OUR PLANS FOR THE 2013 SCHOOL YEAR

The concept of renewal is rich with meaning and depth. It is more inclusive than review, planning or development. Renewal incorporates processes whereby a school connects with its beliefs and values, reflects upon the past, plans for a hope filled and enhanced future and takes action to realise that future. One part of our School Renewal Process is reporting to our School and Parish Community. This document is a summary of our past achievements and our plans for the 2013 school year.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends,

Many years ago I worked at a small school on the northern outskirts of Brisbane and a poster that hung on the staffroom wall has influenced my belief about being part of a Catholic Community to this day.

It said, "He departed from our sight in order to return to our Hearts and there shall we find Him."

We can find Christ in others!

Each day gives us an opportunity to find Jesus in the children, teachers, parents and wider community.

I hope you have a chance to find Jesus at St. Mary's through everyone you meet in everything they do and everything they say. MJR – Make Jesus Real
OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012

MISSION AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
- School pauses for Angelus Prayer at 12.00 each day
- Building of an outdoor prayer space
- Recorded our school song with Andrew Chinn
- Support for CARITAS
- Continued our MJR programme
- Care for Creation focus in sustainability activities

LEARNING AND TEACHING
- Introduction of PAT R and PAT M (standardized tests for reading and maths) assessments and monitoring to inform planning.
- Mathematics focus in unpacking the Australian curriculum.
- Stepping Stones programme in P-4.
- Mathletics in use.
- Matrix completed for Whole School Positive Behaviour Support and put in use.
- Reading Eggs in use.
- Staff sharing of good practice in place

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS
- Improved communication through new newsletter, classroom blogs, revamped web page.
- Process to establish School Board has been implemented.
- Support for staff in professional development, time for sharing and coaching practices, mentoring and goal setting.
- Yr 7 leadership day with support from Emmaus students.
- Goal setting meetings with parents and teachers continued.
- Continued links with Beaudesert High School.
- Established links with Centacare for OHSC and Kindy.
- Established a facebook page for communication.

STRATEGIC RESOURCING
- Completion of the Prep and Kindy buildings
  - Purchased new computers & cameras
  - Design for new roadway completed
    - A grant application for roadway has been lodged.
    - Piano and speech room completed.
OUR GOALS FOR 2013
MISSION & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

TO REVIEW OUR SCHOOL VISION & MISSION STATEMENT The current Statement was created more than 10 years ago and it's time to review it. With the support of the School Pastoral Board we will work through the process of renewal.

NUTURE & PROMOTE “RELIGIOUS LIFE” IN THE SCHOOL Staff will take part in professional development about enhancing Prayer life for the children.

NUTURE & PROMOTE SOCIAL JUSTICE With the support of Brisbane Catholic Education and CARITAS we hope to invite opportunities for the children to experience different levels of social justice in the community.

LEARN & IMPLEMENT THE NEW RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GUIDELINES Staff will receive professional development in the new Religious Education Curriculum and use the new documents in their planning. We also need to organise some professional development in background Theology needed for the curriculum.
OUR GOALS FOR 2013
LEARNING AND TEACHING

TO USE OUR DATA AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF PLANNING AND OUR REFLECTION UPON OUR TEACHING PRACTICES. Brisbane Catholic Education has designed a software product called Business Intelligence. We are planning on learning more about BI and how we can use it to track the children’s progress through the school.

CONTINUE A FOCUS ON NUMERACY IN THE SCHOOL. Provide numeracy block time in classrooms. Conduct parent information evenings regarding the teaching and learning of Mathematics. We will be extending Stepping Stones through P-6.

ESTABLISH A PROCESS OF RENEWAL FOR HOW WE EXTEND STUDENTS IN THEIR LEARNING. Make this area a special project area for review.

ESTABLISH A PROCESS OF RENEWAL FOR OUR CURRENT SPELLING PROGRAMME. We will form a working party to review our spelling programme.

CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING AREAS. Learning Support:
School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Plans:
Support in Coaching for ICLT.

DEVELOP A WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH CENTACARE AS THEY ESTABLISH KINDERGARTEN AND OHSC ON SITE.

We will take any opportunities we can to join together in celebrations etc. Our hope is to meet regularly with Centacare.
CONTINUE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH PARISH THROUGH COMMUNICATION AND POSITIVE PARTNERSHIPS. Be regular contributors to the Marion Clarion. We will establish a School Pastoral Board.

CONTINUE TO WORK ON OUR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE GOOD COMMUNICATION WITH OUR PARENT COMMUNITY. New newsletter style delivered electronically. Continually review the effectiveness of the school web page. Learn more about a learning management system called “LIFE” and how this might be used effectively in the school. Support P&F Fundraising and Fun Days. Establish a Parent Support Person for each class.

LINK THE STAFF’S INDIVIDUAL GOAL SETTING WITH GUIDELINES FROM AUSTRALIAN PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS. Use the Standards document as a basis for coaching in the establishment of goals for the year.

ENSURE STAFF HAVE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE QUALIFICATIONS. Staff will have access professional development in school and through Catholic Education. Continue the support through sharing best practice, coaching and mentoring.

SUPPORT FAMILIES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO FIND NECESSARY SUPPORT IN THE BEAUDESERT AREA. Audit support services on offer in the area to see if there are avenues of referral for our families. Create links with local providers and government agencies.

MAINTAIN LINKS WITH LOCAL SUPPORT AGENCIES. Review our critical incident responses with support of local emergency services.

MARKET OUR SCHOOL TO ENSURE WE ARE KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY. New signage throughout the school. Ensure the Beaudesert Times knows about our activities.

AREAS IN WHICH WE PLAN TO CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS.

OH&S – continue with support from BCE.

New cleaning contractors have been employed at the school.

Support children and families in need.

Work in partnership with BCE to support Curriculum initiatives like LIFE (Learning Management System) and Implementation of Australian Curriculum.

Continue to communicate, celebrate our school renewal process.
STRATEGIC RESOURCING
OUR GOALS FOR 2013

ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO RESOURCES. Work with the School Board in regards to equitable access and budgeting of resources.

LINK OUR GOALS WITH BUDGET PRIORITIES. Establish a budget review after Easter to ensure links between goals, priorities and budget.

ENSURE EQUITY IN FEE COLLECTION. Work with School Board to ensure equity in our processes.

RENEWAL OF LIBRARY PROCESSES. In consultation with school staff.

CONTINUE TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN THE SCHOOL. Build new garden behind hall. Maintain our relationship with Wild Mountains Camp. Expand our recycling programme to include composting.

REVIEW THE SCHOOL MASTER PLAN AND EDUCATION BRIEF. Work in consultation of the School Board.

Thank you for taking the time to read our plans for the 2013 school year. St. Mary's is a wonderful school and your continued support is truly valued. We look forward to working together this year to ensure the children grow in themselves and in their learning.