



# 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



# **Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Meeting held: Monday 30 May 2022  
at 7.00pm in the Stella Maris Building

- 1. Present:** Damian Weeks, Narelle Sandercock, Louise Santillo, Justin Gargula, David Slovinec, Emma Nicholas, Deanne Stephanos, Jane Leonard, Kristen Victory, Stella Foley, Fr Peter, Natalie Canova, Mark Hayes, Kirsty McCulloch, Katherine Andrushenko and Vivian Andrews
- 2. Apologies:** Liz Sarris and Brad Dunstan
- 3. Welcome: Dave Slovinec**
  - Dave welcomed everyone to the AGM
  - Welcome to our Country
  - Opening Prayer
- 4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes** - Previous minutes from the 2020 AGM were taken as read and accepted.
- 5. Presentations for reports**
  - Fr Peter, Damian, Dave and Jane presented their AGM reports
- 6. Call for questions on the Published Reports**
  - There were no questions
- 7. Thanks to retiring members – Dave**
  - Dave thanked our existing members Emma Nicholas, Justin Gargula, Louise Santillo and Deanne Stephanos who will be retiring from the Board
- 8. Election of Board members**
  - Dave announced our new board members Mark Hayes, Kirsty McCulloch, Katherine Andrushenko. Teacher Representative to be decided
  - Dave welcomed them to the School Board
- 9. Presentation of New Building Concepts**
  - Damian discussed our new building plans
- 10. Business Arising/Questions**
  - Discussion took place about our current uniform
  - This will take place at our next board meeting
- 11. David thanked everyone for their attendance**
- 12. AGM closed at 7.45pm**

As you would know, we have had quite a few changes in our Parish over the last three years. One of the changes was farewelling Father Peter at the end of 2022 and welcomed Father Manu in the new year. Due to the change of Parish Priest, I thank Dominique Laurendi, in her role as Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission for providing this report.

### End of an Era – Farewell to our MSC

After nearly 110 years of ministry, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart withdrew from Henley Beach parish at the end of last year. The MSCs have been present and ministered in Adelaide at both Hindmarsh and Henley Beach since 1914.

The announcement, which was made last year, was felt by all the Henley Beach community who were shocked and saddened by the decision.

A Mass was held to celebrate the contribution and commitment of our MSC priests and to farewell Fr Peter Hearn, Fr Paul Cashen and Fr Paul McCormack.

Sister Helen Armstrong, a member of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, has continued her support of the parish and is now assisting the school with the Sacramental Program.

### Welcome to our new Parish Priest

At the beginning of this year, we welcomed our new Parish Priest, Father Manu Kumbidiyamackal. Father Manu came to us from the Para Hills/Modbury Parish where he had been for ten years. We have had a number of opportunities to meet with Fr Manu, where he has begun his ministry and partnership with our school. We look forward to continuing our close connection with the parish and school.

### Sacrament Program

The Sacramental Program has begun with a Parent Information evening held last week for all school and parish students. We have 70 children who have signed up and are beginning their faith journey towards receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist. Dominique Laurendi and Sr Helen will work together to prepare both the school and parish students on this journey. The students at Star of the Sea will engage in a newly designed, contemporary sacrament formation using the Crossways Religious Education Program. All Sacramental celebrations will be later this year in September.

### Children's Parish Masses

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at 9:30am, a Family Mass is held at the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish. As a school, we are taking this as an opportunity for the children of Star of the Sea, and their families, to be involved with the Parish Community.

Families are being encouraged to participate by volunteering to take an active role in the mass. This has been well received by families so far and is one way we are working on keeping our strong connections with our parish.

It only seems like yesterday that I was writing my report for 2021. The last 12 months on the School Board, and life in general, seem like a blur.

Over the last 12 months the school has been progressing and completing large volume of initiatives including:

- An Increase in ESO numbers
- Changes in Leadership
- A strategic Plan
- Building plans
- Oval upgrade
- New Build

The new build has taken up a significant amount of board members time over the last 12 months. There was significant consideration in the decision to demolish and build, and then to make sure that we built something that will serve the school for many years to come. As we watch the new build come together, we anticipate that the finished product will be a great addition to the school.

We thank students, families and teachers for their patience as the building works take place and can't wait to see students enjoy the new building in 2024!

