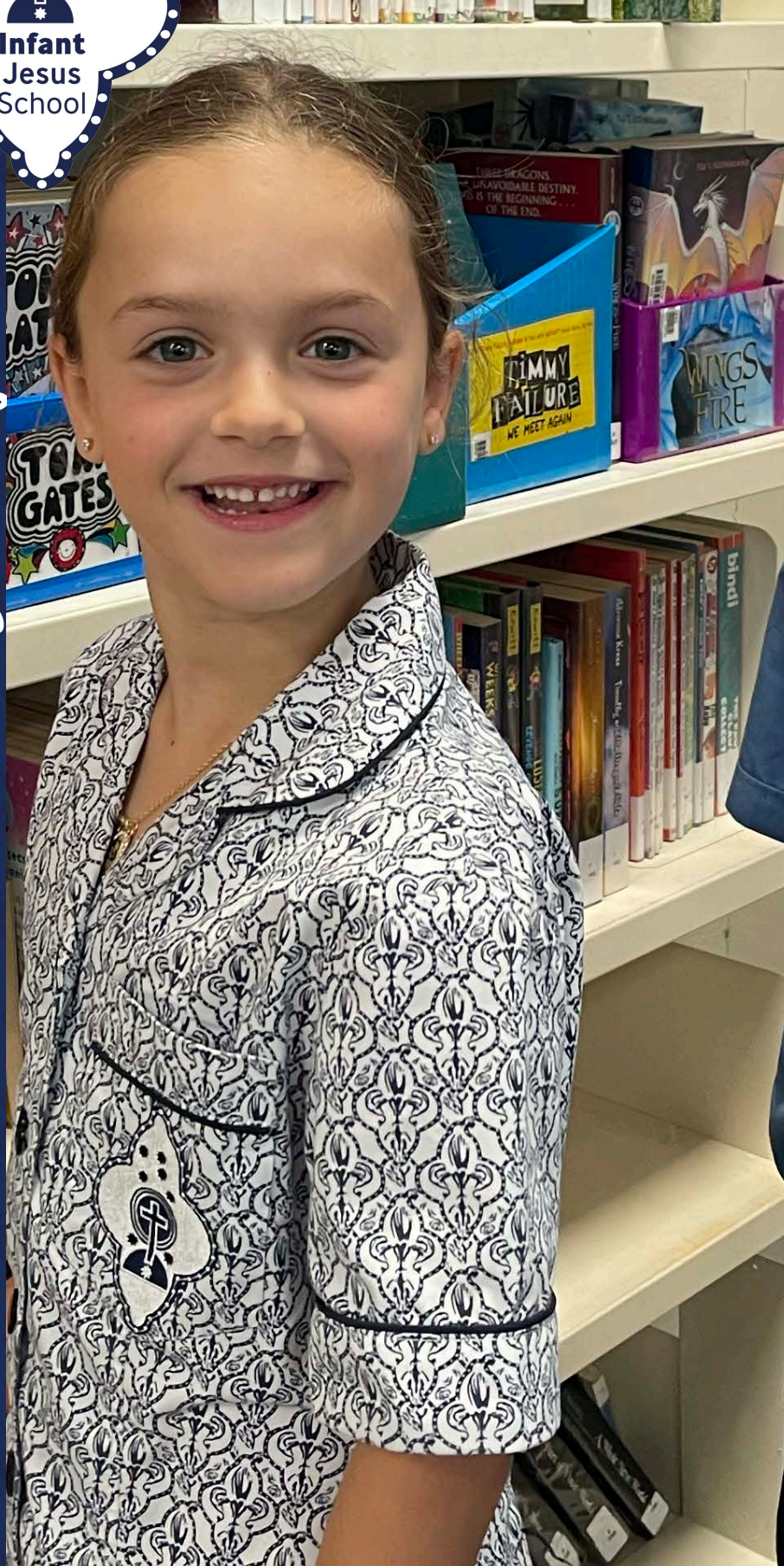


2024

1954-2024 - Celebrating 70 years



Principal's Report

It is with a great sense of pride that I present the 2024 Principals report to the Infant Jesus School community. This year we have had the opportunity to reflect on the rich history and cherished memories that have shaped our school community. Over the past seven decades, we have grown and evolved, guided by our commitment to excellence in teaching and learning. This year, we have continued to uphold high standards in education, fostering an environment where students thrive academically and personally.

