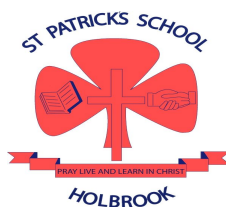


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# St Patrick's Primary School Holbrook

2017





### **About this Report**

St Patrick's Primary School is registered by the NSW Education Standards Authority. The Catholic Schools Office, Wagga Wagga is the 'approved authority' for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the Education Act 1990 (NSW).

The *Annual School Report to the Community* provides parents and the wider community with fair, reliable and objective information about St Patrick's Primary School performance measure and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education. The *Report* also outlines information about initiatives and developments of major interest and importance during the year and the achievements arising from the implementation of the School's Annual Improvement Plan.

The *Report* demonstrates accountability to regulatory bodies, the St Patrick's Primary School community and the Catholic Schools Office, Wagga Wagga. This *Report* has been approved by the Catholic Schools Office, Wagga Wagga in consultation with the School Consultant who monitors that St Patrick's Primary School has the appropriate processes in place to ensure compliance with all NSW Education Standards Authority requirements for Registration and Accreditation secondary schools and Registration primary schools.

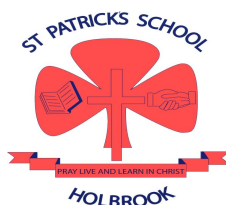
This *Report* complements and is supplementary to St Patrick's Primary School newsletters and other forms of communication, including Facebook and School Stream. Further information about the School may be obtained by contacting the School or by visiting the St Patrick's Primary School website.

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## **Section 1: Message from Key Groups in Our School Community**

### **Message from the Principal**

It is with a sense of pride and some sadness that I write my final report as I conclude my time as Principal of St Patrick's Holbrook. As I reflect across the year, there are number of highlights that stand out.

Contemporary Learning practices and processes continue to be implemented into our classroom, which gives greater opportunities for timely feedback, individual learning goals and clear criteria of what is required within students work.

This year has seen the introduction of a Diocesan wide and Diocesan sponsored programme, Targeting Maths Teachers, (TMT). This enabled the school to employ for two days per week a specialist Maths coach who works directly with the teaching staff to improve their own pedagogy in the teaching of Maths. To support this project the Diocese also introduced Extending Maths Understanding (EMU Maths). This programme assesses children and finds the exact cause of the child's problem in Numeracy and directs the teacher to specific activities to address these issues. Principals in the Diocese also participated in six days of training. This has proved to be a wonderful initiative that has lead to improvement in student understanding of Number and improvement in teachers teaching of Maths.

Technology continues to be enhanced as a valuable tool for learning. 2017 saw every student in the school provided with their own Chrometouch device to assist learning. This is a remarkable achievement and due in no small part to the wonderful parents and the hard work they do in fundraising for the school. Teachers continued to find ways to improve the delivery of the lessons to students, including spending time with students reflecting on their own learning.

Thank you for the opportunity to be principal of St Patrick's Holbrook. I will miss you all and God bless.

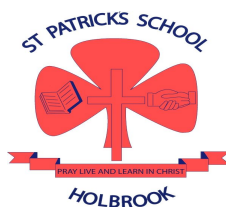
Rob Unsworth.

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## Message from the Parent Body

Gandhi once said: “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”. This is very evident in our community and always makes me feel very blessed to be a part of. I am reluctant to single out people, however there are some that go above and beyond. Some of the projects completed this year have been the completion of the rear fence and gates and the telephone poles have been placed around the Infants playground to keep the softfall in. A big thank you to our gardeners and mowers throughout the year. A massive thank you to Sue Butcher and her team for the wonderful work they do at the community garden.

In Term 4, we changed canteen day to a Friday, this has helped with the number of volunteers and the level of communication has been amazing. I think the children have been very lucky to be treated to some amazing cakes. Thanks to all the volunteers and special thanks to Nic & Sarah or all your work.

Thank you to John Carey for his creativity. The school production Cinderella Rockefeller was the best one yet. We are so impressed with the commitment and passion that you bring to our school.

We have moved into the 21st century with our new parent portal for communication, School Stream. I would encourage all families including dads to download the app which is free and keep up to date with information. Mrs Jones will appreciate it. We have had a big year in fundraising. Between Henty Machinery Field Days, Bull Sale & Cross-Country catering we have managed to raise substantial funds. This money has allowed us to provide every child in the school with a Chromebook. I would like to thank Liz, Tracey, Ruth and everyone that helped with these events.

During 2017, we farewelled Alicia, Kimberly commenced maternity leave and welcomed George Ross to the world. In 2018, we welcome Alice McPhee and Alexandra Austin and we wish them well. 2018 is already looking busy.

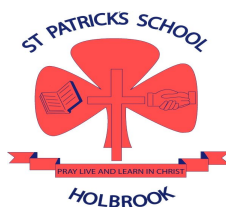
I am very excited to announce with the help of the Rotary Club of Holbrook we will be running the Resilience Project in June 2018. This program has 3 stages with the first involving Parents. The programme is designed to empower parents to be resilient and how to pass this trait onto our children. I ask all families to embrace this program and hopefully with some help we will be able to host the other two stages of the program for students and teachers in the near future.

