

# 2023



St Kevin's Primary School





## Parent Body Message

The St Kevin's P&F committee continue to value the support and collaboration we have with the leadership team and teachers at the school. In the past year we have held monthly P&F meetings that have included representation from Mary- Anne Jennings and/or Kim Hogan, who have actively worked with the committee to keep us informed, listen and respond to queries and concerns from the school community and supported our fundraising efforts. The open, respectful, and collaborative discussions in these forums have seen us deliver, with much appreciation from the school community

- New books for the library each month

- Community events including sausage sizzles at the park and a family disco to connect and celebrate a successful year

- Canteen services for the school with monthly lunch specials and affordable options

- Transition to Lowes for school uniforms and a change to a more inclusive uniform capsule

- Marques, mats and flags for students to use at Gala and sporting events building our school pride and sense of belonging

- New sporting equipment

- Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls and raffles

- Recycling program

I would also like to add a personal note on how grateful I am for the care, consideration, and ongoing support I receive as a parent for my two children who attend the school. I have always found all the teachers and leadership team to be approachable, considerate, and supportive with regular and valuable communication on both children's progress, strengths, and areas of focus. I believe the sense of community, teachers who go above and beyond for the students and the sense of connection the kids have to their teachers, other students and the school makes St Kevin's a very special place to be.

## Student Body Message

St Kevin's is a a good school. We have lots of fun. Learning is fun and our learning is going good. We know where to get help with our learning. Our classrooms are safe and places of learning. We are working on making good friends and having positive relationships with everyone.

School camp was lots of fun. It was up at the Great Aussie Bush Camp. We had a great time. Both Year 5 and 6 went. The best thing was the giant swing.

We played lots of sport. We did basketball, swimming, hockey and gymnastics. We all learnt new stuff and had fun. We had our school swimming carnival and our school athletics carnival, where everyone joined in and had fun. Some students made it to Polding for sport,

like cricket and footy and soccer. We had our school public speaking competition and students from each stage went to Lakes Regional competition to represent St Kevin's.

The best part of this year was our school musical " The Amazing Adventures of Super Stan". We practised a lot. Year 5 and 6 had most of the lead parts. Every class had a song to sing. We had to perform the musical for our parents and grandparents, and they loved it

## School Features

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St Kevin's Primary School is situated on the corner of Main Rd and Newcastle Street, Cardiff NSW. It draws students from the local 2285 post code, including Cardiff Heights and Cardiff South, together with Macquarie Hills and Cardiff North. St Kevin's Primary School is part of Blackbutt South Parish. Students from St Kevin's continue their Catholic education at St Paul's High School Booragul.

Our school opened as St Joseph's Primary School in 1917. At this time it was staffed by the Sisters of St Joseph, and the Sisters of Mercy in more recent years. The school enrolment at that time was 70 pupils. New buildings were erected in 1943 and extensions were added in 1969 and 1992.

In 2009 a new school hall was built. Renovations and refurbishments

## Student Profile

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### Student Enrolment

The School caters for students in Years K – 6. Students attending this School come from a variety of backgrounds and nationalities. The following information describes the student profile for 2023: Additional information can be found on My School website.

Girls	Boys	LBOTE*	Total Students
59	75	19	134

\* Language Background Other than English

### Enrolment Policy

The [Enrolment Policy](#) applies to all school enrolments within the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese. School authorities manage local enrolment processes and procedures in a manner consistent with the rationale and guiding principles articulated in this Enrolment Policy and accompanying [Enrolment Procedures](#). It aims to:

- Set direction for school procedures and practices for enrolling students into Catholic primary and secondary schools within the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle.
- Establish a common, consistent approach in enrolment practices.
- Assist the system of Catholic schools to:
  - provide schooling, where possible, for children of Catholic families who seek enrolment
  - cater for the individual needs of each child equitably within the constraints of the available teaching and material resources
  - encourage parents enrolling their children in Catholic schools to give support to parish and school life, especially in education in faith.

### Student Attendance Rates

The average student attendance rate for 2023 was 92.04%. Attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group						
Kindergarten	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
93.23	92.32	92.64	92.46	90.39	90.60	92.64







## Summary of professional learning at this school

Weekly staff PD was conducted focusing on Mathematics, Religious Education, Aboriginal Education and Gifted Education. Writing continues to be a sub-focus to ensure that previous gains and improvements are not lost or forgotten. We continued with our plans to implement the 14 parameters as outlined in Lynn Sharratt's Clarity - What Matters Most in Teaching, Learning and Leading. This is a CSO led initiative and St Kevin's is part of Cohort 3 which meets each term to share learnings and understandings around a specific nominated parameter. 2023 saw us focus on Parameters 4,11,12,13. Learning Walks and Talks are now embedded in our school, with students identifying what they are learning and why. Staff also now embed Learning Intentions and Success Criteria when teaching Mathematics, which was again an area of targeted PD in 2023.

