

2023

St Peter's Primary School

## About this report

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St Peter's Primary School (the 'School') is registered by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and managed by the Catholic Schools Office (CSO), Maitland-Newcastle. The Annual School Report (the 'Report'), provides parents and the wider community with fair, accurate and objective information about various aspects of school performance and development. Additionally, the Report complements and is supplementary to other forms of regular communication to the School community regarding initiatives, activities and programs which support the learning and wellbeing of its students.

Detailed information about the School's improvement journey is documented in the Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) which is developed, implemented and evaluated in 6 559.onsult

## Message from key groups in our community

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### Principal's Message

2023 was once again a successful year at St. Peter's School. Enrolment numbers continued to be strong and the school made progress academically, socially and in its physical structure.

The school's mission statement emphasizes innovative teaching, courageous learning and high expectations. In achieving this mission, staff members continued to embrace change through close engagement with the Catholic Schools' Office' "Leading, Learning, Collaborative" initiative and through the implementation of new syllabus documents for Kindergarten, Year1 and Year 2. Classrooms continued to feature "bump it up walls" and co-constructed lesson intentions and success criteria.

Intervention programs operated with much success and the school moved forward in its implementation of explicit teaching strategies in pursuit of pursuing improvement across the school in its targeted area of Comprehension. The school continued to implement and refine its Positive Behaviour for Learning program and made changes to the school's timetable to allow for the increased student population.

2024 promises continued school improvement and further growth in enrolment as the surrounding area continues to develop.

### Parent Body Message

At St Peter's, 2023

The format for parent engagement at St Peter's continues to evolve and we look forward to a continuation of excellent communication with the school and parent involvement in our children's education.

### Student Body Message

Year 6 2023

Our last year of primary school was jam-packed with lots of fun and learning. We had so many great experiences to finish off our time at St Peter's Stockton. Here are just a few of them.

A major highlight of the year was our Bathurst school camp. On our way there, we stopped at the Blue Mountains and got to experience the scenic railway which was so much fun (and made some people scream), as well as a cable car and the Three Sisters lookout. In Bathurst we did some gold panning, visited an historic village, and had a blast spending quality time together. During 2023 we also put on a class play, 'The Not So Mysterious Disappearance of Cinderella', which our class and our teacher, worked really hard on. It was wonderful to hear all the giggles of the younger

## School Features

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### History of the school

St Peter's Primary School, Stockton is a small school located in a beach side suburb of

The school is usually represented at local community events such as the local ANZAC Day March and Remembrance Day Ceremony as well as at religious ceremonies.

# Student Profile

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## Student Enrolment

The School caters for students in Years K – 6. Students attending this School come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities. The following information



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# Staffing Profile

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## Staffing Profile

The following information describes the staffing profile for 2023:

Total number of staff	19
Number of full time teaching staff	7
Number of part time teaching staff	7
Number of non-teaching staff	5

## Total number of teaching staff by NESA category

Teachers at this School are either accredited as conditional, provisional or proficient as defined by the NSW Teacher Accreditation Act 2004. Accreditation at the levels of Highly Accomplished and Lead teacher are voluntary. The number of teachers within the Diocesan Schools System (systemic schools) at these levels is as follows:

- Conditional 107 teachers
- Provisional 69 teachers
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## Summary of professional learning at this school

During 2023 teachers at St Peter's engaged with a variety of Professional Development opportunities. The school executive attended professional learning provided by the Catholic Schools' Office around the teaching of English led by Beverly Deriwianka and around the teaching of Mathematics led by Professor Peter Sullivan. In term 2 the staff completed Professional learning around the school goal of improving Comprehension.

The planned Catholic School's Religious Education P.D. day concerned the Joy of the Gospel and was presented by Sr Connolly. Staff members in Years 2 and 3 attended staff development around the new RE curriculum.

The whole staff was heavily engaged in learning around the work of Lyn Sharratt through the "Leading, Learning, Collaborative" project. Staff members implemented Case conferences, data walls, Learning Intentions, Success Criteria and "bump it up walls" all in keeping with the initiatives involved with the Diocesan project. Staff also received input from Anita Chinn in the teaching of Mathematics to supplement the introduction of the new syllabus documents.

## Catholic Identity and Mission

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Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle participate, under the leadership of the Bishop and in partnership with parents and parishes, in the mission of the Church to provide quality education in the context of a living Catholic Christian tradition. Within this context, Catholic schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle educate from and for vibrant, welcoming and diverse communities with a particular commitment to the poor; for justice, integrity and peace; and with hope for the future.:

At the heart of everything there is always Jesus Christ.

