

ANNUAL SCHOOL COMMUNITY REPORT

Year:	2007
School Name:	Corpus Christi Catholic School
School Type:	K-6
Suburb/Town:	Bellerive
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Principal:	Seán B Gill

School Profile

Corpus Christi is a Kindergarten to Grade Six co-educational Catholic Primary school, which is situated at Bellerive on the Eastern Shore of Hobart, the capital city of Tasmania. There were 465 students enrolled at Corpus Christi in 2007. It is a Parish Primary School within the Archdiocese of Hobart with systemic administration under the direction of the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office. The School was founded by the Presentation Sisters, who conducted it from 1936-1986. Since 1987, the School has been under the leadership of lay Principals. In 2007 a new Principal Mr Seán B Gill was appointed. The School operates a double stream Kindergarten to Grade 6 arrangement with a heavy enrolment demand from the Eastern Shore.

The vision of Corpus Christi Catholic School is for all in the school community to be aware of and make use of the gifts that God has given them.

The mission of the School is to provide a loving, caring and supportive environment where students are encouraged to grow in faith within a Catholic community and to develop their potential. We endeavour to promote among our community a strong sense of belonging in an atmosphere which recognises the important role staff and parents play in the education of our students. As an educational community, we promote life-long learning by providing a student-centred curriculum, which aims to equip Corpus Christi students with the knowledge and skills necessary to make learning easier now and into the future.

The School's crest depicts a chalice and a raised host that represents the Body and Blood of Christ and the Southern Cross, which symbolises that we are Australians.

The school motto is SI SCRIES DONUM DEI, which translated means, "If you only knew the gift of God". The focus of the motto is on growth, opportunity and personal development.

During the past few years the School has undergone substantial redevelopment. This includes upgrading classrooms to cater for the learning and teaching platform at the School. The relocation of the Kindergarten to larger premises adjacent to the Infant area and the establishment of an Outside School Hours Care facility have been a priority.

The School has an attractive setting with established and well-maintained gardens. Through the support of the Parents and Friends Committee the School continues to upgrade its playground facilities in line with accepted Australian standards.

Catholic Life and Mission

Our mission at Corpus Christi Catholic School is to follow Jesus by providing a welcoming and supportive learning environment where we strive to live the Gospel values of love, compassion, forgiveness, justice and peace. The School actively promotes the values of honesty, trustworthiness, integrity, respect, understanding, tolerance and responsibility.

As an educational community we continue to challenge students to express their opinions and communicate effectively and creatively that they may become resourceful and effective problem solvers with a commitment to life-long learning. We are committed to providing the best possible educational opportunities for our students by continually examining our learning and teaching practices, our resources and the organisation of the School.

As a Catholic School, it is important for us to celebrate as a Christ-centred community. We gather throughout the year to celebrate the Eucharist in class groups and as a whole School. We continue to support the Parish Sacramental programs of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation. Parents, as the first educators of their children, play a vital role in supporting their children through the preparation stages of the Sacraments.

Celebration through prayer plays a significant role in the life of the School. Each classroom has a prayer table where children are encouraged to pray in the Catholic tradition. Staff meet weekly to pray together and prayers are offered at the beginning of all School meetings. Special liturgies are held to celebrate important events such as Lent, Holy Week, Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day, ANZAC Day and Advent, as well as celebrating the beginning and ending of each school year.

As an important part of the Bellerive/Lindisfarne Parish, we strive to foster co-operation, support and communication between the School and the Parish. We encourage all families to be actively involved in the life of the Parish.

Our staff continues to participate in professional learning which focuses on spirituality. Our main focus in 2007 was the "Courage to Be" retreats. Our aim is for every individual staff member to be able to attend a retreat over a three year period.

We continue to focus our attention on the Archdiocesan Religious Education Curriculum "Good News for Living", ensuring that we provide substantial learning experiences for the students in Religious Education.

Students continue to participate in leadership programs such as "MJR" and "Mini-Vinnies Outreach", which highlight their commitment to being positive role models and leaders for fellow students.