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Out with the old (Rob) and in the with the new (Marie). Welcome Marie - we look forward to a successful partnership. Rob is leaving St Pats with a legacy. In 2009 Rob was at the forefront of changing the face of the school forever, as with BER funding we transformed this school physically. This year Rob has been able to secure money for the new office building refurbishment in hopefully Semester 1 2018 . This includes a new reception area, principal's office, staff room and sick bay.

This year we farewell four families from our school. The Scholes, Wright, Smith and Plunkett families. We welcomed new families to our school this year; Coman, Prentice, Valena, Drew, Forrest, Lukins, Barba and Preston families. We hope that you have enjoyed your first year with us and hopefully many more years to come as part of our community.

Lea Parker  
School Board Chair

### **Message from the Student Body**

For the Year Six's of 2017, we have had seven of the most memorable years of our life at primary school. Some of us haven't spent all our years here, but coming here is one of the most memorable things. From the first interview with Mr. U, to the last day, here are some of the most memorable things we have done in primary school.

The first year was a year to get to know the school. With the help of Mrs. Hocking and our buddies, the jump from preschool to primary school was a breeze. Getting used to the school was hard at first, but after a while the whole primary school thing was easy. It is a funny thing to think that around 7 years ago, we were as tiny as the little kinders we see everyday at school.

Year 1 was a big step. With no buddies around and a new teacher, Mrs Campbell, life was very different. We still had the same people from last year, but now we weren't the youngest in the class, as this year's Year 5 had started school. Getting used to a new teacher and her teaching was a challenge, but in time everything was normal, and we had a great year with her.

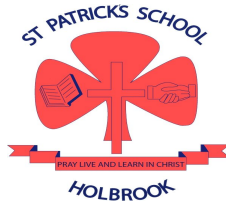
Year 2 was different because of the new teacher, Mr Harmer, and we were moving into a new classroom. This step was easier because we knew a bit by that time. We also had our first school

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camp at Snowy River. It was awesome to go on an excursion overnight without our parents. Mr Harmer was a great teacher and he loved sport, like many others in the class.

In Year 3 we continued to follow last year's Year 6 into a new year. Once again, we had a new teacher, Mrs Platt. We had a great excursion in Beechworth. Mrs Platt was a great teacher and I think everyone will agree when I say that we all missed her when she had time off because of her baby.

In Year 4 we had yet another teacher. It was like none of the teachers liked us! Miss Rennick was a great teacher. We had one of the best excursions to Borambola, well majority of us had a great time. With the disco at night and fun things like rock climbing, raft building and archery, it was a blast.

Last year was great. Year 5 was lots of fun with Miss Doughty. She was one of the craziest teachers, in a good way. We had a fun excursion to Canberra last year. We ran around the Telstra tower at night, looked at the names on the War Memorial and sat in the viewing box at Parliament. Last year was an awesome year.

This year has also been a great year. With Mr Carey and our classmates, Yr 6 has been a great year. With everything becoming the last thing in primary school, this year is the most memorable year. The excursion to Ballarat was awesome and we had heaps of fun.

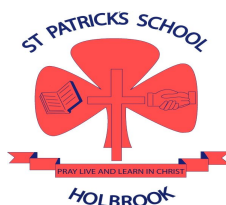
We would like to thank our teachers, Mr Carey, Mrs Hocking and our principal, Mr U, for all the great work you have done to help us get ready for high school. We wish Mr U all the best at his new school. We hope Mrs Cameron has a great time at our school and we also hope the new school captain and the new leadership team has a great year. So, good luck to the all the students and staff at St.Pat's for next year. Saffi Pitt and Max Davis, School Captains 2017.

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## Section 2 : School Features/Context

St Patrick's School Holbrook is located in a rural district in southern New South Wales, approximately 60 kms North East of Albury - Wodonga. Established by the Josephite Sisters over 135 years ago, the school is supported by Our Lady Of Sorrows Church in the Holbrook Parish in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga..

The school is co-educational from Kindergarten to Year 6. The school enjoys a strong reputation for being a leading provider of Contemporary Education in the District. Our Learning Centres provide the opportunity for students to be supported as they grow, live and learn together in a modern education environment.

Being a small school provides the opportunity for staff to get to know every child and ensure their education needs are being fully catered for. The school, through the support of the parent body's fundraising efforts, wants for nothing in terms of resources.

The school prides itself on the strong sense of belonging that exists within the Holbrook community and parent body. It is a family school with involvement of parents in classrooms, as members of the School Council and with parental social evenings and functions. In May 2017, the school celebrated 100 years of Catholic Education on the site and 140 years of providing Catholic Education to the Holbrook Community.

Participation in community events, such as the annual Flower Show, the Rotary Art Show and the Holbrook Agricultural Show provide the children with opportunity to participate in the various activities.

Sporting achievements are also a high priority for our students and families and we have many students represent at Deanery, Diocesan, MacKillop and State. We also take the opportunity to join with our friends from other local schools to participate in a wide variety of sporting carnivals and gala days.

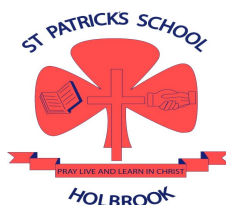
Students also enjoy a number of professional coaches attending the school to provide skills in various sports, which this year they have included Hockey, Athletics and Gymnastics. These visits have been made possible by funding from Sporting Schools Australia a Federal Government Programme.

