

Annual School Report  
2012 School Year

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# Xavier Catholic College



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## About this report

Xavier Catholic College is registered by the Board of Studies (NSW) and managed by the Lismore Catholic Schools Office (CSO), as the 'approved authority' for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the NSW Education Act 1990.

The *Annual Report to the Parish School Community* for this year provides the parish school community with fair, reliable and objective information about school performance measures and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education.

The *Report* also outlines to the parish school community information about initiatives and developments of major interest and importance to the parish school community and the achievements arising from the implementation of the school's Strategic Management Plan and Annual Plan.

The *Report* demonstrates accountability to the Federal and State Government regulatory bodies, the parish and school community and the Catholic Schools Office. This *Report* has been approved by the CSO which monitors school processes to ensure compliance with all NSW Board of Studies requirements for Registration.

This *Report* complements and is supplementary to school newsletters, year books and other regular communications. The *Report* will be available on the school's website by 30 June 2013 following its submission to the Board of Studies.

The contents of this *Report* are able to be discussed at various parent forums and all information is public.

Further information about the school or this *Report* may be obtained by contacting the school on 02 66876484 or by visiting the website at [www.xavierlism.catholic.edu.au](http://www.xavierlism.catholic.edu.au)

## Principal's Message

The primary purpose of Xavier Catholic College secondary school is to support the members of the parish community in providing a faith formation for their children. The school fosters a commitment to the individual person and provides opportunities for academic, cultural and sporting achievement. Xavier Catholic College offers students a Catholic education based on the teaching of the Church and within the context of a strong faith community.

Our parish school continued to provide many opportunities for the faith and spiritual growth of the students as well as opportunities to excel in academic, cultural and sporting areas. All of these areas combined to ensure that our school's mission was lived out daily in the life of the school.

The students' achievements and accomplishments were showcased throughout 2012. Student work was proudly displayed in classrooms, on school noticeboards, in the school office and on class webpages. School achievement was highlighted and celebrated at many school assemblies. Our focus was to continue to build on the reputation that Xavier Catholic College has earned as an exemplary school. The following list provides an indication of the school's academic achievements:

- Xavier Catholic College once again achieved outstanding Higher School Certificate results with an excellent overall student performance that included 229 results over 80% in a variety of courses.
- The practical and performance – based courses were an area of high achievement with students nominated for the Board of Studies Showcase events of Call Back (Dance) and ENCORE (Music).
- Congratulations to Karly Potts on her 99.6 Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) and the 10 other students who achieved ATARs over 90.
- Karly Potts and Talen Pinxteren were on the 'All Rounders List' for having results over 90 in their 10 best units.
- Amanda Brooker was 6<sup>th</sup> in NSW in Legal Studies and Karly Potts was 16<sup>th</sup> in NSW in English (Advanced)

There were many opportunities throughout the year for our school to be represented at community and cultural events. The following list provides an indication of the school's cultural program and community involvement:

- Our first College musical, 'The Wiz', provided an excellent opportunity for our students and staff to showcase their skills. The three performances were favourably reviewed by the capacity audiences.
- The College music and tuition program continues to produce outstanding results in both the fields of musicianship and academic achievement.
- Once again our College Marching Band led the Schools' section of the ANZAC Day march in Ballina.

- The College Band and Choir performed at the Lennox Head Carols Evening and for the children at St Anne's Long Day Care Centre.
- Our students have also been actively involved in the Ballina Junior Chamber of Commerce, Lions Youth of the Year, Blood Bank, Lismore Eisteddfod, debating and chess competitions.

Students performed well at various sporting events during the year. The following list provides some examples of sporting highlights:

- Once again our Swimming and Athletics Carnivals were a highlight for the College community. The strong sense of house spirit was demonstrated as students enjoyed participating in competitive and novelty events.
- The diversity of Xavier Catholic College's sporting culture is evident in the fact that 62 teams represented the College in 21 sports during 2012. Xavier Catholic College students were Diocesan champions in swimming, surfing, cross country and gymnastics.
- Xavier Catholic College were Northern Rivers Catholic Colleges (NRCC) champions in Australian football (girls and boys), rugby league and soccer.
- The Xavier Catholic College 20/20 cricket team and the Girls Australian football teams were Regional Champions.
- Once again a Xavier Catholic College student received a NSWCCC Blue Award for excellence in sporting achievement. This time for triathlon.