### **Change in Leadership**

We welcomed Kelly back to the school as acting Deputy this year, and I would like to congratulate Dominique Laurendi on being appointed the school's APRIM. Unfortunately, we had to say farewell to Matt Perry over the past 12 months. Matt is very loved by all at the school and will be missed. We congratulate him on his new role as a Principal and wish him all the best. During Term 2 we will be hiring for the Deputy Role and Damian will announce the successful candidate once appointed. Events.

It was wonderful to have events return to the school without any interruptions due to COVID restrictions. It was wonderful to see people enjoy Christmas Carols and students participate at Sports Day.

It has been a very busy, yet enjoyable 12 months on the School Board, and we are all looking forward to the rest of 2023 and beyond.

Regards

Dave Slovinec

The start of 2022 was the 110<sup>th</sup> birthday of our school. It was 110 years ago that the first permanent Catholic structure was established by the Sisters of Mercy in Henley Beach. We celebrated this significant milestone and commemorated the vision and initiatives of the Sisters of Mercy in establishing the convent and in providing Catholic education, in what was a sparsely populated area of Adelaide.

The school year began, quite differently from any other year ever, as Covid was still to impact on our basic operations from day one. The first day of school saw Receptions and Year 1 students returning, while Years 3-6 stayed at home and were involved in remote learning. It remained this way for the first two weeks!

We welcomed new staff, Jhovana Fenu as our Acting APRIM and two new teachers in Year 3, Kelly Stevens and Tamara Golic. A number of new Educational Support Offices began, Sal McDonald, Cassie Handke, Natalie Canova, Chelsea Gilbert and Kyra Karagiannidis, reflecting the large increase in support offered to students in the classroom.

May I thank our teaching staff for the many extra hours they have put in to preparing and running learning programs throughout the year, particularly the work on Personalised Learning Plans for the children in our school. This work has led to the employment of 25 Educational Support Officers, by the end of the year. On average, that is more than one for every classroom in our school!

Throughout the year we developed our school Strategic Plan. Beginning with a Community Involvement meeting, and then surveys and prioritising of a long list of ideas, we eventually arrived at our 2022-2024 plan. This can be viewed on our school website.

The beginning of term 2 saw Matt Perry take up the role of Acting Deputy Principal at Christ the King Warradale. Eventually this was a position that he won and we congratulate him on his first Principal position. After 21 years teaching at Star of the Sea, our Italian Teacher, Karen Andrews, retired. We welcomed new staff members in these roles, Narelle Sandercock and Tania Condelli. Narelle was returning to us after doing a term as Acting Deputy the previous year. Narelle has recently won the substantive position as Deputy Principal of Mercedes College, congratulations Narelle!

In term 2 we had a visit from Sally Egan, Deputy Chair of the National Catholic Education Commission. The word is out about the results that we are achieving in our internal School testing and in our NAPLAN results. People are becoming more and more interested in how we have done this. Thus the reason for Sally's visit.

When visitors come to our School to find out more about our achievements, the first thing I tell them is we are lucky to have a school with such a great staff. They are willing to look at what is working and

changing those things that require change! The second key to our success is our “Leaders of Learning.” This group meets every Wednesday and works on the key aspects of developing, “thriving people, capable learners and leaders for the world God desires.” I would like to thank our Leaders of Learning for the fantastic work that they have been doing over the last couple of years. Our teachers, that are members of this group are Louise Santillo, Domineque Laurendi and Sheena Pattinson. They are joined each week by members of our Leadership Team, Jhovana Fenu, Matt Perry/Narrelle Sandercock and myself.

### **The Building Program Begins**

After a year in planning our building program began in the last week of the school year. There were some minor works occurring in the last three days of school. Preparatory works began once students concluded school. The major work demolishing work occurring over the Christmas holidays.

### **Permanent Teacher Appointments**

Towards the end of the year, we shared the exciting news that three of our contract staff had won permanent positions on our staff:

Maria Trimarchi

Kopano Shepheard

Anthony Pigliacelli

### **Retirements**

At the end of the year we had the following staff retire:

Stella Foley – APRIM

Marian Izzo – Class Teacher

Jane Leonard – Finance Manager

Stella has worked in Catholic Education for 26 years and 7 years at our school. In her time at Star of the Sea she has kept us up to date with everything in the Religious Dimensions and involved in so many areas of our school. Stella, thank you for your professionalism, leadership and dedication to our school, its students and families.