Catholic schools educate:

- From and for the community of faith
- From and for excellence in learning
- In a rigorous, creative and critical pursuit of truth

(Adapted from: The Catholic School's Office Diocesan Vision Statement, 2016)

St Peter's is truly a Catholic parish school. Children from all backgrounds are invited to apply for enrolment and are, as much as possible, accommodated. The school has a policy of inclusion and this is demonstrated daily through action and words. The whole school community embraces people's differences and celebrates what we can learn from interacting with each other. The tolerance demonstrated by families and children is a feature of the school and is noticed by the wider community. The symbols associated with a catholic school are clearly evident to all.

During 2023 students participated in liturgies including Mass for the opening of the school year and for Ash Wednesday, as well as other liturgical feasts. Staff and students involved themselves in prayer and staff members met regularly to pray as a group.

Teachers taught from the Diocesan Syllabus using teaching units written for each grade and Religious Education instruction was timetabled for 150 minutes each week, usually 30 minutes per day.

During the year, the staff worked constantly towards implementing the school's Vision and Mission Statements.

The school and parish have strong links. The Principal represents the school on the Parish Pastoral Council and school news is made available to parishioners.

St Peter's school has actively promoted participation in the Catholic Church community by immersing the students, teachers, parents and the wider parish community in meaningful prayer and shared liturgies. During 2023 some Yr. 6 student leaders represented our school at the annual Diocesan Catholic School's Week Liturgy. As well as this, students participated in mission activities, raising funds for Caritas, Catholic Mission and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Children of the school also donated items for the St. Vincent De Paul Christmas hampers and to other charities.

During 2023 stages were rostered to attend weekday Mass regularly and some students from the school participated in the parish led Sacramental program.

The Diocese's new syllabus based around the Theology of Encounter, began implementation throughout Kindergarten as well as Years 1 and 2. Teachers attended Professional Development in the implementation of the new approach to teaching Religion.

## Curriculum, Learning and Teaching

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The School provides an educational program based on and taught in accordance with the NSW Education Standards

During Release from Face to Face sessions, students experienced learning in areasrQ 0 de09/F3 14e9d1

## Student Performance in Tests and Examinations

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### NAPLAN

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The purpose of NAPLAN is to provide information to parents and teachers about the achievements of students in literacy and numeracy. The test provides a measure of the student's performance against established standards and against other students in Australia. Each year the results are analysed by the school to inform teaching with a view to improving student performance.

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards with 4 levels of achievement to give teachers, parents and carers clearer information on how students are performing:

- Exceeding: The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- Strong: The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- Developing: The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time
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## Pastoral Care and Student Wellbeing

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### Pastoral Care Policy

The School's pastoral care and student wellbeing policies guidelines and procedures are informed by the [Student Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy](#).

The Student Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy 2022 aims to provide a framework for the policies, programs, resources and practices implemented at system and school level with the purpose of supporting and enhancing the wellbeing of students, and all within its school community. It refers to the overall climate of care that exists within a Catholic school.

The environment is designed to be safe and inclusive, one that promotes academic rigour. A high priority is given to building and maintaining positive and caring relationships between staff, students and parents, and the wellbeing of all.

### Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy

The School's policies and procedures for the

## Complaints Handling Policy

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has established a [Complaints Resolution Policy](#) which is implemented by our school and all systemic schools in the diocese. The rationale for the policy is that within the reality of the schooling experience, it is recognised that, from time to time, misunderstandings and differences of opinion will occur, and that these need to be resolved satisfactorily. Addressing such matters within a framework of dignity, respect

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## School Improvement

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The School implements the system's review cycle of improvement which outlines the processes and benchmarks for creating the culture and practice of continuous improvement with students as the focus. Strategic Improvement Plans are future focused documents that map the School's directions, aimed specifically at improving educational and wellbeing outcomes for all students through the following areas:

- Catholic Identity and Catholic Curriculum
- Learning and Wellbeing

Each year, the School develops a Strategic Improvement Plan indicating the intended key improvements for student learning outcomes. A copy of the school's Strategic Improvement Plan may be obtained from the School administrative office.

### Key Improvements Achieved

#### Catholic Education and Mission

2023 was highlighted by very much improved performance in the Year 6 Religious Literacy Test. The Religious Education Coordinator and Year 6 teacher worked to develop the students'

the Diocesan "Leading, Learning, Collaborative" project which is based on the work of Lyn Sharratt.

