



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

ST MARY MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Tuggeranong, ACT

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



Welcome to our School

Welcome to St Mary MacKillop College, Canberra!

Our school is the largest secondary school in the Australian Capital Territory, supporting families of all faith traditions in the Tuggeranong Valley, Queanbeyan, Weston Creek and other parts of Southern Canberra and across the NSW border. We are a Catholic school belonging to the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, founded in 1990 and built on the charism of St Mary of the Cross and the Sisters of St Joseph. St Mary MacKillop is our Patron and an abiding source of our inspiration and ethos.

Given our size, co-educational structure, relatively low school fees and belief in inclusivity and justice, the College tries to be a place for all. A huge range of academic and vocational courses are offered each year, as well as an extensive range of co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. The College enjoys external test and examination results that are amongst the highest in the Territory and that have demonstrated pleasing improvement over the past four years. Strong literacy and numeracy programs underpin excellent teaching in the junior secondary years.

The two campus structure (Years 7, 8 and 9 at Wanniasa and Year 10, 11 and 12 at Isabella Plains) provides extraordinary opportunities for student leadership, pastoral care and appropriate to age group structures for the academic, social and spiritual life of the students.

Highlights of the Year

The Academic Year of 2010 commenced with the Vatican announcement by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI that Blessed Mary MacKillop, our Patron, would be canonised in October. The decision commenced a new page in the Mary MacKillop story not only for our school but for the Catholic Church in Australia and around the world.

Some of the highlights of the Year include:

- altering the name of the College to St Mary MacKillop College, Canberra
- a pilgrimage of teachers and students to Rome for the October canonisation
- liturgies for the canonisation
- celebrations to honour the Year 12 Class of 2009's outstanding academic results
- the conclusion of the 18 month literacy program implementation
- a review of Assessment at the College
- the appointment of a Director of Josephite Mission Coordinator. This is a Coordinator position.
- commencement of substantial building programs for the Trade Training Centre at the Isabella Campus and extensive refurbishment of the library facilities at Wanniasa
- highly successful mentor programs between senior students and students in our Catholic primary schools
- deeply encouraging NAPLAN results, particularly in the area of growth in student performance abilities between Year 7 and Year 9
- outstanding sporting results, particularly in the areas of Netball, Australian Rules Football and Rugby League.

2010 has seen record demand for places in all year groups with the Year 7 and Year 11 enrolments the highest the College has had since its inception.

The positive atmosphere at the College and towards the College in the wider community has been a source of humility and pride for St Mary MacKillop College, Canberra and reflects well on its progress this year.

School Overview

Parent Satisfaction - Overwhelmingly parents have demonstrated strong satisfaction with the College. This has been evident in increased attendance at Parent/teacher nights, Year based Information Evenings, Staff evaluations of Parent/Teacher nights, increased parent representation at College events such as carnivals, Masses and liturgies and performance evenings.

Communication with parents has been prompt and effective and has elicited positive feedback to the College.

Teacher Satisfaction - Teachers enjoy being at the College. Few staff registered any negative responses to the Annual Staff Survey. Key indications include strong teacher retention, high attendance at College events, positive contribution to staff and faculty meetings and a variety of incidental but important anecdotes.

In particular staff express confidence in the ethos, foundation and direction of the College, strong satisfaction in terms of being supported by the College in the management of students and have strongly endorsed the growing, positive reputation of the College in the wider community.

Teacher Absence - At St Mary MacKillop College the average number of days that teachers were in attendance was 198 days out of a total of 204 days.

Teacher Retention - The retention rate of staff at St Mary MacKillop College was 85%. Of the staff not retained seven moved interstate, four moved to other schools within the ACT and two moved into the public service and two resigned due to family commitments. Of the four staff who moved to other schools 50% were employed in temporary positions at the College.

Performance Appraisal.

Twenty six Curriculum and Pastoral Leaders underwent Performance Reviews in 2010. This process encouraged an evaluation of goals for achievement in their role. All reviews led to extended contracts.

Teacher Qualifications - All teachers at St Mary MacKillop College (97) have teaching qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised by the National Office of Overseas skills recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines.

Teacher Participation in Professional Development

St Mary MacKillop College is committed to the ongoing professional development of staff. During 2010 the College supported four major professional development initiatives:

- differentiation strategies for Classroom Teachers
- Quality Teaching Framework and Coding Assessment Tasks
- improving Literacy Outcomes for students
- spirituality of St Mary MacKillop of the Cross.

