Saint Patrick’s Primary School, Stratford

2014 ANNUAL REPORT to the School Community
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Contact Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>2 Merrick Street</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stratford VIC 3862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPAL</td>
<td>Mr Damian Hogan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARISH PRIEST</td>
<td>Very Reverend Dean Andrew Wise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR</td>
<td>Mr Gerard Condon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TELEPHONE</td>
<td>(03) 51456463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMAIL</td>
<td><a href="mailto:principal@stpstratford.catholic.edu.au">principal@stpstratford.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEBSITE</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stpstratford.catholic.edu.au">www.stpstratford.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
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</table>

Minimum Standards Attestation

I, Damian Hogan, attest that St. Patrick’s Primary School is compliant with:

- All of the requirements for the minimum standards and other requirements for the registration of schools as specified in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) and the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007 (Vic), except where the school has been granted an exemption from any of these requirements by the VRQA

- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2014 school year under the Schools Assistance Act 2008 (Cth) and the Schools Assistance Regulations 2009 (Cth)

22 May 2015
Our School Vision

At St Patrick’s we envisage a school where:

- in an ever-changing world, Christ’s mission permeates all aspects of school life

- staff, families and students work harmoniously together and are committed to sustaining an environment of love, respect and pride

- the students and staff are active, confident and inquisitive through a purposeful and challenging curriculum.
School Overview

St Patrick’s is a Catholic primary school that is proud of its long history. The school is located in the town of Stratford in the Gippsland region of Victoria. St Patrick’s offers a quality education of the whole child.

We believe all children will succeed in an environment of love and respect, where the uniqueness of everyone is valued. Committed, professional staff is a feature of the school. St Patrick's offers a purposeful and challenging curriculum that aims to engage all students. Our school is proud of the vibrant arts program that allows children to create and perform through visual arts, music and drama. We also provide opportunities for our students to participate in a wide range of activities, both curricular and extra-curricular. All of the students participated in Physical Education Library lessons and Japanese each week. Our 117 students were arranged in 5 straight class groupings.

Our pastoral care processes ensure the wellbeing of all and we aim to nurture and value strong relationships. St. Patrick's values the importance of family and the contribution the members of the community can make to the life of the school. We actively engage in the local community whenever possible. Parents play an active role at the school and have many opportunities to be involved.
Principal’s Report

This Annual Report is an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the marvellous achievements experienced at St Patrick’s for the 2014 school year and I congratulate the students, staff and families on these.

The quality of our school is evidenced by the positive achievements of our students in all areas of their learning, the dedication, commitment and excellence of our teachers, and the wonderful participation in and support of the parents for our school. I am proud of the professional standards of our staff members, the high quality of the work of our students, our outstanding facilities and the dedication of all to building a strong learning community.

I would like to acknowledge the work and support of our Parish Priest Very Reverend Dean Andrew Wise and our sacramental coordinator Mrs Jenny Fitzgerald and their contribution to our Catholic school identity.

Our school leaders acquitted themselves very well throughout the year and represented St Patrick’s on several occasions with distinction. All of our Year 6 students were good leaders and role models. They were enthusiastic members of many sporting teams and involved themselves fully in all that the school had to offer. The Year 6 students from St Patrick’s are again combined with the local State Primary school and were outstanding in performing the play “Julius Caesar’ at the Shakespeare Festival.

St. Patrick’s is blessed to have a positive and supportive parent community who want the best for their children and the school. I acknowledge the St. Patrick’s School Board for their deliberation and consideration of important issues for our school. I thank the Parents and Friends for their dedication to supporting the school and enhancing community relationships. The involvement and support of all families is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Damian Hogan
**Education in Faith**

**Goals & Intended Outcomes**

*To provide a quality Catholic Education inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus, that is proclaimed and celebrated by the St. Patrick’s School community.*

- Enhance teaching and learning in Religious Education
- Prayer: Engage families in the prayer life of the school
- Integrate students’ understanding of Scripture and social responsibility.