There were many people who assisted in the school's quest for excellence. In particular special thanks are extended to the parent body and the school staff for all their generous efforts. Xavier Catholic College is indeed blessed to have such dedicated and enthusiastic people.

Yvonne Head  
Acting Principal

## **Parent Message**

Our Parent Group provides a valuable opportunity to strengthen the partnership between the home and school. Meetings are held on the second Thursday each month and any College parent or carer is welcome to attend.

Although parents and carers may contact the College at any time about any issues, the Parent Group provides opportunities for networking, social gatherings and feedback on various matters. The information evening about safe partying for adolescents received excellent reviews and may become an annual event.

Several members of the Parent Group volunteered to help with the catering on Parish Schools' Day. This assistance was appreciated by the staff and students.

Members of the Parent Group attended the Year 7 Orientation Evening, addressed the group and were available to answer questions. Next year we will also have a display at Open Night.

We are very grateful to the College for the education, pastoral care and extracurricular opportunities our children received in 2012; in particular the first College musical – 'The Wiz' and the proposed trip to France in 2013.

Joanne McIntosh  
Member of the Parent Group

## **This Catholic School**

Xavier Catholic College is located in Skennars Head and is part of the Ballina Parish which serves the communities of Ballina and Lennox Head. School families are drawn from the towns and communities of Ballina, Lennox Head, Byron Bay, Bangalow, Ocean Shores, Wollongbar, Woodburn and Evans Head.

Last year the school celebrated thirteen years of Catholic education.

The Parish Priest, Father Michael Nilon and Assistant Priest, Father Gabriel Ezenwa are involved in the life of the school.

Xavier Catholic College is a Parish School with strong links to the parish family. The school aims to involve the children and their families in the life of the parish through a range of activities.

- The school conference of St Vincent de Paul (SVdP) is active in fundraising for Caritas and supplying mentors for the SVdP Kids' Camps. This group of dedicated students provides a very strong and tangible link to the social justice work carried out by the Ballina and Lennox Head St Vincent de Paul conferences.
- The Annual Ballina Parish Catholic Schools Day is hosted by Xavier Catholic College and the students play a significant role in the organisation and running of the day. It is a wonderful opportunity for them to display leadership in their school and in the other parish schools and to liaise with other parish organisations.
- The College participates in the various parish special liturgies throughout the year. such as, the 'Pilgrimage of Grace' of the Relic of St Francis Xavier.
- The College band and choir have been involved in liturgical music in the parish. Classes attend the weekly parish Friday Eucharist and Benediction.
- The College band and choir visited St Anne's and sang Christmas Carols with the children. Our links with St Anne's Long Day Care were also strengthened with the children visiting Xavier Catholic College to monitor the progress of their cubby house which was built by the VET Construction students.

The parish secondary school uses the approved Diocesan Religious Education curriculum and the resource text "To Know, Worship & Love". Catholic life and culture permeates school life with the mandated hours of religious education taught formally each year. These hours vary depending on the Stage level. The Diocesan Daily Prayer guidelines support the school's prayer life. The purposes of this parish school are centred on *Catholic Education in the Diocese of Lismore, the Foundational Beliefs and Practices – The Essential Framework*. This Framework underpins all policy, planning, roles and processes within the parish school. Our aim is to increasingly integrate the essence of this statement into all aspects of parish school life. Religious Education is always given priority in our school and classroom curriculum and planning.

The School Mission Statement highlights the nature and calling of the College.

Xavier Catholic College caters for students from Year 7 to Year 12. The following table indicates the student enrolment characteristics:

	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL 2012	TOTAL 2011
Male	81	83	79	71	72	48	434	426
Female	73	73	69	77	58	50	400	409
Indigenous <i>count included in first two rows</i>	1	5	0	2	1	4	13	
LBOTE (Language background other than English) <i>count included in first two rows</i>	6	6	3	7	10	6	38	

## School Curriculum

The school follows the Board of Studies syllabus for each course offered (as required for Registration and Accreditation under the Education Act 1990) and implements the curriculum requirements of the Catholic Schools Office. The curriculum and teaching and learning are shaped by the priorities and goals of the school and informed by directives from the Catholic Schools Office and relevant Federal and State statutory authorities. Staff members at the school are committed to continuous improvement of teaching and learning in all facets of the school curriculum.

Students study Board of Studies mandated and approved courses leading towards the Record of School Achievement (RoSA) Award. The school offers 33 Higher School Certificate (HSC) courses and 5 HSC extension courses.

