
ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2025

Good evening, everyone and welcome to our Annual Community Meeting for 2025. I would like to especially welcome Mr Jesse Yock to our ACM. Jesse has been appointed as Principal of Queen of Apostles from 2026. We look forward to him sharing his vision for our school over the coming years. I would like to also welcome Mr Alphonsus Chui to our Queenies community. Alphonsus has accepted a position on staff for 2026. We look forward to working with Alphonsus in 2026, and the gifts he brings to our community.

We come together at this time to celebrate achievements, recognise contributions and acknowledge ongoing efforts within our school community over the past year. Our community is strong, and we have so many things to be proud of. At the core of our school are the children, and we strive to ensure the experience they receive at Queenies, caters for their social, emotional, spiritual as well as their educative wellbeing.

I feel very much an imposter standing in front of you today. The recognition of all our accomplishments for 2025 have been led by Mark Ryan, who we said our goodbyes to at the end of Term 3. Mark achieved much since becoming Principal in 2021, and I would just like to acknowledge that our current position in both our school and wider community is due to the effort and decisions made by him over the years. Mark will be sorely missed by our community.

This report will be presented using the four pillars that Catholic Education in Western Australia is built on: Catholic Identity, Education, Community and Stewardship.

PILLAR 1: CATHOLIC IDENTITY

From the perspective of our Catholic Identity, our year has been guided by the Vatican's Jubilee Year, themed Pilgrims of Hope. This year, we have witnessed and celebrated over 50 of our Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 children receiving the gifts, blessings and closer relationships with Jesus through their reception of the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation. We have continued to build our relationship with the Schoenstatt Sisters, the founders of our school, through our Sacramental Retreat Program conducted at the Schoenstatt Shrine near Armadale. The sisters continue to be the thread that connects us with our past and we honour them through the naming of our Early Learning Centre, Magdalen Faction and the Sr Maria Heinz and Sr Mary Magdalen Year 6 Christian Leadership Awards.

Our Social Justice program and fundraising initiatives continue to provide very real and meaningful opportunities for our children to make a difference to the lives of so many children, families and communities around the world and right here at home. We are always very impressed and humbled by the energy, enthusiasm and focus that the children bring to the table when fundraising for "Kids 4 Kids", LifeLink, Caritas and St. Vinnies Christmas Appeal. For the past two years, we have worked closely with ShopFront, a drop-in centre located in Cannington. Our families have generously donated food and toiletries, and our staff have been contributing frozen meals which are distributed by Shopfront to people in need.

We continue to strengthen our relationship with the Pallottine Order through working with the Union of Catholic Apostolate who has at its heart, St Vincent Pallotti, the founder of the Pallottine Order of which Fr Paul is a member. During the last few weeks, we were honoured to host members of the

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Apostolate who visited our school to receive our donation to the Flame of Love Orphanage in the Congo.

We sincerely thank Father Paul for the support and guidance he offers to the staff, students and the community of Queen of Apostles. Father Paul has been a tremendous support of our school and we look forward to his continued support during this time of transition to new leadership.

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.

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:

As part of our **2025 Catholic School Improvement Plan**, in the **Catholic Identity Pillar** we have continued our journey through:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS 1:

Encouraging teachers to explore liturgy by providing them with tools to expand their knowledge enabling them to plan for liturgical experiences that are meaningful and enhance student participation and understanding.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Staff participated in Professional Development on Liturgy held by Sr Kerry Willison
- Resources, including a subscription to Butterfly House, to assist in the preparation of meaningful Masses and liturgies

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS 2:

Build staff and student understanding of a 'world envisaged by Jesus' through the integration of faith, life and culture.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Christian Service and Social Justice by both students and staff prioritised (Shopfront, St Vincent de Paul and Flame of Love Orphanage)
- Celebration of special liturgies (Grandparents Day and Queen of Apostles Feast Day) extended into classrooms. Invitations for parents/grandparents to celebrate with their children
- MJR recipients given special recognition for the values they display (newsletter and pizza lunch)

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS 3:

Strengthen collaboration with the Parish to enhance the preparation and celebration of sacraments, fostering a deeper connection between students and their Catholic Faith.

