



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

TRINITY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Murrumburrah, NSW

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



Welcome to our School

Welcome to Trinity Primary School, Murrumburrah!

Our Vision of "Destination, Journey, Success" reflects our geographical location adjacent to the Great Southern Railway and our desire to assist our students to develop spiritually, academically, culturally, physically and emotionally, which will enable them to achieve success in their future lives. As educators and in collaboration with parents, we provide signals that direct our students on the journey of growing in faith and knowledge, through experience, wonder and challenge. As we pass through the stations of knowledge, skills and understandings, we celebrate when destinations are reached. Our desire to provide a comprehensive curriculum stems from our Mission Statement, "to educate the whole person". In partnership with the community, Trinity offers the seven Key Learning Areas of Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Human Society in Its Environment, Science and Technology, Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education. These are underpinned by Catholic values and traditions, current pedagogy and state of the art technology. Enhancement of the curriculum is achieved through professional expertise being utilised to teach Gymnastics, Dance and Music. Our curriculum has a strong focus on the use of current pedagogy, in particular ICT. To maximise student learning and make optimum use of NAPLAN data, staff participated in professional development opportunities. This year the focus has been on the Quality Teaching Framework, Brain Based Learning and Open Ended Assessment, which is providing students with the opportunities to show the full extent of their learning. Trinity is a Kindergarten to Year 6 school consisting of multi-age and straight class groupings. Our Pastoral Care Program includes Peer Support, Buddy Bears, Seasons for Growth and the Bully Ballot initiatives. Students with learning needs are supported by one to one tuition programs and have additional classroom assistance from the Learning Support Teacher and Assistants. Computer Club, Science Film Challenge, Lunch Time Interest Groups and University of NSW competitions, along with the Sacramental Program, Leadership opportunities, Public Speaking Competition, numerous sporting events, excursions, touring cultural shows and the School of Music Tuition Program ensures that we cater for all students.

Highlights of the Year

Celebrating the success of students and their achievements is vital to continued growth and enthusiasm. In 2010 we have celebrated the following milestones:

~Celebration of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

~Creation and blessing of our specially dedicated Mary MacKillop Garden, complete with an iron work image of St Mary of the Cross and one of her quotes.

~Excursion to North Sydney, the final resting place of St Mary MacKillop.

~Blessing and opening of our 'Building the Education Revolution' (BER) Building Project. This grant enabled us to extend and refurbish the Library and Administration area, build an undercover basketball/netball court and refurbish the students' toilet facilities.

~Catholic Schools Week which included events such as the Colonial Gold Show, St Patrick's Day Celebration, a visit from our Director Mrs Moira Najdecki, students versus parents and grandparents in a game of Rounders and Open Classrooms.

~Completion of the Library Courtyard outdoor learning area, landscaping of the playground and completion of the automatic watering system.

~Approval as a Sun Smart School by the Australian Cancer Council.

~Excellent NAPLAN results showing outstanding growth by our Year 5 students with all students being above National Minimum Standards in all strands.

~Successful swimming, cross-country and athletics carnivals, with our students going on to represent in the Western Region, Archdiocesan, MacKillop and State levels of competition.

~Successful Curriculum Review of our Mathematics Document.

School Overview

Parent Satisfaction – There were 34 responses to the Parent Survey which is representative of 60% of the families at Trinity. 91% of families are very satisfied with the school. In particular all parents agree or strongly agree that the teachers are committed, there are opportunities for parental involvement, the standard of student behaviour is high and a safe environment is provided. 88% agree or strongly agree that teachers are enthusiastic, the school provides a variety of learning experiences and opportunities and that the school reports are informative.

Teacher Satisfaction – Overall staff satisfaction is very high. There were nine responses to the teacher survey which represents 75% of staff. All staff surveyed agree or strongly agree that there are opportunities for professional development, they display trust in the management, the leadership team plan and execute change well, are open and understanding, their colleagues set a good example and provide an environment that is conducive to learning. 90% of staff believe they are valued, are able to make decisions affecting their work and are committed to Trinity.

Teacher Absence – In 2010 the teachers at Trinity were in attendance 95% of the allotted teaching time.

Teacher Retention – In 2010, 72% of the teaching staff was retained.

Teacher Qualifications – All teachers who are employed at Trinity are qualified. One teacher completed a Master of Education degree in 2010.