### Well-Being and Partnerships

The school's Positive Behaviour Support Program was successfully continued. The PBS team met regularly to reinforce the school's behavioural expectations.

The school's Parents and Friends Association was dissolved and became a "Parent Engagement Group". Meetings occurred twice each term and featured an educative component led by a staff member.

The school was successful in applying for a \$25000 grant to improve playground facilities. This project was coordinated by the Diocesan facilities team and is set for completion in 2024. St Peter's also maintains a close association with the Port Waratah Coal, the Port of Newcastle and Orica.

## Priority Key Improvements for Next Year

### Catholic Education and Mission

In 2024 the school hopes to continue to develop the relationship between parish and school by attending Masses and celebrations regularly in the Parish church.

The School Improvement Plan will again prioritise the Faith Formation of students and staff as a major goal. This will occur through participation in Professional Development and a variety of retreat and formation activities.

Students from St Peter's will again be offered participation in the Sacramental Program offered by the City Pastoral Region.

### Teaching and Learning

*Staff members at St Peter's will continue to engage in the Leading, Learning, Collaborative project as well as continue to implement aspects of the Gifted Education Lead School Program. In 2023 the school's emphasis will move towards improving Teaching and Learning in Reading Comprehension. This will become an emphasis in Professional Learning Teams and in staff professional development.*

*During 2023 the school plans to complete the refurbishment of classrooms and further improve facilities in the school's playground.*

OOSH

2023 will also see the beginning of an Out of Hours School Care facility run by St Nicholas OOSH. This will offer school holidays ~~from 0.30.2023~~ offer



identified and plans were made to address them. The "Tell Them From Me" survey will be administered again in 2024.

### Teacher satisfaction

Staff members at St Peter's work together to create the sense of community which permeates the school. Teachers value the students and demonstrate real enjoyment in and commitment to teaching. They are well supported by experienced Learning Support Assistants and administrative staff and they have access to a wide variety of resources. Professional Development is promoted by the executive and teachers regularly attend courses to develop practice, knowledge and pedagogy. There is minimal staff turnover and teachers support each other personally and professionally.

Throughout 2023 a feature of staff collaboration was the continued running of fortnightly PLC's which made a positive difference to pedagogy and to student outcomes. Staff members were also quick to adopt new practices associated with new syllabus documents and

Staff members also completed the "Tell Them From Me" survey in 2022 and expressed great satisfaction in the school as a workplace.

Results from the 2023 Diocesan staff Satisfaction survey revealed that there were some issues with diocesan structures and expectations which were impacting teacher well-being. The diocese is look8 426.78 Tm[impacting )]JETBT/F3 14.c2ela



## Financial Statement

This School Financial Information is based on the detailed information provided to the Commonwealth Government in the Commonwealth Financial Questionnaire.

School Financial Information for the 2023 year is detailed below:

Recurrent and Capital Income 2023	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants <sup>1</sup>	\$1,944,312
Government Capital Grants <sup>2</sup>	\$0
State Recurrent Grants <sup>3</sup>	\$507,966
Fees and Private Income <sup>4</sup>	\$384,756
Interest Subsidy Grants	\$0
Other Capital Income <sup>5</sup>	\$142,817
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$2,979,851</b>

Recurrent and Capital Expenditure 2023	
Capital Expenditure <sup>6</sup>	\$793
Salaries and Related Expenses <sup>7</sup>	\$2,138,202
Non-Salary Expenses <sup>8</sup>	\$803,558
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$2,942,553</b>

### Notes

1. Commonwealth Recurrent Grants includes recurrent per capita grants and special purpose grants.
2. Government Capital Grants includes all capital grants received from the Commonwealth and State Governments.
3. State Recurrent Grants includes recurrent grants per capita, special purpose grants and interest subsidy grants.
4. Fees and Private Income include Archdiocesan and school based fees, excursions and other private income.
5. Other Capital Income includes building levy fees and capital donations used to fund Capital Expenditure.
6. Capital Expenditure includes expenditure on School Buildings, and Furniture and Equipment.
7. Salaries and Related Expenditure includes all salaries, allowances and related expenses such as superannuation and workers compensation insurance.
8. Non-Salary Expenses include all other Non-Salary Recurrent Expenditure covering resources, administration, operational expenses, utilities, repairs and maintenance.