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ACHIEVEMENTS

- Regular meetings held between teachers and Sacramental Co-ordinators in the planning of Workshops and preparation of the day. This collaboration ensures both school and Parish students receiving the Sacraments are equally prepared and welcomed into the Parish family.

PILLAR 2: EDUCATION

Academically, it has been another very successful year for our students. 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, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation. The Numeracy test covered mathematical concepts. Since 2023, the tests have been adaptive ie. the testing regime adjusts the difficulty of the questions based on an individual's performance. Our NAPLAN results this year were very strong. Our students' mean score averages were above State, CEWA and National means. Most were significantly above the Australian averages. Furthermore, the school receives detailed evaluation of the whole school and class cohorts, which allows for ongoing school improvement. The data provided to the 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.

<u>YEAR 3</u>	<u>QOA Mean</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>CEWA</u>	<u>All Australian Schools Mean</u>
<u>Reading</u>	441	389	398	402
<u>Writing</u>	423	406	411	414
<u>Spelling</u>	430	394	396	405
<u>Grammar & Punctuation</u>	440	397	395	408
<u>Numeracy</u>	437	396	396	405

<u>YEAR 5</u>	<u>QOA Mean</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>CEWA</u>	<u>All Australian Schools Mean</u>
<u>Reading</u>	534	484	492	492
<u>Writing</u>	490	473	482	480
<u>Spelling</u>	508	485	488	487
<u>Grammar & Punctuation</u>	509	490	490	497

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Numeracy	530	486	488	492
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Other examples that illustrate our children's academic abilities and strengths are the Da Vinci Decathlon, a problem-solving competition which saw eight of our Year 5 and 6 students pitted against students from 30 much larger schools. We amazingly ranked 7th out of the 30 schools. This same team was involved in the Year 6 Regional Academic Day, which saw us compete against 7 Catholic Schools in the region. We are very proud to have ranked 1st against the schools that included Aquinas, St Benedict's, Orana and Corpus.

As we are all well aware, a successful school provides a variety of experiences to engage its students which allows them to flourish. We believe that we do this exceptionally well through our programs. This year we entered our senior choir into One Big Voice for a second year. One Big Voice is held at RAC Arena and sees close to 20 000 students perform to a large audience a range of songs and actions. I think that the best feedback I received from a student on the night was, 'This is the best night of my life'. All students were amazingly focused throughout the whole performance and their delighted faces throughout the performance said it all.

On the Performing Arts front, there were several Certificates of Outstanding, Excellence and Merit this year in the Festival. One student, David Tuyay, was awarded the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions Award Vocal Soloist. David was invited to perform at the Performing Arts Concert in September. All these awards are a testament to the wide range of talents and abilities our children possess and our fundamental belief in supporting our students to discover and develop their talents and abilities to become well-rounded, well-educated, confident young people. My sincere thanks to Mrs. Perry for her untiring work in coordinating our entries in the PAF, as well as managing our choirs and their outstanding performances.

On the sporting front it was a year full of terrific competition, great sportsmanship and some notable victories and highlights in many areas. The year was peppered with some great individual performances and some terrific team efforts. As always our children displayed admirable sportsmanship and enjoyed the support of the biggest and noisiest cheer squad of parents from any school!

Of course, these wonderful results and opportunities would not have been possible without the fantastic organisational skills and coaching prowess of Mr Bridgeman. There was also a small army of other staff and parent volunteers that assisted in so many ways. Suffice to say your time, effort and contributions have been greatly appreciated – so thank you all.

As part of our **2025 Catholic School Improvement Plan**, in the **Education Pillar** we have continued our journey through:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS 1:

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

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- The ongoing focus on Inquiry Units of work undertaken by all teachers K-6. All teachers undertook at least one Inquiry in the year.

