



School Name St Thomas' School

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Contact Person Mrs Donna Jones

Principal's Foreword

Introduction

With an enrolment of 345 students, St Thomas' Primary School strives to cater for the needs of both boys and girls from Prep to Year 6. Our vision is to follow in the tradition of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and the Good Samaritan Sisters and in doing so we strive to be a community of faith, justice, compassion and learning. Our school has two streams in Prep to Year 4, and one stream in Years 5 and 6. We educate and inspire our children to develop their individual gifts in a contemporary, relevant learning environment

Our school logo - A heart for mind and spirit - reflects the unique place St. Thomas' occupies within the broader community, being a centre point or heart where students, staff, parents, the church and local people connect.

As a Catholic school, we also strive to deepen an understanding of, and nurture a relationship with our God, through an extensive Religious Education program and community worship opportunities based on Catholic traditions.

Each student is valued, respected and supported in the learning and teaching process.

School Profile

St Thomas' School is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational or Single Sex

Year levels offered: Primary Secondary P-12

Total Student Enrolments 345 Girls 167 Boys 178

Characteristics of the student body

Our St Thomas' School student body is mainly from the local Camp Hill area and thus share very similar socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, i.e. the higher end of the socio-economic scale with Australian European background being highly predominant.

The prevalence of students with any significant ESL background is 2%.

Whilst St. Thomas' is well placed to support and cater for students with disabilities, present numbers total 2.6%.

We are a Catholic school not only in name, but also with a student population of over 93% practising Catholics, with many families actively involved in our parish.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Our curriculum is diverse to provide a range of learning opportunities and cater for the individual style of learning that each child possesses. We believe that students are life long learners and that the curriculum must be dynamic and continually changing.

The implementation of the curriculum is supported by a number of specialist teachers who work with all children/classes in our school, including learning support, literacy support, speech and drama, music, LOTE (Language Other Than English - Italian) , I.C.T and physical education. Other programs offered to students include:

- * LAP (Learning Assistance Program) - Years 3 and 5
- * PAL (Phonological Awareness for Language) - Years 1-4
- * ELF (Early Literacy Fundamentals) - Prep
- * Support-A-Reader - Years 1 and 2
- * Multi-Lit (Literacy Program) - Years 1-4
- * FRIENDS programs - across all year levels
- * Dance Cart - P-6 participation
- * Tournament of the Minds (TOM) - Years 4-6
- * Days of Excellence

Extra curricula activities

- * Inter-school netball/touch football competitions for Years 4-6
- * Viva Soccer, Go Sport activities, AusKick and after school tennis coaching
- * Speech and Drama
- * Participation in ICAS (International Competition and Assessments for Schools)
- * Chess Club
- * Learn how to play a variety of instruments - strings, piano, guitar, band
- * Participation in School or Parish Choirs (STYPS) with representation at QCMF
- * L.O.T.E. - involvement in Italian competitions
- * Participation in "Days of Excellence" literacy and numeracy program with other schools
- * KIDS MATTER yoga and skipping

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

St Thomas' School is well resourced in the area of ICT. Each classroom is equipped with Apple TV used with interactive whiteboards, projectors, or Interactive TV's. These tools are used to further support and enhance the learning and teaching cycle. All students have real time access to a variety of digital devices in all classes (including ipad mini's, ipad airs, ipods, digital cameras, laptops and desktops).

A one-to-one laptop program for Year 7 was introduced in 2011 with Years 4,5 and 6 following in 2012. A one-to-one ipad learning environment was introduced to Years 1 and 2 in 2013. Today, all children in Years 1 to 6 have a 1 to 1 device and Prep have access to a bank of ipads.

An ICLT teacher, 3 days per week, supports teachers and students in enhancing their ICT skills, ensuring ICT is embedded in the school curriculum and assisting quality learning through a variety of Information and Communication Technologies.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

St Thomas' students are provided with opportunities to be involved in pastoral care programs such as The Helping Hands Group; the Christmas appeal to support our local needs through St. Vincent de Paul; attend the parish Healing Mass each term; accompany parishioners and help serve morning tea; attend prayer each Monday with the whole school community; support Project Compassion, Catholic Mission and other BCE initiatives.

We have a Responsible Behaviour Policy in place and staff and students have been taught strategies of dealing with bullying through the "Bully Bulldozer" program. This program, together with our learning from the School Wide Positive Behaviour Program; development of a Student Behaviour Support Plan; and our introduction to the Student Behaviour System ensure a proactive rather than reactive approach to bullying.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Responses regarding this area are often gained formally from surveys forwarded to parents as part of our internal review processes, and informally from a personal approach to parents and those of the wider community.