Whole staff Professional Development including:

All staff up-date their first Aid, CPR and Bronze medallion qualifications where necessary. Staff participate in Professional Development provided by the Catholic Education Office, ACT Department of Education and Training and the Board of Senior Secondary Studies as well as other external professional organisations.

The College supported staff members to attend the Hawker-Brownlow Conference, MYSA Conference Connecting in the Middle Years, the Redbank School Conference and Mind Matters. All staff undertook professional development relating to Child Protection and the Code of Professional Standards as well as staff wellbeing. Many staff are members of professional associations and as such participated in ATATE workshops, Science Teachers Association workshops, Language Teachers Conferences and Mathematics Teachers Association workshops. Six staff members completed NAPLAN marking while a number of staff completed AST and Writing Task workshops.

Workforce Composition

Teaching staff: 42% male and 58 % female
 Support staff: 36% male and 64% male
 Indigenous staff: 0.7 % of staff population are Indigenous.

Principal's Report

2010 saw the College seize opportunities to build upon its Catholic identity and ethos and to consolidate and enhance programs that support and reflect the key strengths and mission of the school.

Key highlights of this were:

- extensive new facilities to support students with physical disabilities, particularly on the Wanniasa Campus
- liturgies celebrating the canonisation of our patron St Mary of the Cross
- inviting the Sisters of St Joseph into the College
- extensive involvement in the Archdiocese Mission and NAIDOC Masses
- the appointment of an Indigenous Education Officer to the staff
- extending our relationship with the Education Unit of the Department of Defence
- hosting visits of politicians and candidates during the Federal Election
- moving ANZAC and Remembrance Day Observances

2010 saw substantial progress in the provision of ICT resources, VET facilities, the Wanniasa Campus Library and plans developed for the new Science teaching facilities at Wanniasa.

A real highlight of the year has been the College's ability to attract, retain and develop an outstanding academic and support staff, a key feature behind the increased demand for enrolment places in our school.

Michael Lee
Principal

School Community Report

School Board Report

The School Board has been actively involved in two principal areas of the school - finances and the building program.

This year the Board again played a significant role in fee collection and remission. The Board has developed consistent, transparent and effective processes to assist families.

The Board had an advisory role in the funding applications for significant refurbishment and construction at the College. The new library and the Trade Training Centre will significantly enhance learning opportunities for students across all year groups at the College.

Student Leader Report 2010

The Student Leadership Team for 2010 included Oliver Oakman (Captain), Danica Tagaza (Captain), Jenny Tabur (Performing Arts), Alex Kellar (Sport), Monique Wilks (Faith and Community) Andre Wilks (Campus Captain Year 9) and Isabelle Schmidt (Campus Captain Year 9).

Our main focus for 2010 was to:

- continue to build relationships between both our campuses
- continue to build relationships with the primary schools in South Canberra
- raise funds for our House charities
- represent the College in the community.

Highlights for the year were:

- celebrating the canonisation of Mary MacKillop
- MacKillop Day
- sell out crowds for Variety Night and the College Musical
- the continued supportive and caring relationships between the teachers and the students. Our experience of the teaching and support staff at the College has helped to give us confidence and trust.

Student Achievement

The following tables show the school's results in the national testing of literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) in 2010.

School and National Mean Scale Scores

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	546.0	533.4	544.6	535.1	547.7
School	559.3	533.1	533.0	541.2	541.2

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	573.6	567.7	578.4	578.8	584.9
School	592.8	585.3	576.5	588.8	581.7

The above tables show that, in Year 7 and Year 9, students from St Mary MacKillop College performed above the national mean in reading, grammar and punctuation.

Proportion of students at or above the National Minimum Standard

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	94.8%	92.6%	92.9%	91.5%	95.0%
School	98%	95%	92%	93%	99%

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	90.7%	87.2%	89.6%	90.8%	93.1%
School	96%	96%	94%	97%	98%

The above tables show that when compared to National figures a higher proportion of St Mary MacKillop College performed at or above the National minimum standard in Years 7 and 9.

Proportion of students in each Achievement Band

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 9	13%	8%	6%	8%	8%
Band 8	24%	19%	18%	19%	15%
Band 7	32%	25%	29%	29%	33%
Band 6	19%	32%	25%	27%	28%
Band 5	10%	11%	14%	9%	15%
Band 4	2%	5%	8%	7%	1%

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 10	4%	9%	5%	9%	3%
Band 9	23%	13%	15%	18%	16%
Band 8	30%	33%	29%	26%	27%
Band 7	27%	25%	33%	30%	35%
Band 6	12%	16%	12%	14%	16%
Band 5	4%	4%	6%	3%	2%

The above tables show that students at St Mary MacKillop College performed in the upper achievement bands in all areas of NAPLAN in Years 7 and 9. We are pleased with the number of students in Year 7 in Band 9 for Reading and also the number of students in Years 9 in Band 10 for Writing and Grammar and Punctuation.