Teacher Participation in Professional Development – All staff participated in the following professional development in 2010: Quality Teaching Framework, Using IT in the Maths Classroom, Gradual Release of Responsibility Teaching Model, Brain Based Learning, NAPLAN Analysis, Writing for Success, First Aid, CPR, Spirituality of Mary MacKillop, development of the Trinity Maths Document.

Courses attended by individual teachers includes: IDEAS, Middle School Numeracy, NSW Child Protection Legislation, Assistant Principal and Religious Education Coordinators Retreats, Kindergarten Assessment, Managing Self-Managing Others, Copyright Survey, Seasons for Growth, Peer Support, Principals' 360 Degrees Development Program, Dreamweaver Training, RE Assessment, MAZE Training, Literacy and Numeracy Key Personnel Day, Lexia Reading, Symphony Maths, Year One Assessment, Protective Behaviours and IWB Course.

Workforce Composition – The staff at Trinity is composed of 13 females.

Principal's Report

It is with great pride that I report on the success of the 2010 school year at Trinity. "Learn and grow in rich soil" has been our theme for this, the International Year of Biodiversity. Our school prayer has centred on learning and growing in body, mind and spirit.

Together with our school motto "Whatever you do, do well" students, staff and parents have endeavoured to be the best that they can be.

Our Mission to have 'Jesus at the heart of all that we do' is lived in our daily lives beginning with morning assembly when the community gathers for morning prayer. Gospel values permeate our teaching, our relationships and in reaching out to others in need.

Through living our Vision, Mission and Motto we respect and uphold the dignity of the individual, provide a safe environment, promote active participation in the parish, provide a quality education that prepares and challenges our students for the future and regularly reflect on and renew policies and practices.

To Know, to Love and to Serve gives rise to the core values of our community. We value knowledge of God and the world, we value love of God and love of others and we value service to God and to humanity. Trinity Primary School maintains strong and mutual ties with Our Lady of Mercy Parish through regular school Masses, monthly participation and preparation of Family Mass and participation in the Parish Sacramental Program.

Our dedicated staff includes full and part time teachers, learning support assistants and support staff, who are to be commended for their tireless efforts in providing quality education, a myriad of experiences and opportunities and inclusive pastoral care for our students and their families.

In 2010 the parents of Trinity have once again supported the Mission of the school, through their fundraising and in the interest they show in their children's education. They continue to show through word and action their total belief in education being a partnership between parents and the school.

Completion of the "Building the Education Revolution" and "School Pride" projects has provided new and improved facilities that will enhance student achievement and have rejuvenated the appearance of our school. With sound academic results in 2010 I look forward to reaching new standards of achievement and growth in 2011.

.Katrina McGrath
Principal

School Community Report

Big changes have again taken place in 2010. Trinity Primary School has undergone a major facelift, courtesy of the 'Building the Education Revolution' funding made available by the Australian Government. There has been a complete refurbishment of the Administration, Canteen, Library and Toilet areas as well as a new undercover basketball court. The whole project was managed seamlessly by the Catholic Education Office and we would like to thank both the Australian Government and the CEO for their contributions. These projects would have been completely out of reach for a school of our size if we had needed to raise all of the funds ourselves. The School Council is still progressing through a settling-in period. We would like to thank the school community for their input and support. Once again, the idea of having sub-committees to deal with specific areas or events, rather than committing to year long positions, appears to be working. With all Council positions being open for re-election at the beginning of 2011, I hope that we have set enough solid ground work for a new Council to easily move forward.

This renovation and refurbishments have taken up a lot of School Council time this year, but I am sure that all members of the community would agree that it has been time well spent. The new outdoor learning area attached to the Library, which hopefully will be completed by the end of the year, and the turf at the front of the school, will complete the picture. I can see a school that is well set up for a bright and progressive 2011 and for many more years to come.

Paula Alcorn
Chair, Trinity School Council

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 3	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	414.3	418.6	399.2	416.9	395.3
School	417.1	422.9	407.3	437.6	406.9

YEAR 5	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	487.3	485.2	487.1	499.7	488.7
School	511.3	490.3	467.1	485.3	523.6

The above tables show that students at Trinity Primary School have scored above the National mean in Year 3 Reading, Writing, Spelling and Numeracy and well above in Grammar & Punctuation. In Year 5 the School Mean is above the National Mean in Writing and well above in Reading and Numeracy.

