



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Tuggeranong, ACT

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



Welcome to our School

Welcome to MacKillop Catholic College Canberra's largest secondary school supporting the families of the Tuggeranong Valley, Weston Creek, Queanbeyan and beyond in their important role as primary educators of their children. The College is a Catholic school belonging to the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn and provides a religious and secular education in the tradition of the sisters of St Joseph. We draw on the example and inspiration of Blessed Mary MacKillop as our Patron and as the source of our charism and ethos.

In 2009 the College, following on extensive executive restructure, moved forward with renewed energy in the areas of curriculum, assessment and reporting, preparing to fully integrate data from NAPLAN into our literacy and numeracy programs, building upon the success of World Youth Day for our staff and students and continuing with imagination to better integrate MacKillop into partnerships with Catholic primary schools that surround the College.

Keen to fully participate in the Commonwealth Government's Building the Education Revolution initiative, the College commenced careful planning for major refurbishments of our middle school library and research centre, our science and reception facilities and brought to a successful conclusion the application for Trade Training Centre, clustering with the three other Archdiocesan Secondary Schools in Canberra and CIT. The success of this initiative was announced by the Deputy Prime Minister on November 5, this year!

Highlights of the Year

This year has been a watershed for MacKillop with significant achievements commenced in the following areas:

- Ø Highly memorable Masses and Liturgies and MacKillop Day celebrations.
- Ø Sharp enrolment increases into Year 7 and Year 11
- Ø Outstanding achievement for our students enrolled at ANU College.
- Ø Outstanding achievement in the VET in Schools Program, most significantly with winning VET Student of the Year 2009 and the college nominated in a variety of VET categories.
- Ø Pleasing NAPLAN results for students in Year 7 and extraordinary growth for our students between Years 7 and 9, the true test of quality teaching.
- Ø Exceptional integration of the college into the life of our Catholic primary schools. MacKillop sent many, many students into our primary schools to work with them in the areas of music, visual and performing arts, sport, mentoring students leadership, first aid, vocational awareness, spiritual and sacramental growth and in the areas of the gifted and talented.
- Ø Plans for extensive refurbishment of key teaching and learning facilities in both campuses will add impetus to the potential for increased student achievement next year.

School Overview

Parent Satisfaction – Few parents took the opportunity to complete a Parent Satisfaction Survey for 2009 however key indicators of parent satisfaction follow:

- substantial increase in parent attendance at Parent / Teacher / Student interviews were recorded this year.
- the numbers of parents at Information Evenings, College events such as our Annual Masses, MacKillop Days and graduation (Yr 10 and Yr 12) events were almost double what they have been.
- Few pastoral complaints were received by the College this year.

Teacher Satisfaction – Again the teacher satisfaction surveys were extraordinarily favourable this year. Strong confidence was expressed in the direction of the school, teachers feel included in decision making and supported in their roles.

Teacher Absence - At MacKillop Catholic College the average number of days the teachers were in attendance was 196 days out of a total of 204 days.

Teacher Retention - Of the 122 teaching staff at MacKillop Catholic College in August 2009, 96 or 79% were still at the school in August 2009. Of those staff not retained, 7 resigned due to family commitments, 2 staff resigned for health reasons, 5 moved into private enterprise, 3 staff took up promotional positions, 6 staff took up positions in other locations and 3 staff were employed on temporary contracts.

Teacher Qualifications - All 106 of 106 teaching staff 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 - MacKillop Catholic College is committed to the ongoing professional development of staff. During 2009 the College supported four major professional development initiatives:

Understanding by Design
Improving Literacy Outcomes
Quality Teaching Framework and
Digital Technologies

Whole staff Professional Development :
CEO Secondary Teachers system Day
New staff Induction Program
Anaphylaxis Training
New Course Writing Yr 8 and 10 to align with ECTL
Literacy Focus Day
Staff Curriculum Conference
Rewriting teaching programs using understanding by design
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.

Individual staff members are supported in a wide range of professional development activities. Five staff members are currently undertaking studies in the Masters of Education course at the Australian Catholic University while two are completing Doctoral studies at ANU and ACU. Two staff members also completed the requirements for a Certificate IV Workplace Training and Assessment.

The College supported staff members to attend the following conferences; Understanding by Design, Quality Learning, MYSA Conference Connecting in the Middle Years, the Redbank School Conference, Multiliteracies in the 21st Century, Leading Schools in the Digital Age, Health and Wellbeing Conference and the ACER Assessment and Evaluation Conference. Many staff are members of professional associations and as such participated in ACTATE workshops, Science Teachers Association workshops, Language teacher's conferences and Mathematics Teachers Association workshops.

Workforce Composition - Teaching staff: 45% male and 55% female. Support Staff: 37% male and 63% female. 0.6% of all staff are indigenous.

