

## Principal's Report

It is with great pleasure that I present my Principal's Report for St Gabriel's School. The 2023 school year was a year defined by improvement and change. Though, it is with a heavy heart that I present this report, as it will be last as the Principal of Saint Gabriel's School, it is rewarding to reflect on the year that has passed.

We said goodbye to some, and farewell to other valued members of our community at the conclusion of the year. All brought unique gifts to the school and added so much whilst with us. We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours. Karla Sparapani won a year contract with CESA as part of the System's Coaching Team. This is a wonderful opportunity for Karla to extend herself professionally while sharing her depth of skills and understandings with the broader catholic schooling community. Kylie Pedlar will have 2024 on leave as she cares for newborn son. It is envisaged that Karla and Kylie will return in 2025. We said thank you and wished Elise Stratton all the best as she accepted a position at St Joseph's Tranmere. At the commencement of 2024 I was seconded to the CEO as a School Performance Leader, during this time I was offered and accepted the position of Principal at McAuley Community School, making 2023 my final year at St Gabriel's School also.

We also said good-bye to one of our Board members, Suzanne Thompson. Suzanne has been a dedicated and involved parent at the school, serving on the Board for many years. A member of the Finance Committee, Suzanne played an instrumental role in assisting with the management of the school's fiscal resources.

Our 2023 enrolment was above the forecast figure. Our enrolment at census was 276. The enrolment trajectory continues an upward plane. This is an extremely positive sign of school growth and a healthy indicator of community perception of our community.

The school successfully applied for a 1.5-million-dollar Grant from the State Government to assist with Stage 2 of the Capital Development as outlined in the Master Plan. Works began and were completed during the 2023 school year. I acknowledge and applaud the tremendous work of the St Gabriel's School community who demonstrated flexibility and agility as they navigated an ever-changing school landscape during the extensive Capital Works.

The final product is testimony to the consultation and planning, the appointment of quality companies and prudent financial management. I acknowledge the leadership of the Board and the excellent financial stewardship led by our Business Manager, Alison Boyce.

I would like to acknowledge the work of Russell/Yelland Architects and Partek Construction. Both organisations were professional and diligent in their commitment to our school. The final product is reflective of school need and is something can be very proud of.



In 2023 St Gabriel's once again had teams competing in Tournament of Minds. Tournament of Minds (TOM) is a program for all primary and secondary students providing the opportunity to solve authentic, open-ended challenges that foster creative, divergent thinking whilst developing collaborative enterprise, excellence, and teamwork. Challenges are set in the following disciplines... The Arts, Language Literature, Social Sciences and STEM. I would like to express my gratitude to Mr Burness and Ms Sparapani for co-ordinating our Teams who competed at Adelaide High School.

The school continued its Clarity journey in 2023, with Bump it Up Walls, Learning Intentions and Success Criteria visible in all learning spaces. Thank you to Karla Sparapani, Leader of Learning and Ms Pedlar EAL and Inclusive Ed for overseeing and guiding much of the learning throughout the year in collaboration with the class teachers.

With the assistance of our Curriculum Support Team, class teachers continued to positively impact upon student learning. Throughout the year there were many Professional Development opportunities with which the staff engaged. The CESA Numeracy Project that ran throughout 2023, a year of predominantly theory, which will be implemented on a whole school basis in 2024. All beginning teachers participated in the CESA Induction Programme throughout the year.



The Catholic School's Music Festival was again performed at the Festival Theatre in 2023. Our choir joined hundreds of other students for an evening a spectacular entertainment and sing along fun. A big well done to Choir members and thank you to our Choir Trainer Mrs Jacqui Williams. The year 6 class presented the annual musical, with gusto and energy, keeping the audience entertained from beginning to end. The prehistoric theme was a unique idea and brought to the fore star performers and support crew. I must mention Bernie Meixner's brilliant prop production.

Throughout the year, students took part in a myriad of sporting carnivals and events. I would like to acknowledge all the students who participated throughout the year and recognise the work of Mrs Anita Marino for her co-ordination and support of the programmes. Our Annual Sports Day once again a feature of the year. Congratulations to all students for their participation and support of each other. The barbe-que and drinks were once again a huge success with spectators, thanks to the Community Group and those who assisted on the day.

Programmed Maintenance continued work as per their contract in 2023. Year 4 of a 6-year schedule was completed. Works continued in all learning spaces as well as external repainting around the school. This programme ensures that the grounds and buildings are being maintained and always presented at a high standard.

Catholic Education SA continued to review its fee structure. Once again, fees were not charged for the term 3 intake in 2023. Enrolments for our term 3 intake were strongest they have been, reflecting a positive community perception of St Gabriel's as a first-choice option for learning in the area. The Gabby's Angels Program continued to have a significant impact on the enrolment figures, and I congratulate all the staff involved on their brilliant work, especially Steph and Olivia as facilitators of the program.

Excursions, camps, incursions, and a night of Christmas Carols to end the year punctuated the year. I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to members of the Community Group who organised, hosted, and supported events throughout the year. There were so many memorable events, including stalls, open houses, and welcomes. Led by Simone Stillitano, the brilliant band of helpers encapsulate what makes our school great.

