

School Name St Thomas More Primary School

Postal address PO Box 810, NOOSA HEADS, QLD, 4567

Phone (07) 5449 2022 Fax (07) 5449 2770

Email psunshinebeach@bne.catholic.edu.au

School website www.stmsunshine.qld.edu.au

Contact Person Mr Patrick Colley

## Principal's Foreword

### Introduction

St Thomas More School is located in Ben Lexcen Drive, Sunshine Beach, a short drive from Noosa Heads. It is the only Catholic Primary School north of the Maroochy river. It was established in 1990, in conjunction with Brisbane Catholic Education and is affiliated with the Marist Brothers. St. Thomas More School is a modern co-educational facility preparing children from Preparatory to Year 6. As a parish school it is an important and integral part of the ministry of the Noosa District Catholic Parish.

At St Thomas More School we offer quality, inclusive education, in the Catholic tradition. This provides equity of opportunity for all to participate in the experience of life long learning.

The strong family spirit in the community promotes a sense of integrity, justice, and personal fulfilment that encourages children to critically question themselves and society as they prepare for a future characterised by personal growth and renewal.

In our faith community the individual's potential for learning is nurtured, the Christian story is embraced, faith is celebrated in prayerful and reflective ways, and the children discover a belief in their own capacity to contribute to the Church and society.

Welcome to our school community.

## School Profile

St Thomas More Primary School is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational  or Single Sex

Year levels offered: Primary  Secondary  P-12

Total Student Enrolments 729 Girls 373 Boys 356

## Characteristics of the student body

Our student body is drawn from a range of areas along the Sunshine Coast such as Coolum Beach, Peregian, Pomona, Doonan & Cooroy. Most students live within the Noosa area.

Our prep enrolments traditionally include students from many of the local kindy programmes including the following: Tewanin C & K, Peregian C & K, Good Shepherd Little Lambs, Jelly Babies, Babini's Sunshine Beach & Noosaville Child Care & Pre School Goodchap Street.

St Thomas More Primary (STM) has a strong connection with St Teresa's Catholic College and the majority of our students transition to the College.

STM will move to being a 4 stream primary school by 2017. Currently we have four streams in prep, Y1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; three streams in Y6.

74% of our students are Catholic.

## Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Religious Education; Prayer and Liturgical Celebrations;  
Band and Instrumental Music Programme;  
Choir;  
P-6 School Music Programme;  
Junior Arts Programme;  
Perceptual Motor Programme  
Cultural Literacy - Indonesian Language, Cultural Week,  
Extension Teacher;  
ICT Centres and a mobile Computer Labs;  
Year 6 Leadership Programme  
Life Education Van  
Seasons for Growth Programme  
Peer Support Programme;  
P-6 Physical Education Programme

## Extra curricula activities

Band - Musical Evenings and Competitions; Choir - Music Festivals and Parish Involvement; Visits to Aged Care Facilities; Inter-school and Inter-house sports; Opportunities for District, Regional, State and National Representation in a variety of sports; Voices on the Coast- Reading Enrichment; Book Fair; Maths; English; Spelling; Writing and Computer Skill Competitions held by the UNSW; Readers' Cup; Camps - Years 5 and 6; Dance Evening; Active After Schools Program and Wellness Week.

## How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

A wide range of ICTL is used across all learning areas. At St Thomas More computer programs and their associated peripherals are integrated into the connected curriculum unit so as to ensure effective learning usage. A range of programs and peripherals are used throughout the school based on a developmental scope and sequence. The school has a 1:1 iPad programme in years 5 & 6; and approximately a ratio of 1:2 in other year levels. Every teacher has a school supported iPad. The school uses Business Intelligence Data to monitor student progress and assessment; and develops reporting online. All classes have data projectors, Apple TV capability and the school has wireless connectivity.

## Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

A comprehensive pastoral care program within the school emphasises the creation of a climate and environment that supports positive and enriching relationships between staff, students and families. Our motto 'In Truth and Love' is evident in activities at St Thomas More that develop our social climate include: Class and School Masses and Liturgies, Pastoral Care Policy; Kids Matter and Program Achieve; Peer Support Program, Buddy System, Seasons for Growth Program, Recognition of Student Achievement - in and out of school; Acknowledgement of Birthdays; Book Week Celebrations; Grandparent's Day; P&F Social Functions - Family BBQ, Fete, Mother's and Father's Day Stalls; Work of Staff Social Committee; Wellness Week activities for staff, parents and students; Year 6 Service Day; Year 6 Reflection Day; Leadership Activities led by Year 6; Parish Mass BBQ.

At St Thomas More we believe that the best way to deal with bullying is to work together - parents, students and staff. The "Bullying brochure" is available on the website; this outlines what it is and is not bullying, and what parents can do at home, and how they can expect the school to respond.

## Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The satisfaction of parents, students and teachers at St Thomas More is high. Yearly, we review components of our internal school renewal. These priorities cover Mission and Religious Education; Learning and Teaching; Professional Practices and Collaborative Relationships; and Strategic Resourcing. From these priorities we survey the key stakeholders within our community - parents, students and teachers. These results highlight the dedication and commitment of all members of our St Thomas More Community.

## Parent involvement in their child's education

All parents are extended a very warm welcome to St Thomas More School. We hope their association with the school will be happy and fulfilling in every aspect. We recognise that parents are the prime educators of their children. This partnership will be successful to the extent that it is based on mutual support, co-operation, and above all mutual respect. Involvement can include: Classroom Support - Reading, Spelling, Art, Computers, Guest Speakers; General Help; Tuckshop; Library; School Board; Parents and Friends Association; Fete and other Fund Raising Activities; Sporting Activities; Coaching Sporting Teams; Working Bees; Liturgies and other Celebrations; Shared Lunches; Parent and Teacher Information Nights; Parent/Teacher Report Interviews.

## Staff Profile

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff
Headcounts	47	32
Full-time equivalents	39.87	17.57
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	0	

## Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff (teaching staff includes school leaders)
Doctorate	0
Masters	8
Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate	7
Bachelors Degree	22
Diploma/Certificate	10

## Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2015 was \$ 96,998

The major professional development initiatives were as follows

- Data collection: Reading and Writing
- Assessment: Reading and Writing
- Delivering Excellence in Learning & Teaching
- Data Wall Development
- Marist Spirituality
- Transitioning to Prep Year
- Cohort Planning & Review- Curriculum development
- BCE Life Platform

## School Income by Funding Source

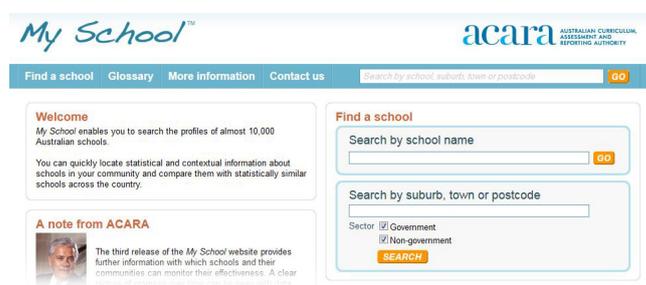
School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our school income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following:

'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select '<GO>'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting 'School finances' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page.



## Average staff attendance rate

The staff attendance rate was 96.57 % in 2015.

## Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2014 school year, 85.0 % of staff were retained by the school for the 2015 year.

## Key Student Outcomes

Whole School Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Prep Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 1 Attendance Rate	93.00 %
Year 2 Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 3 Attendance Rate	94.00 %

Year 4 Attendance Rate	94.00 %
Year 5 Attendance Rate	93.00 %
Year 6 Attendance Rate	94.00 %

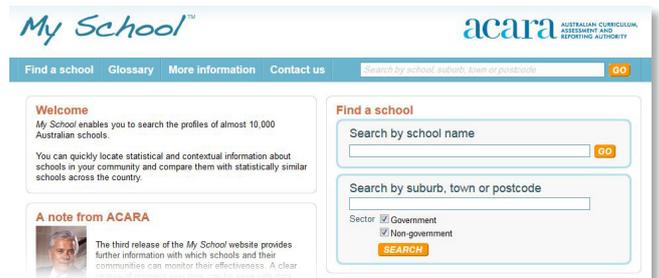
## Policy and practice to manage student attendance

St Thomas More has a proactive approach to manage student attendance. Classroom rolls are marked twice a day (9am and 2pm). The front office has a sign in and out book. If a child has an unexplained absence then an SMS message is sent to parents. At the end of each semester the total number of days absent is placed on the child's report. Children with excessive days away are referred to the Student Support Team for closer monitoring. Letters are sent to parents of students deemed to have a high level of absences and meetings between the school and parents are conducted.

## Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.



The screenshot shows the My School website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'My School' and 'acara' logos, and a search bar with a 'GO' button. Below the navigation bar, there are several sections: 'Welcome' with a brief description of the site's purpose, 'A note from ACARA' with a small image of a man, and a 'Find a school' section. The 'Find a school' section contains two search boxes: 'Search by school name' and 'Search by suburb, town or postcode', both with 'GO' buttons. Below these search boxes, there are radio buttons for 'Sector' with 'Government' and 'Non-government' options, and a 'SEARCH' button.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following

'Find a school' text box.

Type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results you wish to view, and select '<GO>'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being able to access our NAPLAN data.