The parish secondary school's curriculum includes the following features:

- As well as meeting and exceeding ALL the requirements and study patterns stipulated by the Board of Studies, Xavier Catholic College offers a major innovation in its Year 7 curriculum. The College has designed and developed a course in Literacy and Technology Studies (LATS). Every student in Year 7 is required to study the Literacy and Technology Studies course. LATS is a course designed to instruct students in the College's computer network, the Microsoft Office Suite, basic touch typing and other applications of our computer system at school such as email, internet, intranet, etc. It also instructs students on how to access, collate and use information. It has components of study skills, project strategies, question attack strategies as well as literacy and numeracy components. This course provides a very effective way to ensure a good start to secondary education as it addresses many of the cross curricular issues that students encounter in the transition

from primary school into high school. It also in-services students on how to use our latest technology in the 1 to 1 netbook program.

- In addition to the wide range of Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses that Xavier Catholic College offers including Construction, Hospitality, Metal & Engineering and Retail Services, the College has students undertaking school-based traineeships and apprenticeships and accesses a number of TVET-TAFE delivered courses such as Tourism & Events, Electro technology, Automotive Studies and Beauty Therapy.
- Xavier Catholic College has since its foundation in 2000 been a leader in ICT and digital education with both an internal fibre-cabled network and a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN). This new WLAN supports the College's provision of a 1 to 1 student laptop computer program for all students from Year 7 to Year 12.
- The Learning Centre at Xavier Catholic College is a strong component of the total education package that the College delivers to its students. The Learning Centre, under the coordination of a fully qualified Special Education teacher and with the support of up to eight teachers' aides at various times, provides opportunities for in-class support, withdrawal, remediation, extension and various support programs.
- Many students at the College benefit from the specifically targeted enrichment activities and programs which the various departments include in their courses. Among these activities are visits from authors, drama groups and artists.

The parish secondary school offers a strong co-curricular program which includes student participation in:

- the strong culture of student leadership which has developed through Xavier
  - Xavier Catholic College places an emphasis on the core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science where it exceeds the stipulated time requirement by 50% in Years 7 to 10.

Catholic College's unique horizontal house system. This house system involves each year level being a discreet house led by and for the students of that year. The leadership teams of each house (year) are responsible for charitable works and fundraising. Each house (year) has a major charity for the calendar year. This involves liaising with community groups and charitable organisations.

- an active retreat program for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 which is a distinct feature of the College. At Diocesan level students also have the opportunity to participate in a number of faith-based activities throughout the year such as 'Festa Christi' for Year 9, 'Flame' for Year 10, 'Street Retreat' for Year 11 and 'Ignite' for Years 10 to 12.
- the College Marching Band which once again received a positive response from the public for leading the schools' section of the Ballina ANZAC Day march.



- 'The Wiz' which was the College's first musical. The completion of the Magis Centre (Hall) enabled the school to perform a musical which showcased the talents of the staff and students and strengthened links with the wider community.
- St Vincent de Paul, 'Relay for Life', Blood Bank, Lion's Youth of the Year and fund raising for the Westpac Helicopter.

## **Student Performance in National Testing Programs**

### **NAPLAN**

The school participated in the 2012 National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) with students in Years 7 and 9 tested. In Year 7, 149 students presented for the tests while in Year 9 there were 140 students.

In Literacy there were four elements tested. These were reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation. In Numeracy, students were tested in number, patterns and algebra, measurement, data, and space and geometry.

In both Year 7 and Year 9 there were 6 achievement bands with Band 9 being the highest level of attainment in Year 7 and Band 10 the highest in Year 9.

The Commonwealth Government has set minimum acceptable standards for reading, writing and numeracy at particular grades. In Year 7, students who achieved Band 6 or higher have achieved above the minimum standard. In Year 9, those students who achieved at Band 7 and higher have achieved above the minimum standard set by government.

At Xavier Catholic College school and student performance is closely monitored. These tests are one means of gathering data on individual student and school achievement. School staff have participated in Catholic Schools Office led information sessions on NAPLAN and SMART Data Analysis workshops.

The following data indicates the percentage of Xavier Catholic College students in each band compared to the State percentage.

