

The heart and soul of St Mary's School Warwick is in the history and traditions of the Sisters of Mercy and the Christian Brothers; a history that spans more than a century. Catherine MacAuley and Edmund Rice were two exemplary people and it is in their likeness that the staff, students, parents and parish members nurture and live not only the motto of the school: Seek the Truth, but the two pillars of the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office:

- That schools are exemplary places of learning where every student experiences academic success
- That schools are exemplary places of spiritual life and Catholic faith where every student comes to know and experience the loving presence of Jesus in their lives.

At the heart of all we do at St Mary's School Warwick is the core business of any good school and that is to ensure the highest quality teaching and learning for all stakeholders. To this end one contribution to this goal is that there is a small teacher/student ratio, and we choose to cover the extra staffing costs at school level, not covered by formulas of the Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office.

Each year we are guided by our overarching Strategic Renewal Plan. From this plan, we develop our goals or Annual Action Plan for the year based on the needs of the all stakeholders in our local community and the priorities of professional bodies and governing authorities. These needs are drawn from consultation at a local level with staff, students, parents, members of the parish and local community members through school board meetings, P and F meetings and Parish Pastoral Council meetings. To the end, a recurring theme each year is to ensure that a safe, healthy, holy and productive school environment is provided for all stakeholders and that the principle of stewardship directs the allocation of school resources.

We continue our commitment to offering quality teaching and learning which draws on pedagogical practice that is data informed and evidence based and aligned with the Australian Curriculum and the TCSO Learning Framework. We also want to ensure that our contemporary learning environments are responsive to the changing structures of schooling and diverse student populations and that our students are given every opportunity to utilize information, communication and learning technologies. A high percentage of our resourcing is given to this commitment.

Professional Development of staff in the forms of training, mentoring and coaching has resulted in improved practice. Financial resourcing in the forms of budget allocation and P&F support has ensured that more and more portable technical devices are available for students on a daily basis. We wish to ensure that our academic climate for learning is a contemporary learning environment in our digital world. Our 1:1 Laptop program will begin in Year 6 classes in 2019. This will also include the restructure of the current portable devices for Year 5 students. The lower years have access to a lab of laptops as well as banks of laptops and mobile ipads.

A range of curricular and extra-curricular activities continued to occur. These included: Chess club, Book Fair, Junior and Senior school choirs, Prep to Year Six buddy program, USQ Mentoring Programs with Student teachers, Art Exhibitions, School Balls (to expo our dance program), visits to local nursing homes, active Mini Vinnies program, participation in local, regional and state sporting opportunities, NAIDOC day, Market Day (celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of the Assumption, identifying the need to help others), regular assemblies and liturgies, Parish/School Masses. These are just a small sample offered in 2018 with continued enthusiasm for 2019.

Of high priority for myself as principal and for our staff is, whilst always aiming for academic excellence, is to cater for the health and well-being of all students. It has been my major goal that our students are safe in their environment and safe in their social/emotional/spiritual intelligence. It is our aim to continue to ensure that the special charism of Catherine McAuley and Edmund Rice permeates the development of the whole person of all students in our care.

The sense of Mission in Outreach is paramount to all stakeholders in the St Mary's School Warwick community. Our active school community has provided financially, physically and pastorally to the following: Lenten money and Mission money to Caritas, St Vincent de Paul winter and Christmas appeals, Daniel Morcombe Foundation and Drought Appeals. This year funds raised from our Market Day

went directly to the Drought Appeal including funds directed to the McGrath foundation to provide Breast care nurses to drought affected communities.

Over the next 5 years, the implementation of the Master Plan will see significant changes to the aesthetics of St Mary's School Warwick. The transition will continue to provide well-equipped classrooms, quality outdoor structures for continued physical development as well as opportunities for reflection and meditation. The MacKillop Centre will continue to provide a haven for gatherings and further physical and artistic development.

Our school theme for this year has been "Share the story". Each and every member of our community has been an active member of sharing their own story, sharing the story of others and sharing the story of Jesus. In 2019, we hope to take this further with "Believe in the story". We will endeavor to not only give lip service to the stories of those who inspire us but in the words of Catherine McAuley, "We should be shining lamps, giving light to all around us."

Finally I take this opportunity to thank our staff for their remarkable commitment to their vocation and to each and every member of our community, especially our students; our students for doing their 'best' in all they do; our parents, for the strong support in assisting us to shape the learning pathways for the students in our care. May we continue to RISE UP and Seek the Truth – be the light of Christ and the love of God to everyone and everything in our lives.

Margaret Grew M.Ed. Lead.; Grad Dip Religious Education; Grad Dip Ed – Early Childhood; Bachelor of Education; Diploma of Teaching.

Principal