Annual School Report
2013 School Year

Mt St Patrick Primary School
MURWILLUMBAH

Murwillumbah
30 Mooball St

6672 1821
66721536
www.murplism.catholic.edu.au
About This Report

Mt St Patrick Primary School is registered by the Board of Studies (NSW) and managed by the Lismore Catholic Schools Office (CSO), as the ‘approved authority’ for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the NSW Education Act 1990.

The Annual Report to the Parish School Community for this year provides the parish school community with fair, reliable and objective information about school performance measures and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education.

The Report also outlines to the parish school community information about initiatives and developments of major interest and importance to the parish school community and the achievements arising from the implementation of the school’s Strategic Management Plan and Annual Plan.

The Report demonstrates accountability to the Federal and State Government regulatory bodies, the parish and school community and the Catholic Schools Office. This Report has been approved by the CSO which monitors school processes to ensure compliance with all NSW Board of Studies requirements for Registration.

This Report complements and is supplementary to school newsletters, year books and other regular communications. The Report will be available on the school’s website by 30 June 2014 following its submission to the Board of Studies.

The contents of this Report may be tabled for discussion at various parent forums and all information is public.

Further information about the school or this Report may be obtained by contacting the school on 02 6672 1821 or by visiting the website at www.murplism.catholic.edu.au.
Principal’s Message

The primary purpose of Mt St Patrick Primary Catholic Primary School is to support the members of the parish community in providing a faith formation for their children. The school fosters a commitment to the individual and provides opportunities for academic, cultural and sporting achievement. Mt St Patrick Primary offers students a Catholic education based on the teaching of the Church and within the context of a strong faith community.

Our parish school continued to provide many opportunities for the faith and spiritual growth of the students as well as opportunities to excel in academic, cultural and sporting areas. All of these areas combined to ensure that our school’s mission was lived out daily in the life of the school.

The students’ achievements and accomplishments were showcased throughout 2013. Student work was proudly displayed in classrooms, on school noticeboards, in the school office and on class webpages. School achievement was highlighted and celebrated at many school assemblies. Our focus was to continue to build on the reputation that Mt St Patrick Primary has earned as an exemplary school. The following list provides an indication of the school’s academic achievements:

- The school wide approach to Spelling using Words Their Way continued to be implemented from Kinder to Year 6. It was noted in NAPLAN data that Year 3 boys have improved by 31 scale scores from 2012 data in the test aspect of Spelling.
- Students in Stage 3 competed in the Australasian Mathematics Olympiad competition.
- As part of the enrichment program students from Stage 3 attended a writers’ workshop at Mt St Patrick College participating with Year 7 and Year 8 students. Enrichment programs also included Science and Robotics.
- Students participated in the Les Peterkin Portrait competition and received numerous awards for artworks presented.
- The implementation of the Australian curriculum in NSW included English and Science and Technology with all classes K-6 trialling Science units during Term 4.
- The Literacy Network resources were added to and implemented across Stage 2 and Stage 3. It was noted in NAPLAN data that Year 5 boys were 7 scale scores above the State average growth in the test aspect of Reading.

There were many opportunities throughout the year for our school to be represented at community and cultural events. The following list provides an indication of the school’s cultural program and community involvement:

- Banana Festival
- ANZAC DAY March
- Murwillumbah Show
- World Environment Day
- National Tree Planting Day
Students performed well at various sporting events during the year. The following list provides some examples of sporting highlights:

- **Swimming**
  Mt St Patrick Primary was placed first in the Tweed Zone Swimming Carnival, with five individual records made. The Senior Girls Relay team broke the Zone, Diocesan and Polding records then won a bronze medal at the NSW PSSA Championships. Five students represented our school at NSW State Trials. One student qualified for the NSW State team to compete at the National Trials.

- **Athletics**
  Four individual school records were broken at the Athletics Carnival. Mt St Patrick was runner-up in this year’s Zone Athletics. Three age champions were successful at the Zone Athletics. Two students continued to reach the NSW State Trials.