In line with our Catholic School Improvement Plan, I would like to now like to highlight some of the ways that Infant Jesus School is providing a Quality Catholic Education.

Catholic Identity

Religious education and faith formation are the core purposes of Catholic schools. In collaboration with parents, the school and parish work together to help children grow in their knowledge of the Catholic faith.

As a Catholic school, it is important to honour and celebrate Eucharistic celebrations, Easter, Lent, and the various liturgies of Holy Week, as these are central

to our faith and form part of our Infant Jesus story. We also acknowledge the significance of celebrating Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparents' Day, and NAIDOC Week, as they embody our dedication to family, community, and cultural heritage. These occasions provide us with opportunities to reflect, express gratitude, and unite as a school community, strengthened by our shared faith and cherished values.

One of the year's highlights has been our Sacramental program. Guided by the Parish Sacramental Team, our Year Six students celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation in June, our Year Four students received the Sacrament of Eucharist in September, and our Year Three students received the Sacrament of Penance in November. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Parish Team, School Catechist team, and parents for their beautiful preparation of the students.

Fr. Greg and Fr. Ad have continued their visits to classes, further strengthening their relationships with staff, students, and the community. Their warm welcome, presence, and flexibility in supporting everyone's faith journey at Infant Jesus School are deeply appreciated and significantly enhance our Catholic identity.

At the beginning of Term Three, staff participated in a staff retreat day on Prayer facilitated by Sr Catherine



Warner from the Nano Nagle Centre. An optional overnight retreat was very well attended and further enhanced staff collegiality. This Professional Development assisted staff in deepening our faith through enhancing our knowledge of prayer and wellbeing. During the day staff were provided with valuable time for individual reflection.

This year, we have embraced Christian Service throughout the entire school. Each class enthusiastically organised events for Project Compassion, and our Christian Service Ministry devoted their time to helping others and organising events such as Socktober and St Vincent's de Paul's Christmas Appeal. Infant Jesus Day highlighted many aspects of Christian Service with thoughtfully prepared stalls. Additionally, parents generously volunteered in classrooms all year, sharing their unique gifts and talents.

Staff have continued implementing the CEWA Religious Education Curriculum ensuring the planning, teaching and assessing is consistent with all learning areas. The teaching of the CEWA Religious Education Curriculum is shared each term by all year levels through letters to parents every five weeks highlighting the learning concepts, and also through the digital portfolio on Seesaw. Achievements and progress in Religious Education is also included in the semester reports.

Our Year Three and Five students participated in the Religious Education Assessment in Term Three, with both Year Three and Year Five averages being above the CEWA and Perth Diocese averages.

	School Mean	CEWA Mean	Diocese Mean
Year 3	415	410	405
Year 5	487	477	470



Education

There have been many opportunities for students to excel both academically and creatively over the course of the year.

We have continued to build upon The Arts across the school. For the first time we introduced drama as a specialist learning area from Pre Primary to Year Six. This complimented our excellent Music program. Once again our school choir participated in the One Big Voice concert. This is a non-competitive massed choir, where thousands of primary school children sing in harmony. They also participated in the Performing Arts Festival. Our ensemble continued to perform at school events and the Performing Arts. To continue this arts focus, in 2025 we are introducing a whole school dance program in Term Three through Schools Go Dance.

I would like to thank all the staff who ran extra curricular activities this year. Choir, Ensemble, Chess Club,

Have Sum Fun, Spelling Bee, Numero; the Speak Up Awards were all run by staff which is a big commitment on top of their teaching. This year we also had Code Camp run after school coding sessions for students.

Staff have continued to improve classroom practice and outcomes for all students in English and Mathematics. We have introduced decodable readers and a more structured literacy approach in Pre-Primary and Year One. This year we were fortunate to have the CEWA Maths Team guiding us throughout the year. They worked shoulder to shoulder with all staff to refine their teaching practice as well as running professional development and PLC meetings with staff throughout the year.

