

Sacred Heart Annual School Report to the Community

Learning

When talking about learning the focus is usually on academic achievement but we need to acknowledge that education needs to be well rounded and catering for all children and their needs. To that end at Sacred Heart we have offered a variety of learning opportunities for the children in a number of fields.

We have continued this year to build on the various programmes offered in the school to extend all children no matter their academic prowess. Providing support for the varying needs of all students is our priority and we are most fortunate to be able to offer a range of literacy and numeracy support programs for students at varying levels of the learning continuum. The Gifted and Talented program continued this year under the guidance of Tony Fyfe. We had success with Varshan Ray being announce the Young Scientist of the year in WA and others in the Optiminds Program representing Sacred Heart at the competition. We entered the ARTS Angelico and had success in this area with Mariah in Year 1 one winning the award for her level, Our Girls cricket played off in the state Finals for T20, Josie Lee in year 6 was awarded the La Salle Academic scholarship.

We were very proud of the effort and achievement of these students and of all the students involved in these events and the many others during the school year.

Dennis Ralph continued to coordinate the support programs throughout the school, supported well by our Teaching Assistants and volunteers. Thank you to Wendy Hooper and Helen Jecks for giving so generously of their time for the benefit of our students. Work in this area has allowed children who experience some degree of difficulty with new concepts to have success and many have exited the program.

The introduction of Learning Sprints, a program to better focus our teaching and the use of the Brightpaths tool has assisted teachers to more accurately moderate their children's work. These have both added much to further guide teachers on what the specifics are that children need to move forward to the next level in their learning.

The new technologies in the school and the implementation of the curriculum has been a focus for this year. Teachers will continue to develop their skills and fine tune the work in this area so that we can formulate our own scope and sequence document for our school. With all varied experience and understandings of the use of technology it has not always been a quick and painless learning for us all. The area will remain a focus and with the help of Lisa Palmieri who is our Key teacher in technology, we have made inroads and will continue to do so during next year.

2018 saw the introduction of the new Technologies Curriculum. Staff have spent a lot of time familiarising themselves with this and the purchase of new equipment throughout the year will ensure our students have opportunities to engage in a variety of learning experiences.

The benefits of the support program was evident in this year's NAPLAN results. Analysis of this year's data showed that students who have been receiving support have made significant growth. Other areas of significant growth include our school's spelling and writing results, which have been two key areas of focus in the past years.

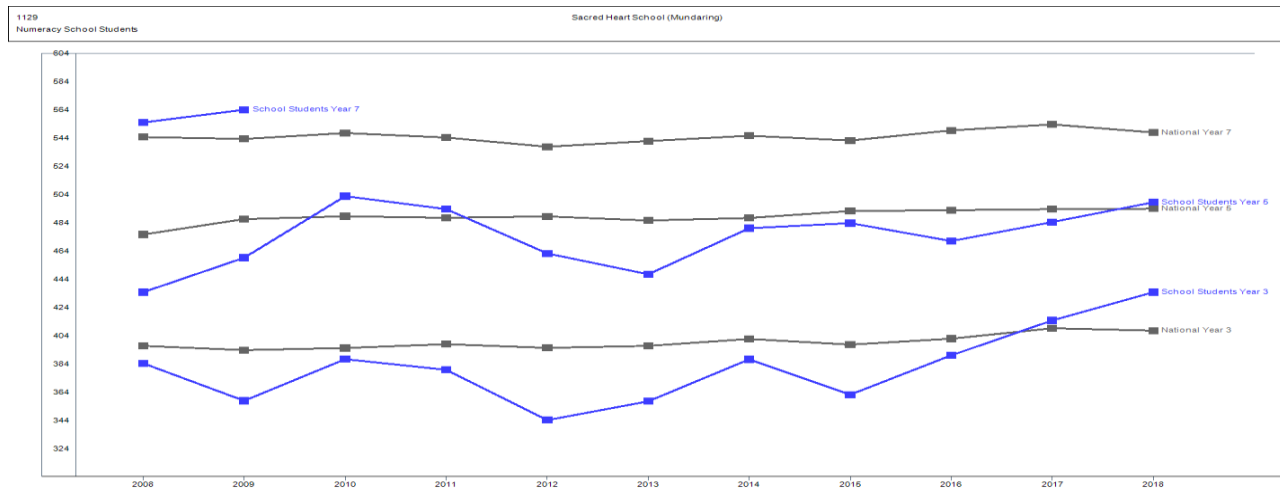
The following is a summary of our results.

