

Queen of Apostles Primary School

Principal's Annual Report to the School Community



15TH NOVEMBER 2023

Queen of Apostles Primary School

Principal's Annual Report

OUR SCHOOL VISION

Queen of Apostles is a vibrant and inclusive Catholic community. Our vision is:

To inspire a passion for life-long learning in an environment of faith, love and care for others.

OUR SCHOOL MISSION

Our mission is to empower students to:

- BE** passionate and curious learners
 - BE** confident and creative individuals
 - BE** faith-filled and active in their care for others
-

Our school embraces diversity in teaching and a modern approach to curriculum delivery and design. **Teaching and learning** at Queen of Apostles occurs within **21st century classroom environments with access to 21st century teaching tools.**

As a committed group of educators, we support individual needs and **accommodate learning differences** whilst encouraging and fostering a culture **of experimentation, flexible learning, adventure, problem-solving and creativity.**

INTRODUCTION

It is my privilege to present the 2023 Principal's report to the Queen of Apostles community.

Let's begin with an Acknowledgement of Country



Artwork by Janetia Knapp, Nyoongar Elder

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wadjuk Noongar people. We walk together on this sacred land, recognising and honouring their enduring connection to Country.

We pay our respects to their elders, both past and present, and extend our gratitude for their stewardship of this land over countless generations.

May we all walk together in unity and harmony, guided by the wisdom and spirit of the Wadjuk Noongar people, as we strive for a better future for all who call this land home.

I am incredibly proud to be Principal of this wonderful school and so privileged to meet and work with so many wonderful students, staff and community members. The school is being maintained as single stream school and is in a good position with strong enrolments, excellent facilities and a wonderful staff who provide high quality teaching and learning opportunities for all students.

This year the school went through the Quality Catholic Education School Review Process (QCESR). This process examined all areas of the school, including my leadership and provided some valuable feedback about some of the wonderful things happening already but more importantly what we can do to make our school even better. I will highlight these recommendations later in my report.

Wellbeing and resiliency have continued to be a focus for our community this year. We have been involved in Wellbeing Professional Development through CEWA and Wellness Week has been an important part of our calendar each term. There will be an increased focus on this next year with Mr Bridgeman taking on the role of Wellbeing Coordinator.

Over the course of year, the school has provided opportunities for students to be involved in the creative, visual, and musical arts, various sport activities, extension, enrichment, and leadership opportunities.

The involvement of our parents in assisting the school with functions and events and supporting our staff in their work for the students has continued to be very positive. Thank you to the Parents and Friends Association, under the leadership of Kath Anthony, for all their hard work during the year. The achievement of the P&F this year, with fund raising and friend raising events has been very positive indeed. Thank you to all on the executive and our parent representatives for this year. Your contributions to our school are highly valued.

I take this opportunity to thank the School Advisory Council for their dedication to the school in 2023. Ably led by Paul Martin, the Advisory Council have been a fantastic sounding board who bring a range of ideas and thoughts to our meetings, so we get the best outcome for our school.

The relationship between our Parish and School is a very strong one. This alignment is led by Fr. Paul who takes a keen interest in school affairs and makes himself available to advise, support and encourage. He is a great asset to our community, and he brings the human and pastoral face of our God to all.

The success of this school year is testament to the quality of the staff at Queen of Apostles Primary School. Our staff work with great diligence, commitment, and an obvious personal care for every student they teach. The quality of the teaching here at QOA is very high. I thank all our staff for their work during 2023.

This report outlines some of the highlights of our year's journey across the domains of Education, Community, Stewardship and Catholic Identity.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, SACRAMENTS & LITURGY

Queen of Apostles School is a place where every individual is welcomed, cherished, respected and valued. Our Catholic ethos ensures that a Christ-centered approach is at the heart of all we do. We live and learn within a community that is caring, loving, compassionate and forgiving. Meaningful relationships form the basis of all our interactions.