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- Planning, assessment and classrooms displays reflect intentional inquiries

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS 2:

Support educators to implement an inquiry-based learning through more deliberate, intentional and purposeful planning and application.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Teachers, both upper and junior primary attended PD on Inquiry Learning by Trevor McKenzie
- Presentation and discussion of Inquiry Units of work at Professional Learning Meetings
- Cluster Meetings organised around needs within year groups

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS 3:

Create and foster a collaborative, engaging, interactive and play-based learning environment that encourages curiosity and exploration among children.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Resources and provocation boxes set up in the ELC
- Shared space in the ELC used as an extension of the classroom for Inquiry and play-based learning
- Indoor/outdoor play used during play-based activities
- NQS continual improvement mapped

PILLAR 3: COMMUNITY

Our community is both vibrant and diverse. Our students come from a multitude of backgrounds that are woven together into a rich tapestry that makes our Queen of Apostles community so unique. Through both the Berry St and URSTRONG programs, we work towards providing a nurturing and safe learning environment where all students are respected. All our classrooms are open, welcoming and include all children regardless of needs.

In May of this year, Queen of Apostles underwent a School Compliance Review in the Community Pillar. The review assessed our compliance in the areas of:

- Critical and Emergency Incidents
- Complaints
- Preventing and Responding to Child Abuse
- Management of Student Behaviour

There were no actions from the review, with all compliance areas passing the audit. Our next review will be the Education Pillar in 2027.

On a broader level, opportunities for our Community to come together in 2025 were:

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- Parent Information Session in Term 1
- Welcome Sundowner
- Mother's and Father's Day Breakfasts
- Grandparent's Mass and Morning Tea
- Sporting Carnivals – swimming and faction
- Feast Day Mass and Morning Tea with children
- Colour Explosion
- Open Night

Our Open Night on the 22 October was a great opportunity for families to experience the great programs facilitated by our teachers as many excited children took their family members for 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 the recitals by our many talented musical students. I would like to thank the hard working and dedicated staff for the engaging learning they provide for their students. I would also like to thank our Year 6 parents for feeding our community on the night.

As part of our **2025 Catholic School Improvement Plan**, in the **Community Pillar** we have continued our journey through:

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS:

Engaging in ongoing wellbeing education to support a holistic approach to student and staff wellbeing

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Continuing staff development of Berry Street and URSTRONG strategies to complement our Student Engagement, Safe Behaviour and Wellbeing Plan.
- Our Social Worker working with both parents and students
- Continuation of our Wellbeing Co-ordinator

PILLAR 4: STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a fundamental dimension of Christianity that implements the Social Teaching of the Catholic Church. Under the Stewardship Pillar, we acknowledge that staff are our most important and valuable resource; we commit to fulfilling and promoting our Christian responsibility to care for the earth; and we ensure that our school is financially viable, while remaining affordable and accessible, especially to the marginalised and disadvantaged. Queen of Apostles has undergone a massive physical transformation in the past five years. Gone are the demountables that were an eyesore for our prospective parents (and really hard to explain while giving a tour). We now have a school that we can be proud of.

As part of our **2025 Catholic School Improvement Plan**, in the **Stewardship Pillar** we have continued our journey through:

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SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FOCUS:

Continued development and enhancement of internal and external learning environments that promotes student safety and learning.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Trees removed from the carpark and annexe that were in danger of dropping branches
- Plumbing sorted – including a very large leak that took weeks to find.
- EduMarking – games marked around the playground
- Garden beds around the schools developed and planted, including vegetable gardens in the Kindy and Pre-Primary areas
- Functional desks and seating in the Year 4 classroom

I would like to finish this report with a few well deserved thank you's.

1. Firstly, I would like to thank Fr. Paul for his on-going support of the school, our families and our children. We are very blessed to have a Parish Priest who works so tirelessly to attend to the needs of not just his parishioners but all the members of our school community as well. His pastoral leadership of our school community is greatly appreciated by everyone.
2. To members of our School Advisory Council, Marnie Selten (Chair), Belinda Fabling (Secretary), Joe Pang (Treasurer) Andrew Upfold, Jamie Liu, Carrie Lee-Williamson, Pavel Orjzanowski (Parish Rep) Tracy Italiano (P&F Rep) and Fr Paul Manickathan. Thank you all most sincerely for your generosity of time, forward thinking, confidentiality, positivity, and genuine support throughout the year, especially this term. A special thank you to Jamie, who in her marketing role, was steadfast in the realisation of a marketing video for our website. My sincere thanks must go Andrew, Carrie and Jamie who will step down from the Advisory Council at the end of the year. Thank you for your commitment to our school. It is particularly sad as all three will be leaving our school next year. Thank you all for your outstanding contributions to Queen of Apostles over the years.
3. Our P&F have had a fantastic year this year and the Committee and all who have been involved throughout the year deserve our thanks. It has been very pleasing to see some new faces present at meetings this year – a diverse range of ideas and opinions is always welcome. I would like to acknowledge a couple of individuals who step down from the P&F Executive at the end of this year. Tracy Italiano has been on the P&F Committee and President for the past 2 years. I would like to thank Tracy for her patience, calm manner, thoughtfulness and willingness to work hard to build consensus in reaching decisions. Tracy has always been willing to roll up her sleeves and help out at fundraising and social events and has always led by example. Thank you so very much for all your hard work and contributions, Tracy!

