

John Paul College
Principal Report 2022

2022 was the 39th year since Christian Brothers College and Prendiville College amalgamated and continued to contribute to the 126 years of Catholic Education in Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

2022 was also the third year of impact of the Covid19 Pandemic and undoubtedly the hardest year for the College with the massive labour shortages Australia faced exacerbated in the region; teaching staff numbers were not immune from this and the College operated with several teachers short all year. Thanks to our dedicated staff, the teaching and learning programme for students was not affected, nor the extracurricular programme. We did miss the swimming carnivals and the Dance Lessons, Socials and Senior Retreat were held later. The advantage of relative isolation in the regions meant we avoided school lockdowns, though we continued to test our systems and prepare for a lockdown event.

Catholic Identity

College, House and Home Room masses were restricted in the early part of the year due to Covid limitations. Class prayer and Room sacred spaces took on a special emphasis. As the year progressed our College Eucharist celebrations could return to normal. House prayers were finalised and will be in the College Diary from 2023.

Father Stephen, our Chaplain, with the support of the other Parish priests supported us throughout the year.

In the second half of the year, our Middle School Retreat days could be run and the Year 12 Retreat was another memorable experience for our senior students.

Education

Our Year 7 Transition Coordinator, appointed in 2021, continued to work with Year 7's transitioning into High school and organised workshops on Cyber Safety, Wellbeing and Being Sun Smart, for student and parents.

Pivot data was collected and more time spent in Learning Areas on analysis.

A Follow the Dream tutoring programme for Aboriginal Students and regular attendees made significant educational, organisational and self confidence improvements over the year for participants.

The Learning Area Tutorials continued to be held throughout the Year, appropriately distanced, as did our Year 7 Community Group and the Year 8 to 10 Homework Club.

ATAR results were very pleasing with 5 students scoring in the 90% and 2 students 99+%.

Professional development face-to-face was somewhat curtailed over the year, but online learning continued to be a suitable alternative for most Learning Area staff.

Community

The launch of the College's Polly Farmer Foundation Follow the Dream programme was very successful and the programme continued to develop over the year. The Polly Farmer Foundation was very supportive in the establishment of the PFF FTD at John Paul College. It was made possible by the generous support of Anglo Gold Ashanti Australia. The FTD programme includes twice weekly tutorials, excursions, incursions, guest speakers and an Aspirational camp. The programme will be extended in 2023.

The College continued its support of the many charitable organizations through House fundraising and whole school fundraising. Caritas Australia, Caritas Poland and Caritas Ukraine were recipients, also Lifelink, St Vincent De Paul plus local recipients such as the Mayors Blanket Appeal and the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Women's Refuge.

Stewardship

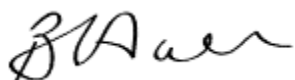
The imposing structure of the new Performing Arts Centre increased through 2022. The building was slightly delayed due to Covid and some material shortages but the College was able to occupy the Centre on the Friday of Week 1, 2023.

The College's environment has seen a significant improvement under the Head Gardner, coming on board late in 2021. Her creative flair can be seen across the College.

We continue to examine how to become more energy efficient. Additional solar power is being examined, as is refreshing the message to staff about energy usage.

We maintained a balanced budget, despite a 12.7% drop in State grants over 3 years and continuing to bear extra spending on Anti-Covid measures over the year.

2022 was a tough year but prospects look promising for the future of the College. I am indebted to staff for their ongoing resilience and commitment to enhancing the lives of our students through education.



Mr Bradley Hall
Principal.