Whilst these results are very pleasing, closer analysis of the data by staff identified the need to further extend our students who are achieving high results to ensure they are all maintaining their rate of growth.

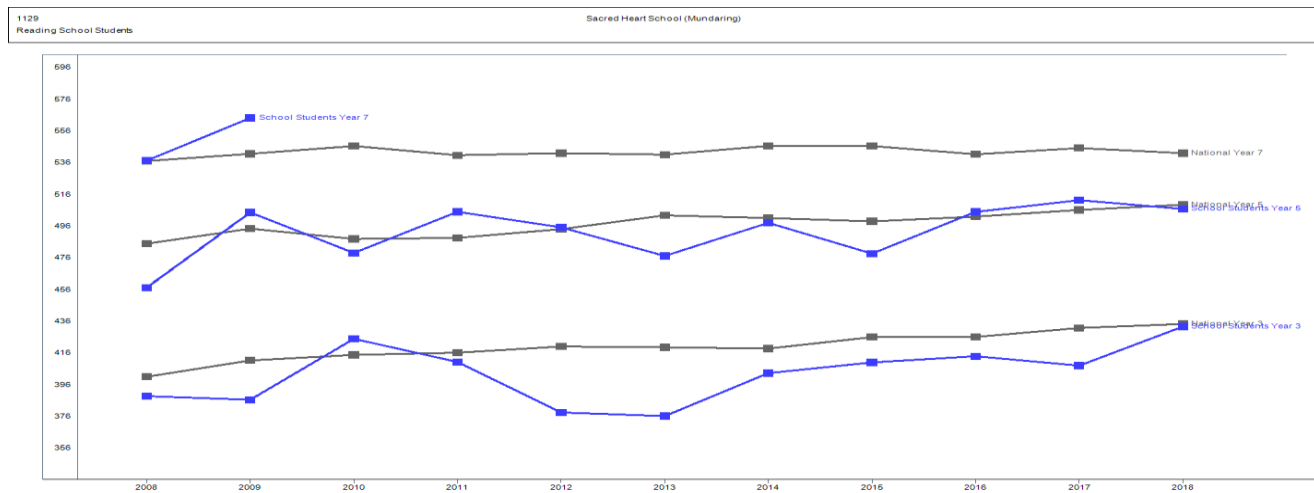
Finally, the trends of our school remain very promising, as mentioned above the gap between the national and school averages closing and in some cases Sacred Heart is achieving above the National average.