Marian Izzo has been on leave this year and has decided to retire. Marian has been a member of our school staff for years and has taught in Catholic Education for 43 years. She has been connect to many students and families that have been part of our school. Thank you, Marian for sharing your expertise and passions with our school community.

Jane has worked as the Finance Manager at our school for over 15 years and in Catholic Education for 22. Jane’s career has involved working in a number of Catholic Schools as well as in the Head Office.

Jane and her husband have started an adventure buying a block of land on the Yorke Peninsula and building a house.

### **Community**

As a parent, being involved in the school, has well researched educational benefits for your child. We have a very strong representation of parents that I would like to thank, from the members of the School Board, P&F and Star Outreach groups to volunteers for excursions, the canteen and the many parents who help in the classrooms. Special thanks go to the chairs of the Board, Dave Slovinec and the P&F, Natalie Conova for leading their respective groups.

Finally, a big thank you to the school's Leadership Team of Matt Perry/Narelle Sandercock, Stella Foley and Jane Leonard. Together, we continue the tradition of leading Star of the Sea School through these uncertain Covid times and I thank them for their support and advice.

Damian Weeks

Principal

As always, the school is maintained and kept in great condition by Michael Burgan with the use of external contractors to provide work as needed. The committee would like to thank Michael for his continued hard work around the school, ensuring that the school is well maintained and the finances provided for maintenance and improvements are well utilised.

With the commencement of the building works, there has been a focus on providing support to the building contractors, relocating staff areas and other tasks to ensure that the work kicked off and continues on schedule. This has taken up a significant amount of focus during the previous 12 months and will continue to do so until building completion. There are a number of other large tasks that the committee is looking at undertaking throughout the rest of the year once further time and resources are made available from the building works.

The school oval continues to be somewhat of an ongoing challenge. Due to the lack of sunlight on the northern part of the grassed area and continual heavy traffic in certain areas, its condition deteriorates in parts of the oval. This is managed on an ongoing basis with consultation from Glenelg Turf Ace to ensure it is in the best condition possible given the environment. Unfortunately, it has been exacerbated with the current building works and with the closure of part of the children's play area.

There are still plans to rejuvenate the Grandstand rear wall structure. The aim is to commence this in the near future to replace the timber slatting with a solid structure to withstand the impact of sports balls. With the commencement of the build, there has been the need reschedule some works to align with the larger works. There will still be the option to decorate the western facing surface in line with its surroundings. There are some good ideas being proposed on what this decoration will look like, with further communication from the school once decisions have been finalised.

Brad Dunstan



2022 A year in review for the Marine Discovery Centre

### **School excursion visitors - 5874**

- Students: 5874
- Adults: 1166

### **Events: Science & Community events - 24**

- MDC hosted 16 Open Days for the public
- Participated in 6 Science Fairs

### **Volunteer hours – 1073**

- Equating to \$43,993 worth of wages
- 5 students completed a university internship from the University of Adelaide
- 9 students undertook work experience at the Marine Discovery Centre

### **Funding support**

- \$12,000 - Department for Tourism
- \$20,500 - CESA
- \$2,000 – National Science Week / Inspiring South Australia
- \$1,500 – The Science Collective
- \$25,000 (in-kind) – Solar Panel donation from Sivcorp Solar & Energy

### **Invited special guests**

- Matt Cowdrey OAM MP – Member for Colton
- Presentation to the Green Adelaide Board