Cat Domican has been a member of the Executive for the last 3 years having fulfilled roles as Vice President in that time. Again, Cat has been one of those wonderful parents who is always willing to share her thoughts and opinions as well as ensuring that events run smoothly. Thank you for all your hard work and organising over the last 3 years, Cat.

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To our other P&F members – Paulyinne (both Treasurer and Secretary), Ash Trodden, Taryn Jepson and Koreena Cinanni, our community thanks you for the work you do to make the school experience so special for our children.

4. Lastly, to our staff. They are without exception a very dedicated group of professionals. They continually strive to be innovative, to be risk-takers, to explore better ways, because they care and do want to make a difference to the lives of the children they teach. I thank them all for their long hours, hard work and willingness to work as a team to achieve great things. I would like to especially thank Maura Killalea who stepped into the position of AP at the beginning of the term, Ross Bridgeman who has been a fantastic initiator and spokesperson for Wellbeing in the school, and Robyn Salvia whose passion for creating engaging learning opportunities has extended beyond the Early Learning Centre and into our upper school. Your ongoing support has been very much appreciated this term. All three have been wonderful examples of servant leaders, walking in the footsteps of Christ. I would also like to publicly thank Kathy Duncanson, our Admin Assistant and Reshma Fernandes, our Finance Officer for guiding me through the areas I had little experience in. Hopefully, I haven't done too much damage in a Term! We have some staff leaving us at the end of the year. To Pam Johansen, Will Ellis and Mel Reid, we wish you every blessing in your endeavours next year. We thank you for your service and look forward to a visit or two from you in the future. All will be farewelled appropriately at our Christmas Concert. To Valencia Maloney who will be taking leave in 2026, we look forward to your return in 2027, bright-eyed and bushy tailed!

STAFFING FOR 2026

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 2026 is as follows:

Principal	Jesse Yock
Assistant Principal	Jennifer Anderson
3YO Kindy	Julie Sharpe
4YO Kindy	Ann Fanto
Pre-Primary	Breanne Buck
Year 1	Robyn Salvia (4 days) & Marika Beacher (1 day)
Year 2	Simone Gordon (3 days) & Courtney Mahoney (2 days)
Year 3	Alphonsus Chui
Year 4	Gabrielle Lesque
Year 5	Jess Jenzen
Year 6	Lauren Moro
Inclusive Support & IT	Marika Beacher
Music	Sheryl Perry
Visual Art	Sheryl Perry
Physical Education	Ross Bridgeman
Science	Ross Bridgeman
Mandarin	Ivy Wang

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Library	Dawn O'Brien
Social Worker	Tracy Small
Early Years Coordinator	Robyn Salvia
Wellness Coordinator	Ross Bridgeman

Educational Assistants

Pre-Kindy	Tracie Spadaro
Kindy	Mara McGinty & Deb Radice
Pre-Primary	Angela Letendrie
General/Special Education Support	Dawn O'Brien
	Tracy Watkins
	Farah Gul
	Alisha Sachdeva

Office Staff

Finance Officer	Reshma Fernandes
Administration Officer	Kathleen Duncanson

Ancillary Staff

Canteen Manager	Sharon Fernandes e Soares
Grounds	Rob Van Oosten

As 2025 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. 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.

I would like to thank you all for coming tonight and wish you all of God's blessings for Advent, Christmas and the New Year. Take care, relax and enjoy the holidays with your families. We look forward to seeing you all back happy and healthy for the start of school next year. Thank you.