Once again, we had a cohort of students graduate as part of the Children's University. This year's ceremony was again in Bonython Hall. I would like to congratulate the children who were part of the 2023 program and give a special mention to Helen Voiklis, who ensures the program's smooth running at the school level, giving tremendous support to the families involved.

Our Playgroup Program continues to grow. Under the guidance of Helen Voiklis, it regularly has close to 30 families at each session on Monday and Friday mornings. This early year's program, which is part of the Supported Playgroups in Catholic Education network, compliments Gabby's Angels providing a wonderful connection between St Gabriel's and the broader community.



I would like to acknowledge and thank all volunteers who supported the school in some way during the year. A special mention to the members of the school board led by Andrew Aldridge in 2023. As principal, I could not ask for a more cohesive and supportive group. We continue to achieve a lot and I look forward to

the exciting opportunities and challenges that lay ahead. Whilst overseeing our Stage 2 Development, the Board has ensured a sound platform in terms of finances, enrolments, personnel, and community tenor, from which we can launch into more exciting opportunities in the years to come.

In closing, I sincerely thank St Gabriel's School for welcoming me in as part its beautiful. Five years have flown by, a reflection of how much I have enjoyed the experience and the positive impact it has on me professionally and personally. If I could bottle this place up and take it with me, I would. I thank the Board members for their contributions over the years. It has been a wonderfully motivated and supportive community representative group. Special mention must go to Felicity Seal and Andrew Aldridge for their support of me in their role as Board Chair. I could not have asked for more genuine and passionate people to fill this role. They truly reflect the disposition of the Board as a collective.

To all the staff, students, and parents who I have encountered during my time here, a big, heartfelt thank you. This is a special place, because of the incredibly special people who are present each and every day, for not themselves but each other.



### **Information for Schools Performance Report on 2023 year**

Student enrolments as at August 2023 census

R – 56

1 – 43

2 – 42

3 – 39

4 – 33

5 – 33

6 – 30

Total 276 students

### **Staff composition & attendance**

Male – 10

Female – 29

Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander – 0

Teaching staff attendance for the 2023 school year was 96.38% and our teachers took sick leave, carer's leave, and bereavement leave, as is their industrial entitlement.

2023 Teaching staff – 23 (18.8 FTE)

2023 Non-Teaching staff – 16 (10.0 FTE)

### **Staff retention**

In Term 1 2023, 87% of the teaching staff were retained from the beginning of the previous programmed year, with 4 new staff members joining the school.

At the conclusion of the 2023-year, one teacher left the school.

### **Staff Qualifications**

In our school we are fortunate to have several teachers with two or more qualifications in education.