Carmen Bishop

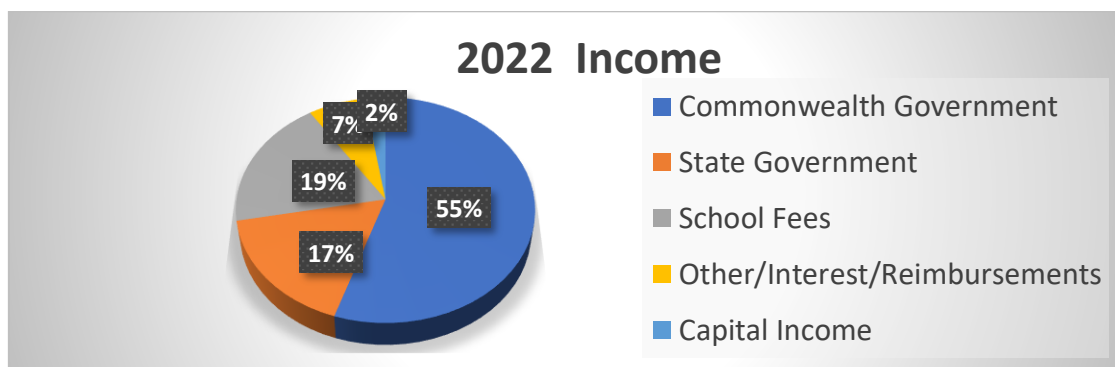
Partnerships & Marketing Manager

## FINANCE REPORT 2022

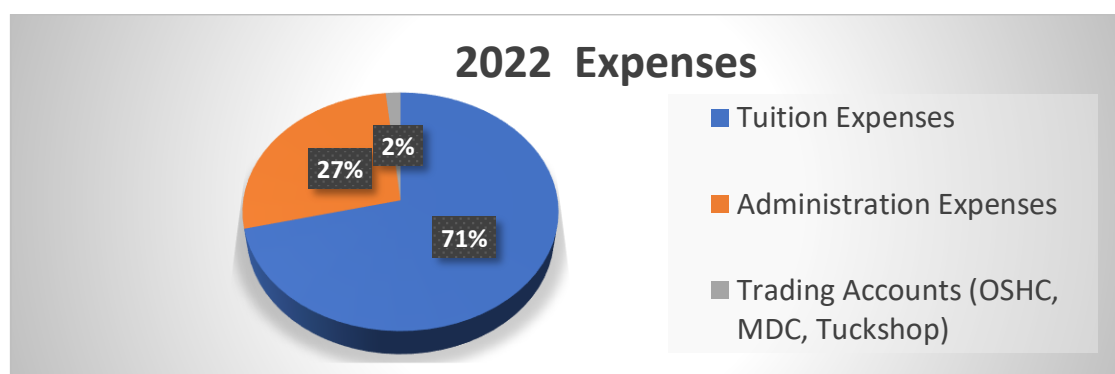
The Star of the Sea School financial position has historically been very solid due to the hard work of key personnel and 2022 is no exception. This is a good opportunity to thank Jane Leonard, Finance Manager who after more than 15 years of service to Star of the Sea School retired at the start of 2023 for all her hard work and dedication to managing the school finances and the numerous building projects she oversaw during her tenure. Jane has left a wonderful legacy for future generations of students.

Student enrolment numbers for 2022 were 552.80 students as reported at the August Commonwealth Census date compared to 532.6 at the same time in 2021.

Student numbers directly impacts the level of State and Commonwealth Government funding received every year and represents the largest portion of Revenue/Income received by the school, as illustrated by the graph below.



School expenditure continues to be closely tracked with emphasis on attaining savings where possible without compromising the children's education or commitment to the community. The graph below summarises the areas of expenditure.



Building works commenced at the end of 2022 with the demolition of the old administration building. Once completed, there will be a new two-level administration building which will include new school entry, front office, administration offices, multipurpose spaces, refurbishment of existing classrooms and an 'atrium' space linking in with existing buildings. This project will be funded by a capital loan and our own school funds held in reserve. The project is due for completion in April/May 2024 at an anticipated construction cost of \$8M.

2022 was a year of consolidation knowing with the impending administration building project, so no significant items of capital expenditure were undertaken other than the purchase of student and staff devices and playgroup rubber surface replacement.

Other trading activities

### **Tuckshop**

After a profit in 2021, the Tuckshop recorded a nominal loss of \$502.23 in 2022. This would be attributed in a large part to the interrupted start of the school year in 2022 due to COVID. Dee Taggart and her amazing team of volunteers continue to work hard in our Tuckshop and we thank them for their efforts

### **Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)**

In 2022 Out of School Hours Care recorded a loss of \$40,709.81 compared to a profit of \$5,232.85 in 2021. This is a disappointing turn around in result and upon initial investigation could be attributed to the disrupted start to 2022, however session fee income was up approximately \$11,000 in 2022, so whilst COVID would certainly have reduced income it was still higher than the previous year. The main reason for the loss is due to staff-related costs and this will need to be closely monitored with Donna Marshall, OSHC Director in 2023 to ensure the service operates within student ratios whilst being mindful to not impact the effective and safe operation of the service.