Proportion of students at or above the National Minimum Standard

YEAR 3	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	93.9%	95.6%	91.0%	92.0%	94.2%
School	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

YEAR 5	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	91.3%	93.1%	91.9%	92.2%	93.6%
School	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The above tables show that all of our students in Year 3 and Year 5 are above National Minimum Standard in Literacy and Numeracy.

Proportion of students in each Achievement Band

YEAR 3	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 6	21%	7%	7%	21%	14%
Band 5	14%	29%	36%	36%	29%
Band 4	29%	64%	29%	36%	21%
Band 3	21%	0%	21%	7%	29%
Band 2	14%	0%	7%	0%	7%
Band 1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

YEAR 5	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 8	18%	5%	0%	5%	14%
Band 7	23%	5%	9%	18%	27%
Band 6	18%	59%	27%	32%	27%
Band 5	27%	27%	50%	32%	32%
Band 4	14%	5%	14%	14%	0%
Band 3	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

The above tables show in Year 3 between 86% and 100% of students are in Band 3 and above and in Year 5 between 86% and 100% are in Band 5 and above for Literacy and Numeracy.

Student Wellbeing and Engagement

The Trinity Primary School population in 2010 consists of 107 students, of which 55 are female and 52 male. There are 8 Indigenous students.

This is the second year of a three year grant in which the Australian Government has funded the Chaplaincy Program. This enables the school to employ a Pastoral Care Worker one day per week. In 2010 the Pastoral Care Worker continued to work with students and staff rolling out a number of programs that have enhanced the wellbeing of our students.

The Pastoral Care Worker, in collaboration with the staff, has implemented programs such as "I'm not Bad I'm just Mad" which helps students to identify within themselves aggressive emotions that impact on their relationships and daily lives. Other successful initiatives that have been maintained are the Buddy Bears Program, Bully Ballot, Peer Support and Seasons for Growth.

The Peer Support Program and Buddy Bears Program provided valuable leadership opportunities for our Year 6 students as well as forging strong social connections between the older and younger students. The Seasons for Growth Program enabled students who had suffered any personal, family or relationship loss to voice their concerns in a supportive atmosphere, learn to recognise the signs of grief and loss and learn coping strategies for future well being. Trinity Primary School is very proud of the leadership opportunities our older students are able to experience. Student leadership is achieved through the Parliamentary System led by two Prime Ministers. The Prime Ministers are assisted by Ministers who have the responsibility of portfolios such as Celebrations, Current Affairs, Mathematics and Library, Religious Education, Sport and Health and Environment. The Prime Ministers lead morning prayer and assembly each day, while the Celebrations Ministers raise the Australian flag and lead the school in singing the National Anthem each Monday morning. Year 5 and 6 biannually attend the Leadership Conference in Canberra to hear inspirational stories from other young Australians about their own leadership experience.

To ensure that our students receive the best possible care, staff have undertaken training in First Aid, Resuscitation, Anaphylaxis, and Asthma (rated as an Asthma Friendly School). We are a Cancer Council accredited Sunsafe School. A CatholicCare School Counsellor visits the school twice each Term.

Trinity Primary School has developed strong links with the Harden Murrumburrah Community Health Centre and receives support in relation to child welfare issues, Readiness for School, Growth and Change for older students, Occupational Therapy, hearing and speech difficulties and information and education for staff, on health issues that may impact on our students.

This year we have offered lunch time interest groups. These activities have included Garden Club, Knitting, Scrapbooking and Computer Club. The Garden Club has been particularly proactive keeping the school gardens weed free and securing a 'Woolies' grant that has seen them establish vegetable gardens and a worm farm. The Knitting Club has worked hard to knit a very colourful rug for the school sick bay.

Student Satisfaction – According to the students surveys, most students are very satisfied with the care and education they receive at Trinity.

Student Attendance – Student attendance is 92.9%

School Based Policies

Management of Non-attendance – When an unexplained absence of a student over two days occurs the class teacher will make contact with the family to seek a satisfactory explanation. If a student is regularly missing school without explanation or with an unreasonable excuse, the Principal will make contact with the carers and create a plan to see that the child does attend on a regular basis.

