

John Paul College



Principal's Report 2016

I am pleased to present to you this Report for 2016. The following pages will give you some indication of the events and activities that comprise a school year, wrapped around the core business of teaching and learning.

LEARNING

In 2016 the College entered the second of a three year project facilitated by Dr Lynn Sharratt and supported by Catholic Education WA (CEWA). This project focussing on individual student data, has allowed us to improve learning programmes for these students. The College has a Collaborative project team that meets regularly to look at strategies for improving learning.

The wider school community has refocussed on learning objectives, learning success criteria and quality feedback.

Teachers continued the process of reflective practice working with line managers to look

at personal goals in their learning area and as individuals.

The staff have provided multiple opportunities for students with ongoing tutoring and workshops for all year levels. Year Seven students were offered time in the Community group for homework, study, tutoring or social interaction; this has assisted in the transition into high school. Opportunities offered for extension activities and other learning opportunities have included the Tournament of Minds, HASS Excursion to Canberra, Senior Geography Camp, Esperance Music Eisteddfod, Goldfields Arts and Music Eisteddfod, YOH Fest, Dance and Drama Heats – with two of the acts winning the State finals in October.

Part of our strategy to reinforce study methods and exam techniques – and introduce our Year Seven students to study – was to run a series of workshops early in the year. Students were presented with materials and will be able to use these in the ensuing years.

The College has constantly evaluated the subjects offered to ensure there is good breadth of study and I am pleased to report our expanded Vocational and Education Training courses for 2017, in addition to ATAR Psychology. The study of German will be introduced in 2017 and rolled out to ATAR level over the next few years.



ENGAGEMENT

John Paul College seeks to not only engage the direct stakeholders in our community such as students and families but also foster relationships in our interactions with the wider community.

Over the school year our liturgies marking points in the liturgical cycle are celebrated and we have an ongoing celebration of Eucharist each week thanks to our Chaplain Father Mark.



Students experience of the spiritual also include the Retreat Programme that all students are involved in, culminating in our special week away for our Year Twelves – a true withdrawing from ‘the normal’, for an extended period of time.

Our fostering of the social dimension of the human person includes our Dance programme and the year level socials at the end of dance week.

During the year we celebrate the role of parents with our Father/Son and Mother/Daughter Breakfast and activities.

The College held an Open Day for families in September where we invited the wider community to come and discover our community.

Our music department has had a vital role in our community with performances in Esperance and in the Kalgoorlie Eisteddfod, singing in both Churches for the community Masses, our Arts Night, performing at the primary schools and providing music and choir for College and House Masses. Similarly our drama and dance students have had an outreach with the YOHFest performances in September and winning finalist in 2 categories in the State finals at Mandurah. Of course an engaging highlight was the production, Hairspray, played over several nights, with an introduction performance matinee to 800 local primary school students.



At the end of Term Three we celebrated the support of local business enterprises that supported College students studying VET courses by providing a place for workplace learning, an integral part of the development

of students. This sundowner gave the College an opportunity to express our appreciation for this support.

The Year Eleven Ski Trip and Year Nine and Ten HASS trip were very successful tours which enabled students to step beyond the boundaries of living in Kalgoorlie and engage with others in very different circumstances to the everyday life at John Paul.



In October Mrs Alexis Grafton facilitated a meeting, with the Mayor, of agencies involved with people with special needs in our City. We will continue to foster this inter-relationship to support the more vulnerable of our City's people.

During the year we have supported various organisations financially with our whole school and House fundraising. Caritas, Lifelink, St Vincent de Paul Kalgoorlie-Boulder, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Wheelchairs for Kids, Bright Blue, Orange Pigeon and the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. Mrs Franklyn's relentless appeal for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal saw 200 blankets collected by St Vincent's and as I write there are multiple baskets around the College being filled for the St Vincent's Christmas Appeal. All this giving supports people in need, the organisations that care for them and gives our students an awareness that for many Australians life is not easy.



There has been a number of sporting engagements beyond the College this year, including ACC Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics and a number of other carnivals including cricket, football (girls and boys), netball and volleyball.

The College Parents and Friends, with President Kayleen King and her small but dedicated group of colleagues, continues to support College events and activities.

As a member of the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and its Education sub-committee, we continue to foster dialogue with local businesses and other educational enterprises.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The College strives to be the best school we can be and constantly examines ways to achieve this. Each year we prioritise our focus with our Annual School Improvement Plan – linked to our Strategic Plan.

Our Board, under Chair Rikki-Lee Rigby and Treasurer Ted Forkin, work with the College Leadership Team to provide the best facilities for our students. Whilst 2016 has not seen major capital development, we continue to maintain and improve our College.