### **Marine Discovery Centre (MDC)**

In 2022 the Marine Discovery Centre made a loss of \$96,694.87 compared to a small profit of \$1,454.18 in 2021. Centre visit income from incursions etc. was down slightly and a result again of the disrupted start to 2022 due to COVID. However, the main factor contributing to such a significant downturn was a significant reduction in government funding. In 2021 the MDC received \$103,299 in government funding compared to \$14,820 in 2022. Carmen Bishop, MDC Partnerships and Marketing Manager continues to work tirelessly to secure government grants and we are confident of securing more funding in 2023.

Overall result

The school reported a cashflow surplus of \$811,850 compared to the budgeted surplus of \$443,452. This positive result is due to a significant increase in Government funding, higher than budgeted fee school fee collection and other income but some of the increase in income is offset by increased spending in the areas of staffing costs and related oncosts, trading account losses and tuition expenses.

Karyn Burlow

Finance Manager

## PARENTS AND FRIENDS REPORT 2022

2022 was a great year for the P&F, our first of many that allowed us to operate events in full swing again away from the disruption of Covid. Our team of volunteers, are passionate about running as many social and fundraising events as possible for our community and 2022 did not shy away from that.

Last year our Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls were a huge success, with over 1500 gifts packaged up and purchased at both events, equalling a combined amount of \$5000 raised. Due to the success of these events, they will return this year and we are excited as ever to see the children's faces light up as they walk into the Stella Maris Building and see tables full of gifts for them to purchase for their loved ones.

Our Star Quiz night took off last year. This was our first year at running a Quiz night and the feedback from people attending was phenomenal. Our community rose to the occasion with all tables dressing up, and every guest having a joyful time. Our community loved this event so much we have decided to bring this event back this year. June 30th will be our Star Quiz night.

The school Disco continues to be a favourite event for our children, last year we introduced some new concepts that included face painting, a food stall at the disco to purchase snacks and drinks, as well as a glow in the dark SOTS band for all the children to wear. For an internal school event we were thrilled to see this event raise \$1500. This year we will be providing three themes to our Student Representative Council for them to vote on the 2023 Disco Theme!

As 2022 started to close out Natalie Canova started to coach and mentor existing committee members in the hope to find the right people to fill the President and Vice President positions. Our last P&F meeting in November 2022 saw Emma Marsden get voted into the President role and Josephine Zotti voted to fill the position as Vice President. Natalie dedicated three years as our president and what an amazing three years she had, changing the landscape of our P&F to bring in new events and lift the fundraising bar to new levels. We thank Natalie for her dedication, commitment, and passion to our school and committee.

2023 has kicked off and it is fair to say we are full steam ahead! I am excited to be the President and am full of ideas! Having worked at Bendigo Bank for 19 years now and majority of my time leading projects in our Transformation division, this is a nice role to have on the side from the day-to-day grind of banking!

Ladies Night was a great event in term one. We had 120 ladies attend, and the evening was buzzing. Such a huge success and a credit to our dedicated community who helped us raise \$3000 at the event.

2023 is a Gala Ball year, I am very excited to be able to facilitate and lead such an incredible event for the school. Our Gala Ball will be held at Adelaide Oval on October 28th. We have had some businesses take up sponsorship opportunities for this event and our community will get to know who our partners are throughout June – October. Our target for this year at the Gala Ball is to raise \$25,000. These funds will go towards supporting the school to fill our new building with furniture and decking out the new classrooms and break out spaces for our children to have creative and a comfortable learning environment.

Earlier this year we did ask our school community to vote on facilities they would like to see improved around the school. We had a great response and money raised from our events outside of the Gala Ball will enable us to look at providing shade over Nature Play, upgrading the Basketball Courts or putting shade over the Imaginative Play space. Next step is to get our Student Representative Council's feedback on the order of priority for these items!