Masters Degree – 1

Post Graduate Degrees – 3

Bachelor Degrees – 18

Diplomas – 4

Graduate certificates in Religious Education - 12

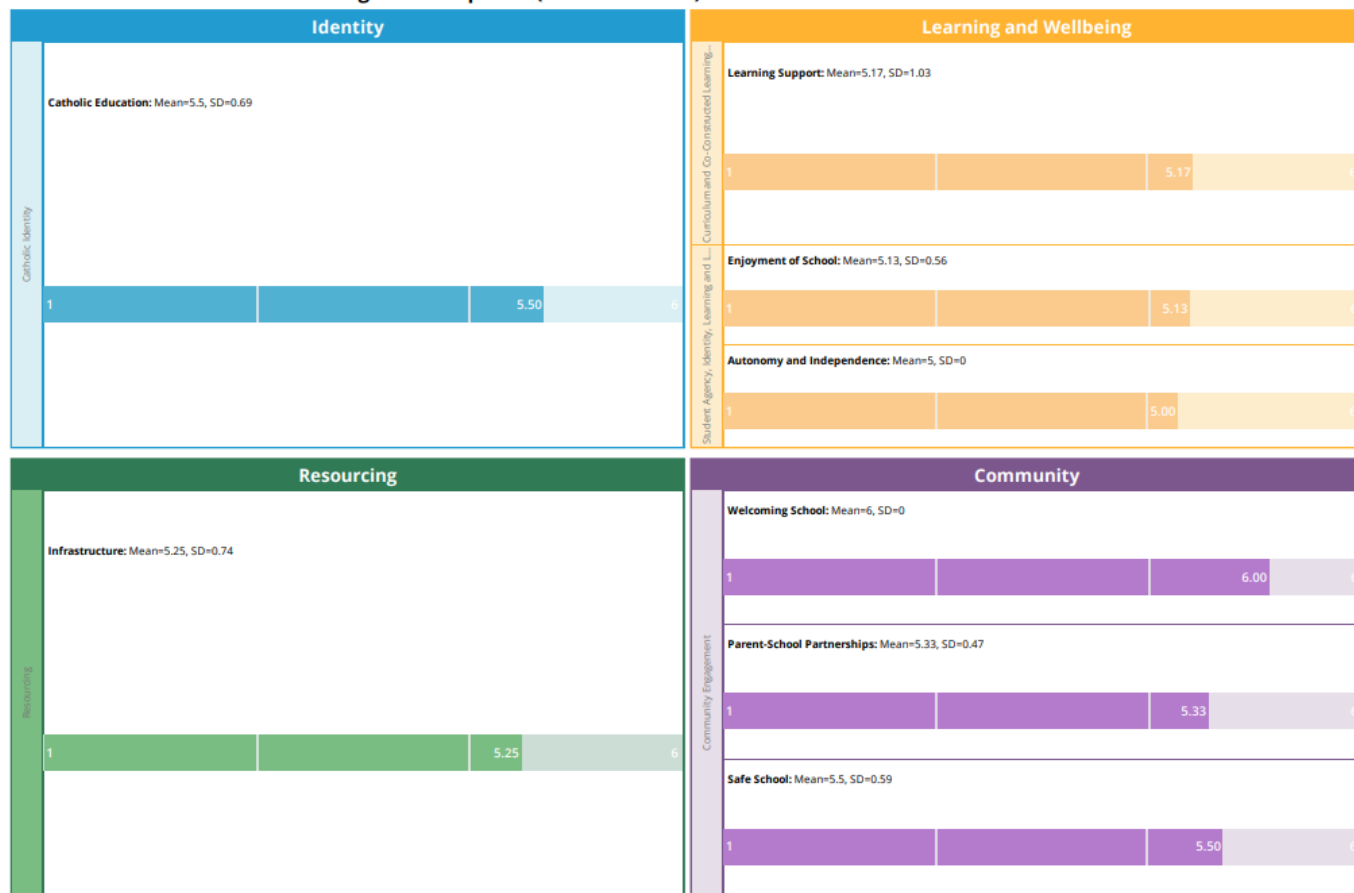
## STUDENT CLASSROOM PULSE SURVEY

The Classroom Pulse survey is designed to give students an opportunity to provide information about how students are feeling about their experience in school. It provides our School with valuable feedback captured from students to help our School continue to improve and provide support to students. The data from all schools is used by Catholic Education SA to identify trends to assist in future planning for the support of the learning and wellbeing for students across South Australia.

Students respond to a range of questions including:

Reception - Year 3				
1. My Teacher cares for me	98	6	0	%
2. I enjoy school	69	29	2	%
3. I have friends	82	13	5	%
4. My teacher helps me when I have problems	80	19	1	%
5. I am learning at school	88	11	1	%
6. I can have a say in my learning	67	30	3	%
7. I feel safe at school	80	18	2	%
8. I feel like I belong in this school	85	14	1	%
	All of the time	Sometimes	Not very often	%
Year 4 - Year 6				
1. I currently feel I matter to my teacher	66	34	0	%
2. I currently feel that I am thriving at school	60	39	1	%
3. Currently, I feel I have positive relationships at school	67	27	6	%
4. When asked, my teacher supports me in managing friendship issues	63	25	12	%
5. I feel that my learning needs are being met	67	30	3	%
6. I am actively involved in co-constructing my learning	60	34	6	%
7. I am feeling safe at school	80	17	3	%
8. I feel that I belong in this school community	81	13	6	%

**Balanced Score Card: Parent & Caregiver Perceptions (LLL Framework)**



**Balanced Score Card: Teacher & Leadership Perceptions (LLL Framework)**



## NAPLAN RESULTS for the 2023 school year

### Year 3

	Mean Score as Proficiency Band
Reading	3 (out of 4) @ 427 (Mean = 404.6)
Writing	3 (out of 4) @ 411 (Mean = 416.3)
Spelling	3 (out of 4) @ 422 (Mean = 403.7)
Grammar & Punctuation	3 (out of 4) @ 432 (Mean = 410.8)
Numeracy	3 (out of 4) @ 405 (Mean = 407.3)

### Year 5

	Mean Score as Proficiency Band
Reading	3 (out of 4) @ 485 (Mean = 495.9)
Writing	3 (out of 4) @ 481 (Mean = 482.9)
Spelling	3 (out of 4) @ 486 (Mean = 488.7)
Grammar & Punctuation	3 (out of 4) @ 486 (Mean = 496.7)
Numeracy	3 (out of 4) @ 493 (Mean = 487.6)

In the score equivalence tables, proficiency levels are coded with numerical values:

- 1 = Needs additional support
- 2 = Developing
- 3 = Strong
- 4 = Exceeding.

The following breakdown of income for St Gabriel's School is derived from the 2023 Financial Statements.

School fee income (Net of discounts)	\$ 415,575	Capital fee Income	\$ 45,421
Other/Private income	\$ 95,891	State Government Capital Grants	\$1,305,000
State Government Recurrent Grant	\$ 862,204	Other Capital income	\$ 0
State Government Additional Grants	\$ 1,000	<b>Total Capital Income</b>	<b>\$1,350,421</b>
Australian Government Recurrent Grant	\$ 3,126,403		
Australian Government Additional Grants	\$ 181,330		
<b>Total Recurrent Income</b>	<b>\$ 4,682,403</b>		

Sean Hill

Principal

St Gabriel's School