We continue to support many outreach programs such as CARITAS, Catholic Missions, Presentation Sisters Missions, and the Archbishop's Samaritan Project and continue to be involved in a support network for Schools in East Timor.

Our Learning Community

Corpus Christi continued to offer a comprehensive education to its students. It is a learning community of staff, parents and students. During 2007 the School provided specialist teachers and facilities in the areas of Music, Physical Education, LOTE (Italian), Drama, Learning Support and Extension, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

The School provides experiences for all its students in the key learning areas of Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Studies of Society and The Environment, The Arts (which includes Music and Drama), Health and Physical Education, ICT and LOTE.

We aim to:

- Guide students in their relationship with God.
- Assist students to develop their academic abilities and capabilities.
- Encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Provide equity and equal opportunity for our students.
- Provide an education that will help to provide for the future of our students.

Students in Grade 3 and 5 participated in the National Benchmark LANNA Testing with the following results being recorded when compared to like schools:

Grade 3 Numeracy-

Number	1.7%	above average
Mental Computation	2.2%	below average
Space	7.5%	above average
Measurement and Data	3.1%	above average

Grade 3 Literacy-

Reading	2.8%	above average
Spelling	3%	above average
Writing	0.4%	above average

Grade 5 Numeracy-

Number	13.8%	above average
Mental Computation	6%	above average
Space	18%	above average
Measurement and Data	23.9%	above average

Grade 5 Literacy-

Reading	11.7%	above average
Spelling	2.8%	above average
Writing	0.1%	above average

These results will help to shape our Literacy and Numeracy plan for 2008.

Students with special needs, talents and gifts were given appropriate opportunities, challenges and experiences to develop their potential and to assist them with their learning needs with various activities throughout the year.

The School continued to offer students opportunities to participate in physical education and sporting programs which promote health, co-ordination and fitness. Students continued to participate in many excursions, which supported classroom-learning opportunities. Students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 participated in the School camping program.

Students from the School participated in the City of Clarence Eisteddfod in drama and musical performance winning the Mayor's Encouragement Award, several Percussion Awards and the Bruno Pecats Memorial Award for the most promising drama group.

The Grade 6 students were involved in leadership programs, which develop their skills and experience in assisting and supporting younger students. These programs are the Student Council, Peer Mediation, Aussie Sports Leaders, the Social Committee and the Mini Vinnies Committee (which is an outreach program connected to St Vincent De Paul Society.)

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care continues to be an expression of the philosophy and vision of the School. We endeavour to demonstrate pastoral care in every dimension of School life. The Catholic ethos of the School is reflected in Gospel values and these values provide the foundation of the School community's pastoral care for one another. The School exhibits an environment of genuine concern, compassion and love. Each person is respected and acknowledged as a valuable member of the School community. We seek to establish a relationship and partnership, which promotes mutual understanding, respect, tolerance and acceptance with staff, parents and students.

Strategic Planning

The School's Strategic Plan has been developed from dialogue and meetings involving staff, parents and students and is intended to assist future decision-making. The Plan provides an outline of our guiding principles and our most important goals for: Learning; Faith Formation; Community; Buildings; Grounds and Resources; and Financial Planning and Management. Essential to the success of the Strategic Plan is the monitoring of progress and the achievement of specific and realistic goals during each year of the Plan's existence.

The School's Vision Statement underpins all aspects of the Strategic Plan. The annual strategic plans for 2007 were:

LEARNING:

- (a) To provide educationally stimulating and challenging Literacy, Numeracy and ICT programs.
- (b) To continue to assess and report to parents using the agreed format.

COMMUNITY:

To introduce Outside School Hours Care at the School commencing in February 2008.

FAITH FORMATION: Continue to develop the Archdiocesan Religious Education curriculum "Good News for Living"

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND RESOURCES: The School Board of Management has developed a comprehensive staged building program to redevelop classrooms to suit learning and teaching in the 21st century This program has achieved many of its objectives and will continue to be the focus of planning and implementation in the coming years, particularly in the provision of upgraded facilities for upper primary students.