Our leadership group this year on the P&F consists of:

Emma Marsden – President

Josephine Zotti – Vice President

Sharon Mazzeo – Treasurer

Jade Pounendis – Secretary

We also have 9 dedicated committee members. We all volunteer our time for one reason and that is to ensure that we change the lives of our children for generations to come by giving back as much as we can to improve the school facilities. 2023 will see us run 9 events, Ladies Night, Lads Night, Donut Day, School Disco, Gala Ball, Mothers & Fathers Stall & Quiz Night.

I am keen to get to know as much of our star community as possible throughout my time as President and hope to gain great partnerships within local businesses to set our committee up for future success. All whilst ensuring our committee fosters great community relationships that will last a lifetime and bring joy and fun to our children when they attend a P&F event. The P&F is just as much about Friend raising as it is Fundraising, and we are in for a successful 2023.

Emma Marsden

***This report is a requirement of the Commonwealth Government as outlined in the Schools Assistance Act 2009.***

### **Contextual Information**

Star of the Sea is an R-7 co-educational Parish school. The Parish, "Our Lady of the Sacred Heart", is run by the MSC order. The school was established in 1913. Originally founded by the Sisters of Mercy as a secondary school for girls, it became a primary school campus when Siena was established. As well as the influence of the Mercy Sisters, the MSC Priests have pastorally attended to the needs of Star of the Sea for over 100 years concluding their work at the end of 2022. At the start of 2023 we welcomed Father Manu Kumbidiyamackal as parish priest of Henley Beach Parish. Father Manu is a Missionary of St Francis de Sales.

Star of the Sea is a beach school; it is literally across the road from the beach. As such, the beach becomes an additional facility to be used for study, recreation and fitness activities. The school enjoys an excursion centre on site called the Marine Discovery Centre. This is available to Star of the Sea students on Mondays and Tuesdays and to all other schools for the rest of the week. Together with the Director of the MDC, the Principal is directly responsible for nurturing, developing and administering this unique South Australian icon.

Star of the Sea enjoys a very strong parental support. There are over 450 parents and grandparents who have a Catholic police clearance and regularly volunteer within the school.

At Star of the Sea, we seek to challenge students to aim for the highest possible level of achievement in all areas of school life: academic, spiritual, cultural and sporting. We hope our students will question and search, explore and discover as they become self-motivated learners who will view with critical eyes the society in which they live. We believe children learn best in a caring, accepting environment. We believe that when children are encouraged and supported, they will experience success. Our direction is clear. We are aware of the need to be constantly evolving to meet the needs of our students, staff and parents. We make a commitment to provide a safe and caring environment with an open approach to decision making.

### **Our Vision for Learning**

***At Star of the Sea we want to guide our learners to be self-managed, innovative and critical thinkers who have a strong sense of who they are and their responsibility in the world. We value the skills necessary to build meaningful relationships and to be connected to learning.***

***We encourage our learners to question, search, explore and discover so they actively contribute to a more just, peaceful and forgiving society.***

***On this we base our school motto:***

***'Open Hearts - Open Minds'***

In partnership with the community and our unique environment, we flourish in a culture of learning. Our school values success and relationships that are based on trust, respect and cooperation. We aim to offer a broad range of curriculum to assist our students to grow and develop their potential. Student learning is the core to all policies, procedures and practices. At Star of the Sea the Key Learning Areas of Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Physical Education and Health, Italian, Science, Technologies, The Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, provide our students with a broad range of knowledge, skills and dispositions that will prepare them for the dynamic society in which they live

and will work.

Specialist teachers provide Physical Education, Music, Italian, Art and Science. We also service the students through a well-resourced library, situated in the centre of our school.

The school's Inclusive Education program caters for children with learning needs, offering intervention programs in literacy and numeracy, LAP (Learning Assistance Program) and a Coordination Program.

The school employs a School Counsellor, and we have a number of other programs that cater for inclusive education principles designed to support student emotional and social well-being. The school also provides an extensive extra-curricular program in Music and Sports. ICT is strongly supported, and all classrooms have interactive whiteboards, Sound Field Systems, and laptop computers, Vivis, iPads and several banks of laptops and iPads are available for anywhere, anytime learning.

At Star of the Sea we offer Before School, After School, and Vacation Care programs, and we have a very active and committed Parent Community Committee which coordinates friend-raising and fundraising activities for the school. Our school is a safe educational environment with a strong focus on well-being and nurturing independence, resilience and self-belief. We celebrate and delight in the learning achievements and successes of every child.