Enrolment – When enrolling students we follow the Archdiocesan Enrolment Policy which can be found on the CEO website; www.ceocg.catholic.edu.au

Behaviour - Pastoral Care and Welfare Policy - This document details the actions and procedures that are in place in order to care for the welfare of students and teachers. This Policy outlines the Three Phase approach to behaviour management.

Complaints and Grievances – Students, staff and parents are able to follow the Trinity Complaints and Grievance Policy when wishing to make a formal complaint.

Priorities and Targets

In 2010 the Management Plan stated that one of our priorities was to review the Mathematics Curriculum Document. As part of that review we targeted researching current best practice, developing a common understanding of teaching, learning and assessment of Mathematics, contextualising Mathematics in the real world and deepening our understanding of how the brain learns Mathematics. This has been a very successful endeavour as teachers have changed the way they plan Mathematics and the way they teach and assess Mathematics. They are providing more open ended questions that can provide students with the opportunity to show the extent of their learning and how this can be applied in different situations. By incorporating the elements of the Quality Teaching Framework, teachers are making the experiences more relevant and real in today's world. Students are more supported in their learning with modelled teaching, group work and peer tutoring.

Priorities for 2011

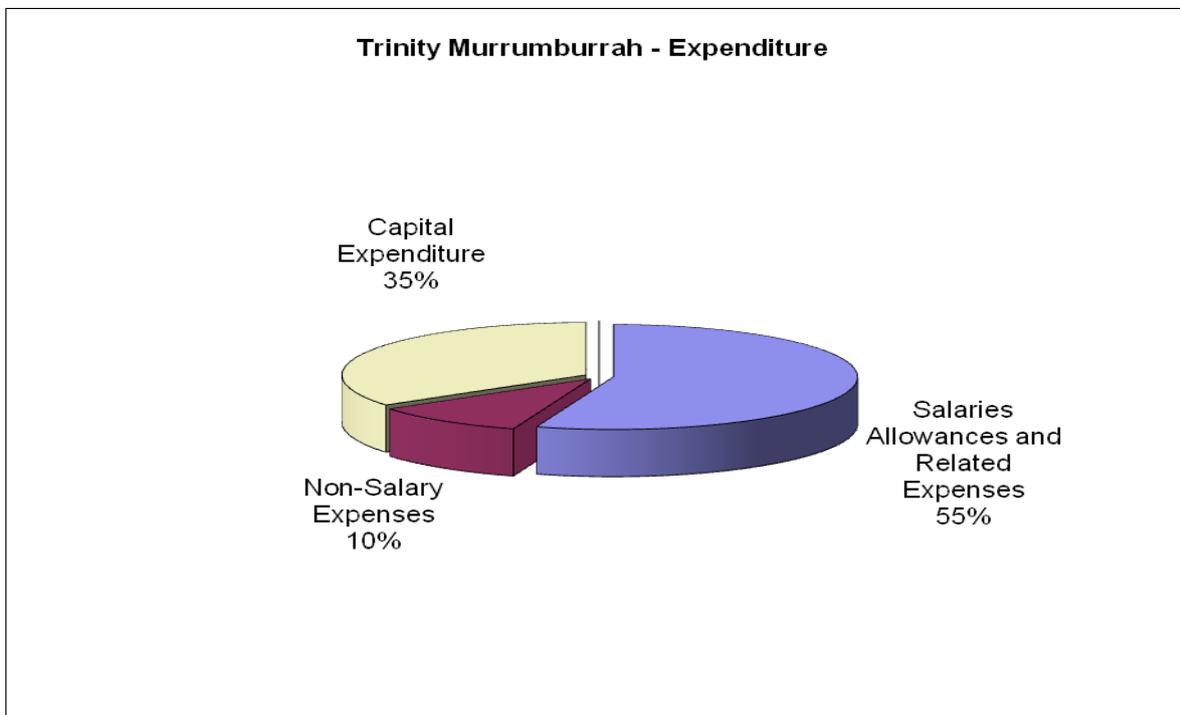
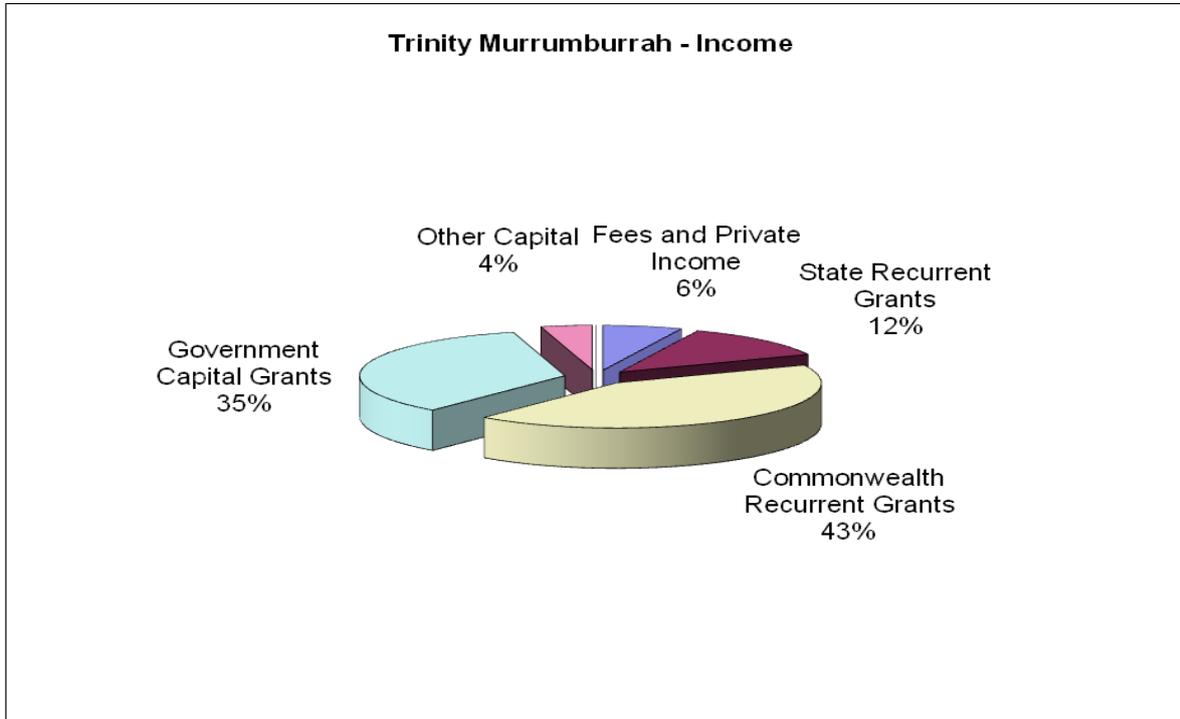
- To investigate the Whole School Positive Behaviour Model.
- Build on the foundations of IDEAS developed this year, in collaboration with other schools
- Continue landscaping the playgrounds, to include learning areas for Mathematics, more grassed areas and shade trees.
- Create and implement with the Trinity Primary School Community Council a refurbishment plan for the classrooms over the next five years.
- Continue development of the Trinity Primary School Community Council Strategic Plan and Constitution.

