



St Thomas More
Primary School
2016

Annual Progress

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Mission and Religious Education

Goal

At St Thomas School we aspire to educate and form students who are challenged to live the gospel of Jesus Christ and who are literate in the Catholic and broader Christian tradition so that they might participate critically and authentically in faith contexts and wider society.

Achievements

- STM went through the RE Validation process which included the collation of wrap around data regarding the RE curriculum within the school and the Religious Life of STM. This was received by the BCE panel and commented very positively upon. The Validation process and product was commended and was led by the APRE and RE Validation team.
- APRE worked with each year level to moderate assessment pieces to ensure a consistency of judgement across classes.
- Staff PD focused around alignment between the RE Curriculum, Achievement Standards, Assessment, Success Criteria and Learning Intentions.

Goal

That the Marist ethos remains strong in the school community.

Achievements

- Brothers from the local Marist community were invited and attended significant school events throughout the year including Liturgies and Masses, Feast Days, Graduation.
- St Thomas More sent 6 staff to Mittagong in 2016 to engage in the Footsteps 1 or 2 Marist Spirituality program.
- All new staff attended the induction for Marist Schools Australia.
- Marist Mums group continued their work and became a more central body in the pastoral care of families within the community, working closely with the APRE and Pastoral Care Worker. This included the development of the Marist Mum's Cafe where all proceeds go to supporting families in need within the STM community.

Learning & Teaching

Goal

To ensure that Quality Education is grounded in current research that provides frameworks to support the planning and enactment of quality learning and teaching

Achievements

- Data informed practice which focused teaching, particularly in literacy, on specific needs of cohorts, classes and individuals.
- The school focussed on improving reading in P-2, ensuring a greater number of students reached the BCE benchmarks.
- Literacy support teachers worked as part of year level teams to further focus teaching and learning towards literacy.
- Professional Development focussed on guided reading, scaffolding student writing and mind frames of effective teachers.

Goal

To provide inclusive educational practices, with provision for equity and excellence, that are visible and explicit and responsive in moving all students forward in their learning.

Achievements

- Review and response meetings were conducted to identify students and focus strategies around boosting their progress.
- A new behaviour monitoring system trialled in readiness for implementation in 2017.
- Introduction of a student rule focus in the newsletter, staff bulletin and on assemblies.

Professional Practice & Collaborative Relationships

Goal

To continually improve and up-skill teacher capacity, professional knowledge skills and collaborative practices in order to maximise teacher effect on student learning.

Achievements

- A greater systemness achieved through the BCEC led Delivering Excellence in Learning & Teaching project was achieved.
- Teachers worked within their teams for planning, review and direction each week. This often included the literacy support teacher and other members of the school's Learning & Teaching Team in order to focus on specific school goals.

Strategic Resourcing

Goal

The continual review and upgrading of strategic resources in order to provide learning environments for students where they are engaged, creative and innovative learners.

Achievements

- Completion of the Learning Support extension and the development of a new Sick Bay area, which will include refurbishing the current office spaces.
- Appropriate management of school budgets.
- Staff retention and development throughout 2016 and toward the end of the year in order to retain as many current staff as possible while further building our staffing numbers. This included a Graduate again in 2016 and will also in 2017.
- Audit and repair of technological devices. The retention of a technology specific school officer to support staff and hardware development.