parental Involvement

Parents are actively encouraged to participate in many activities in the school environment:

- The P & F Association is an integral part of our school community. It provides moral and financial support to the activities, indeed the very existence of the school, as well as providing a forum for discussion of issues affecting the well-being of the school. All parents are encouraged to become active members of the Association.
- Parents are actively involved in fundraising activities to support student resources for learning. Families supported the school in Woolworths Learn and Earn schools initiatives.
- Invitation and encouragement of parents to attend school celebrations and functions such as: School and class liturgies, feast day celebrations, open days, weekly assemblies, sports days etc.
- Encouragement of parents to assist with: classroom reading, tuckshop and other co / extra-curricular events.
- Involvement in school sporting carnivals.
- Membership to the School Board (initial School Board set up in 2010) where various policies are developed and ratified.



School Financial Information

The information on net recurrent income including:

- Federal Government recurrent funding.
- Queensland Government recurrent funding.
- Fee, charges and parent contributions.
- Other private resources.

Is available from: www.myschool.edu.au

Staff Composition

Workforce Composition	Total Teaching Staff	Total Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	5	7	0
Full-time equivalents	4.6	2.7	0

Teacher Qualifications

Qualification	% of Teaching Staff
Doctoral / Post Doctoral	0%
Masters	20%
Bachelor Degree	80%
Diploma	0%
Certificate	0%

Professional Development

In 2015, all staff participated in the following Professional Development:

- Code of Conduct
- Administering an Epipen
- Asthma First Aid
- First Aid - CPR
- Bishops In-service Day
- Mary MacKillop charism
- Curriculum Activity Risk Management
- Lenten Reflection Program
- Bullying and Harassment & Sexual Harassment
- Student Protection In-services



- HSE Framework
- Professional Learning Communities - School Data Analysis
- Professional Learning Communities – introduction
- Learning by Doing - PLC
- Implications of NAPLAN online
- Fire and Emergency
- Classroom Language Support kit
- Literacy Research based project
- Classroom walk throughs and lesson observations
- Student Protection Contacts

In 2015 the school expended \$108.22 on professional development. Further professional development was supported by Toowoomba Catholic Education.

Average Staff Attendance

96.91%

Staff Retention

100%

Average Student Attendance Rate

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2015 was 93.4%.

Student Attendance for Each Year Level (expressed as %)

Prep	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96.5	90.3	92.0	94.8	94.8	94.1	94.1

Description of How Non-Attendance is managed by the School

Attendance is marked electronically at the beginning and end of each school day. Parents are asked to phone when students are absent from school. If there has been no communication from home, the School Officer: Administration phones parents to inquire about the absence. Parents are then sent reminders to explain particular absences identified in reports in SAS.



National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Results

Year 3 Test Results (2015)				
	OUR SCHOOL AVERAGE	NATIONAL AVERAGE	STATE AVERAGE	Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark
Reading	359	425.5	418.4	83
Writing	365	416.3	405.8	100
Spelling	350	408.8	395.7	83
Grammar and Punctuation	379	430.5	433.2	83
Numeracy	372	397.8	392.2	100
Year 5 Test Results (2015)				
	OUR SCHOOL AVERAGE	NATIONAL AVERAGE	STATE AVERAGE	Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark
Reading	^	498.5	494.5	^
Writing	^	478.1	470.2	^
Spelling	^	498.1	489.2	^
Grammar and Punctuation	^	503.1	499/8	^
Numeracy	^	492.5	486.0	^

^ To maintain privacy of individual student information where there are fewer than five students tested results are not provided

Value Added

School administration and staff continually monitor and evaluate the academic performance of all students. With the assistance of the Toowoomba Catholic Education Office, annual testing is done to assist with the identification of educational needs so that learning and teaching strategies can be applied. The school is confident that progress is being made toward the goal of each student achieving at his/her maximum level. The school participates, as do all schools, in the annual NAPLAN testing program.

The school continues to implement *Project Achieve: You Can Do It!* This is a formal program of social emotional/learning that works in the areas of Confidence, Persistence, Organisation, Getting Along and Emotional Resilience. This supports our goal for students to be able to learn to their best potential.

The school has benefitted in recent years from generous Commonwealth and State grants. The P & F has assisted generously to the addition of many valuable facilities and assets.

The school currently benefits from Sustaining Teaching and Building Learning Communities Funding which has provided professional development for teachers and resources to support best practice in the classrooms.



Excellence in Catholic Education-School Renewal and Improvement Process

School Renewal and Improvement is an on-going process of self-evaluation measured against a commonly agreed set of criteria. It informs action planning at the school level to identify areas of strength and areas for improvement. Above all, Catholic schools must be good schools with a strong learning orientation and a strong sense of purpose. This process provides an opportunity for each school to reflect on 4 Domain areas: Catholic Life and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching; Leadership for School Improvement; Strategic Resourcing. Each of these domains has elements (24 in total) which are reviewed on a cyclical basis and plans for improvement developed if necessary.

In 2015, the elements of Pedagogical Practices – Planning and Teaching, Pedagogical Practices – Assessing and Reporting, Religious Life of the School, and Stewardship were reflected on, reviewed and strategically planned for.

Parent Satisfaction

Parent satisfaction is reflected in the number of parents who openly support the many activities that happen within the school. School Assembly is held each Thursday morning with an average of 25% of parental attendance. St Maria Goretti School's major sporting events are extremely well attended with nearly all children having someone in attendance for support. Parents are happy to provide feedback to staff about students and events / activities as they occur. The P & F is an active group where positive parent satisfaction is noted and recorded each month.

The school encourages parents to attend curriculum evenings and Parent/Teacher interviews on a regular basis so that productive feedback is always available. Parental help is utilised in our whole school reading program, tuckshop and other curricula activities.

A Parent Survey was conducted at the end of 2015. Comments from parents include:

- I really like how my children have access to small class sizes, technology and lots of resources and activities.
- The school gives a high priority to the learning and teaching of religion.
- The school treats students from all backgrounds with respect.
- Children from all cultures can succeed at this school.
- The grounds, buildings and outdoor facilities are kept in good condition.
- The school is well equipped with learning and teaching resources.
- I am kept informed of adjustments to fees and expenses.

A hardcopy of this report is available by request from the Principal

