



ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2023

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN GOALS & OUTCOMES 2023

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

- Mercy Life
 - Mercy values celebrated this year culminating in a faith development day.
- 120 Year celebrations
 - Brought together Aranmore Catholic College and our community to celebrate 120 years of Mercy education in Leederville. The day began with Mass celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproston at the College. Followed by the students enjoying a morning tea and games morning together. A great day for bringing the two school communities together.

EDUCATION

- UR STRONG
 - The program was implemented very successfully by the UR STRONG team. Students have responded well and are using language and strategies in their everyday interactions. In October we celebrated 'Friendship Day' that was so successful, it was recognised by UR STRONG Australia and published in their newsletter and posted on their Facebook page.
 - 2024 will see all staff being trained in the model.
- Talk for Writing
 - Continues to provide students with a strong foundation to develop writing skills. Staff were mentored and coached by Michelle Meade.
- Collaborative planning in cluster groups & Combined classrooms
 - This year it was essential to provide the 3 cluster groups (1-2; 3-4 & 5-6) time to collaboratively plan to ensure the equal delivery of curriculum across the classes. Extra time at the beginning of the year, with assistance and planning resources ensured the delivery of a consistent curriculum in each cluster group.
 - Staff worked exceptionally hard to ensure that no matter the class students were allocated, all learning opportunities have been consistent and purposeful; providing equal and fair access to learning.
- Implement STEM
 - The STEM initiative lead by Morgan Foster has brought a lot of excitement to developing creativity and developing problem solving skills in students.
 - Makers Empire provide training for 3 staff members to develop capacity to deliver an exciting STEM program to students. This was extremely successful, resulting in the early years classes presenting their work in a national forum.
- Implement Creative Edge Thinking
 - Supported by Curtin University, and implemented by Morgan Foster, this evidenced program was resounding successful in its first year. Using ACER's GAT assessment, 20 students from years 3 to 6 were invited to participate in this innovative program that develops critical and creative thinking 21st century skills. Students are taught the skills



to apply to solve open-ended challenges in literature and communication, science engineering, and in the social sciences. They are also taught team skills to work together to explore possibilities and experiment with a range of ideas to create the best possible solution to a challenge to achieve problem solving success. showcase their abilities to adapt to the changing world around them with students from all over WA. We are looking forward to continuing this program in 2024.

COMMUNITY

- Welcome day (Monday 30 January)
 - This initiative used to introduce students and families to the room moves and changes made to the school during the holiday period. The afternoon was exceptionally well attended. Students and families meeting teachers, seeing classrooms and was supported by the APA, providing drinks and icy poles. All agreed a positive and welcoming way to start the school year. This event will take place again for the beginning of the 2024 school year.
- School Climate Survey
 - Outstanding data and growth since the previous survey in 2021
 - Some of the areas of growth include:
 - Job satisfaction
 - Home-school partnerships & relationships
 - Equity and Diversity
 - Catholic Mission
 - Rule Clarity
 - Wellbeing
- Renovate the Yarning Circle (PALS funding)
 - Fortunate to receive funding to renovate and finish our Yarning Circle. The Yarning Circle offers a gathering space for reflection and conversation and is very much a special space in our school.
- School Play space
 - With much gratitude to the Aranmore Parents' Association, we are building a wonderfully creative play space for the students. Stage 1 is a large project and will be a great addition for our students. Stage 2 is on the planning board and ready for fund-raising.
- Marketing Project
 - During August and September, with the support of the Advisory Council, a marketing plan was created and presented to the leadership team, early October. This recommendations from the plan, have greatly influenced our social media posts. Our social media reach I broader and the feedback is positive.

STEWARDSHIP

- Building Staff Capacity Gradual Release of Responsibility pedagogical practice & Talk 4 Writing
 - Staff continued to be upskilled in the pedagogical practices of the GRR and Talk 4 Writing. These whole school approaches have had a positive impact on student data.
- School Registration Audit



- All CEWA Ltd schools undergo a 5year Registration Audit. Compliance requires compliance to 15 Standards under the Schools Registration Act. We were successfully re-registered.
- Refurbishment of Courts play area
 - Over recent years, the APA have raised funds for the Courts area to be renovated. This project began in December 2022 and was delayed due to major drainage works required for ensure a safe work environment. Now completed, the students have a colourful, playful space to enjoy themselves.
- Review and rebuild School Website
 - We look forward to this coming into play very early in 2024.

Thanks to:

- School Advisory Council. This year our focus and discussions have been centred around raising the profile of the school in the wider community. With assistance from Kelly Fryer, we were able to engage the services of a marketing graduate to assist our marketing strategy. This has been a resounding success, with our social media having greater reach and the possibility of advertising in the community via billboards and Transperth.
 - Sincere thanks to Jayne Taylor for your time, counsel and assistance. Tennille Mitsopoulos for your commitment
- Aranmore Parents' Association. Our very active and talented Parents & Friends' Association should be very proud of their achievements again this year. The Quiz night, Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls and your fabulous bake sales all help to build a social and fun community, as well as handy revenue. Our school would not be the same without you. Your efforts are much appreciated.
- Staff. It is with sincere appreciation that I thank all staff for their unwavering dedication. You are the first port of call for our students and no matter how hard, tired, or difficult a situation, you offer your all, for the students in your care. You go above and beyond to make a difference, freely giving of your gifts and talents.

FOCUS AREAS FOR 2024

CATHOLIC IDENTITY

- Learning and embedding the School Motto of 'TRUST' into our daily lives, how we behave and carry ourselves. Our motto represents our beliefs as a catholic school community founded in the charism of the Sisters of Mercy. 'TRUST' will drive our conversations and make a statement of who we are, adding a deep dimension to our core values. Our Motto 'TRUST' provides a direction in ensuring that we engage, challenge and motivate all in our community to value our endeavour to educate the while child.
- To learn more about 'TRUST' and how it applies in our lives as a catholic community, we will explore the theme of 'TRUST' in the life of Jesus and his disciples to apply to our lives.

Inspiring. Nurturing. Learning today...Leading tomorrow.



EDUCATION

- Berry Street Education Model the staff will be trained in this research/evidenced based pedagogy. Berry Street is quips both mainstream and specialist schools with practical, classroom-based strategies to increase the engagement of all students, including those with complex, unmet learning needs. This education model will enable us to support students' self-regulation, relationships, and wellbeing to increase student engagement and significantly improve academic achievement. Perfectly complements the UR STRONG program and our Be a Mercy Kid.
- Continual embedding of the Talk 4 Writing approach in the teaching and learning program; training for staff who not undergone this.
- Further staff training in the UR Strong program will take place.
- From recent NAPLAN data Grammar and Punctuation has been identified as an area for intervention and will be a targeted curriculum focus for 2024.
- The integration of Aboriginal Studies across the curriculum will be a focus

COMMUNITY

- 2024 Focus will be Parent workshops for Berry Street Education Model, Child Protection and UR STRONG.
- Our collaborations with Aranmore Catholic College will continue, especially in the areas of student leadership, Indigenous studies and celebrations and MERCY celebrations.

STEWARDSHIP

We are committed to forging forward to continue to make our school even better than it is today.

- Marketing and rebuilding our website (carry over from 2023).
- Continue to attract enrolments.
- Further staff training in 'Wellbeing' .
- Rebuild the school website.

The staff and I offer our thanks and appreciation to the community for all of the support that has been given this year. May all families have a very happy and Holy Christmas and may the New Year bring love, happiness, peace and joy.