Prayer is an important part of school life at Queen of Apostles. Opportunities are provided for staff, children and parents to nurture our Catholic Faith through meaningful Class Prayer, Liturgies, Gathering Reflections and Whole School Masses. Staff Prayer is held on a regular basis

and provides active witness to our community of the importance of our faith. Overall, our aim is to provide prayerful experiences for the community in order to give opportunity for each person to further develop their personal relationship with God.

The school implements the Archdiocesan Religious Education Curriculum. In addition to developing children's knowledge and faith through strong curriculum, the school demonstrates an active partnership with the local parish and is enthusiastically involved in the broader life of the Church.

I sincerely thank Father Paul for the support and guidance he offers to the staff, students and the community of Queen of Apostles. I extend my personal thanks to Father Paul for his support and efforts in maintaining such a positive and healthy parish/school relationship.

In 2023 we fostered liturgical prayer and life through a wide range of experiences. These included:

- Whole School Masses throughout the year
- Reconciliation services
- Daily classroom prayers
- Lenten and Advent reflections
- Queen of Apostles Feast Day
- Ash Wednesday
- NAIDOC Mass
- Feast of the Assumption
- Sacramental Commitment Mass
- Remembrance Day Prayer Service
- Grandparents Mass
- All Saints Mass
- Graduation & Thanksgiving Mass
- Sacramental Retreats
- Celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist and Penance

STAFF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

At a Staff Development Day on April 24th, we completed Christian Service as a way of giving back to the community. The staff split into two groups and helped out at Ronald McDonald House and St Vincent De Paul. The staff were really grateful to be able to help those in less fortunate situations. We will be looking to continue this next year.

MISSIONS & CHARITIES

The generosity of our school community throughout 2023 to support those less fortunate has been amazing. As a result, significant contributions, both spiritually and financially, has been extended to the following charities and organisations:

- Caritas' Project Compassion
- Lifelink
- St Vincent de Paul
- Flame of Love Orphanage

EVANGELISATION PLANNING

Below are the major focus areas and implementation strategies of our Evangelisation Plan over the next three years.

1. WITNESS – Examples of Expressing the Divine Within & Raising Awareness of the Presence of Jesus

- Religious symbols in prominent positions in the school
- Display of indigenous religious symbols
- Prominent prayer focus in each classroom
- Understanding and observing religious etiquette
- Introducing Making Jesus Real to assist in understanding the person of Jesus in contemporary terms

2. CALL TO FAITH

- Staff and students focus on Social Justice issues
- Christian Service
- Social Justice focus during morning announcements
- Gospel summaries in newsletter

3. CALL TO GROW IN DISCIPLESHIP

- Introduction of Sacred Silences as a form of prayer and reflection
- Participation in Lenten and Advent Liturgies

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSESSMENTS

Children in Year 3 and 5 sit the Religious Education Assessment each year. This year the test was administered online. Results of this test are used to inform teaching and learning from Kindergarten to Year 6. The summary data is as follows:

	QUEEN OF APOSTLES CLASS AVERAGE	ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AVERAGE
YEAR 5	57.1%	52.3%
YEAR 3	53.5%	49.1%

EDUCATION

2023 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

In line with our School Improvement Plan for 2023, the past year has seen the accomplishment of a number of significant milestones.

These include:

Catholic Identity Focus: Integration of Catholic faith, life and culture by creating a prayerful and inclusive environment which includes opportunities for students and families to express their faith in prayer, liturgy and masses.

- Developing sacred spaces around the school
- Integration of Aboriginal art/songs into the Mass (Aboriginal Our Father)

Education Focus: Develop a collective approach to student thinking, learning and teaching which includes critical and creative thinking skills and processes.

- Focus on Personalised Learning
- Critical and creative thinking (Future-Focused Learning)
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
- Dedicated IT Support Co-ordinator to work with teachers

Community Focus: Improve student well-being through quality relationships between teachers and students by providing a learning environment that enables both staff and students to flourish.