## Year 7 NAPLAN Results in Literacy and Numeracy

Year 7 NAPLAN Results in Literacy and Numeracy	Percentage of students in bands 4 to 9											
	BAND											
	9		8		7		6		5		4	
	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School
Reading	11.5	19.5	22.1	26.8	26.5	31.5	21.8	12.8	13.0	8.1	5.2	1.3
Writing	7.5	4.7	15.4	15.5	20.7	24.3	26.4	31.1	22.2	22.3	7.8	2.0
Spelling	11.9	9.5	25.2	25.0	30.1	36.5	19.0	20.9	8.3	6.1	5.5	2.0
Grammar and Punctuation	14.8	12.2	18.9	23.6	26.4	34.5	25.1	23.0	11.4	6.8	3.4	0.0
Number, Patterns and Algebra	15.6	10.9	14.1	17.0	22.9	29.9	23.7	24.5	19.6	16.3	4.0	1.4
Measurement, Data, Space and Geometry	12.3	10.2	15.6	19.7	28.6	40.8	25.2	20.4	12.1	6.1	6.3	2.7
Numeracy	14.5	12.2	15.1	20.4	23.1	29.9	25.7	25.9	17.1	8.8	4.5	2.7

## Year 9 NAPLAN results in Literacy and Numeracy

Year 9 NAPLAN Results in Literacy and Numeracy	Percentage of students in bands 5 to10											
	BAND											
	10		9		8		7		6		5	
	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State	School
Reading	7.5	9.3	16.5	20.0	25.3	30.7	26.6	27.9	17.0	11.4	7.1	0.7
Writing	9.0	7.2	11.2	13.8	21.9	24.6	19.6	24.6	19.1	21.0	19.3	8.7
Spelling	7.6	2.9	21.8	17.3	26.9	28.1	23.6	30.2	11.9	14.4	8.2	7.2
Grammar and Punctuation	7.5	4.3	15.2	11.5	25.3	32.4	23.6	31.7	20.6	18.0	7.8	2.2
Number, Patterns and Algebra	16.4	13.0	13.8	17.4	21.7	26.8	21.3	22.5	18.6	18.8	8.3	1.4
Measurement, Data, Space and Geometry	12.2	5.8	15.6	15.9	22.4	30.4	25.3	30.4	17.3	15.9	7.2	1.4
Numeracy	13.1	7.2	14.7	16.7	22.2	30.4	25.9	29.7	20.3	15.9	3.9	0.0

The results show that students have performed well in 2012. This is largely due to the effectiveness of the school's targeted intervention programs. NAPLAN results will be further analysed to inform and guide the direction for future improvements. Furthermore, teachers at the school believe that motivation levels have improved through the increased use of laptops and other technology in classes. Students appear to be more engaged with the lesson content and are willing to practise their skills using this technology. The percentage of students achieving minimum standards has followed previous years' achievements and is indicative of the focus placed on individualised student learning programs and intervention strategies adopted at the school in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

## Higher School Certificate

The results of the school's Higher School Certificate candidature are reported below. The table provided shows the percentage of students who achieved in the top three bands and shows a comparison with results from previous years.

	Higher School Certificate: % of students in bands 4, 5, 6					
	2010		2011		2012	
	School	State	School	State	School	State
Studies of Religion 1	66%	79%	50%	78%	51%	72%
English Standard	47%	35%	58%	39%	71%	52%
English Advanced	98%	93%	98%	88%	100%	89%
General Mathematics	100%	57%	63%	50%	73%	51%
Mathematics	86%	75%	83%	79%	96%	79%
Legal Studies	78%	64%	94%	68%	100%	69%
Music	88%	87%	100%	88%	100%	90%

The 2012 HSC results maintained our tradition of outstanding results, examples of which follow:

- 98 students presented in 33 courses.
- The College was above the State average in 25 of the 33 courses.
- The College Dux achieved an ATAR of 99.6 which was the highest on the North Coast.
- Two students were recognised in the 'All Rounders List' gaining five Band 6 results (over 90 in all courses).
- 229 results were over 80% with 57 results in the Merit List.
- One student was sixteenth in the State in English (Advanced).
- One student was sixth in the State in Legal Studies.
- One student was nominated for Call Back (Dance) and one for ENCORE (Music).
- In addition to those listed in the table above, excellent results were also achieved in English Extension 1, Mathematics Extension 1, Dance, Ancient History, Visual Arts, Design & Technology and Hospitality.