Trends over time

Numeracy

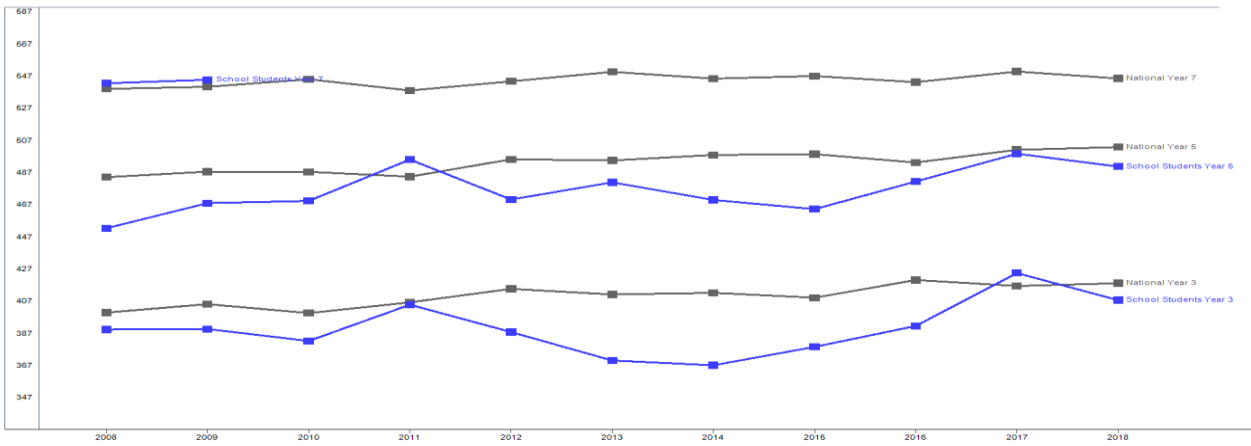


Reading



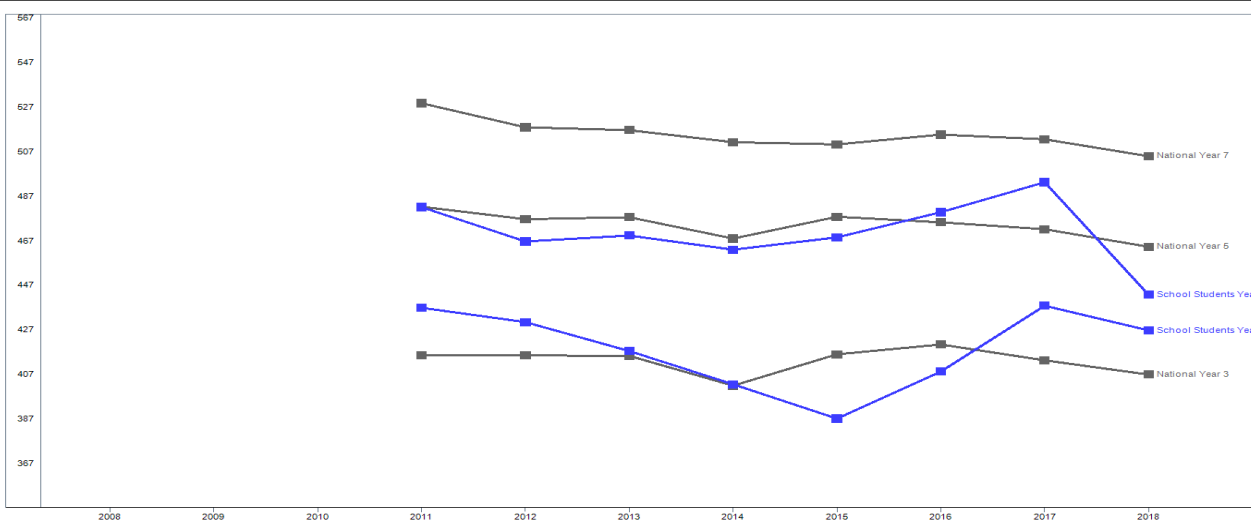
Spelling

1129 Spelling School Students Sacred Heart School (Mundaring)



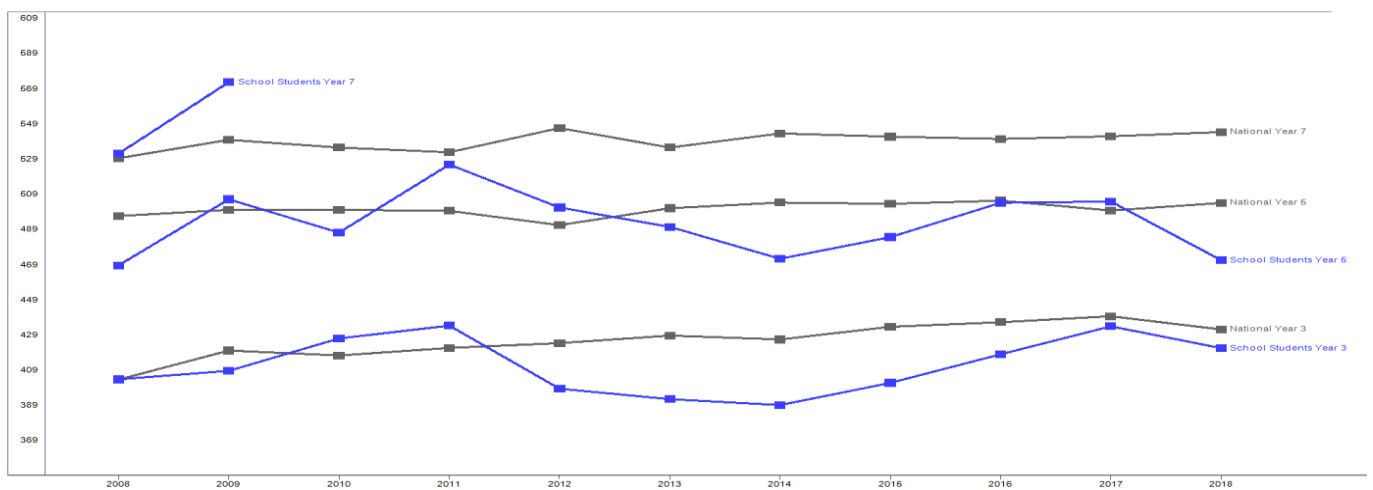
writing

1129 Writing School Students Sacred Heart School (Mundaring)



Grammar

1129 Grammar & Punctuation School Students Sacred Heart School (Mundaring)



Bishops literacy test

Engagement

Student, family and community engagement are paramount for our school to grow and develop. Throughout 2018 a focus has been on classes reaching out into the local community and this will continue into 2019. Our students have been given the chance to participate in a range of spiritual, academic, social and physical activities, thank you to the dedicated staff who have given so much for the students.

Staff looked at ways they could enhance student learning in the broader Hills community. This year our students have continued their support of Yalambi and students singing at the CWA was a big hit! Classes visited the local shops and also the Weir and a connection with the Historical society.

Market Day promises to be a great success. This year we have incorporated the Art Show in this event. The Sacred Heart Sporting teams are another great way to promote the school in our community. This year marks the start of establishing a separate committee to coordinate and ensure that all is working well in the various teams. Events like the Rotary markets where the school can engage in the wider Mundaring community and have a stronger presence in our local community.

Highlights from the year include:

- Various Faction and Interschool sporting competitions
- NAIDOC Week activities
- Excursions and incursions
- Bio-diversity month activities
- Sacramental program