- Continuation of a Wellness Week for staff and students
- Continuing engagement of Social Worker for both staff and students
- Student code of conduct developed in each class
- Pastoral Care of students a priority

Stewardship Focus: Plan for the consistent maintenance of classroom, playground and staff facilities ensuring spaces are contemporary, attractive and conducive to flexible learning opportunities

- Fencing
- Re-asphalting
- Creation of a workroom in the library (Jan 2024)

MATHS INQUIRY APPROACH

As a school we have been on an inquiry journey over the past five years with our Future Focussed Learning philosophy. We are proud of the progress that has been gained in this area and look forward to continuing to embed inquiry practices in our learning programs.

At the beginning of 2022, as part of our School Improvement Plan, we investigated the possibility of extending this into the mathematics area. Contact was made with the CEWA mathematics team who agreed to work with us in moving towards an inquiry approach to teaching mathematics.

Over the past two years, we have been working with the CEWA Numeracy Team on consolidating practices that encourage students to explore mathematic concepts through inquiry. The *Launch, Explore, Summarise* approach has been the springboard into using rich tasks to develop mathematical understanding and problem-solving. This model focuses on the teacher serving as a facilitator of their students' mathematical understanding by posing rich tasks, providing opportunities for students to collaborate, use materials, and by posing questions to support task completion.

In Term 2 this year we ran an Information Session on the Numeracy Inquiry Approach we have running throughout the school. This session was run by CEWA Numeracy Consultants and was a follow up session to the one offered at the Parent Information Sessions. We had 19 parents attend the session who appreciated the opportunity to get more information and find out how they can assist at home.

PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL

This year we have formed a partnership with Our Lady of Mt Carmel School in Hilton due to the similar nature of both schools. Our partnership has seen us meet once a term to focus on moderating student work particularly in the area of Mathematics. This helps ensure we are on the right track when marking and grading students work. It has also been a good opportunity to network and gather different ideas from other teachers in the same year level.

CYBER SAFETY

This year, to compliment what we already do in class, the school and P&F engaged Paul Litherland to talk to our Year 5 and 6 students on the topic of Cyber Safety. Paul is an ex-police officer and excellent presenter who gave our parents tips on ways to keep our students safe when using certain apps, gaming sites and websites. Paul is booked in to speak to our parents in Term 3 next year.

PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

In 2023 we had quite a number of students participating in the Catholic Performing Arts Festival (PAF). We had many instrumental solo performers as well as our Junior and Senior choirs. Our students performed extremely well with many excellent results achieved. Our music assembly in Term 3 was a showcase of the talented musicians we have here at Queen of Apostles and an insight into the PAF performances. I thank Mrs. Perry for her coordination of the PAF students and offering them this wonderful opportunity.

YEAR 6 CAMP

In Week 7 of Term 1 the Year Six class spent three fantastic days at Point Walter Camp in Bicton. We were very proud of our Year 6's as they worked together extremely well to complete some very challenging activities. They also need to be congratulated for the way they used their manners and followed instructions.

FACTION ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Based on feedback from last year we structured our carnivals a bit differently this year. The PP and Kindy classes had their events at school in Week 8 of last term and the Jumps and Throws were also held at school on the Friday of Week 9. On the Monday of Week 10 we took all the year 1 to 6's to Ern Clarke for a full day of individual and team events. Everything was set up a bit differently this year with the students in tents on the oval with the parents on the hill under the trees. The sprint races were also run in the opposite direction. We were very lucky with the weather this year and it was perfect for a carnival. All in all, I think the changes worked and it ran very smoothly. I thank all staff and parents that helped out. I also thank Mr Bridgeman for his hard work.

NAPLAN DATA

In March of this year, National Literacy and Numeracy Assessments were administered to students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The assessments in Literacy covered: Reading, Writing, Language Conventions, Spelling and Grammar & Punctuation. The Numeracy test covered mathematical concepts. The Writing assessment was based on the narrative writing genre. This year all assessments except for Year 3 Writing were done online.