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### Section 3: Student Profile

The following information describes the student profile for 2017:

Girls	Boys	LBOT E*	Indigenous	Total
26	26	4	1	52

\*Language background other than English

### Enrolment Policy

The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established an [Enrolment Policy](#)<sup>†</sup> which is implemented by all systemic schools in the Diocese.

The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Catholic Schools Office.

### **Enrolment Policy and Procedure St Patrick's Primary School adopts the Catholic Schools Office Wagga Enrolment Policy and Enrolment Procedures.**

St Patrick's Primary School is a community in which Catholic beliefs are taught and the Catholic faith is experienced, witnessed and shared. In this way the school is sharing the Mission of the Church. The community acknowledges those children in greatest need ensuring that no child is deprived of a Catholic Education because of genuine financial hardship.

**AIMS:** To provide a Catholic Education for all children in our community irrespective of their differing needs, providing that school resources can support them. To ensure that no child is denied a Catholic Education because of genuine financial hardship. To ensure all parents will give a firm undertaking that they accept and support the life, nature and identity of the Catholic School, including participation in all aspects of Religious Education.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Priority of access is given to Catholic children. Siblings of children already attending the school will be enrolled. Children of other Christian families may be enrolled after the other priorities for access have been taken into account. Parents of these children should indicate that they support the involvement of their children in their own faith communities. Children of non-Christian families may also be enrolled in keeping with the above principles. Children to be enrolled in Kindergarten must turn five years of age by 30th of April in the year of commencement. All parents wishing to enrol their children at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School must complete

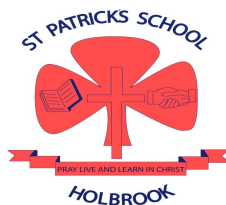
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the application for enrolment form, return it to the school by the due date and attend an interview with the Principal. A final decision regarding the child's enrolment will be made following the interview.

## ENROLMENT

**CRITERIA** Parents who are willing to support the religious principles and practices of the Catholic faith are eligible to apply to enrol their children at St Patrick's Primary School. The closing date for enrolments for Kindergarten in the following year is advertised through School Newsletter, Parish Newsletter and Holbrook Happenings. At the close of the enrolment period, all applications and documentation will be reviewed before an interview is offered. Baptismal, Birth and Immunisation Certificates must accompany application for enrolment. When applications exceed the number of available places, offers for enrolment will be given in the following order: Children baptised Catholic who are parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Holbrook and reside within the St Patrick's Catholic Primary School Zone, Children baptised Catholic and living in Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Holbrook, Catholic children outside the St Patrick's Zone, Children of other faiths within St Patrick's Zone, Children of other faiths outside the St Patrick's Zone. In final determinations, age and readiness of applicants will be taken into account (oldest applicants are given preference in Kindergarten enrolments). Consideration for siblings may be given providing criteria and readiness are met. In extenuating circumstances, other applicants may be considered at the discretion of the Parish Priest and Principal. In the event that applications for enrolment far exceed available places, interviews may only be offered to Parish Catholic families in the first instance.

## ADMISSION TO KINDERGARTEN

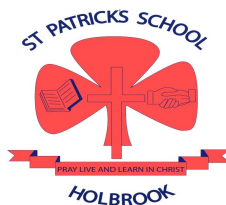
- 1 There is one general admission of pupils to Kindergarten each year. Numbers will be determined depending on volume of applicants.
- 2 Pupils may be admitted:- a) if they are already five years of age b) they will have reached the age of five no later than 31st May.
- 3 A priority order for enrolment will be made based on religion, address, age, and assessment of readiness at time of interview.
- 4 Children who turn five years of age after 31st May are advised by the Principal of the possible implication for their child.
- 5 An offer of enrolment will be made after taking all above matters into consideration.

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6 Parents of children who turn 5 between 1 June and 31 July and whose enrolment has been accepted must sign a form titled “Acknowledge by Parents seeking Admission of a Child whose fifth birthday falls between 1 June and 31 July”.

7 The Principal has the ultimate decision when accepting an enrolment. This decision may be made in consultation with the Parish Priest and staff at the Catholic Schools Office.

8 Students are to start school by the age of 6.

## **GENERAL**

1 Parents will be notified by the Principal indicating the result of their application.

2 A School Information Evening for parents may be offered early in Term 4 (parents only).

3 A number of Orientation Sessions for prospective Kindergarten children will be held in Term 4 of the year preceding the child’s enrolment.

4 Subject to enrolment criteria, children with special needs, whose needs are able to be met by the school, are welcome to apply for enrolment. A formal assessment process must be undertaken before enrolment.

5 Every application must be accompanied by the child’s baptismal certificate, birth certificate and immunization certificate.

6 Enrolment in other Catholic schools does not guarantee admission to St Patrick’s School and vice versa.

7 The payment of fees and levies is an expectation of all families. However, with the agreement of the School Principal and Parish Priest, inability to pay school fees and other charges fully or in part, because of circumstances beyond the control of parents, will not be an obstacle to admission.

8 Once an enrolment has been accepted all data needs to be recorded on SAS 2000 To comply with legal requirements For school administration purposes For accountability and reporting requirements

9 Recorded in SAS are child’s name, age, address, religion, medical details, previous education if applicable, parent details, occupation and level of education, contact phone numbers, date of enrolment and for students who do not commence at the beginning of Kindergarten, the name of their previous school. Also recorded in SAS is the destination school of students as they leave.