**Achievements**

We continued to promote and encourage a strong link with the Parish through having our Beginning of the Year Mass held at St. Patrick’s Church in Stratford. We also had regular masses at our school throughout the year and Parishioners and parents were invited to attend. We celebrated the feast day of St. Patrick’s on the 17th of March with a special Mass followed by morning tea with grandparents and special visitors. Students then performed a dance routine for the visitors followed by a school tour and the special day concluded with a barbeque lunch. During May and October the Rosary was a focus in the classrooms. The school community took part in a reflection on the Stations of the Cross and Holy Week. The Student Leaders attended the Diocesan School Leaders Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Sale.

- Staff individual learning plan for RE that is supported by the REC and support from Catholic Education Office Sale.

- Through involvement in:

  1. Monday morning prayer
  2. School Masses and liturgies
  3. Family Prayer – “In case of Prayer”
  4. Advent boxes
  5. Newsletter – Gospel message & value of the week

- Students in year 4/5/6 are provided with opportunities to take an active role in social justice activities and to initiate responses to social justice issues.

- Students in year 5/6 are provided with leadership skills to enable them to initiate leadership on social justice issues.

- Students in year 5/6 to participate in Caritas leadership training in Sale.
VALUE ADDED

- Social justice initiatives to support Caritas eg. St Patrick’s Has Got Talent, Cake Stalls
- Student and staff preparation and facilitation of school masses and liturgies
- Monday morning Gospel
- Two staff attending the Mary Mackillop Colloquium facilitated by Sisters of St. Joseph in East Melbourne
- All staff attending two spirituality professional learning days
Learning & Teaching

Goals & Intended Outcomes
Build a learning community that caters for the individual needs of students, where all members demonstrate engagement, motivation and confidence in reaching their full potential as lifelong learners.

- Engage student learning at their level and build confidence in them to go further.

Achievements
Once the beginning year assessment data had been collated, staff analysed the information as a collective to identify student needs across the school. Teaching staff used the data to cater curriculum programs to meet the needs of all students.

Student learning conferences were held at the beginning of term 3. Each conference included the student, parents and classroom teacher/s to involve all students in an important conversation about their progress at school. In the lead up to the conferences the children were provided with time and support to reflect on their progress at school by identifying their strengths, challenges and future goals. Feedback from families and students received from student learning conferences was incredibly positive and the vast majority of parents and students found the learning conference a positive experience.

During 2014 there was a commitment to help students develop appropriate behaviours when using digital technologies, both at home and school. This was particularly pertinent with the introduction of iPads 1:1 “Individualised Learning Tool” in years 4-6. Our continued focus on the “Acceptable Use Policy for Information, Communication and Technologies” for all St. Patrick’s students, staff and parents helped to promote a greater awareness of the appropriate use of devices.

Apart from teacher targeted intervention in class, St. Patrick’s provided Reading Recovery, Extended Mathematical Understanding (P-6) and Rainbow Reading for ongoing support of students at risk in Literacy and Numeracy.

St Patrick’s offers students a range of specialist programs to further education of the whole child. Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Japanese, Physical Education and Library lessons were all scheduled regularly for all classes. We were fortunate to have such highly skilled teachers in these areas in 2014.
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Cross all areas of NAPLAN in Years 3 & 5 for 2014 the percentage of students meeting the minimum standards was excellent. Particularly pleasing was the growth in Grammar and Punctuation for Year 3 and Writing and Numeracy in Year 5.

The area for consideration is reading where there has been a slight decline in Years 3 and year 5 equating to the equivalent of a single child in each cohort not meeting the minimum standards. Teachers will address this appropriately.

Over the past three years a steady increase in both writing and numeracy in Year 5 has been most pleasing.
Student Wellbeing & School Community

Goals & Intended Outcomes
To provide opportunities for active leadership throughout the school.

- Increase student voice and participation through leadership
- Parental engagement: Increase family-school parish participation

Achievements
In 2014 we continued to develop opportunities for staff, students and parents to be actively involved in their school community. Mrs Michelle Boyd was employed as a Pastoral Care Coordinator where she was able to offer support and care for families and help them connect with the resources and care of the school, Parish and wider community.