We have reviewed the support program in the school, moving towards different tiers of support both in the classroom and in smaller groups. As an intervention tool, we have also expanded our Mini Lit program to offer Macqlit to our Year 3 to 6 students. This will continue in 2025. With support practices being embedded across the whole school, in 2025 we will focus on expanding extension support in literacy and numeracy.

Using data to inform our teaching and support has been a focus. This year we

introduced Elastik as an assessment tracking tool across Year 1-6. This uses curriculum linked assessment data to help staff target learning and identify areas of support needed in the classroom.

We have continued to upskill staff through professional development across all learning areas this year. Some of the professional development attended by staff throughout the year included the Apple Education Summit, Numeracy Leadership days, Digital Learning in Primary Program, Decodable Readers Australia, Implementation of the English Curriculum, Religious Education accreditation courses, Keeping Safe, URStrong and Character Strengths.

Technologies has continued to be a focus throughout 2024. Our school Apple

Year 3

	School	CEWA	State	National
Reading	425	403	392	404
Writing	417	419	409	416
Spelling	425	401	395	401
Grammar	406	404	399	409
Numeracy	425	400	396	404

Year 5

	School	CEWA	State	National
Reading	504	492	484	492
Writing	500	484	478	485
Spelling	502	489	485	486
Grammar	489	493	492	498
Numeracy	493	486	485	489

Coaches continued to support staff to integrate digital technology across the curriculum. They also used dedicated PLC time to share knowledge and upskill staff. In 2025 we will undertake requalification as an Apple Distinguished School, something that we have been involved in since 2017.

Opportunities to enhance Aboriginal Perspectives Education have continued to be provided through a variety of whole school activities and events throughout the year. Our students worked with Djookanka to create an Aboriginal



design for a mural depicting our Infant Jesus Story. We will be excited to see this come to life on the side of the lift very soon.

In 2024, the NAPLAN tests were once again held in Term One for our Year 3 and 5 students. The NAPLAN results were reported against proficiency standards, with student achievement shown against 4 levels of proficiency. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. We have continued to show good progress in Reading, Writing, Spelling and Numeracy, with Grammar and Punctuation being identified as an area of focus in 2025. Next year we will also implement the updated WA Curriculum in English and Health and Physical Sciences and familiarise ourselves with the updated Mathematics Curriculum.

Community

Throughout the year, the staff have continued to focus on supporting the wellbeing of all children. Staff conduct Voice of the Child surveys to help gain an insight into their students. This year we implanted the URStrong program across all



year levels. Many of our families attended the online Parent/Child workshop and staff and students were involved in celebrating the program with a Day of Friendship. This focus will continue in 2025.

This year we also welcomed Tilly to our Wellness Team. Throughout the year Tilly has participated in obedience training and more specialised training through WAAT Dogs. She passed her Level One training in the October holidays. Tilly will now undergo training over the next year to receive her Level Two certificate. We were fortunate to once again have Oakley visit our students once a fortnight, which complimented the work that Tilly has been doing.

During the year we have continued to provide opportunities for staff to make wellbeing visible, measurable and improvable with members of the Staff Wellness Team planning for ongoing wellness activities.

As part of the feedback from the



previous climate survey, the leadership team have been working with our CEWA behaviour consultant to provide professional development to staff and review our current behaviour guidelines. While we still have some work to do as a whole staff in the remaining part of the year, we expect that these guidelines will be implemented at the beginning of 2025.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated Parents and Friends Committee, who have tirelessly worked throughout the year to organise events for our community and raise essential funds for student resources. From the Welcome Back

Picnic at the start of the year to the Colour Run, School Disco, Athletics Carnival, and the Mother's and Father's Day stalls, it has been an incredibly busy year. A huge thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time to help the Committee organise and run these events. The P&F were also very generous in purchasing wish list items for all year levels and we can't thank them enough for their support. Special thanks also to our School Advisory Committee who have worked behind the scenes supporting our students and community.

We have also had a lot of parent support outside of the P&F. During the year many parents have regularly volunteered to assist in a variety of ways throughout the school. Through parent help rosters and assisting with class activities, both at school and during excursions. All parents wishing to volunteer have to complete the mandatory Infant Jesus School Volunteer Workshop. This workshop will continue to be offered as we recognise the substantial value of all the parents who generously give of their time to assist our school.