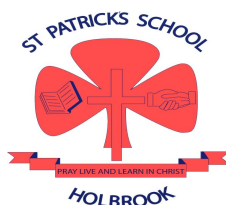
10 Enrolment information is retained in SAS indefinitely. Initial enrolment forms and other supplied information completed by parent/s are retained in the student file until the student attains the age of

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### **ENROLMENT OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Prior to enrolling a student with special needs, it is essential that the school community is sure that the Diocese and school can provide the services and facilities necessary for the student's education "without imposing unjustifiable hardship on the education authority" (Disability Discrimination Act 1992). When initial contact is made with the school the following steps should be followed (from Ascertainment Guidelines for the Enrolment of students with disabilities):

The Principal arranges an interview with the parents and the child. (The Principal may request that the School Support Officer to be present.) • The Principal may be notified by the CSO/Special Services if an "Early Childhood Transition Form" or a "Transition To High School Form" is received.

The Principal requests relevant reports, documentation and assessments. • A diary of all conversations/meetings regarding enrolment should be kept. • Parents are asked to sign a Release of Information Form.

The Education Officer Special Services will contact appropriate personnel who are familiar with the child (Pre-school, Early Intervention, Therapist, Psychologist etc) and speak with them regarding the child's proposed needs in the school environment. If possible, the child is observed in Preschool or school setting. An interview is held with the Principal, School Support Officer, prospective class teacher and other relevant school staff to discuss all information gathered. • An interview is held with parents to discuss progress of application.

An Ascertainment Support Meeting is held to determine what is required to assist the student to access the curriculum and to support their social and physical needs.

A decision is made concerning the enrolment of the child in consultation with the Principal, parents, School Support Officer and, in the case of a child with moderate to high needs, the School Consultant and/or the Director of Schools.

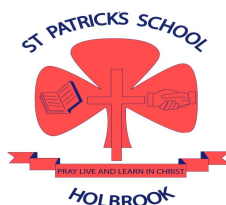
**GENERAL ENROLMENT OF STUDENTS FROM OVERSEAS** Enrolment of Students from Overseas refer to Diocesan Policy: When approached by parents wishing to enrol a student on a Visa, the school will gather as much information as possible, and take copies of the child's passport and visa. This information and passport and visa copies will be forwarded to the CSO Compliance Officer for checking before the enrolment can be approved. At this time information will be sought about the student's English as ESL funding may apply.

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†Copies of this policy and other policies in this report may be obtained from the [Catholic Schools Office website](#) or by contacting the Catholic Schools Office phone: 0269370000.

## Student Attendance and Retention Rates

Year	Attendance %
Kinder	93
Year 1	93
Year 2	94
Year 3	93
Year 4	90
Year 5	93
Year 6	90

The average student attendance rate for 2017 was 92%.

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. St Patrick's, in partnership with parents, is responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, College staff/ school staff as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

St Patrick's staff, under the Principal's leadership, support the regular attendance of students by:

- providing a caring teaching and learning environment which fosters students' sense of well being and belonging to the school community;
- maintaining accurate records of student attendance;
- recognising and rewarding excellent and improved student attendance;
- implementing programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise.

The Principal is responsible for supporting the regular attendance of students by ensuring that:

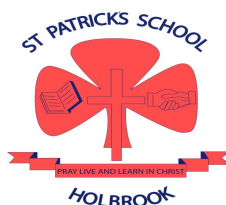
- parents and students are regularly informed of attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance;

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- all cases of non-attendance, unsatisfactory attendance and part or full day absences from school are investigated promptly and that appropriate intervention strategies are implemented;
- the Director of Catholic Schools or designated Catholic Schools Office Wagga Wagga officer is provided with regular information about students for whom chronic non-attendance is an issue and for whom College/School strategies have failed to restore regular attendance.

The management of non-attendance is in accordance with Student Attendance Policy.

Please see Attendance Procedure policy attached as an appendix.

#### Section 4: Staffing Profile

The NSW government requires that this report details the number of teachers in each of the following categories:

- have teaching qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) guidelines
- have qualifications as a graduate from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR guidelines but lack formal teacher education qualifications
- do not have qualifications as described in (a) or (b) but have relevant successful teaching experience or appropriate knowledge relevant to the teaching context. Such teachers must have been employed:
  - to 'teach' in NSW before 1 October 2004 (either on a permanent, casual or temporary basis), and
  - as a 'teacher' during the last five (5) years in a permanent, casual or temporary capacity.

#### Teacher Standards

The following table sets out the number of teachers who fall into each of the categories determined by the NSW Education Standards Authority.

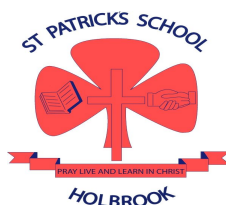
Teacher Qualification	Number of Teachers
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a	Those having formal qualifications from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent	6
b	Those having graduate qualifications but not a formal teaching qualification from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent.	0

The following information describes the staffing profile for 2017:

Total Teaching Staff *	Total Non-Teaching Staff	Combined Total
6	2	8

\*This number includes x Full Time teachers and x part-time teachers

0

Percentage of staff who are indigenous	
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### Professional Learning

The ongoing professional development of each staff member is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including whole school staff days, subject specific in service courses, meetings, conferences and a range of professional learning programs provided by the Catholic Schools Office Wagga Wagga.