School Type	Primary R-7
School Sector	Catholic - Non Government
SES	105
Total Enrolments	529
% Indigenous Enrolments	<1
% Students with disabilities	20%

## 2022 Staffing

5 Male FTE Teachers, 10 Female FTE Teachers & 27 Part-time Teachers (female) for a total of 28.75 FTE.

1 Male Education Support Officers, 16 Female Education Support Officers for a total of 13.6 FTE

## Teacher Standards & Qualifications

Diplomas	6	24%
Bachelors	24	96%
Graduate Certificates	3	24%
Masters	2	4%
Other Graduate Certificates	4	16%

## Enrolments by Year Level

	Boys	Girls	Total
Reception	54	54	108
Year 1	37	46	83
Year 2	38	41	79
Year 3	35	37	72
Year 4	28	47	75
Year 5	30	25	54
Year 6	33	52	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>557</b>



## Student Attendance by Year Level

Year Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Reception	90.7	89.3	89.5	89.5
Year 1	82.4	87.1	90.4	90.4
Year 2	86.3	88.4	91.6	91.6
Year 3	83.1	88.6	89.4	89.4
Year 4	85	87	90.2	90.2
Year 5	86.6	90.1	90.9	90.9
Year 6	84.8	88.4	89.1	89.1
<b>Averages</b>	<b>85.5</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>91.3</b>

## Management of Student Non-Attendance

The school requests that parents advise if students will be absent for any reason. This can be done in person via phone, the School App, email or by leaving a message on the answering machine.

For longer term absences, the school requests that parents advise, in writing, the length and details of extended absence, signed by the Principal.

Unsatisfactory reasons for absence are referred to the Principal who will follow up with families as required.

<b>State Government Grant</b>	\$1,457,364
<b>State Government Additional Funding</b>	\$246
<b>Commonwealth Government Grant</b>	\$4,630,411
<b>Commonwealth Government Other</b>	\$111,009
<b>School Fees (inclusive of levies)</b>	\$1,798,701
<b>Other Income (private sources)</b>	\$613,658

## **Professional Development**

In 2022 Star of the School spent approximately \$30,000 on professional development. Staff Professional Learning remains an important priority within the school with members of the staff engaged in a variety of activities throughout the year.

2022 the focus for the school was Literacy and the adoption of evidenced based practices from R-2. For Year 3-6 it was an introduction to this work. Linda Clune was engaged as our consultant to work in this area that included synthetic phonics and the teaching of reading and writing. Seven Steps writing was consolidated for our Year 2 students and was introduced to the Year 3 & 4 students.

The “Zones of Regulation” was introduced across the school as our Well-being program.

As well as the above Professional Learning which the staff undertook, the whole school staff also participated in a number of activities which occurred during Pupil Free Days and during afternoon Staff Meetings.

## **Value Added Programs at Star of the Sea School**

Star of the Sea School offers many educational experiences throughout the year

including:

- Our Catholic culture
- Star of the Sea School supports the parish based, Sacramental Programs
- We continue to foster close connections with our Parish through leadership attending Parish Team meetings, Pastoral Council and Sacramental Team meetings.
- Many Social Justice Initiatives involved the students in: Caritas Fundraising, St Vincent de Paul Winter and Christmas Appeals and Project Compassion.
- Each term classes prepare and celebrate a Liturgy to which families are invited.
- Whole school Masses/Liturgies occur throughout the year to mark special feast days and events in the Church Calendar.
- Students from Reception to Year 6 are involved in sustainability projects such as ECO Worriers, to deepen their awareness and understanding of the Christian responsibility to be “stewards” of creation.
- Daily class prayer and staff prayer are valued at Star of the Sea.
- Year 6 students participate in a Retreat Day each year.
- School incursions and excursions—many are varied
- Marine Studies facilitated by a Marine Biologist provides Marine lessons every three weeks including a Beach Trial each term
- Student Representative Council meets fortnightly focussing on providing an avenue for student voice.
- School Music bands and ensembles are a bi-product of an extremely successful instrumental and choir program.
- The school offers a comprehensive sports extracurricular program.
- School and Parish Playgroup continued to flourish and grew to meet the needs of school and parish families.
- Years 5 & 6 participated in school camps.