Year 10 Certificate - The total number of enrolments in Year 10 was 293. Of those, 292 students or 99.6% received a Year 10 Certificate. One student received a High School Record. Students undertaking a Year 10 Certificate completed studies in Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, SOSE and Physical Education. The students also undertook studies in the following elective areas; Food and textiles, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Technology, Information Technology and LOTE.

Year 12 Data - The total number of enrolments in Year 12 was 205. Of those 197 students received a Year 12 Certificate. During the year four students took up apprenticeships, three students entered the workforce and one continued study at CIT.

All 197 students at St Mary MacKillop College who received a Year 12 Certificate completed a BSSS accredited course in English and 196 completed a BSSS accredited course in Mathematics.

Number of students who received a Year 12 Certificate: 197

Number of students awarded an ATAR: 123

Percentage of students who received an ATAR: 62.4%

ATAR Data

Top ATAR: 99.10 Median ATAR: 74.40

No. of students whose ATAR is 90 or above 22 No. of students whose ATAR > = 80 and < 90 24

No. of students whose ATAR > = 70 and < 80 31 No. of students whose ATAR > = 60 and < 70 28

Students with a Year 12 Certificate who completed courses at ANU Secondary College: 6

Mathematics: 1 Chemistry: 3

Japanese: 2

Student Wellbeing and Engagement

The wellbeing and engagement of students at St Mary MacKillop College have been positive aspects of the life of the school.

The February census for 2010 showed student enrolment at:

Year 7	343
Year 8	293
Year 9	305
Year 10	293
Year 11	214
Year 12	205

The College student population grew by 6.5% over the past year and waiting lists lengthened, particularly for Year 7.

Pastoral Care Program

The Pastoral program continued to be based upon the philosophy and practices of Restorative Justice. Training for staff continued based upon revision of policy practice inducting of new teachers and the promotion of best practice Restorative initiatives and life balance strategies.

Some bullying continued to be evident and revolved around cyber social networking and friendship groups. Strategies such as parent involvement, visits from child psychologists, AFP and lawyers helped the attendant bullying issues be identified and students to be better equipped with strategies to manage anti-social behaviour.

Student surveys continued to show how very safe they feel at school, their great trust in their teachers and the value the students place on the leadership opportunities provided at the College.

Overview

The College follows policies and guidelines mandated by the Catholic Education Office of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. In the area of student wellbeing and behaviour, CEO policies are used as is the College's Quality Conduct policy.

Student Satisfaction – Our annual student survey reflects positive views about College identity, belonging and acceptance. Key features are that students feel safe, their teachers make it easier to learn and have high expectations of them.

Student Attendance

Year Level	% Student Attendance		
Year 7	95.2	Year 8	95.6
Year 9	94.1	Year 10	95.3
Year 11	94.5	Year 12	94.9

School Based Policies

Management of Non-attendance – The College step wise processes involve the Pastoral Care teacher initially, then Pastoral Coordinators, Counsellors, Assistant Principal Pastoral, Campus Head and finally the Catholic Education Office. The student's welfare and pastoral care of the parents is a key component of the process. Physical or mental health factors affecting the student's attendance may involve referrals to external support agencies.

Enrolment – We are directed by the Archdiocesan Enrolment Policy which can be found on the Annual Report page of the College's website.

St Mary MacKillop College's enrolment profile shows:

- 807 female, 747 male
- 36 students are designated as CLDB
- 53 students are from Defence Force families
- 580 students are from Public Service families.

Behaviour : Review and revision of the College's Quality Conduct Policy is ongoing. It is summarised in the student diary and available on the College website.

Complaints and Grievances – The College encourages open, frank and timely communication. Formal complaints and grievances follow the Archdiocesan Policy and are available on the website.

Student Pathways and Post School

Destinations - The Year 12 cohort was surveyed at the end of their academic school year. Students undertaking a Tertiary Package

Destination	Percentage
University	62
Workforce	11.5
Apprentice	15
Gap Year	11.5

Students undertaking an Accredited Package

Destination	Percentage
Workforce	30.6
Apprenticeship	28.2
Gap Year	18
Other	23.2

Student Retention - The actual retention rates of students from the completion of Year 7 to the completion of Year 12 is 45%.