Principal's Report

The College seeks to challenge, motivate and affirm students through the provision of a stimulating and well resourced curriculum, the recruitment and development of talented staff and through the promotion of the shared belief that our creator is a loving God who cares for us and redeems us through Jesus Christ..

The focus on the Gospel values of faith, hope and love is realised through:

- A curriculum that is justly resourced and delivered
- A curriculum that endeavours to meet the needs of all students
- An assessment program that is fair, transparent and that is fully integrated into classroom learning
- A pastoral care program that has accountability, restoration and reconciliation at its heart.
- A staff who seek to build relationships of integrity with each other and with their students.

2009 saw the College build much stronger relationships with parishes and primary schools by building supporting structures.

Key highlights were:

- The involvement of our senior students in the sacramental life of primary students
- The involvement of our senior students in sporting and community events in a wide range of primary schools
- The hosting of a Year 5/6 gifted and talented day at our Isabella Plains Campus
- Participate in a Information Evening on co-education at St John Vianney's, Waramanga
- Close relationships between our curriculum leaders and those in Primary School

2009 was a strong year for MacKillop with a string of outstanding community events, impressive NAPLAN results for Year 9 and a Year 12 student winning VET Student of the Year for the ACT. Planning commenced for a new library facility on our Wannassa Campus, the announcement of our successful bid for a Trade Training Centre for our Isabella Plains Campus and, importantly, the integration of our War Memorials into very moving liturgies for ANZAC and Remembrance Day.

School Community Report

Board Chair

The College Board at MacKillop assists with financial management, uniform, policy development, promotion of the College and the recruitment of staff.

2009 saw several changes to its membership, pleasingly able to replace talented and dedicated service with new members of promise.

The Board worked closely with the College Leadership to:

- Promote the faith life of the College
- Support applications for building and refurbishment
- The Trade Training Centre
- Justly assist with fee remissions
- Help to recruit talented staff

The College Board is an active agent for the promotion of the College and is pleased to have been able to play a part in such a successful year.

College Captains' Report

MacKillop is a school where each individual student is valued, and each talent and gift is nurtured.

Three particular events during the year have showcased students giving their time and initiative for charity and the community.

MacKillop Day is the annual celebration in September. Students in Years 10-12 are given the responsibility of hosting the junior campus, and running stalls, games and teacher vs student challenges.

The 'Tegan Blunt Memorial Gift' raises money for students to assist them in reaching their goals. It has been the focus of many student organised fundraisers, as well as being supported by the profits of such events as MacKillop Day.

Market Day is a student-organised initiative which began in 2008. Four Year 9 students put forward a proposal to organise a sale of food, as well as other activities to raise money for local charities. Many classes and groups of students set up stalls and all students from Years 7-9 are enthusiastic in selling and purchasing products.

These three events have been opportunities for students of all ages to show their leadership in the ways that they serve their peers, their teachers, and our community.

Student Achievement

The following tables show the school's results in the national testing of literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) in 2009.

School and National Mean Scale Scores

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	541	533	540	540	544
School	538	531	524	540	533

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	580	569	576	574	589
School	597	580	577	584	591

The above tables show that, in Year 7 and Year 9, students from MacKillop perform around the national mean in most aspects of literacy and numeracy. In Year 9 students perform above the National Mean in Reading, Writing and Grammar & Punctuation

Proportion of students at or above the National Minimum Standard

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	94%	93%	93%	92%	95%
School	95%	94%	95%	96%	98%

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	92%	88%	90%	90%	95%
School	96%	93%	93%	93%	98%

The above tables show that, compared to National figures, a higher proportion of MacKillop students perform at or above the National Minimum Standard in all areas in Year 7 and Year 9.

Proportion of students in each Achievement Band

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 9	4	6	5	9	4
Band 8	22	20	15	12	13
Band 7	29	22	26	29	23
Band 6	27	32	29	33	35
Band 5	13	13	20	14	23
Band 4	5	6	5	4	2

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 10	6	12	8	9	5
Band 9	19	13	12	14	19
Band 8	37	23	30	27	31
Band 7	26	29	29	33	32
Band 6	7	16	15	12	11
Band 5	4	7	7	7	2

The above tables show that students at MacKillop Catholic College achieve in the upper achievement bands in most areas of NAPLAN in Year 7 and Year 9. We are particularly pleased with the number of Year 9 students in Band 10 for Writing. Our results for Numeracy indicate priority focus areas for 2010.

Year 10 Certificate - The total number of enrolments in Year 10 was 280. Of those, 279 students or 99.6% received a Year 10 Certificate. Students undertaking the Year 10 Certificate completed studies in Religious Education, English, SOSE, Mathematics, Science and Physical Education. The students also undertook studies in the following elective areas: Food and Textiles, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Technology, Information Technology, Physical Education and LOTE.