Individual and detailed reports are provided to the parents of children who undertook the national assessments. Furthermore, school receives detailed evaluation of the whole school and class cohorts, which allows for ongoing school improvement. The data provided to school also allows teachers to examine individual and class performance on each of the questions. It is important to remember that the national assessments are only one source of evidence of student achievement, gained on one particular day. Similarly, comparisons from one cohort to another can be remarkably different. The summary data for Year Three and Year Five for our school is as follows:

<u>YEAR 3</u>	<u>QOA Mean</u>	<u>CEWA</u>	<u>All Australian Schools Mean</u>
<u>Reading</u>	437	400	404
<u>Writing</u>	436	413	417
<u>Spelling</u>	416	401	404
<u>Grammar & Punctuation</u>	437	403	409
<u>Numeracy</u>	441	401	407

<u>YEAR 5</u>	<u>QOA Mean</u>	<u>CEWA</u>	<u>All Australian Schools Mean</u>
<u>Reading</u>	527	495	496
<u>Writing</u>	514	484	483
<u>Spelling</u>	512	491	490
<u>Grammar & Punctuation</u>	515	490	496
<u>Numeracy</u>	524	483	488

Next year NAPLAN for Year 3 and 5 students will again take place in March.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our dedicated staff continue to engage in professional development. This ensures that our staff are at the forefront of the latest developments in the Catholic Identity, Educational, Community and Stewardship domains. The following is a snapshot of the development undertaken.

- Future Focused Learning
- Mathematics Inquiry Learning
- Judging Standards
- Talk for Writing
- Digital Technologies
- Faith Development
- Staff Wellness
- Learning Support
- Leaders' Forums

SAM KERR VISIT

On Wednesday 14th June we were lucky enough to have Matilda's captain Sam Kerr come and visit our school. Sam was on a break here in Perth before preparing for the World Cup was kind enough to answer some questions from our students and have a photo with the whole school. It was a very exciting morning for everyone involved and I thank our SRC for leading us.

INCURSIONS & EXCURSIONS

To enrich curriculum delivery, teachers organise several incursions and excursions. These activities help to broaden the learning experiences for students. Some special events in 2023 included the following:

Perth Mint

Sacramental Retreats

Book Week Incursion

Perth Zoo

Adventure World

School Camp

Red Cross

Peninsular Farm

Willetton Sports Centre

Cyber Safety

Parliament House

Perth Museum

COMMUNITY

OUR COMMUNITY

At Queen of Apostles School, we provide a nurturing learning environment where students feel happy and safe. Our students respect themselves and others in a non-judgmental manner and show tolerance and respect toward all cultures, both within the school and in the wider community. We ensure that all within our community are treated with dignity and respect. Our school encourages all people to participate within the school community. All classrooms are open, welcoming and include all children regardless of needs.

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

There was a great turn out at the Parent Information Sessions in Week 2 of Term 1 this year. It was also great to see a huge crowd at the Reporting & Numeracy Session run by CEWA. It is very important that parents have a clear understanding of the reporting process and opportunities given to students to demonstrate their understanding.

I would like to thank our classroom teachers for putting the parent presentations together to ensure we are all on the same page. The parent/ teacher relationship is extremely important in ensuring that positive outcomes for our students are maintained.

EASTER HAT PARADE & RAFFLE

This year the P&F ran an Easter Hat parade. This was very well received by the community with some very creative and well-designed hats proudly being displayed on the day. Well done to everyone for getting involved!

MOTHER'S DAY & FATHER'S DAY

Our Mother's and Father's Day breakfasts were very fantastic community events that were well attended and appreciated by all who came. We had a dedicated team of mums and dads who organised the food, served and made sure everything ran smoothly. I thank the P&F for putting everything in place. It is great to see our families enjoying spending important time together over a meal before school.