Literacy and Numeracy

Targets and Priorities in 2011 include:

- Providing more enrichment opportunities in Literacy and Numeracy that will encourage and enable students to show the full extent of their learning. This in turn will cause an upward shift of students into higher bands in NAPLAN results.
- A particular focus on gifted and talented students through participation in programs such as Tournament of Minds, Science Film Spectacular and more integrated use of ICT, in particular the IWB in the classroom.
- Continuing support of students with learning needs, particularly in the early years, to ensure they are achieving outcomes at their stage of development.
- Developing a whole school approach and agreed practice for the teaching of spelling.
- Professional development for staff on the implementation of First Steps Spelling and Writing, integrated with ICT and focusing on editing skills.
- Professional Development on incorporating ICT across the KLAs.
- Continuing to implement the Quality Teaching Framework.
- Evaluate current ICT programs such as Mathletics, Symphony Maths and Lexia and establish their worth in assisting the students to learn new skills and knowledge and consolidate prior learning.

Financial Information



School Contact Information

Address:	Vernon Street, Murrumburrah. NSW 2587
Principal:	Katrina McGrath
Parish Priest / School Chaplain:	Annette Donelly
School Board / Council Chair:	Paula Alcorn
Telephone:	0263862111
Fax:	0263863053
Email:	katrina_mcgrath@trinitym.nsw.edu.au
Web site:	www.trinitym.nsw.edu.au

This report was prepared by:

Katrina McGrath
PRINCIPAL