A highlight of the school week continued to be the weekly assembly held on Friday afternoons. Lead by student leaders the gathering provided time for students, staff and families to come together and celebrate the week at school. All students showcasing their learning was an ongoing focus and the parent community is to be thanked for their continued support of assembly.

The School Board and Parents and Friends Association were again active leaders at St. Patrick’s. During 2014 the School Board considered a range of important issues for St. Patrick’s, including the proposed refurbishment of the multi-purpose room and outdoor garden area. The Parents and Friends organised key activities that included the open-air cinema night, trivia night, trash & treasure stall and tuckshop lunches.

Our school concert was once again a wonderful success, showing the talents of all our students and the continued support of our school community.

Extra events and activities occurred throughout 2014, such as, the mid-year school disco, Shakespeare on the River Festival, Golden Brush Award competition, camps for Years 5 and 6 and over-night stays for Years 3, inter school and district sports events, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day celebrations, book week and many more. These activities only occur with the efforts and hard work of dedicated staff and the enthusiastic support of students and parents.
STUDENT ATTENDANCE.
Twice daily children are marked as present on the electronic roll which is monitored by the office and the Principal. Absences are recorded through the in-house communication system. Unrecorded absences are followed up by the class teachers. Excessive absences or continued unexplained absences are followed up by the Principal.

VALUE ADDED
- Men’s Shed
- Golden Brush Award Competition
- School Concerts
- School Camps P-6
- Inter-school and district sport events
- St. Patrick’s Feast Day celebrations
- ANZAC Day march
- Student Electives program
**STUDENT SATISFACTION**

Our Insight SRC data indicates:

The children believe that their teachers know and understand them.

The children believe their learning is purposeful and stimulating.

The children are connected to each other.

Other data indicates that the children play well together and enjoy coming to school.

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**PARENT SATISFACTION**

Our Insight SRC data indicates:

Parent Input has improved.

Parents believe Students are motivated at school.

Parents believe Children are connected to their peers.

Parents believe Children’s learning is stimulating.

Parents work in partnership with the staff.
Leadership & Stewardship

Goals & Intended Outcomes
Provide adequate and up to date facilities and resources for students, staff and families

- provide opportunities for staff to develop and lead initiatives within the school: e.g. implement 1:1 mobile learning devices to Yrs. 4-6

- Improve the physical environment at our school through upgrading facilities.

Achievements
The school board and staff identified an alteration to the multi-purpose room and 2 vacant classrooms as a priority for the year ahead to ensure safety for the students and improve the learning environment. Following extensive research, quotes were obtained; the vacant classroom beside the staff room was refurbished and is now a specialist art room. The other vacant classroom was also refurbished and is now a specialist Japanese classroom. The multi-purpose room is no longer used as an art room and is now utilised as an indoor sporting area, music room and for school assemblies.

Leadership investigated 1:1 devices for personal learning for teachers and as a result, the school provided each teacher and teacher aide with an iPad for their personal and professional use. Students from Years 4-6 were also introduced to iPads for their personal learning use. Our continued focus on the “Acceptable Use Policy for Information, Communication and Technologies” for all St. Patrick’s students, staff and parents helped to promote a greater awareness of the appropriate use of devices.
EXPENDITURE AND TEACHER PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

DESCRIPTION OF PL UNDERTAKEN IN 2014

- Spirituality Day
- Mary Mackillop Colloquium
- Cluster Meetings and network meetings as appropriate
- Insight SRC Data interpretations
- Wellbeing PD.
- In-house Data workshops
- In-house RE workshops.
- Graduate Induction
- Change 2 facilitator training
- OHS leadership training
- Reading Recovery Continued Contact
- Leading languages Professional learning
- EMU Ongoing professional learning

NUMBER OF TEACHERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN PL: 17

AVERAGE EXPENDITURE PER TEACHER FOR PL: $912.35

TEACHER SATISFACTION

*Our Insight SRC data indicates:*  
Individual and school morale is excellent.