This year the staff undertook a wide variety of Professional Learning opportunities including:

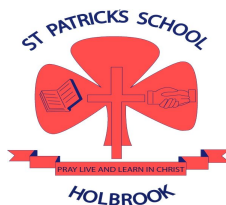
STEM Working Party Workshop  
 Primary STEM Workshop  
 Richard Gill Music Programme.  
 SALT CCER Child Protection  
 SALT CCER - Discrimination Harassment & Bullying  
 Online Naplan Training Administrator Albury  
 Google Reimagining Education with Technology Tour  
 Integrating Indigenous Culture into the Curriculum  
 Mission Discipleship

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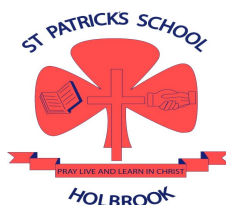
Combined RE Network Meetings  
Numeracy Literacy Progressions  
Best Start Training  
First Aid - Provide First Aid including CPR  
Providing Effective Feedback to Students  
Reading Recovery Business Meetings and Professional Development  
ONCE Training, new Administration System  
EMU (Extending Maths Understanding) Maths 6 days training  
Growth Coaching Model  
Father Noel Connell - Principal's Retreat Leading the Way  
Responsible Person Training - (Principal) - 4 hours  
Introduction to Google Classroom  
Using Google Chrome Extensions  
Growth Coaching Model  
Responsible Person Training - 4 hours  
Breakthrough Coaching Course  
Australian Catholic Principals Conference  
QELi Executive Leadership for School Principals  
Go to Webinar - 21st Century Approaches to Home School Communication  
Go to Webinar - The Bridge from Data Collections to Improved Instruction  
Extending Maths Understanding introduction to staff and using in the school

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## **Section 5: Catholic Life and Religious Education**

**St. Patrick's School** follows the Wagga Wagga Diocesan Religious Education Curriculum, *Sharing Our Story*.

### **Catholic Heritage**

This school's actual beginnings are not clear. Various local (Albury) newspapers report on the 'recently opened Catholic School at Germanton (Holbrook)' in 1875. However, local families related to the first teacher state the school commenced in 1872. Originally the school was staffed by a lay teacher, Miss Margaret Prendergast. Subsequent lay teachers were: Stephen Prendergast (Margaret's brother) 1879-1886; Miss Mary Purtell (1887- ?). The school had several forced closures during its early days until 23rd January, 1892 when the Sisters of St. Joseph were welcomed at Culcairn Railway Station and transported to Germanton by a welcoming committee from the Catholic community. The school has continued to be staffed by the Sisters up to the end of the 1985 school year. However, there had been a lay Principal at the school since the beginning of 1984. Sr. Rosalie Gannon RSJ was the last Sister to be School Principal.

### **Liturgical Life of the School**

The School participates regularly in both school and Parish Masses at our Parish Church; Our Lady Of Sorrows. At these masses the school community take responsibility for the readings and offertory procession. This year we have celebrated feast days of St Patrick, St Joseph, St Mary MacKillop and Our Lady of Sorrows. Our students have celebrated class Mass and attend Mass on each holy day of obligation. Prayer is an important part of the daily life of the school. Monday mornings commence with an assembly, at which we say our School Prayer. In the classrooms, each day begins with prayer. At lunchtime we say Grace before each meal break.

### **Staff and Student Faith Formation**

Father Noel Connell - Principal's Retreat Leading the Way

All staff attended - Mission Discipleship presented by Mr Ed Brown Direction of Mission Xavier High School Albury

All staff attended What Makes a Catholic School Catholic? Father Richard Leonard

Students have participated in preparation for and received the sacraments of Reconciliation (Yr2), First Eucharist (Yr3) and Holy Communion.

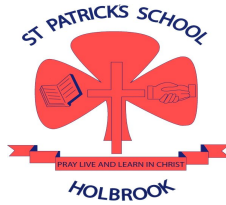
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## **Social Justice**

Staff attended Twilight Session with Darren Wighton ;Integrating Indigenous Culture into the Curriculum

During the year, the students of St Patrick's participate in many activities that promote the missionary work of the Church. This year these have included fundraising days for Catholic Mission, St Vincent De Paul, and Socktober.

## **Professional Learning in Catholic Life and Mission**

Two staff members attended RE Conference Sydney -One Heart Many Voices

Two staff members attended four Mission Discipleship follow up sessions

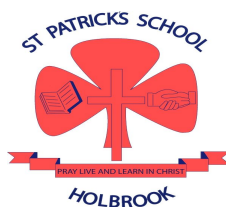
The Diocese of Wagga Wagga Catholic Schools Office has established a policy on the [Professional Requirements for the Accreditation of Teachers of Religious Education](#) which is implemented by all systemic schools in the Diocese.

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## Section 6: Curriculum

St. Patrick's School follows the NSW Education Standards Authority Syllabus for each subject/course offered as required for Registration and Accreditation under the Education Act 1990 (NSW) and implements the associated requirements of the Catholic Schools Office, Wagga Wagga.

For each subject offered St Patrick's Primary School, Holbrook follows the guidelines required for Registration and Accreditation under the Education Act 1990 (NSW) and implements the associated requirements of the Catholic Schools Office, Wagga Wagga.

