

MARY IMMACULATE PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
12 FEBRUARY 2018
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

2018 was a year, which was impacted by the refurbishment project. The new building is a fabulous asset to our school and is only the beginning of the refurbishment program which, when completed, will provide vibrant and modern learning spaces which will keep our school in pace with 21st education standards.

The following points give a very brief overview of the fantastic things, which have taken place over the last 12 months at Mary Immaculate.

Religious Life

- Our opening school mass was held on Thursday 15 February. School leaders were commissioned.
- Seasons for Growth was offered to children.
- Year 6 School Leaders attended the Diocesan project compassion launch at Mary Mackillop Parish Oran Park
- A Lenten program was again offered to parents.
- As a school community we celebrated special liturgies such as the Ash Wednesday, St Patrick's Day, Holy Week and Easter, Mission week, Feast of Sacred Heart, Feast of the Assumption and also St Mary of the Cross Mackillop feast day.
- Our school feast day mass was more low key due to the building works.
- Our School continued to support the Parish Sacramental Programs and assisted Father Slawek with the implementation of the revamped Parish program.
- Children in Year 4 completed the Wollongong Diocese RE literacy assessment.
- Children in Years 5 and 6 again had the opportunity to enter the Christmas art competition.
- The Mary Immaculate RE Literacy and Christmas Art showcase was held.
- The children and families contributed to the various mission appeals and the generosity displayed is to be congratulated.
- The Grandparents Day Mass, which was held in Catholic Schools Week. Special thanks to the hospitality committee for the fabulous morning tea.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Father Slawek and Father Donal for their support and assistance. I also like to thank Liz McGinnity, Tamara Neilsen and the school RE Team for their work in organising and preparing the various liturgies we celebrate.

Learning and Teaching.

- Year 6 attended their Canberra excursion. The Yr 5 children participated in the overnight Leadership camp. Special thanks to staff and parents for giving up their time and taking on the enormous responsibility in organising and attending the experiences such as these.
- The Peer Support program was again well received by the children and the Yr 6 leaders were responsible facilitators.
- Mary Immaculate was represented at the Wollongong Diocese Regional Public Speaking competition.
- During 2017 one of our main focus was incorporating Challenging Maths Tasks in maths lessons.
- The minilit and the reading tudor program continued to be implemented. Kindergarten also trialled the Initialit program. All programs were designed to assist students with their literacy development.
- Catholic Schools Week was a major celebration week.

- Student Led Conferences were held at the end of Terms 1 and 3.
- Several children in stages 2 and 3 were given the opportunity to participate in the SPLICED program.
- Our NAPLAN results were again pleasing. Specifically Yr 5 boys above state for writing and Numeracy. Yr 3 performed above the state in numeracy writing and spelling.
- Assemblies for all grades were held.
- Staff participated in a Staff Development Day – The day focused on working with children with special needs.
- Children in Yrs 1, 3 and 5 participated in Life Education.
- Children had the opportunity to participate in the Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Maths ICAS assessments.
- We celebrated Book Week. The children and staff enjoyed the book week parade.

Sporting Achievements.

- We held our annual school cross-country, athletics and swimming carnivals. Thanks to all parents who assisted.
- We sent school teams to Diocesan Swimming, Cross-Country, Athletics, Netball, Basketball and Soccer carnivals.
- Children have progressed through the representative process and have represented at Mackillop level.
- Children trialled for Wollongong Diocesan teams.
- Children participated in the Rugby League Knockout.
- School team entered the Mark Taylor Shield cricket competition.
- Swimming program for Kinder, Year 2 and Year 4 was held in Term 4.
- We again received funding in the School Sporting Schools program. Children in Kinder, Yr 1 and Yr 2 are participating in lessons focusing on Athletics
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Thanks to the many parents for assisting with all sporting endeavours. Special thanks to Mrs New, who coordinated many of the sporting events.

Special Events

- A sports a Thon was held. Thanks again to Mrs Crane for her organisation and the many parents who assisted.
- Our School Captains and I attended the annual CCC Communion Mass. The Catholic Club gave a donation of \$15000 to the parish, which was used help fund the recarpeting of the hall.

Our school also employed a company to run our school canteen. This initiative allowed the canteen to open every day and took pressure off the school administration and P and F and ensured that the children received a quality service.

I would like to thank the staff of Mary Immaculate for their support and commitment to the learning, teaching and management of our school. Special thanks to Lillian Del-Giudice, Assistant Principal and the Leadership Team for their support throughout the year especially through the time when Lillian stepped into the role of acting Principal.

I would like to thank the parents of our school for their continued support.

Finally, thank you to Rebecca Whitburn and the outgoing executive and the various coordinators for their hard work and support. Your commitment to the P and F and your support is very much appreciated.

Thanking you
Don Spencer.

Principal
Mary Immaculate
Catholic Parish Primary School.