## Teacher Standards and Professional Learning

Teacher Qualifications / Staff Profile		Number of Teachers
1.	Those having formal qualifications from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent.	64
2.	Those having graduate qualifications but not a formal teaching qualification from a recognised higher education institution or equivalent.	Nil
3.	Those not having qualifications described in 1 or 2 above but having relevant successful teaching experience or appropriate relevant knowledge.	Nil
4.	Teachers with recognised qualifications to teach Religious Education.	45
5.	Number of staff identifying as indigenous employed at the school.	3
6.	Total number of non-teaching staff employed in the school.	26

All teachers have been involved in professional development activities during the year. These activities are designed to develop the skills and understandings of staff so as to improve student outcomes. Professional development can take many forms including whole-staff development days, subject specific in-services, meetings and conferences.

Whole-staff development day professional learning activities in 2012 were:

Staff Development Days	Term	Presenter
Curriculum Development	1 & 3	KLA Coordinators
Professional Learning Communities (PLC)	1	Gavin Grift
Contemporary Learning Framework (CLF)	2	CSO & College Staff
Ignatian Spiritual Retreat	2	College Executive
CPR/First Aid	4	Francis Quinn

Additionally staff attended either singly or in groups a range of professional development opportunities including:

- Each Key Learning Area (KLA) Coordinator attended diocesan network meetings which address current issues pertaining to their courses.
- KLA Coordinators or representatives attended Conferences – Legal Studies, Society & Culture, Physics, Chemistry, PDHPE and Drama.
- Indigenous Education Gathering
- Catholic Secondary Schools Association (CSSA) Forums
- Cyber Bullying Conference
- Careers Days at various universities
- Counselling and Coaching workshops

The professional learning expenditure has been calculated at \$2835 per staff member. This figure has been calculated by CSO and reflects expenditure on casual release days and professional development activities in particular categories.

### **Teacher Attendance and Retention**

The average teacher attendance figure is 95.30%. This figure is provided to the school by the CSO.

The staff retention at Xavier Catholic College is very stable with two permanent staff members resigning, one teacher participating in an exchange program and one teacher returning from maternity leave.

A new College principal, Mr Michael Vella was appointed during 2012 and will commence duties in 2013.

### **Student Attendance**

School attendance is always high. The Class Roll is marked every day and rolls are checked each term. Unexplained absences are followed up promptly by classroom teachers. Parents are requested to provide a note to the teacher immediately their child returns to school. The Principal and other key staff are made aware of sustained student absences or absences reflecting a pattern. In these situations the Principal or delegated staff member contacts the parent/guardian. Parents are encouraged to arrange medical and other necessary appointments outside school hours. Prolonged periods of absence occur from time-to-time for various reasons. In these cases students and their parents meet with the Principal to discuss their leave request.

The average student attendance rate for the school during 2012 was 90.7%. School attendance rates disaggregated by Year group are shown in the following table.

Attendance rates by Year group	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
	93.3%	91.8%	88.3%	88.9%	90.6%	91.6%

## Senior Secondary School Outcomes

The table below sets out the percentages of students undertaking vocational education training in their senior years as well as those attaining the award of Higher School Certificate (or equivalent vocational education and training qualification).

Senior Secondary Outcomes Year 12, 2012	% of students undertaking vocational training or training in a trade during the senior years of schooling.	37%
	% of students attaining the award of <i>Higher School Certificate</i> or equivalent vocational education and training qualification.	100%

Xavier Catholic College is fortunate to have the staff and facilities to offer a wide range of vocational training courses at the school. The students also have access to TVET – TAFE courses.

A large number of students include a VET course in their pattern of study for the HSC. Some study these dual accredited courses for both Years 11 & 12, others undertake them only for the Preliminary HSC year. A significant number of VET students opt to sit the HSC examination in their chosen course which means that their results may contribute to the ATAR.

## Post School Destinations

Each year the school collects destination data relating to the Year 12 student cohort. The table below sets out the percentages of students for the various categories shown.

Destination Data Year 12, 2012 Graduating Class	University	TAFE / Other institutions	Workforce entry	Destination not reported
	72%	4%	10%	14%

## School Policies

School policies are reviewed regularly.

## **Enrolment Policy**

Every new enrolment at Xavier Catholic College requires parents to attend an enrolment interview. The interview provides an opportunity to learn more about the educational experience provided by the school, specific school procedural policies and current school expectations.

Preference for enrolment is given to children who are baptised Catholics. It is a condition of enrolment that all children will participate in religion lessons and activities, as well as prayer celebrations and school Masses.