Stewardship

This year we reviewed our Strategic Intent for the next three years. These strategic intents aim to promote a Christ-centred and child-focused community that inspires all to

actively live the Gospel. I would like to thank both the staff and parent groups who helped guide our discussions and these have helped form our planning for 2025

In the later part of the year, we began our Stage 10 building project. The permanent shade structure over the basketball court will be of great benefit to all students in all weather conditions. While there have been some disruptions to play areas and parking for the early years classes; however, we look forward to the completion of this project over the holidays.

As part of our Incident Management Plan we have held both an emergency evacuation and shelter-in-place drills this year. These will occur next year as well as a lockdown drill. Parents will be informed when these occur. To meet our Work Health and Safety requirements we have also completed our yearly playground audit, roof audit, updated risk assessments and updated our chemical registers and testing and tagging.



Thank you

We are deeply grateful to Father Greg, Father John, and Father Ad for their unwavering support and guidance throughout the year. The strong relationship between the Parish and our school serves as a positive example to others, and we are truly fortunate to have it.

Thank you our School Advisory Council (Joanna Brisbane, Dharshan Elikewwia, Tanya Davis, Nicole Mammone, Jemima Saunders and Mark Hannah) for their commitment to our school. Special thanks to Joanna Brisbane, Dharshan Elikewala and Nicole Mammone who have supported the school on the SAC for a number of years and leave their positions this year.

To our P&F Executive – Domenica Pizzata, Samantha Cerubino, Giulia De Rizzo and Karen Holden, as well as Nell Scaletti and Simone Wiles who were co-opted on to the P&F throughout the year; thank you for all of your hard work and your support of our staff and students. Thank you also to all of our parents who have attended P&F meetings or supported the executive at events. Our P&F would not be as successful as it is without your support. Special mention to Guilia De Rizzo and Karen Holden who are stepping down from executive roles in the P&F this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every staff member who has helped make 2024 such a special one. From the classroom teachers to specialist teachers, education assistants to our support workers and everyone in between – you are the backbone of our wonderful school and your hard work is appreciated. I would like to make a special mention to Frank Colangelo and Sandra McMullen our Assistant Principals, for your support

and friendship over the year. Special thanks also to Irene, Lucy and Lina who work tirelessly in the background to ensure that our finances and our school is running smoothly.

Finally, thank you to all the students and families of Infant Jesus School. You help make our school the warm and welcoming community which we are so proud of.

Farewell

At this time of year we sadly say farewell to some members of our community.

I want to express my gratitude to our Year Six students for their enthusiasm and leadership this year, particularly in guiding the school through various ministries. I hope your time at Infant Jesus School has been filled with learning, friendships, and cherished memories, and that these experiences





Thank you to the families of our Year Six students who have their last child graduating this year. Your commitment and support of our school community over the years and for being a part of the Infant Jesus Community, is so very much appreciated. We also wish the families from across the school who are leaving us, for various reasons, all the best as they embark on new adventures.

Sadly, at the end of this year we farewell Mrs Mary Tampalini who has retired after many years of service. We also farewell Mrs Fiona McDonald, Miss Joanne McDaid and Mrs Vanessa Wang who are moving to new opportunities in other schools. We wish these staff all the best in their future endeavours, I would also like to wish Ms Clare Moffatt and Ms Leanne Griffin all the best as they continue their leave for 2025 and Miss Anna Piazzola who is taking a years leave next year.

This year we also wish Mrs Jade

Rotando-Bell and Mrs Sophie Jorissen all the best as they begin their Maternity Leave. In 2025 we welcome the addition of Miss Caitlyn Santovito, Miss Monica D'Addario and Miss Aine Kelly to our teaching team. I would also like to congratulate Miss Sandra McMullen as she takes on the temporary Assistant Principal role again for 2025.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas filled with joy, peace, and love. May this festive season bring you and your families countless blessings and cherished moments together. As we approach the school holidays, we hope you have a safe, restful, and enjoyable break. Take this time to relax, recharge, and create wonderful memories with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you back next year, refreshed and ready for another exciting chapter.

Mel Allen
Principal





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