The school provides the opportunity for the children to participate in a wide range of activities that enhance the education experience for them at St Patrick's. Included in these is the opportunity to participate in University of NSW Tests for Maths, Science, Computing, Spelling and Reading. In Stage 1 children have access to a Reading Recovery programme, with one on one tutoring to help children who have not mastered reading. Students in Year 6 participate in the Statewide Religious Education Test. All students are also tested at the beginning of the year and again at the end of the to establish Maths Progression. In November of each year, students from Year 2 - 6 participate in PAT Testing- this is an online standardized test that shows the progress that students have made and the areas that need to be worked on.

In today's modern world children need to clearly understand the purpose of learning in order to connect it to their daily lives. At St Patrick's our staff believe that teaching children to be responsible effective lifelong learners is more important than memorizing facts and figures. We encourage all children to interact with modern technology, using the resources that they have freely available, to support an Inquiry Based model of learning. In this model, the journey of learning and the questioning that goes with it, is often more important than the final destination.

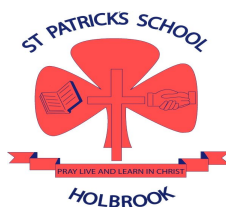
Aligned with this Inquiry Based model is a desire on behalf of the staff to ensure that the children are well grounded in the basic skills that are needed to function in a modern society. We provide support at all levels to ensure that children can and do achieve at the highest level possible. The school prides itself on delivering to our students, programmes that meet their individual learning needs and goals through differentiated lessons.

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## **Section 7: Student Performance in Statewide Tests and Examinations**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN assessment results provide valuable information about student achievements in literacy and numeracy. An analysis of these results assists school planning and is used to support teaching and learning programs.

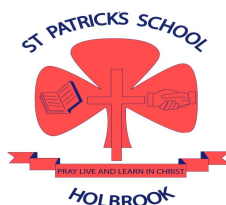
The tables below show the percentage of students who achieved particular skill bands in numeracy and the aspects of literacy. The School results shown are compared to students nationally. Literacy is reported in four content strands: Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation. Numeracy is reported in the following strands: Number, Measurement and Data, Space, Patterns and Algebra.

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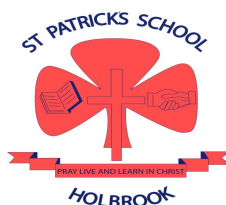
Year 3	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy	Data Measurement Space & Geometry	Number Patterns & Algebra
Band 6	14	0	0	0	14	0	14
Band 5	0	14	0	29	0	0	0
Band 4	29	5	29	43	4	43	43
Band 3	43	14	14	0	0	29	29
Band 2	14	0	4	14	29	29	14
Band 1	0	0	0	14	0	0	0
Year 5	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy	Data Measurement Space & Geometry	Number Patterns & Algebra
Band 8	33	0	22	22	0	11	0
Band 7	0	11	0	0	33	22	33
Band 6	11	22	33	44	22	0	22
Band 5	33	66	22	11	22	33	22
Band 4	0	0	11	22	11	22	11
Band 3	22	0	11	0	0	0	0

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## **Section 8: Pastoral Care and Well Being**

### **Information here about your school's policy on caring for students under Pastoral Care/ Academic Care/ Well Being**

At St Patrick's, we believe that pastoral care is a life-giving focus that is a response to each person's need for self-esteem, positive discipline, effective learning, purpose in life, moral and personal development, experienced within the ethos of a gospel based community. Pastoral care is central to the ethos and identity of our Catholic School. It is essential that pastoral care for students be given a high priority.

The role of schools as an educational institution is to encourage excellence, the pursuit of learning and the care of all individual students. The primary purpose of our school is to promote the full physical, social, intellectual, emotional and spiritual development of the students.

The school has, in accordance with Diocesan Guidelines, a Well Being Committee. This Committee consists of the teaching staff, Principal, School Counsellor.. The main role of the Committee is to review the welfare of any student in the school who may need assistance.

### **Discipline Policy**

The School Discipline Policy at St Patrick's Primary School aims to provide a safe, caring and supportive learning and teaching environment. The Policy helps students to demonstrate responsible behaviour and a sense of self-worth, and respect and consideration for the feelings, rights and property of others. It also aims to maximize opportunities for learning and teaching. Procedural fairness is used in dealing with all issues.

### **Anti Bullying Policy**

At St Patrick's we recognize that bullying is not acceptable in any form. Students and staff have the right to expect that they will spend the school day free from the fear of bullying, harassment and intimidation. Staff discuss regularly with the students the need to be respectful towards each other and towards themselves and if necessary they speak to individual children about their responses to situations..

### **Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility**

This year the school successfully trialed a programme that encouraged students to try to take the responsibility on themselves to address issues. The children were taught a three step process when someone was annoying them:

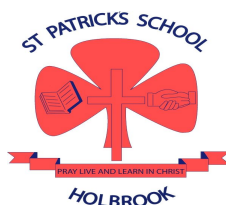
1. Use the person's name and ask them to specifically stop the behaviour that is annoying them.

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2. If it continues move themselves away from the person .
3. If it still continues then report to the teacher on duty that steps one and two have been completed. The teacher will then take responsibility for stopping the behaviour.