Year 12 Certificate Data - The total number of enrolments in Year 12 was 171. Of those, 164 students received a Year 12 certificate and 7 students received a high school record. Of the 7 students to receive a high school record, 4 took up apprenticeships during the year and 3 students entered the workforce. All 164 students at MacKillop who received a Year 12 certificate completed an BSSS accredited course in English and 163 students completed a BSSS accredited course in Mathematics.

Number of students who received a Year 12 certificate: 164

Number of students awarded an ATAR: 94

57.32% of students who received a year 12 Certificate received an ATAR

68 students received an ATAR that may gain them entry to UC. This represents 72.3% of students who received an ATAR.

39 students received an ATAR that may gain them entry to ANU. This represents 41.5% of students who received an ATAR.

ATAR Information:

Top ATAR 98.35

Median ATAR 74.95

No. of students whose ATAR is 90 or above: 18

No. of students whose ATAR ≥ 80 and < 90 : 21

No. of students whose ATAR ≥ 70 and < 80 : 17

No. of students whose ATAR ≥ 60 and < 70 : 17

Students with a Year 12 Certificate who completed courses at ANU Secondary College: 11

Mathematics: 1

Physics: 2

Chemistry: 3

Conservation Biology: 5

Japanese: 1

Student Wellbeing and Engagement

The wellbeing and engagement of the students at MacKillop has been one of the very positive aspects of the 2009 year.

At the February census the student body at the College was:

	Girls	Boys
Year 7	148	140
Year 8	155	140
Year 9	142	170
Year 10	155	136
Year 11	116	81
Year 12	82	84
Total	1,549	

MacKillop remains Canberra's largest secondary school.

Pastoral Care Program

Pastoral care at MacKillop is based upon authentic relationships of integrity between teachers, students and their parents. The aim of their relationships is to create an environment of understanding, harmony, trust and inclusion.

Within these relationships the College promotes the philosophy of Restorative Justice, adding to the dignity of each person by promoting consistency, personal responsibility, restitution and atonement.

The College believes that the challenges it faces with bullying and other anti social behaviour is best addressed by:

- Skilling our students to recognise challenge and prevent bullying and to alert their parents and teachers.
- Contacting parents, agencies and peers to manage and challenge anti-social behaviour

Students overwhelmingly feel safe, respected and trusted at MacKillop and appreciate the efforts of their teachers to be consistent, strong and effective in the promotion of a happy school.

Student Pathways and Post School Destinations - The Year 12 cohort was surveyed at the end of their academic school year therefore the following information is a summary of their intentions at that time.

Destination	% of students
Students undertaking a tertiary package	
University	60
Workforce	12.5
Apprenticeship	16
Gap Year	11.5

Students undertaking an accredited package

University	7
Workforce	28.6
Apprenticeship	28.6
Gap Year	17.8
Other	18

Student Retention - The actual retention rates of students from the completion of Year 7 to the completion of Year 12 is 68%.

Student Wellbeing and Engagement

VET Attainment/Participation - Of the 171 students enrolled in Year 12, 15 students undertook an Australian School-based Apprenticeship. Year 12 students also received a VET qualification within the following industry groups.

Arts, Entertainment, Sport & Recreation:	21
Building & Construction:	5
Business & Clerical:	10
Computing:	5
General Education & Training:	5
TCF & Furnishings:	1
Tourism & Hospitality:	55

Student Satisfaction - All students were invited to respond to a Student Satisfaction Survey and key groups of students were asked to complete the survey at meetings and events.

Each year the student surveys are extremely positive. Key features are: students feel safe at school, recognise that their teachers have high expectations of them and most students believe their teachers make it easier for them to learn.

Student Attendance -

Year Level	% Student Attendance
Year 7	90
Year 8	90
Year 9	86
Year 10	88.5
Year 11	96
Year 12	94.3

As expected attendance in Year 9 is lower than the attendance in Years 7 and 8 but improves again as the students move into Year 10

Overview of School Based Policies

Management of Non-attendance - The management of non-attendance is a step wise process involving the pastoral care teacher in the first instance, then the pastoral coordinators, counsellors, parish priest, Campus Head and finally the Catholic Education Office. At all times the welfare of the student and the pastoral care for the parents is paramount in our dealing with these sorts of matters. The College works to establish whether there are any underlining physical or mental health issues affecting the student's attendance and may refer parents to outside agencies to support the student and themselves through this.

Enrolment - The College follows the enrolment policies of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn. A copy of this policy is available with each enrolment pack and on the CEO website

Behaviour - The college has developed and regularly revises its Quality Conduct Policy which is summarised in the student diary and available on the College Website. Other policies such as the exclusion policy are Archdiocesan wide and are available on the CEO website.