Our P&F and School Board, and indeed all parents in developing opportunities for the engagement of families at our school. Parent engagement in the school has a very high impact on student outcomes. In 2012 Australian Research Alliance for Children & Youth for the Family-School and Community Partnerships Bureau conducted research into parent engagement and the positive impact it has on student achievement, The findings show that it impacts on:

- higher grades and test scores,
- enrolment in higher level programs and advanced classes,
- higher successful completion of classes,
- lower drop-out rates,
- higher graduation rates, and
- a greater likelihood of commencing postsecondary education.

Beyond educational achievement, parental engagement is associated with various indicators of student development. These include:

- more regular school attendance,
- better social skills,
- improved behaviour,
- better adaptation to school,
- increased social capital,
- a greater sense of personal competence and efficacy for learning,
- greater engagement in school work, and
- a stronger belief in the importance of education.

Our P&F have offered many opportunities for parents to be engaged in our school. They have worked tirelessly with their focus on friend raising. I thank anyone involved in any event.

Highlights from this year include:

- Start of year picnic
- Mother's and Father's Day events
- Sausage sizzles at the end of each term
- Buy a book for the library
- Disco

I would like to thank a number of people who have helped with and around the school

Amelia, Kylie, Caran and Clare who held admin roles in the P&F but there were also a number of individuals who attended the meetings and helped with the organisation or support of events. Events don't happen if you don't have the helpers behind the scenes and I thank them for giving up their time.