A copy of the enrolment policy is located in the school office or it can be accessed on the school's website. The School Enrolment Policy explains the Parish enrolment guidelines.

## **Student Welfare Policy, Pastoral Care Policy**

The school's Pastoral Care Policy is concerned with the fostering of students' self-discipline. It aims to develop persons who are responsible and inner-directed, and capable of choosing freely in accordance with their conscience. It sets out to help students recognise that their fundamental freedoms and rights are balanced by responsibilities.

At Xavier Catholic College we not only encourage a positive attitude to learning and a sense of satisfaction at having achieved to the best of one's ability but we also value respect for people staff and the students alike.

In addition to our specific policies Xavier Catholic College has a comprehensive Pastoral Care program running throughout the College that encompasses retreats, reflection days, targeted groups, lunchtime competitions for the various year groups such as volleyball and table tennis as well as whole school activities and days such as Justice Days, Parish Schools Day and others.

This whole school program is complemented by specific programs that are implemented individually and for groups such as Mind Matters, Seasons and the Friends programs. These in turn are supported by a school counsellor who works three days a week and by homeroom teachers, Year coordinators, the welfare coordinator and advisors for careers and academic areas.

The College has trained Work Health and Safety officers who ensure the safety of staff, students and visitors to the school is met by regular inspections and reviews of policies and procedures to ensure that best practice is occurring. This is a very important part of the Pastoral Policy of the College.

Similarly, in accordance with Child Protection Legislation the College has implemented policies to ensure the welfare of students and appreciates the cooperation of all parents in following these policies and complying with the requests as set out in the legislation.



## **Discipline Policy**

Xavier Catholic College's policy is based on procedural fairness and ensures that school practices respect the dignity, rights and fundamental freedoms of individual students. The policy is discussed with students, staff and parents on a regular basis. Reminders about the policy are regularly included in school newsletters. Relevant sections of the policy are also published in the student diary.

Student welfare within the College is always approached from a positive perspective with the emphasis on changing behaviour **NOT** punishing or implementing sanctions. However, sanctions are an integral part of any welfare policy not only for the welfare of the students themselves but for the community as well.

The College has, as a condition of enrolment, an acknowledgement that 'out of hours' detentions may be given to students and that it is an expectation that students attend these detentions which may be after school and/or Saturday mornings and/or during school vacation periods. A more detailed explanation of this policy is available from the College office.

The College employs a variety of strategies for student welfare and management from individual contracts through to the detentions mentioned above but it is important to state that along with ALL other schools in NSW – corporal punishment is **NOT** used at Xavier Catholic College.

## **Complaints and Grievance Policy**

The Xavier Catholic College policy is based on procedural fairness and recognises that parents and caregivers must have access to processes that allow them to resolve concerns in a supportive and conciliatory environment. If a parent or student has a complaint or issue in relation to the College, they have a number of avenues that they can pursue. Any concerns raised are responded to promptly and fairly and confidentiality is always maintained. The policy is available from the school office.

## **School Determined Improvement Targets**

Each year the school develops an Annual Plan drawn from the five year Strategic Plan. 2012 was a very rewarding year. Listed below are a number of goals and priorities that the school focused on during the year. The parish secondary school's main goals and priorities were to:

- review the wording of the College Mission Statement;
- review the horizontal house system, timetable and pastoral care program. A Strategic Planning Committee was formed to research these areas.
- continue the on-going review of student results in external testing to assist and inform teachers in the preparation and presentation of lessons to enhance student learning;
- strengthen student leadership through the re-introduction of a Student Representative Council (SRC) to complement the leadership teams in each year group.

## **Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility**

The school ensures that at every available formal and informal opportunity the values of respect and responsibility are promoted. The school models and teaches students about respect and responsibility in a number of ways.

- The development of good citizens is fostered by inviting various community groups, from Legacy through to the local helicopter rescue service, to address our regular fortnightly assemblies.
- Students participate in school ceremonies to commemorate ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) week.
- The College social justice group and the inclusive nature of the College's Learning Centre gives living witness to the College's teachings on equality, respect and responsibility.
- The Swimming and Athletics Carnivals have events for students with disabilities and we celebrate the champions of these events equally. All students are given respect and the enjoyment of rights is balanced with the responsibilities that go with them. The College's pastoral care program is aimed at student development in all areas – spiritual, social, emotional as well as intellectual and the student leadership teams are an extension of this program.
- The values of respect and responsibility lie at the heart of Catholic schools and underpin all policies and procedures. Students, teachers and parents are regularly reminded of the school's commitment to these and other school values through newsletter items, assembly messages and by the nature of our interpersonal relationships.
- Students and staff contribute generously to social justice appeals, including St Vincent de Paul and Caritas.
- Outstanding citizenship is acknowledged annually through perpetual awards at the Year 12 Graduation and Awards Ceremony and the College Presentation Evening.