Staff engaged in PD around the new curriculum and syllabus documents in Mathematics, exploring and gaining understandings in the NESA School Scope and Sequence in Mathematics and provided units of work. Further Professional Development in Mathematics was provided by whole staff attendance at the Math's Conference hosted by the Mathematical Association of NSW, showcasing best practice in pedagogy and sequencing of mathematical lessons. Further PD was then attended by Executive staff and specialist Learning Support/EALD teachers provided by Professor Peter Sullivan through a CSO initiative called LiFT programme. Further to this, was attendance of the whole staff at PD presented by Michael McDowell in developing expert learners.

## Catholic Identity and Mission

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Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle participate, under the leadership of the Bishop and in partnership with parents and parishes, in the mission of the Church to provide quality education in the context of a

common good of society" (Good News for Living, 2005, p. 110) St Kevin's also calls on its students to work for peace and justice, positive relationships with friends and family, reflecting the 7 Josephite Charisms of faith, service, inclusion, simplicity, gratitude, strength and respect.

## Curriculum, Learning and Teaching

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The School provides an educational program based on and taught in accordance with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) syllabuses for Primary Education. The Key Learning Areas (KLAs) are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Human Society and its Environment, Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education.

The Curriculum is structured around the outcomes and content for each learning area and general capabilities for learning across the curriculum including literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology, critical and creative thinking, ethical behaviour, personal and social competence and intercultural understanding.

St Kevin's continued to

## Student Performance in Tests and Examinations

### NAPLAN

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The purpose of NAPLAN is to provide information to parents and teachers about the achievements of students in literacy and numeracy. The test provides a measure of the student's performance against established standards and against other students in Australia. Each year the results are analysed by the school to inform teaching with a view to improving student performance.

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards with 4 levels of achievement to give teachers, parents and carers clearer information on how students are performing:

- Exceeding: The student's result exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- Strong: The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- Developing: The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
- Needs additional support: The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.

The percentage of student achieving at Exceeding and Strong proficiency standards in NAPLAN at St Kevin's Primary School for 2023 is reported in the table below.

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
		School	Australia
Year 3	Grammar and Punctuation	85%	54%
	Reading	75%	67%
	Writing	90%	76%
	Spelling	70%	61%
	Numeracy	75%	65%

NAPLAN RESULTS 2023		Percentage of students in the top 2 proficiency standards	
		School	Australia
Year 5	Grammar and Punctuation	83%	64%
	Reading	91%	74%
	Writing	83%	66%
	Spelling	91%	69%
	Numeracy	91%	68%

## Pastoral Care and Student Wellbeing

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### Pastoral Care Policy

The School's pastoral care and student wellbeing policies guidelines and procedures are informed by the [Student Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy](#).

The Student Wellbeing and Pastoral Care Policy 2022 aims to provide a framework for the policies, programs, resources and practices implemented at system and school level with the purpose of supporting and enhancing the wellbeing of students, and all within its school community. It refers to the overall climate of care that exists within a Catholic school.

The environment is designed to be safe and inclusive, one that promotes academic rigour. A high priority is given to building and maintaining positive and caring relationships between staff, students and parents, and the wellbeing of all.

### Behaviour Management and Student Discipline Policy

The School's policies and procedures for the management of student behaviour



## Complaints Handling Policy

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has established a [Complaints Resolution Policy](#) which is implemented by our school and all systemic schools in the diocese. The rationale for the policy is that within the reality of the schooling experience, it is recognised that, from time to time, misunderstandings and differences of opinion will occur, and that these need to be resolved satisfactorily. Addressing such matters within a framework of dignity, respect and truth can provide powerful opportunities to model the love of Christ in the reality of our contemporary world. CSO monitors the implementation of this policy.

The full text of the [Complaints Resolution Policy](#) may be accessed on the School's website, the administration office or at the CSO website.

## Initiatives promoting respect and responsibility

The well-being of students, staff and families is important to our community. We care for and support each other in a variety of ways. At St Kevin's students learn to stand stronger in many ways. In the playground and the classroom, they learn to identify their limitations and possibilities, learn to communicate more effectively, learn to feel, set and defend their own boundaries and to respect others' boundaries too.

2023 saw the introduction of the Rock and water Programme for students in Years 5 and 6. The program has a strong connection to the Respect Matters Australian Curriculum and it fits appropriately into the NSW PDHPE Curriculum, particularly



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Other key improvement areas are student well-being through our goal of promoting positive relationships.



providing a space for teachers to work and plan during RFF time.



Recurrent and Capital Income 2023	
Commonwealth Recurrent Grants <sup>1</sup>	\$2,033,656
Government Capital Grants <sup>2</sup>	\$0
State Recurrent Grants <sup>3</sup>	\$536,266
Fees and Private Income <sup>4</sup>	\$391,263
Interest Subsidy Grants	\$0
Other Capital Income <sup>5</sup>	\$110,323
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$3,071,508</b>

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END OF 2023 REPORT