Teachers work well together and feel supported by leadership.

Staff find student behaviour to be very positive.
### Financial Performance

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<th>Reporting Framework</th>
<th>Modified Cash</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recurrent income</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>School fees</td>
<td>4,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other fee income</td>
<td>26,621</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private income</td>
<td>14,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>State government recurrent grants</td>
<td>305,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian government recurrent grants</td>
<td>1,235,538</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total recurrent income</strong></td>
<td>1,586,049</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recurrent Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries; allowances and related expenses</td>
<td>956,531</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non salary expenses</td>
<td>129,343</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total recurrent expenditure</strong></td>
<td>1,085,874</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Capital income and expenditure</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Government capital grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital fees and levies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other capital income</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total capital income</strong></td>
<td>70,627</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total capital expenditure</strong></td>
<td>48,926</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loans (includes refundable enrolment deposits and recurrent, capital and bridging loans)</td>
<td>203,862</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total opening balance</strong></td>
<td>203,862</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total closing balance</strong></td>
<td>174,128</td>
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Note that the information provided above does not include the following items:

System levies charged to individual schools, intra-systemic transfers and diocesan supplementary capital fund (SCF) supported borrowings for primary schools. The information provided is not comparable with other educational sectors. This VRQA template is not comparable to the ACARA school-level income reporting requirements which are to be reported on the MySchool website. ACARA school level reporting requirements will require system level income from Government grants and some private income to be allocated by school. This will be a small adjustment in relation to the total level of school resources. At this stage, recurrent income from Government sources, school generated income and capital expenditure are to be reported by schools. Additionally when assessing the private income of the school include both recurrent and capital school fees.
Future Directions

In 2015 St. Patrick’s will be involved in a school renewal year finishing off the previous strategic plan. Our priorities in 2015 are:

- To provide a quality Catholic Education inspired by the life teachings of Jesus, that is proclaimed and celebrated by the St. Patrick’s School community.

- To build a learning community that caters for the individual needs of students, where all members demonstrate engagement, motivation and confidence in reaching their full potential as lifelong learners.

- To provide adequate and up to date facilities and resources for students, staff and families and where students have the right to learn, to belong, be safe and have fun.
**VRQA Compliance Data**

**E4014**  
St Patrick’s School, Stratford

**PROPORTION OF STUDENTS MEETING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YR 03 Reading</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>-5.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>YR 03 Writing</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>YR 03 Spelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>YR 03 Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>-5.6</td>
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<td>5.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>YR 03 Numeracy</td>
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<td>100.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
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| YR 05 Reading              | 90.0   | 100.0  | 10.0                 | 90.9   | -9.1                |
| YR 05 Writing              | 90.0   | 94.1   | 4.1                  | 100.0  | 5.9                 |
| YR 05 Spelling             | 100.0  | 100.0  | 0.0                  | 100.0  | 0.0                 |
| YR 05 Grammar & Punctuation| 90.0   | 100.0  | 10.0                 | 100.0  | 0.0                 |
| YR 05 Numeracy             | 90.0   | 94.1   | 4.1                  | 100.0  | 5.9                 |
AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE BY YEAR LEVEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>%</th>
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</table>
| Year 1| 94.60%
| Year 2| 94.35%
| Year 3| 95.21%
| Year 4| 97.37%
| Year 5| 94.62%
| Year 6| 93.69%
| Overall average attendance | 94.97%

TEACHING STAFF ATTENDANCE RATE

Teaching Staff Attendance Rate | 94.33%

STAFF RETENTION RATE

Staff Retention Rate | 61.54%
## TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
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<td>Masters</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Degree Bachelor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diploma Advanced</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Qualifications Listed</td>
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</table>

## STAFF COMPOSITION

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Staff (Head Count)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTE Teaching Staff</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Teaching Staff (Head Count)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTE Non-Teaching Staff</td>
<td>4.899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Teaching Staff</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>