GRANDPARENTS MASS & MORNING TEA

Our Grandparents and Friends Mass and Morning Tea on Friday 4th August was a fantastic celebration and very well attended. The students did an amazing job and were very well prepared by our teachers. It was great to have our special visitors in the classrooms and around the school. I have had some wonderful messages from parents, grandparents, staff and students saying how much they enjoyed the morning. Thank you to the P&F for organising the cupcakes, they went down a treat! Well done to everyone involved.

OPEN NIGHT

It was great to welcome our families to school and the classrooms on the evening of Tuesday 19th September. There were many excited children taking their family members on a journey around the school. Each of the classrooms really looked the part and it was great to see the wonderful work the students have been doing. The Book Fair was very popular again and so were each of our specialist teacher rooms. I would like to thank the hard working and dedicated staff for the hours of work to get ready for Open Night. It is very much appreciated! I would also like to thank our Year 6 parents for feeding our community on the night.

QUIZ NIGHT

The Quiz Night held on 20th October was a fantastic night that was very well supported by our community. I was blown away by the amount of people in attendance and the generosity of so many to contribute in helping to make the night a success. It was great to see our existing families and well as some former families joining in the fun. Thank you to our wonderful P&F team who did an amazing job in not only raising money but also giving people the opportunity to enjoy themselves in a social setting. Well done to all!

PARENTAL PARTICIPATION

The commitment of our parents in supporting school is greatly appreciated by all staff and students. Along with assisting on excursions, parents have been actively involved in a range of activities across the school including:

- Canteen
- Library – covering books
- Classroom learning
- Social events
- Raffles
- Sports Carnivals

STEWARDSHIP

NINJA PLAYGROUND ON ANNEXE OVAL

After two years of planning and fundraising, the Ninja Playground was finally constructed on the Annexe Oval in Term Four this year. This playground will provide many hours of fun for our students as they challenge themselves on the many obstacles they will encounter. I thank our P&F for raising the \$75 000 required to build this for our community and to the School Advisory Council for the background work to get this project off the ground. This playground definitely is a point of difference for our school and one which our students will enjoy for years to come.

QUALITY CATHOLIC EDUCATION SCHOOL REVIEW

From May 30 until June 1 this year the school went through the Quality Catholic Education Review (QCESR) Process. The QCESR has two key objectives. Firstly, it focuses on the effectiveness of a school's engagement with self-review, the impact of self-review on school improvement and the future directions for the improvement of student outcomes that the school has identified. This forms the School Improvement Context of the report. Secondly, QCESR considers the principal's leadership in delivering upon QCE (Quality Catholic Education) in relation to the Catholic School

Principal Duties and Responsibilities. The emphasis is on supporting the principal with his/her faith formation and professional growth and development. The QCESR review fundamentally articulates strengths and future focus opportunities. The findings of this review are outlined below.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

- Continue the staff service day in social justice activities.
- Continue embedding the school's charisms.

EDUCATION

- Develop a shared Early Childhood philosophy for learning, particularly in light of the proposed employment of an Assistant Principal with a focus on Early Childhood Education.
- Further explore the Inquiry Learning process with an emphasis on student agency with the 'Big Question'.

COMMUNITY

- Investigate additional ways to enhance communication and marketing through social media outreach.
- Review the school's behaviour support program.

STEWARDSHIP

- Consider developing an appropriate mechanism for providing performance feedback to support staff other than EAs.
- Utilise CEWA personnel to assist in identifying the school as an established single-stream school or at the very least clarify CEWA's records to ensure that finance and demographic reports reflect the current single-stream arrangement.

In addition to the recommendations in the School Improvement Report, the QCESR panel considers the following in support of Mark's leadership:

- That Mark consider joining the Principal Wellbeing Program within the next year or two to ensure he is catering for his own personal wellbeing;
- That Mark consider accessing some System Leaders Renewal Leave; and
- That Mark revisit the current PLC/Cluster/staff meeting structure.