- **Summer / Winter Sport trials**
  Many students were selected to represent Mt St Patrick PS at the Diocesan Summer Sports Trials. In Touch we had one representative. In Tennis we had three representatives. In Cricket we had one representative and in Softball we had two representatives. Four students were selected to participate at the NSW State Trials. Two students were selected to represent NSW with one in Hockey and another student in Softball.

- **Cross Country**
  Mt St Patrick was placed third at the Tweed Zone Cross Country with forty-seven competitors. Eight students competed at the Diocesan trials.

- **Paul Hookway Cup**
  The Tweed Zone Sporting Association has the Paul Hookway Cup which is presented to a sportsperson who has achieved outstanding sporting success within the Tweed Zone. The recipient this year of this award was a student from Mt St Patrick Primary School.

There were many people who assisted in the school’s quest for excellence. In particular special thanks are extended to the parent body and the school staff for all their generous efforts. Mt St Patrick Primary School is indeed blessed to have such dedicated and enthusiastic people supporting the school.

Brian Laybut
Principal
A Parent Message

Mt St Patrick Primary warmly welcomes all parents to its vibrant school community. Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in various aspects of school life. This can be through attending Parent Forum meetings, covering library books, helping in the classrooms or at sporting and other events. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend all events, assemblies or any other school functions that take place.

During 2013 the Parent Forum had four meetings, held at the beginning of each Term. During these meetings, the parents along with the school staff decided where Forum funds would be best used to help our children.

Funds raised by the Forum were directed towards the purchase of a variety of resources for the school such as literacy resources, interactive whiteboards, air-conditioning units and musical instruments.

The Forum was consulted in regards to the selection criteria for the appointment of a new Principal. The resulting feedback was incorporated into the selection process that followed and a parent from the school community was invited to attend the final interviews of the shortlisted candidates.

At the beginning of Term 1, the Parent Forum allocates every class an event to be held during the year. The parent representatives of that class organise the event and recruit other parents of the class to help. Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls are an example of this. Parents ordered gifts, wrapped them and sold them at the stalls.

Two major fundraisers were held during the year. The first was a Skill-a-Thon where students gained sponsorship to complete a series of fun events at school. The second was a Monster Raffle.

2013 saw the Forum and school jointly tackle the on-going parking issues at the school. Extensive research over the past eight years and subsequent meetings with Council, has resulted in the funding of new access pathways, changes to parking around the school and the introduction of revised pick-up and drop-off routines.

Two parents represent Mt St Patrick Primary at the Parent Assembly. This Assembly allows the school access to different speakers. Relevant topics ranged from Boys in Education to helping children deal with loss and grief (Seasons for Growth Program).

Mt St Patrick Primary promotes the belief that teaching our children is a joint effort between parents and teachers. The school has an ‘open door’ policy, thereby encouraging a strong parent-teacher relationship. This, in turn, helps ensure the best educational experience for each individual child.

Mrs Clare Price
Chairperson
Parent School Forum
This Catholic School

Mt St Patrick Primary School is located in Murwillumbah and is part of the Sacred Heart Parish which serves the communities of Murwillumbah, Uki, Burringbar and South Murwillumbah. School families are drawn from the towns and community of the Tweed Valley and Tweed Coast. In 2013 the school celebrated 110 years of Catholic education. The Parish Priest Fr David Gilbey is involved in the life of the school.

Mt St Patrick Primary is a parish school with strong links to the parish family. The school aims to involve the children and their families in the life of the parish through such activities such as:
- involvement in the Parish Christmas Tableau;
- preparation of and involvement in Friday Parish Masses and Feast days;
- preparation of children for the Sacraments and retreat days;
- preparation and coordination of the altar serving program;
- involvement in fundraising for not-for-profit organisations e.g. Caritas, St Vincent De Paul.

The parish school uses the mandated Diocesan Religious Education curriculum and the resource text “To Know, Worship & Love”. Catholic life and culture permeate school life with 2.5 hours of religious education taught formally each week. The Diocesan Daily Prayer guidelines support the school’s prayer life. The aims and direction of this parish school Mt St Patrick Primary is guided by Catholic Education in the Diocese of Lismore, the Foundational Beliefs and Practices – The Essential Framework. This Framework underpins all policy, planning, roles and processes within the parish school. Our aim is to increasingly integrate the essence of this statement into all aspects of parish school life. Religious Education is always given priority in our school and classroom curriculum and planning.

