

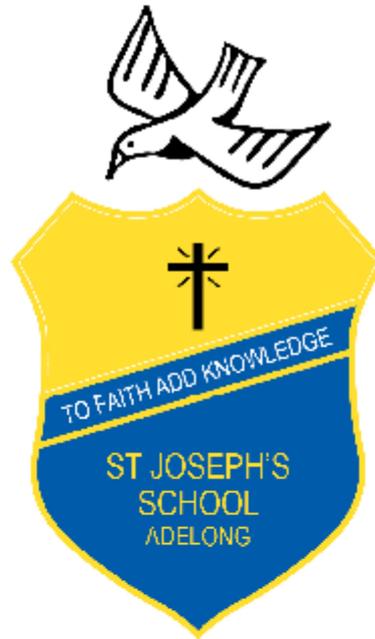


Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Adelong, NSW

2013 School Report to the Community



SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

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PRINCIPAL

MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Principal's Message

St Joseph's School, Adelong is a small but vibrant Primary School offering students and families a quality education in an atmosphere of respect and Gospel Values. This year the school community has re-written its Vision, Mission and Community Values statements to reflect the school's commitment to helping all students fulfil their potential in the many spheres of today's modern world. Our Vision: 'To be God's hands in our homes, our school and our world', emphasises each individual's unique strengths and their contribution to their world.

The staff have continued to prepare for the challenges of the new NSW curriculum and are in a great position to make this transition in 2014.

School Council Message

It has been another busy year for the Community Council at St Joseph's Adelong.

We have been fundraising in a variety of ways: with Movies by Moonlight, and the Adelong Falls light show was a great success for our catering service. The cattle sale, street stalls, antique fair, raffles and plant sales have allowed the Council to help the school this year achieve an aim together as we purchased 10 iPads.

We have also supported the staff in creating book corners, 3-6 have had funds for new books for the older students, the Council has implemented a float for teaches for resources, allowing them to budget and plan per term.

We have a wonderful Community Council,
Meg McDonnell

Student Representative's Message

When we first stated at St Joseph's our tummies were full of butterflies but as soon as we got here, we were welcomed into the tight-knit family of St Joseph's. It is still the same but we are now the school leaders that we used to look up to. This year we have received ten new iPads for the school and we have been having a lot of fun trying out new programs. Each year we can see how much our school is changing and growing. We are now involved in a school play, the first in a long time, all of the students and teachers are enjoying it a lot. We are sad to be leaving such a great school and hope that many more students will feel the same way about St Joey's as we do.

SCHOOL FEATURES

St Joseph's School is a Catholic Primary School located in Adelong. The school caters for students in Kindergarten - Year 6, and has a current enrolment of 24 students.

Students attending this school come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities consisting of 12 male and 12 female students.

The school employs 6 staff comprising 4 teachers and 2 non-teaching staff, the latter being employed in a variety of capacities including Learning Support, cleaning, secretarial and finance.

St Joseph's has two classes, a K/1/2 class and a 3/4/5/6 class in multi-aged groups. The students are very well resourced for all learning subjects, in particular in the ICT area where we have a ratio of one computer to every two students and have also moved into tablets with the purchase of 10 iPads. We pride ourselves on the ability to cater effectively for the individual needs of all our students.

The school's website can be found at www.sjadelong.nsw.edu.au

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St Joseph's School, Adelong follows the Archdiocesan Religious Education Curriculum, *Treasures New and Old*.

Together with the formal Religious Education Curriculum, St Joseph's enjoys the benefits of a positive relationship with the local Parish and students are able to participate in Sacramental programs, liturgy and Masses.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - NAPLAN

Students in **Years 3 and 5** sat the *National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy* (NAPLAN) in May this year. NAPLAN assessment results provide valuable information about student achievements in Literacy and Numeracy. An analysis of these results assists school planning and is used to support teaching and learning programs.

The cohorts in both Year 3 and Year 5 were too small to include in this report due to privacy issues. However, the school was very pleased with the results attained by the students participating in NAPLAN in 2013 and this continues a trend of great results over the last several years.

SCHOOL POLICIES

Enrolment Policy

In enrolling students we are directed by the Archdiocesan Enrolment Policy which can be found on the Annual Report page of the school's website or on the Catholic Education Office website at <http://www.ceocg.catholic.edu.au/parents/Pages/GeneralPolicies.aspx>

Students enrolling at St Joseph's participate in a full Orientation and Transition program. This program has proved successful in allowing students to make the transition to the school as positive as possible.

Attendance Policy

When a child is absent from school, a note explaining the absence must be sent by the parents with the child to school when they return. Absentee notes are a legal requirement and are kept with the class roll. If a note is not received by the class teacher, a Reminder Form will be sent home . If a

prolonged unexplained absence occurs, the school will be in contact with parents in order to assist in any way we can to help students attend school.

Pastoral Care and Welfare Policy

St Joseph's Pastoral Care and Welfare Policy is based in the Restorative Justice approach to discipline. These practices match very well with the Gospel Values of respect, understanding and forgiveness. Classroom management follows a similar approach with both positive rewards for good behaviour and consequences for poor behaviour choices.

Corporal punishment is expressly prohibited in this school. In addition we do not sanction the administering of corporal punishment by non-school persons to enforce discipline at our school.

The full text of the school's Pastoral Care and Welfare Policy is available on the school website or from the Front Office.

Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy

The school policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory environment. Any concerns raised are responded to promptly and fairly and confidentiality is always maintained. A full text of the school policy is available on the school website or from the Front Office.

PRIORITIES AND TARGETS

Throughout 2013, St Joseph's School engaged in a process to evaluate and revise our school Vision and Mission Statements. At the end of this process, the whole school community were able to re-write its Vision, Mission and Community Values Statements. These statements create a modern vision for the school and provides direction for the future. We are looking forward to embedding these statements into the life of the school in 2014.

Our Literacy and Numeracy priorities were to prepare the staff and school for the introduction of the new NSW English and Mathematics Syllabuses, evaluate our teaching of the measurement strand in Mathematics and to focus on the growth of all students in both English and Mathematics.

Throughout the year, staff at St Joseph's have worked with CEO Literacy and Numeracy Officers to explore the new NSW Syllabuses and prepare ourselves for 2014. Together with this Professional Learning, the staff have explored methods and teaching and learning strategies to promote the growth of all students in Literacy and Numeracy. These will be implemented in 2014.

In 2013, St Joseph's staff initiated a Teacher Personal Goals program that linked to personal improvement and the AITSL Teacher Standards. The staff have worked through their own personal goals in 2013 and have achieved some wonderful improvements in areas they identified. This program will continue in 2014.