VET Attainment/Participation - Of the 205 students enrolled in Year 12, 9 students undertook an Australian School Based Apprenticeship.

Student Wellbeing and Engagement

Three of these apprenticeships were with the school as the RTO and six were with an external provider. Year 12 students also received VET qualifications within the following industry areas.

Industry Group	No. of Students	Industry Group	No. of Students
Arts, Entertainment, Sport and recreation (II)	11	General Education and Training (1)	2
Building and construction (Cert I)	7	TCF and Furnishings (Cert II)	7
Business and Clerical (Cert II)	6	Tourism and Hospitality (Cert II)	17
Computing (Cert II)	14		

Priorities and Targets

St Mary MacKillop College priorities and targets for 2010 revolved around the following plans and initiatives:

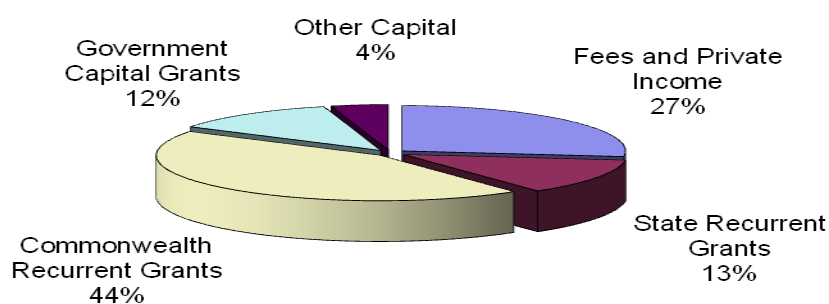
- The continued development of the Catholic identity and Josephite charism of the school. This was achieved by:
 - altering the name of the school
 - celebrations for the canonisation of our Patron
 - a pilgrimage to Rome
 - participating in Archdiocese celebrations for the canonisation
 - the appointment to the staff of a Director of Mission
- The enhancement of the College's policy of inclusivity. This was achieved by:
 - extensive refurbishment of the Wanniasa campus to cater for students with physical disabilities
 - the appointment of an Indigenous Education Officer
 - increased enrolments of Indigenous students
 - the greater accessing of resources for students who are children of Defence families
 - Extending opportunities for the gifted
- The continued building program for the College was achieved by:
 - completion of disability facilities
 - commencing work on the Trade Training Centre
 - commencing work on the new Library and Administrative block
 - submitting a BGA application to refurbish the Science teaching facilities at the Wanniasa Campus
- The review of the literacy program was achieved by:
 - continuing the contract for a literacy consultant to work with the staff in the areas of:
 - NAPLAN data processing
 - strategic planning for Literacy Targets at MacKillop College
 - mentoring of staff
 - review of teaching strategies.

Literacy and Numeracy

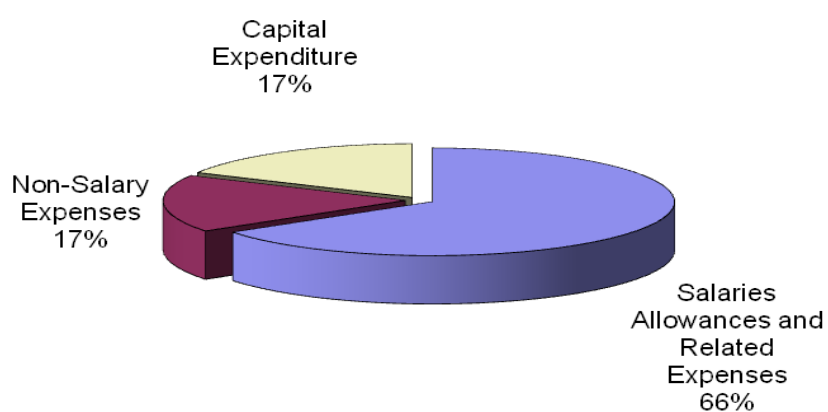
- This year St Mary MacKillop College has continued to profile literacy and numeracy within the College.
- All Year 7 Integrated Humanities teachers were given time in class to listen to and assess their students' reading levels.
- Small group reading intervention programs have been undertaken by students in need in Years 7 - 8.
- 4 teachers have undertaken Tactical Teaching PD and have delivered Professional Learning on this topic to 18 staff members. This professional learning will continue in 2011.
- St Mary MacKillop College introduced a remediation maths program in Year 7 which followed the Year 7 course but concentrated on developing mathematical skills and student confidence.
- Further incorporation of NAPLAN data to support teaching and learning.

Financial Information

St Mary MacKillop College - Income



St Mary MacKillop College - Expenditure



School Contact Information

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