The Parish School Mission Statement highlights the nature and calling of the school.

Mt St Patrick Primary School caters for children from Kindergarten to Year 6. The following table indicates the student enrolment characteristics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>K</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>TOTAL 2013</th>
<th>TOTAL 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>155</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>187</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indigenous</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LBOTE</strong> (Language background other than English)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School Curriculum

The school provides a comprehensive educational program based on and taught in accordance with the Board of Studies 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 school continues to work towards a common approach to 21st century pedagogy using professional learning teams to share best practice. The practice of goal setting has been established to address individual learning needs and is evident from Kinder to Stage 3. The implementation of goal setting has allowed professional dialogue to occur around data and has led to the review of the assessment processes currently in place. The establishment of a student tracker system to store assessment data relation has assisted in the review of assessment to direct teaching.

The whole school approach to Spelling has enabled foundations to be laid that will ensure consistency in the use of strategies in the teaching and learning cycle from Kinder to Stage 3.

Student Performance in National Testing Programs

The school participated in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) with students in Years 3 and 5 tested. In Year 3, 46 students presented for the tests while in Year 5 there were 46 students.

In Literacy there were four elements tested. These were reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation. In Numeracy, students were tested in number, patterns and algebra, measurement, data, and space and geometry

In both Year 3 and Year 5 there are six achievement bands with Band 6 being the highest level of attainment in Year 3 and Band 8 the highest in Year 5.

The Commonwealth Government has set minimum acceptable standards for reading, writing and numeracy at particular ages. In Year 3, students who achieve Band 3 or higher have achieved above the minimum standard. In Year 5 those students who achieve at Band 5 and higher have achieved above the minimum standard set by government.

At Mt St Patrick Primary school and student performance is closely monitored. These tests are one means of gathering data on individual student and school achievement. School staff have participated in Catholic Schools Office information sessions on NAPLAN and SMART 2 Data Analysis workshops.

The following data indicates the percentage of Mt St Patrick Primary School students in each band compared to the State percentage.
### Year 3 NAPLAN Results in Literacy and Numeracy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading</strong></td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>39.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing</strong></td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>37.0</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>10.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling</strong></td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td>32.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar and Punctuation</strong></td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>20.7</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number, Patterns and Algebra</strong></td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>31.6</td>
<td>34.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>26.1</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Measurement, Data, Space and Geometry</strong></td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>23.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21.5</td>
<td>41.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As can be seen from the Year 3 NAPLAN results table the percentage of students in the top three bands in Writing and Grammar and Punctuation is pleasing compared to the State. A number of initiatives have impacted on these results including the implementation of a wide range of strategies to improve student performance in these areas. Analysis of data and future initiatives in Numeracy will assist to improve student outcomes.
Year 5 NAPLAN results in Literacy and Numeracy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 5 NAPLAN Results in Literacy and Numeracy</th>
<th>Percentage of students in Bands 3 to 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BAND 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>15.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>13.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number, Patterns and Algebra</td>
<td>15.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement, Data, Space and Geometry</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>14.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As can be seen from the Year 5 NAPLAN results table the percentage of students in the top three bands in Reading is above the State figures. The explicit teaching of comprehension strategies has been an initiative to improve reading along with the updating of reading resources. A whole school approach to Spelling is being investigated; implementation of online testing and the collection of data to inform teaching will guide the direction for future improvements.
Teacher Standards and Professional Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher Qualifications / Staff Profile</th>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Those having formal qualifications from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent.</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Those having graduate qualifications but not a formal teaching qualification from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Those not having qualifications described in 1 or 2 above but having relevant successful teaching experience or appropriate relevant knowledge.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Teachers with recognised qualifications to teach Religious Education.</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Number of staff identifying as indigenous employed at the school.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Total number of non-teaching staff employed in the school.</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All teachers have been involved in professional development activities during the year. These activities are designed to develop the skills and understandings of staff so as to improve student outcomes. Professional development can take many forms including whole-staff development days, subject specific in-services, meetings and conferences.