REASPHALTING

The surface around the new grassed area was re-asphalted in January before the students returned to school. This tied in beautifully with the basketball court resurfacing and looks fantastic. I thank the School Advisory Council for their assistance on this project.

FENCING

The fencing around the staff car park and on the Tudor Ave side of the school was replaced with black garrison fencing in the January holidays. This also included new gates to the church car park. I again thank the School Advisory Council for their guidance and assistance with this project.

NOONGAR SEASONS GARDEN

This year we created a Noongar Seasons Garden in the garden bed near next to the new grassed area. The gardening club planted natives in the area and pavers went down to form a walkway. It will be a fantastic learning opportunity for our students to learn about the Noongar Seasons and the plants that flower at particular times of the year. A sign will be made explaining this and placed on the wall outside the uniform shop.

SCHOOL BOARD/ PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The Parents and Friends Association of our school needs to be thanked for their excellent efforts in securing funding, supporting school activities, enabling extra opportunities and in building a strong school community. Their planning and commitment to our community needs to be congratulated. The generosity of our families, as members of the Parents and Friends Association, always amazes me and I am grateful to every person who has contributed in some capacity to support the school. I thank Kath Anthony who has been president of the P&F for the last two years. Unfortunately, Kath will be standing down as President at the end of the year after being a part of the committee for the last 4 years. Kath has done a great job in leading her team and ensuring the P&F provided numerous opportunities for our students and families. I have really appreciated Kath's support over the last two years and thank her for her commitment to our school. I would also like to thank Cat Domican and Paulyne Farrell who took on executive roles this year. They have done an excellent job supporting Kath and volunteering to give up their time to support our school. Thank you also to our other committee members Tracy Italiano, Rebecca Day, Aislinn Trodden and Koreena Martin.

To members of our School Advisory Council, Paul Martin (Chair) Ben Indrisie (Vice Chair), Belinda Fabling (Secretary), Marnie Selten (Treasurer) Andrew Upfold, Jamie Liu, Pavel Orjzanowski (Parish Rep) and Fr Paul Manickathan. Thank you all most sincerely for your generosity of time, good humour, forward thinking, expertise, confidentiality, positivity, genuine support, care and concern and for staying composed, astute and measured through the various issues and

developments we have been working through this year. My sincere thanks must go Pavel Orjanowski whose association with our school ends this year. Thank you for your commitment to our community.

STAFF

We constantly recognise that all members of our staff – regardless of position or qualification - are teachers - as their influence on the education of our children is insurmountable. Teaching is not always fun or easy and is certainly not an 8.30am to 3pm job. The staff of Queen of Apostles are sincere, passionate people and this drives them to put so much energy into everything they do. Their passion helps them to keep going when faced with difficulties and motivates them to continue to look for ways to improve their abilities – regardless of their experience and expertise. You cannot be a great teacher without a very real and obvious love of and passion for learning. Our children are fortunate to have great role models that instill a love of living life fully and a true hunger for learning. Our staff work hard and are always willing to do whatever it takes to ensure the best outcomes for all. As individuals, and as a team, they strive for the common good and understand that it is through consistent effort and endeavor that we truly succeed. Our staff care about our children. They show our children they believe in them, and their abilities, and know the importance of challenging them to excel while supporting them to do so.

Thank you to Mrs. Jennifer Anderson who, as Assistant Principal has carried out her leadership responsibilities with professionalism and amazing energy. Jennifer’s passion and commitment to the vision and purpose of our school is endless, and her support is greatly appreciated.