2016 has been a planning year for further capital development, principally a new technology space, designed to provide an appropriate facility for new VET courses.

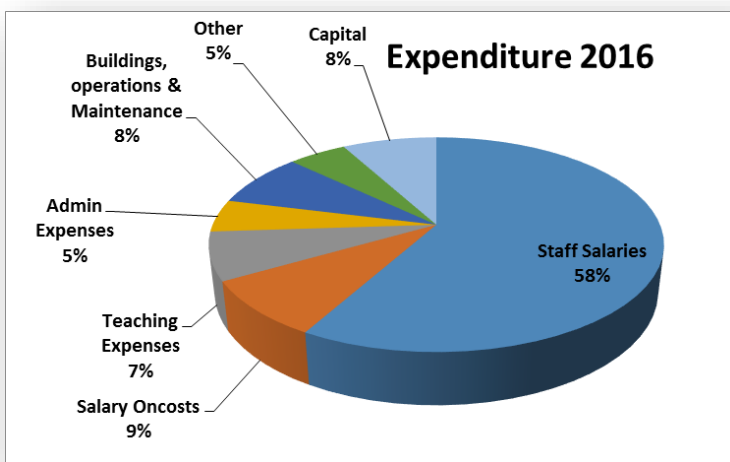
In December 2016 the science laboratory refurbishment programme will begin. Early 2017 will see the first stage of a canteen upgrade, eventually providing fast self-serve with a seated/cafeteria style area.

In 2017 a sixth stream of Year Seven's will be added and future amendments to the Capital Development Plan will allow for the development to accommodate a growing school.

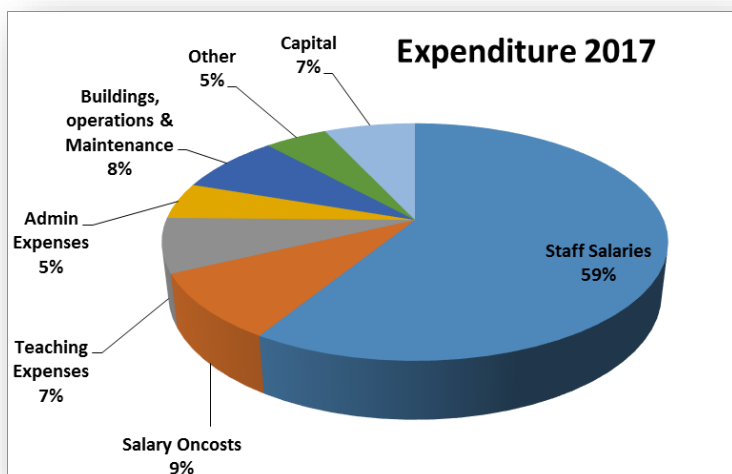
Our College is currently in very good shape with well-maintained grounds. I particularly recognise the ongoing commitment to having a great facility of our Bursar, Margaret Orazi and our grounds team, Greg McDonald, Steven Burnley and Dave Hill.

Our IT facilities undergo constant upgrades and I am indebted to IT Manager Shane Martin and his team for this and Shane's work to assist in the introduction of the Bring Your Own Designated IT Device beginning in 2017 for Years Seven and Eleven and Twelve students.

The breakdown of expenditure for 2016



The breakdown of expenditure for 2017



DISCIPLESHIP

Through our various interactions within the Community and the liturgical celebrations throughout the year, we emphasise that we are a Christian community that celebrates who we are and where we come from.

Our Founders Day Eucharist and celebrations remind us of the work of the Order Founders. This year the focus in particular was on Mary MacKillop and I was very pleased to have Sister Leonie Mayne, from the St Joseph's Sisters, join us on our special day.

Father Mark has been available each Wednesday for Eucharist with different classes and we are blessed to have the presence of the Chaplain. Father Mark was also able to join our Year Twelves on Retreat. We thank the Parish for the support we have been given over the year.

For many, the College is the face of the Church and we strive to put Christ at the centre of the school to ensure we are continually reminded that we are a Christian, Catholic community.



STAFF

Our College celebrates much over the course of a year. We have a busy teaching and learning programme and a huge support and tutorial accompaniment to this. Our College Annual will show many of the activities beyond teaching and learning that we engage in: it happens because of the generosity of our staff. I would like to

express my thanks to all of the staff for their commitment to our students and creating opportunities for students to thrive, within and without the classroom. To our staff who are leaving the College, we wish them well and thank them for their support.

To our Year Twelves, I wish you every blessing for the next stage of your journey and I thank you – and all of our 2016 students – for your contribution to College life.

B J Hall
Principal
BA/Dip Ed/MED

