



St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

TOGETHER WE GROW

SCHOOL REPORT 2023 - MRS REBECCA CLARKE

As we begin the final few weeks of the 2023 school year at St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School, it is a great opportunity for me to reflect on another amazing year.

St Elizabeth's has a very strong collaboration with the St Anthony of Padua Parish, and I would like to thank Father Peter Porteous for his ongoing support and assistance during 2023. Throughout the year, classes prepared many beautiful Liturgies and Whole School Masses which reflected our Catholic traditions and beliefs. It was lovely to have our Year Three to Six students join the parish and students from St Anthony's for Mass more regularly and will be something that we look forward to continuing next year. Many of our students were also blessed to be part of the Sacramental Program with the Sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist and Reconciliation celebrated during the year. A big thank you to Father Peter, Father Leonard, the Parish Sacramental Coordinators, Mrs Emma Fernandez, classroom teachers and parents for facilitating these celebrations. To further enhance our Catholic Identity, staff created a beautiful, sacred space in the bush between the admin building and the office which is a dedicated space for students, staff and classes to visit and reflect on the wonder of God's creation or simply an area to just sit and be one with nature.

At the beginning of the year, we launched our upgraded website which proved to be very popular with our wider community. Additionally, we introduced our new school logo, a project that we worked on with the students in 2022 to ensure they had a voice. The process involved students designing a new logo that represents the whole school community and after lots of discussions, suggestions and various aspects of the student designs a new logo was created. The silhouette of St Elizabeth will still be visible around the school, as she is a part of our school history and vision. With our continued marketing efforts and ongoing presence on social media the interest in our school community is growing. Our enrolment numbers ended this year at 224 students with 153 families joining our school community. Next year, we will begin the year with 260 students currently enrolled enrolments Pre-Kindergarten to Year Six with a waitlist for some year levels. Exciting times ahead!

Last year we introduced House Factions to our school community which were named after various saints that influenced St Elizabeth or who aligned with her beliefs, and our school values. Each term we recognised and celebrated a House Faction and the saint that it was named after. All students had the opportunity to dress in that faction colour and participate in 'giving back' to the wider community. Donations were given to St Vinnies for their Winter Appeal 'Meal in a Can' drive and their Christmas Appeal and various charities that support young children with books and school supplies. Students commented on how good it felt to give to those that really need it. St Elizabeth's might be a small school, but we have a huge community heart.

Throughout the year, our wonderful Pre-Kindergarten to Year Six staff and specialist teachers guided our students through a number of creative teaching and learning programs. Staff participated in professional learning days with a focus on our Faith Story and Witness and linking it to our Vision for Learning. Classes participated in a number of excursions and incursions which play a vital role in adding to the educational learning of each student. Selected students were given the opportunity to



represent our school in a number of Interschool sporting events, including Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics. As a school community, we are extremely blessed to have passionate and dedicated teachers who spend hours planning and organising these great learning experiences. The introduction of Telethon Speech and Hearing to our school was a successful one with our hearing-impaired students going from strength to strength.

St Elizabeth's underwent the CEWA Quality Catholic Education School Review and my Principal's Review in Term Three. The process was an affirming one and overwhelmingly positive. The feedback provided will definitely ensure that St Elizabeth's keeps on growing and improving.

To my School Advisory Council, led by Mr Mark Stewart, and the Parents and Friends Committee, chaired by Tara Colyer-Long, thank you for your support. The generosity and time that you dedicate simply enhances the wonderful community spirit at St Elizabeth's.

Every year I have the privilege to work with, and alongside, talented, and dedicated administration staff, teachers, educational assistants and groundsman and this year was no exception. All staff at St Elizabeth's work collaboratively to teach our students the values, morals and life skills that are associated with being at a Catholic school as well as providing high quality teaching and learning. Thank you for everything you do, our staff morale definitely lives our motto 'Together we grow'.

Thank you and God bless.

Rebecca Clarke

Principal