Whole- staff development day professional learning activities in 2013 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Development Days</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Curriculum</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROCLAIM</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Curriculum</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Spirituality Day</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>School Exec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(CSO – Catholic Schools Office)

Additionally staff attended either singly or in groups a range of professional development opportunities including:
- School visits in Sydney and Coffs Harbour focusing on Kindergarten classes;
- Australian Curriculum – Science and English
- NAPLAN analysis workshop
- Best Start training
- New Scheme Teachers workshop
- Non Violent Crisis Intervention - I attended with all the Aides
- Save your Sanity (working with students with ASD, ADD, Behavioural Difficulties)
- Support-A-Talker - Jenna Beck (Speech Pathologist)
- Online course about Autism Spectrum Disorder - Positive Partnerships
- Proloquo to Go workshop.

The professional learning expenditure has been calculated at $6585 per staff member. This figure has been calculated by CSO and reflects expenditure on casual release days and professional development activities in particular categories.
Teacher Attendance and Retention

The average teacher attendance figure is 96.41%. This figure is provided to the school by the CSO. There were no significant staffing changes last year.

Student Attendance

School attendance is always high. The Class Roll is marked every day and rolls are checked each term. Unexplained absences are followed up promptly by classroom teachers. Parents are requested to provide a note to the teacher immediately the child returns to school. The principal is made aware of sustained student absences or absences reflecting a pattern. In these situations the principal or delegated staff member contacts the parent/guardian. Parents are encouraged to arrange medical and other necessary appointments outside school hours. Prolonged periods of absence occur from time-to-time for various reasons. In these cases students and their parents meet with the principal to discuss their leave request.

The average student attendance rate for the school during 2013 was 93.27%. School attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance rates by Year group</th>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>93.17%</td>
<td>92.85%</td>
<td>92.01%</td>
<td>92.38%</td>
<td>94.71%</td>
<td>93.83%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Policies

School policies are reviewed regularly. In 2013 the following policies were reviewed, updated or newly created:

- New Parking and Bus Procedures around the School - developed
- Assessment Policy - revised (with weekly assessment tasks replacing portfolios)
- Student data tracking system - introduced
- Homework Policy - revised
- Australian Curriculum Programming Procedures
- First Aid Procedures - revised
- School Uniform – amended.
Enrolment Policy

Every new enrolment at Mt St Patrick Primary School requires parents to attend an enrolment interview. The interview provides an opportunity to learn more about the educational experience provided by the school, specific school procedural policies and current school expectations.

Preference for enrolment is given to children of baptised Catholics. It is a condition of enrolment that all children will participate in class religion lessons and activities, as well as prayer celebrations and school and class Masses.

Children who turn five by 30th June are eligible to apply for enrolment in Kindergarten. Enrolments for Kindergarten children are called for in the year before commencement. Other enrolments are accepted throughout the year if there are vacancies in the classes concerned.

A copy of the enrolment policy is located in the school office or it can be accessed on the school’s website. The School Enrolment Policy explains the Parish enrolment guidelines.

Student Welfare Policy, Pastoral Care Policy

The school’s Pastoral Care Policy is concerned with the fostering of students’ self-discipline. Pastoral care is love in action and, as such, underpins the school’s policies and curriculum statements, procedures and organizational structures. It brings the school’s vision to life in a practical and tangible manner. Other additional pastoral care programs that have been implemented in our school include the Virtues program and the Season for Growth program (a grief and loss program).

The school has a teacher employed on a part time basis to cater for the general well-being of the students as well as a staff member employed through the School Chaplaincy program who works within a pastoral and student support framework. Mt St Patrick School provides a safe educational environment for students and staff. Student safety is aided by having all teachers trained in the protocols and programs relating to the Child Protection legislation. This includes defining school regulations and rules as well as various policies such as the Anti-bullying policy.

Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) is constantly being reviewed in order to provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff. Detailed duty rosters and information pertaining to duty and care of students are outlined in Staff and Parent Handbooks. At each Staff meeting OH&S is raised as an agenda item and the school has a comprehensive policy that is available from the office.
Discipline Policy

At Mt St Patrick Primary when we speak of discipline, we are referring to the means of bringing the children to practise self-control. We are aiming to lead the children to regulate their conduct according to Christian ideals, values and standards. While we strive to use a positive approach to discipline by rewarding good behaviour and effort, the school also has a program of disciplinary action which takes into account the nature and severity of transgressions of basic school rules; is sequential; is co-coordinated across the school and is consistently applied to boys and girls. The Discipline Policy is accessible on the school website. It is also discussed with students, staff and parents on a regular basis. Reminders about the Discipline Policy are regularly included in school newsletters.

Complaints and Grievance Policy

The school policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory environment. Any concerns raised are responded to promptly and fairly and confidentiality is always maintained. The policy is available at the front office or from the school’s website.

School Determined Improvement Targets

Each year the school develops an Annual Plan drawn from the five-year Strategic Plan. 2013 was a very rewarding year. Listed below are a number of goals and priorities that the school focused on during the year. The parish school’s main goals and priorities were to:

- introduce “Heart and Pride” time;
- promote consistency across classes in the allocation of grades;
- work towards a greater familiarisation with the Australian Curriculum to ensure its effective implementation;
- develop a greater understanding of and to implement the Lismore Diocese Contemporary Learning Framework;
- utilise available technology e.g. Moodle, iMaths, Mathletics, study ladder etc.
- ensure that the use of technology is embedded within the teaching and learning processes in the classroom;
- ensure the role of the Leader of Pedagogy is embedded within school practice;
- review traffic, buses and parking procedures around the school;
- ensure that environmental Issues are promoted within the classroom/school;
- establish an environmental group to raises awareness;
- develop a school data base for the recording of student information and test results;
- ensure that the student tracking system becomes part of the Administrative procedures of the school.
Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

The school ensures that at every available formal and informal opportunity the values of respect and responsibility are promoted. The school models and teaches students about respect and responsibility in a number of ways:

- During 2013 the school introduced a program called “Heart and Pride”. These words are taken from our school crest. Heart and Pride time is a 30 min lesson delivered by the Middle School students to students in Years 1, 2, 3 and 4. The lesson occurs every 3 weeks that is 3 lessons a term. The procedure is that in Week 1 the lesson is taught to all Middle School students. In Week 2 students in Middle School then plan how they would deliver the lesson. In Week 3 the lesson is delivered. Lessons delivered revolve around school spirit, bullying, treating each other with respect and tolerance.

In addition to Heart and Pride time, specific programs on such topics as social skills, friendship groups and anti-bullying were all conducted as well as the Seasons for Growth program. Minnie Vinnies and the newly formed Environment Committee were very prominent programs conducted within the school.

Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

The school uses a variety of methods to gauge parental, student and teacher satisfaction with school operations. The school understands the importance of regularly reviewing approval and satisfaction levels. Last year the following formal and informal opportunities allowed the school to test reaction to decisions, policy and school procedures:

- A survey was conducted in September that questioned all new families to the school this year to make comment about: administration, teaching / learning, transition, community, Catholic culture and to give their overall impression of the school including its strengths and weaknesses. Parents were invited to make recommendations and provide a general comment. Overall, impressions of the school in all areas were extremely positive. In particular the transition from preschool to Kindergarten was a highlight.

Each Parent Forum meeting opportunities are given for question time and open discussion. Parents are able to question the Principal, raise concerns or make suggestions and recommendations. Feedback on the openness and format of meetings was very supportive of both the meeting format and process.

- Responses to a survey conducted in February regarding the effectiveness of the School Chaplaincy program were without exception the extremely positive and supportive of this position.
Financial Information

Catholic schools are accountable for all monies received. Each year, the Lismore Catholic Schools Office submits to the Commonwealth Government a financial statement on behalf of the parish primary schools and secondary colleges. This statement details the income and expenditure of each school. In addition, the financial accounts for each school and for the Catholic Schools Office are audited annually.

A visual summary of the income and expenditure reported to the Commonwealth Government for 2013 is presented below:

2013 INCOME - Mount St Patrick Primary School - MURWILLUMBAH

2013 EXPENSE - Mount St Patrick Primary School - MURWILLUMBAH