St Thomas' School has an extremely active and involved parent body. With 242 families in the school, over 235 families to date have participated in the legislated volunteer induction to offer their services to our school throughout the year. We have identified at least twenty different ways parents are regularly involved in school life. This is particularly evident during the preparation of our biennial school fete. With a renowned parish and school community; little turnover of our highly regarded staff; successful whole school behaviour management program; designated leadership program for students across Years 5 and 6; thriving Parents and Friends organisation; active School Board; particularly large numbers of enrolment applications, it is reasonable to assert that student, staff and parent satisfaction with St Thomas' School is of a high level.

Parent involvement in their child's education

We value open dialogue with our families and we strive to develop and maintain healthy relationships among and between staff, students and their families. A very active School Board and Parents and Friends Association are at the hub of a vibrant school community. Parents are invited to take part in school activities and classroom interaction is encouraged. A number of parental educational programs exist.

Tuckshop, student banking, the fete, sporting events, social activities, as well as a wide range of educational programs, are all opportunities for parents to work in partnership with staff for the benefit of our children. In each class a parent assumes the role of Class Parent Representative to form a quick and effective link between the class parents and class teacher.

A number of meeting times are planned for interaction between families and staff to discuss each child's learning journey.

Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	28	17
Full-time equivalents	20.82	9.68
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders		

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	0
Masters	4
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	
Bachelors Degree	23
Diploma/Certificate	1

Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2015 was \$ 35,615.56.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

Staff continued to attend Professional Development days on improving pedagogical practice by consolidating and embedding the strategies of visible learning within the classroom and school wide context.

Spiritual and faith formation of many staff occurred with participation in the following BCE programs: Catching Fire, Guiding Lights, and Keepers of the Flame.

All staff participated in Professional Learning opportunities around Component 2: Focusing on the Social and Emotional Learning of Children of the Kid's Matter framework.

School Income by Funding Source

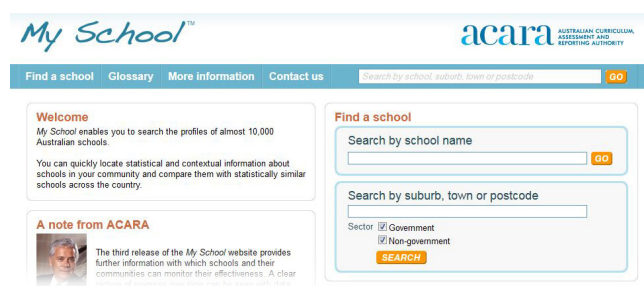
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting 'School finances' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page.



Average staff attendance rate

The staff attendance rate was 96.81 % in 2015.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2014 school year, 93.0 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2015 year.

Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Prep Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Year 1 Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Year 2 Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Year 3 Attendance Rate	96.00 %

Year 4 Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Year 5 Attendance Rate	96.00 %
Year 6 Attendance Rate	96.00 %

Policy and practice to manage student attendance

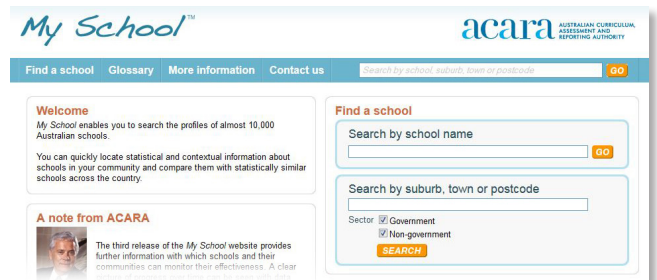
Parents/caregivers are contacted if a student has not arrived at school by 8:40am and we have not had notification of their absence.

To ensure continuity of access to the curriculum, any frequent, notified absences are addressed by the class teacher and the Principal.

Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.



The screenshot shows the My School website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Find a school', 'Glossary', 'More information', and 'Contact us'. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar, with the text 'Search by school, suburb, town or postcode' and a 'GO' button. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Welcome' section with a brief introduction to the website. To the right of the welcome section is a 'Find a school' section with two search boxes: 'Search by school name' and 'Search by suburb, town or postcode'. Below these search boxes are radio buttons for 'Sector' with options for 'Government' and 'Non-government', and a 'SEARCH' button.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following

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