Thank you must also go to:

Bronwyn and her helpers in the canteen

Sarah Gibellini for coordination of the Playgroup

Orla for her coordination of the Banking

The various Parents who have been class reps during the year.

Nicole Phillipson for her coordination of Ashton Scholastics for a number of years. And I thank Chris Verco for taking on the mantle of this for 2019

The ban pf parishioners who have volunteered with multilit and the stars and cars programme to support children who require help.

Accountability

The Board have a been a source of ongoing support this year. I thank Jodie for her continued interest in the school and her desire to continue to work on the future planning of the school. This is Jodie's final year on the Board as she has served her 6 year tenure. Jodie I would like to thank you for your time on the Board and all that you have done. On personal note thank you for your support of me during this time I have appreciated your friendship and direction.

Wade Isard, thank you for your dedication to the Board

Dave Dubbleboer, for your input and support of the Board

We have continued to promote the school in the wider Hills community. We have much to celebrate in our school and much to be proud of. Our biggest promotion is done by the families who choose to come to our school and I thank them for entrusting us with their children.

New Audit processes were implemented this year as we changed to the ACCRUAL accounting system and I thank Jane for her work in ensuring that we met all of these and that the transition was a smooth as possible

Each year we undertake an internal audit of the National Quality Standards ad then formulate a plan for improvement. Providing a school that is a safe place for learning and that models healthy relationships is our priority. The Code of Conduct applies to all stakeholders at our school and this with the training that will occur at the end of the year in Keeping Children safe program will go to ensure the safety of our children, Kathryn Buller is the key teacher in this area.

Parent feedback from our recent survey will form the part of the review of the year and the looking forward, celebrating our successes while looking for the opportunities for us to grow and develop further.

Hills Out of Schools Care continued to develop this year. I thank Kathy, Amelia and all the staff for ensuring that we can continue to move forward and offer our families this service. We are fortunate to be able to offer this to the parents and wider community and I look forward to continuing the relationship we have with HOSCA.

Disciplineship

Spreading the message of the gospel is the key element on which all is based at Sacred Heart School. Our values which are woven through all policies and procedures are steeped in the traditions of our 2 founding orders.

The key visual elements are our participation in liturgical celebrations. I'd like to thank Fr Thomas for the work he continued this year and to say to Fr John that I look forward to working with him to further enhance the links with the parish and school into the future. I thank Tony for co-ordinating our Sacramental programs and school masses and the staff for their support of him and the sacraments.

Throughout our school community there are examples of discipleship every day and it is these actions that further build the community and make Sacred Heart the catholic community it is. Each class has taken on an area of service that they have been responsible for, whether it be a fundraising activity, connection with an organisation outside of the school. It has been aimed at showing children that at Sacred Heart we aim to live out the values that we have in our school.

Often the impact a teacher has will go unnoticed and as a profession it is often measured by NAPLAN results or ATAR scores. Something that all other professionals have in common is that they all had teachers and that these people made a difference in their lives. Again, I would like to thank the staff both teaching and non-teaching who give so much of their time to provide for the varying needs of the students in their classrooms.

This time of the year always sees some changes in the staffing of schools. I thank Maddie Lambert for her year with us at Sacred Heart as a new graduate it is never easy, but Maddie set to work quickly and put in a great deal of effort to provide great opportunities for her students. Thank you Maddie and I wish you well for next year and the future.

I wish Kim Hunt all the best as she takes a well-earned LSL in Semester 1.

A special thank you to Tony, Nikki and Jane. We have not only achieved a great deal over the year but also laughed a lot. This makes coming to work enjoyable and I have appreciated not only what these people do on a day to day basis to ensure that the school runs well but who they are as people and how they make my job much easier and enjoyable.

To all the staff in the school I thank you for your dedication to the children in your care. I will welcome to the school Bronwyn Smith who will be taking on Kindergarten during Semester 1 and Jade Lilleyman who will join the teachers in the Junior Primary section of the school.