We found that this very effective in dealing with the annoying minor behaviours that occur on playgrounds. This is not used if violence is used, this is reported directly to the teacher.

The school continued its involvement with the community with many of the students winning prizes at the Holbrook Art Show, Flower Show and Agricultural Show. All students were encouraged to participate. Our primary students sang at Holbrook UPA Hostel, Harry Jarvis Wing of the local hospital and at the annual Meals on Wheels volunteer luncheon and were very well received. Students undertook a number of fundraising events to raise money for St Vincent De Paul, Catholic Missions, and Caritas. Marching on ANZAC Day each year is one of the enduring traditions in the school, along with a reflective service on Remembrance Day attended by our School Captains, who publically reflected on the research that they had completed on one of the soldiers whose name appears on the memorial stone in the Ten Mile Gardens.

Year Six students also participated in collecting a sample of soil from Holbrook to be interned in a new ANZAC Memorial to be constructed in Sydney.

### **Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy**

The Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established a [Complaints and Suggestions Policy](#) which is implemented by all school in the Diocese. The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Catholic Schools Office.

### **Workplace Health and Safety**

Each school is required to implement and comply with the Diocesan School System Workplace Health and Safety Management System (WHSMS). This system reflects the current statutory requirements for WHS and complies with the Australian Standard for WHS Management Systems. The WHSMS adopted by the CSO for Wagga Wagga Systemic Schools has been designed to address general health, safety and welfare matters and also to take account of specific issues that apply to school communities. The management system supports the provision of a 'safe and supportive' environment for all students as well as taking into account the health, safety and welfare of staff, visitors and contractors to the school site.

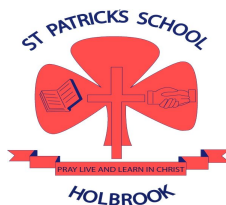
Principals, in consultation with the relevant CSO personnel, are responsible for monitoring the school's compliance with WHS legislation and to implement the management system in keeping with the Catholic Schools Office's Annual WHS Plan. External WHS system audits are conducted across a sample of schools each year to validate the implementation of the management system.

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## **Section 9: School Review and Improvement**

Each year the School develops an Annual Improvement Plan indicating the intended key improvements for student learning outcomes. The Plan is drawn from the Catholic Schools Office Annual Improvement Plan. St Patrick's engages in an annual evidence based evaluation of its effectiveness against The National School Improvement Tool, The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers and the Australian Professional Standards for Principals in collaboration with the School Consultant.

**2017 Annual Improvement Plan to be inserted here. Please make sure evidence is included.**

**Annual report and Evidence Guide to be inserted by Matt Humphrey. Please note that evidence guide is in the same file as the AIP.**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zGcenlr7Vg5-K7lcY8c2-xk02jqBJmZ9LGg5NpKP2tc/edit>

### **Priority Key Improvements for 2018**

2018 Annual Improvement Plan can be inserted here.

**2018 Annual Improvement Plan to be inserted by Matt Humphrey.**

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ec\\_2en5KE1HxsVFt3NQZOAqdlinxZCZurZOZlfOdoM/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14ec_2en5KE1HxsVFt3NQZOAqdlinxZCZurZOZlfOdoM/edit)

## **Section 10: Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction**

### **Parent Participation**

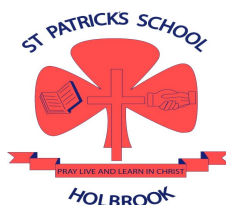
Parents are the primary educators of their children and are always welcome at St Patrick's School. The opinions and ideas of parents, students and teachers are valued and sought. Their suggestions are incorporated into planning for and achieving improved outcomes for students. This year the school has used a variety of processes to gain information about the level of satisfaction with St Patrick's from parents, students and teachers.

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This year, following a change in Legislation, saw the financial resources of the School Board transferred to be administered by the school Principal. This has not impacted on the operation of the School Council in any way.

The parents have had a big year in fundraising. Between Henty Machinery Field Days, Dunoon Bull Sale and Diocesan Cross-Country catering they have managed to raise substantial funds for school improvement projects.

Parents also help out with maintenance around the school and mow and weed the gardens.

### **Parent Satisfaction**

The Principal and staff take every available opportunity to interact with staff, be that at school, at sporting or cultural events. As a result as a staff we have a very good sense of the high levels of satisfaction that the parents have with the school. The school utilizes digital technology to communicate with the parents, included in this is the school's Facebook Page, recently introduced School Stream App and the School's Web Page, we have received very positive feedback from parents about these. We have a wonderful degree of parental involvement at St Patrick's in many capacities which is very supportive and encouraging.

### **Student Satisfaction**

The school runs an active Student Council that meets with the Principal regularly to plan events in the school and as a forum for students to raise any issues. These meetings have been particularly useful in gauging the high levels of satisfaction among the student body.

### **Teacher Satisfaction**

Teachers at St Patrick's meet formally at least once per week. This year we have changed the nature of staff meetings from being information sharing sessions to professional development sessions. The staff have responded positively to these sessions. Each Sunday the staff received from the Principal a message outlining the upcoming events and staff movement for the week. Staff have commented that they look forward to receiving this communication.