STAFFING COMPOSITION 2024

Our school has an established and dedicated staffing composition that provides a wealth of knowledge and skills and thus ensures continuity for our community. The staffing composition for 2024 is as follows:

Principal	Mark Ryan
Assistant Principal	Jennifer Anderson
3YO Kindy	Julie Sharpe
4YO Kindy	Ann Fanto
Pre-Primary	Emma Ashworth
Year 1	Robyn Salvia (4 days) & Marika Beacher (1 day)
Year 2	Simone Gordon (3 days) & Courtney Mahoney (2 days)

Year 3	Lauren Moro
Year 4	Gabrielle Lesque
Year 5	Jessica Jenzen
Year 6	Valencia Maloney
Inclusive Support & IT	Marika Beacher
Music	Sheryl Perry
Visual Art	Sheryl Perry
Physical Education	Ross Bridgeman
Science	Ross Bridgeman
Mandarin	Ivy Wang
Library	Susan Peach
Social Worker	Tracy Small
Early Years Coordinator	Robyn Salvia
Wellness Coordinator	Ross Bridgeman
Educational Assistants	
Pre-Kindy	Tracie Spadaro
Kindy	Mara McGinty Pam Johansen
Pre-Primary	Debbie Radice (3 days) & Farah Gul (2 days)
General/Special Education Support	Dawn O'Brien Lee-Anne Oliver
	Tracy Watkins Elizabeth Kingston
	Tracie Spadaro
Office Staff	
Finance Officer	Caroline Hunneybun
Administration Officer	Kathleen Duncanson
Ancillary Staff	
Canteen Manager	Sharon Fernandes e Soares

CONCLUSION

As 2023 comes to a close, sadly there are some farewells for members of our community whose immediate connection will draw to a close this year.

To our families that are leaving us this year we hope and trust your time at Queen of Apostles has been a rewarding and positive experience for you and your family. We wish you all the best as you embark on the next chapter in your journey.

To our Year Six students, we wish you well as you journey onto high school. Your time with us has been very special, no matter how long, and with the help of all staff you are now ready to take the next step. We are proud of you and hope that you come back and share your new adventures with us with us. Thank you for your contributions to our school and good luck on the next chapter in your life. Remember to embrace all challenges that come your way and do your best in everything you do. You will be missed.

To **Mrs Maddie Kuhn**, who has decided the time is right to make the move to be an Early Childhood teacher. Thank you for the many significant contributions you have made to Queen of Apostles School over years. You have had a great impact on the many students you have taught, colleagues you have worked with and the school community as a whole. Your experience, ideas and advice have been appreciated by everyone at Queen of Apostles. I wish you all the best in your future journey and know that we will see you around.

To **Mrs Lauren Volaric**, we thank you for you for the work you have done with our Year 1 class this year and wish you all best for your future.

To **Mrs Briana Joiner**, we wish you all the best as you transition into the next phase of your life journey. We know you and Callan will make fantastic parents and we look forward to regular visits with the little one next year.

To **Miss Tanya Pavlovic**, who took over from Ms Lesque in Semester Two. You have made a big impression in a short period of time and done a fantastic job with the Year 3 class during this time. We wish you all the best back at Santa Clara next year.

To **Mrs Terri Healey**, who has been the Administration Officer here at Queen of Apostles for the last 10 years has decided the time is right to retire at the end of this year. Terri has been an amazing in her role and I thank her for her commitment to this school and community. I have

worked closely with Terri over the last 3 years and will miss her sense of humour and enthusiasm she brings.

Our school is indeed very fortunate to have so many people who have contributed to our many achievements during 2023 and for this; we have a lot to be thankful for. Our school continues to follow the tradition and practices of Catholic Education, which for over 60 years has offered an outstanding and personalised primary education to the children of Queen of Apostles School. Our children have been involved in wonderful faith, sporting, cultural and academic pursuits and have thrived through the support of teachers, teacher assistants, parents and the parish coming together as one. In conclusion, I thank everyone involved in making our school the vibrant place that it is.

May God bless all members of our community with the spirit of peace, hope and joy, this Christmas season, and may we all be blessed abundantly in 2023.

Mark Ryan

Principal