## **Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction**

The school uses a variety of methods to gauge parental, student and teacher satisfaction with school operations. The school understands the importance of regularly reviewing approval and satisfaction levels. Last year the following formal and informal opportunities allowed the school to test reaction to decisions, policy and school procedures:

- Staff evaluation forms on professional development days and information from various meetings provide constructive feedback.
- All parent information evenings and Parent-Teacher Meetings are a valuable source of feedback. As are discussions at the regular Parent Group Meetings. For example, parents raised concerns about the lack of parking when they had to call into the Office or pick up a child from sickbay so two parking spaces have been reserved for this purpose.

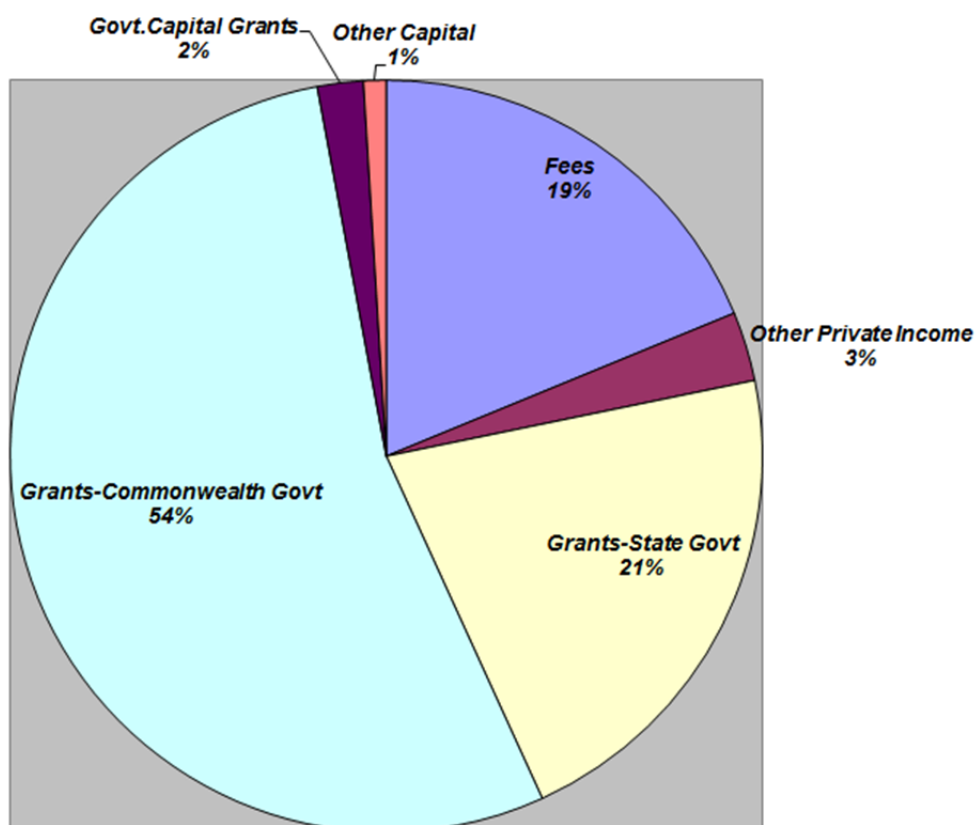
- Regular student feedback is obtained from the house leadership team meetings which are held with the Year Coordinator and the Student Representative Council (SRC). The Principal attends some of these meetings to obtain first hand feedback from students.

## Financial Information

Catholic schools are accountable for all monies received. Each year, the Lismore Catholic Schools Office submits to the Commonwealth Government a financial statement on behalf of the parish primary schools and secondary colleges. This statement details the income and expenditure of each school. In addition, the financial accounts for each school and for the Catholic Schools Office are audited annually.

A graphic summary of the income and expenditure reported to the Commonwealth Government for 2012 is as follows:

### 2012 INCOME - Xavier Catholic College Ballina - SKENNARS HEAD



## 2012 EXPENSE - Xavier Catholic College Ballina - SKENNARS HEAD