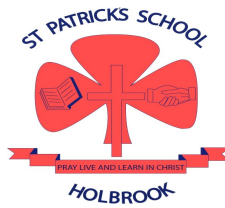
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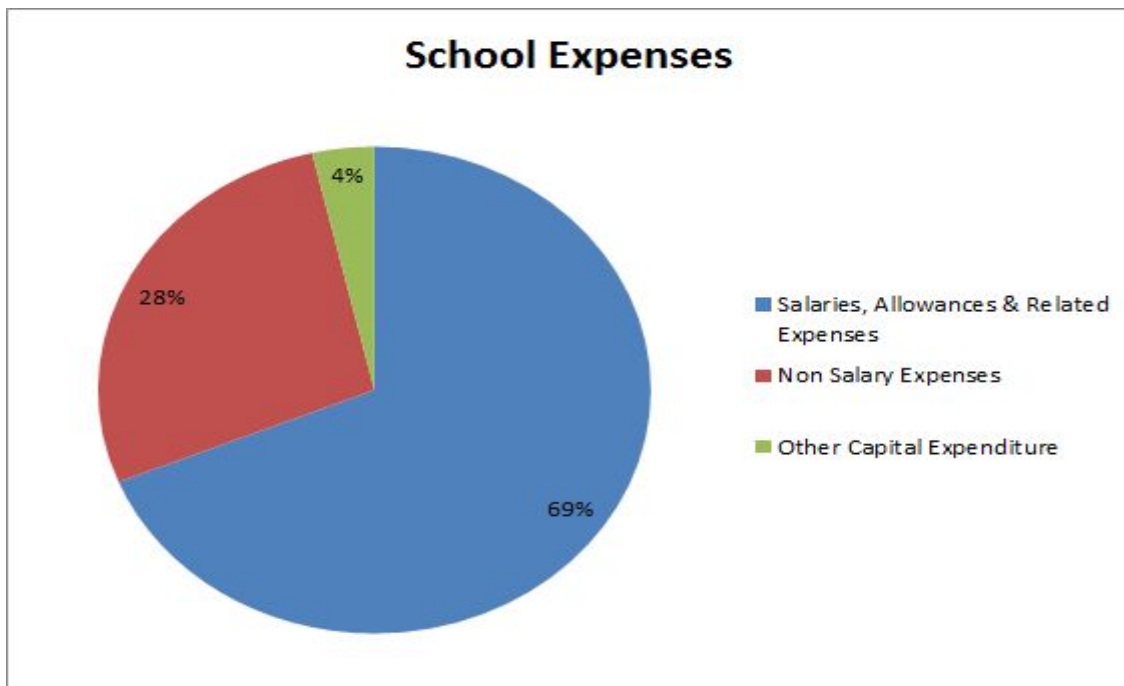
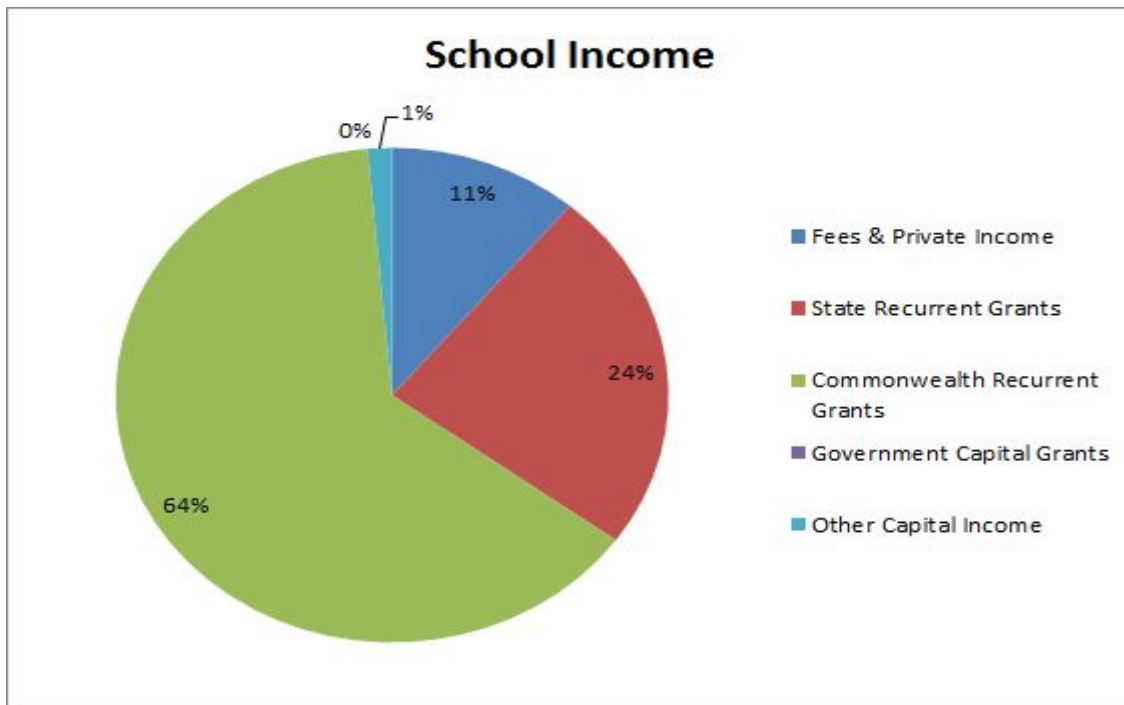
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## Financial Report



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