Complaints and Grievances - The College encourages open, frank communication with our community however formal complaints and grievances follow the Archdiocesan Policy and are available on the CEO website.

Priorities and Targets

MacKillop's priorities and targets for 2009 were in the following categories.

1. Faith and Religious Life
 - Further development of Josephite charism
 - Promotion of Catholic values and beliefs
 - Strengthening relationships with the Parish
 - Follow up of World Youth Day
2. Pastoral Life of the College
 - Enhance student leadership formation
 - Continued implementation of NSSF in particular
 - Safe Behaviour
 - Cyber/cell phone issues
 - Bullying
 - Good choices
3. Teaching and Learning at MacKillop
 - Implementation of Every Chance to Learn
 - Integration of ICT across the curriculum
 - Promotion of Professional Learning
 - Ongoing Curriculum renewal
 - Development of cross campus single timetable
 - Enhancement of vocational pathways
4. Administration and Infrastructure at MacKillop
 - Building and facilities
 - Strategic Planning for ICT
 - College Communication
 - Enrolment Strategies
5. Staffing at MacKillop
 - Review of recruitment
 - Cross Campus issues
 - Promotion of QTF in professional learning
 - Staff spirituality

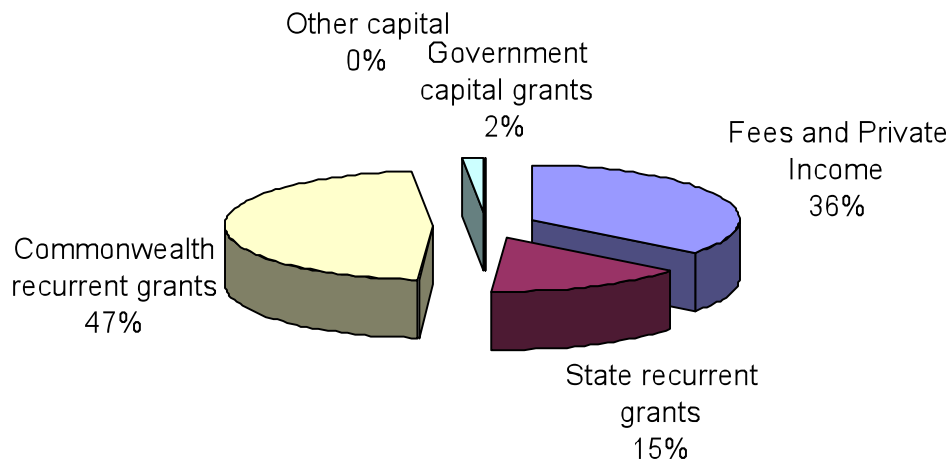
Literacy and Numeracy

Progress in this priority during 2009 included:

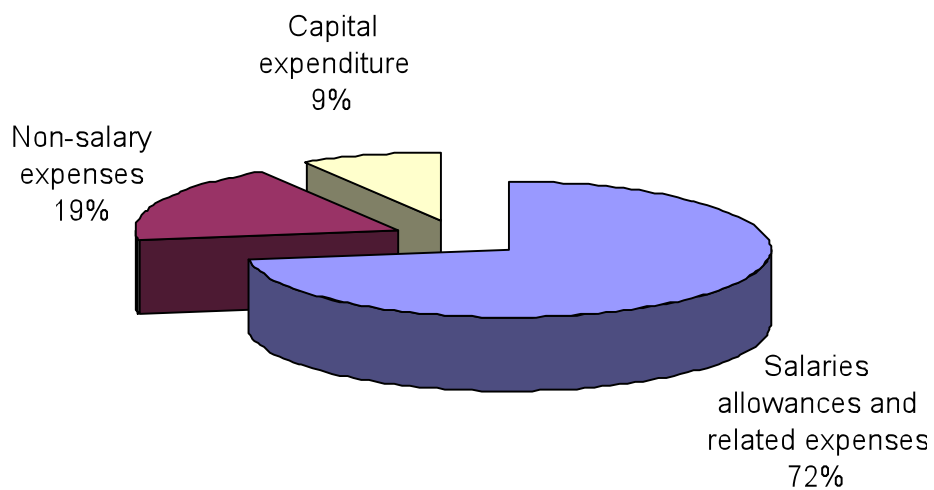
- Staff coaching in literacy and numeracy teaching strategies
- Improved processing and distribution of NAPLAN testing data
- Further incorporation of NAPLAN data into across the curriculum teaching and learning
- Improved reporting to parents of NAPLAN results

Financial Information

Mackillop College - Income



Mackillop College - Expenditure



School Contact Information

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