Areas of achievement in 2007 included:

- Building an enclosed Art area for Grades 5 and 6.
- The purchase of 16 Alma Street to provide a buffer for school property.
- Relocation in December of the Kindergarten from Presentation House to 77 Cambridge Road.
- Using Presentation House for Outside School Hours Care.

In 2007 the School has operated under the new CEO funding model and has incorporated the Uniform Shop and Canteen as enterprises of the School Board of Management.

Enrolment and Staffing

During 2007, the enrolment at the School consisted of 465 students, 50 of whom were Kindergarten children. Each of the two streams in Preparatory to Grade 6 were at capacity, with most classes having an enrolment of 30 students. Overall we had 244 male students and 221 female students with 7 Aboriginal students. The School continued to support two Rwandan refugee students.

There were 48 members of staff consisting of 31 teaching staff and 17 ancillary staff. Of the teaching staff 11 were full-time teachers and 20 part-time teachers. The Leadership Team consisted of the Assistant Principal Teaching and Learning, the Assistant Principal Religious Education and the Principal. A School Improvement Team included the Leadership Team as well as a Curriculum Co-ordinator, a Numeracy Officer and another member of staff.

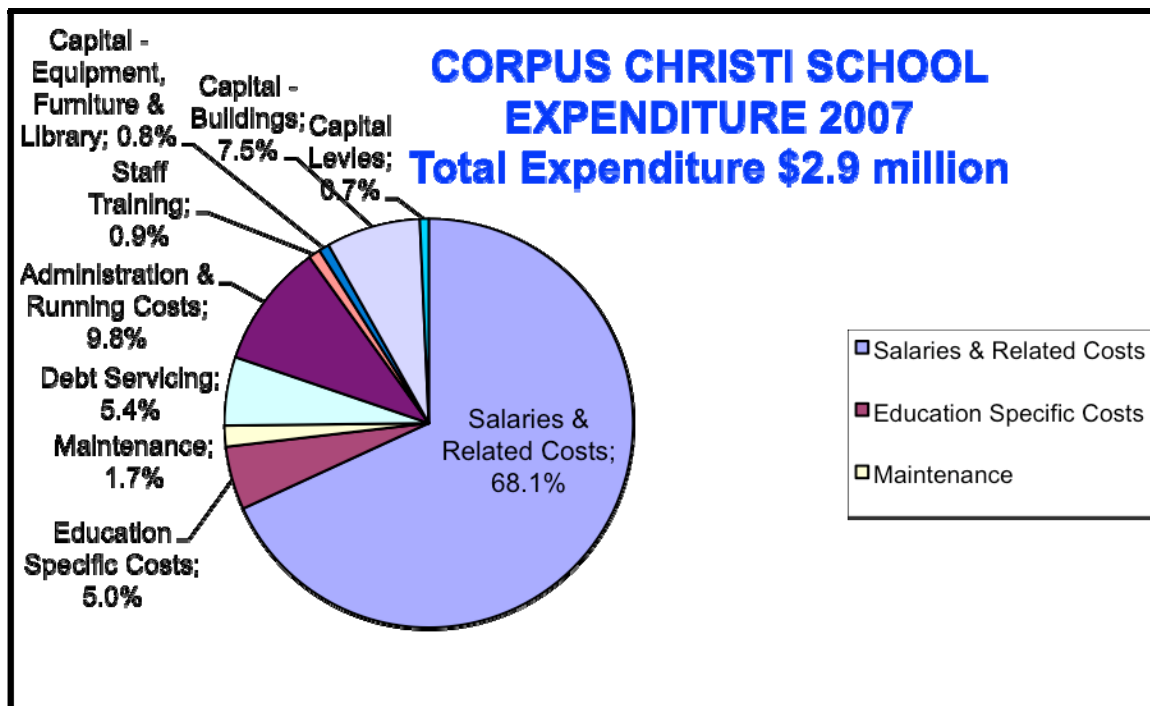
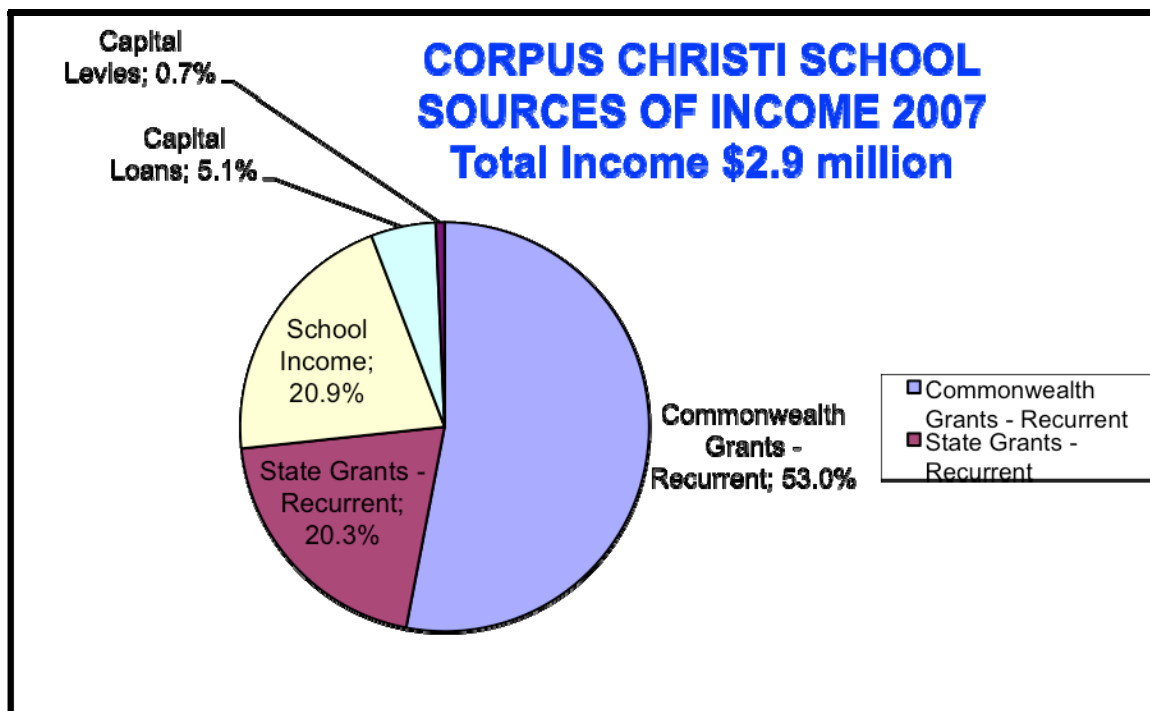
Community Involvement

The School actively participates in its local community. We support the Parish of Bellerive/Lindisfarne and other Church agencies such as CARITAS, we sponsor children in the Philippines through the Presentation Sisters Missions in that country and we support the St Vincent de Paul Society by raising funds for their projects and to heighten awareness of disadvantaged families.

The School as part of its "Good Neighbour" policy conducts an annual meeting with neighbours to discuss plans from the School and any concerns that the local community may have. This is supplemented by a term newsletter to neighbours informing them of happenings and progress at the School. Wherever possible the School will participate and support local groups within the community, eg: RSL on ANZAC Day, Clarence Council, etc.

The School continues to develop links with Mackillop College where the majority of our students attend for secondary education. These links are evident in community outreach programs, arts programs and sporting events.

Financial Statement



About this Report

In preparing this report information has been gathered from evaluations conducted during the year. Information about the School's practices and student learning outcomes have also been analysed and from this, goals for the School's future development have been determined.

This Report was Prepared by:
Corpus Christi Catholic School Leadership Team.

Signed
Seán B Gill
PRINCIPAL