- Premier's Reading Challenge
- All classes valued the benefits gained from their experiences with Buddy classes.
- Lunch clubs

Star of the Sea also ran the Little Stars a transition program in Terms 3 and 4. This programme caters for children beginning school the following year with approx. 80 children attending for two hours each week.

### **Sports Program**

The Sports Program at Star of the Sea is extensive and offers many experiences for our students. Opportunities exist for participation in District carnivals and Catholic carnivals. A wide range of sports are offered in our After School Sports Program including basketball, cricket, football and netball teams. Our athletics and swimming teams all performed well throughout the year.

## **Satisfaction Survey 2022 - Feedback**

The Living, Learning, Leading survey is a Catholic Education SA initiative, across all of our Catholic Schools, to gather community perceptions of their School's performance. All students (Year 2-6), parents and staff are given the opportunity to complete the survey.

The survey asks questions in four broad areas:

- Catholic Identity - The extent to which people feel that their experience of Catholic education at school is meaningful.
- Learning and Wellbeing – The extent to students' experience learning support, student voice, reflection and autonomy.
- Resourcing – infrastructure and safety.
- Community – a welcoming and inclusive school that works in partnership.

**The highlights of the 2022 survey included:**

### **Students (Year 2-4)**

- At school I learn that Bible stories are important.
- My teachers believe that I can succeed
- I have a choice about the way I learn in the class
- I keep trying even when the work is challenging
- I feel welcome at the school
- The classrooms are welcoming places to learn.

### **Students (Year 5-6)**

- I learn that it is important to welcome all people in my school.
- I have opportunities to ask questions in religious education lessons.
- My teacher wants me to do my best
- I can work with teachers to make changes that help me to learn better
- I take responsibility for my learning
- I am proud to be part of the school community
- There is someone at school who can help me if I have a problem with technology.

### **Parents**

- The education at the school encourages my child/ren to develop their faith and spirituality.
- The teachers communicate with my child/ren respectfully.
- In general, at school, my child/ren are expected to take responsibility for their learning.
- My child/ren are expected to take responsibility for their learning
- There is a strong partnership between families and the school.
- My children feel safe at school
- The school's facilities and grounds provide a stimulating and welcoming environment.
- The school facilities and grounds are well maintained

### **Staff**

- Significant liturgical events are prioritised throughout the year
- Students are encouraged to care for the environment.
- Teachers collaborate in planning, reviewing and assessing the curriculum.
- I effectively implement contemporary classroom practices that facilitate learning
- Students influence the way that they are taught.
- Students reflect on their learning
- The school has a strong partnership with families
- Staff are respectful of parents and caregivers.
- The school plans effectively for capital development (building & grounds)

### **The Areas that groups feel we could work on in the future:**

#### **Students (Year 2 – 4)**

- Masses, Liturgies and Prayer – making them engaging and enjoyable for children
- More time to share ideas
- Providing interesting lessons for children
- Helping children become more organised
- Building kindness amongst all students
- Providing “good” equipment on the playground

#### **Students (Year 5-6)**

- Helping children to see how and why their learning is important to their live
- To continue to work on meaningful Masses and liturgies

- Helping children build their organisation and time management skills
- Building kindness amongst all students
- Maintaining a neat and tidy school

### **Parents**

- Encouraging children to notice and act on issues of poverty and injustice
- Teaching skills that will prepare children for the future
- Ensuring everyone feels respected when they are at school
- Building stronger partnerships between families and our school
- Ensuring facilities of the school meet the needs of children

### **Staff**

- Promoting dialogue about Catholic Identity in a way that is meaningful within our contemporary culture
- The school's infrastructure meets the needs of the students.
- Building policies and practices that help minimise classroom disruption
- To continue to work on inclusiveness in regard to those from different backgrounds
- Continuing to build a culture of shared responsibility within the school community for student development
- Involving students more in reflection on personal goals
- Actively engaging students in the planning, structuring and sequencing of learning activities and assessment
- Continue to promote higher order thinking
- Making more time for teachers to reflect on and improve their professional practices
- Involving students in a range of social justice activities
- Building a deeper understanding of how staff can better accommodate for the diverse needs of students



**Star of the Sea**

**SCHOOL**

*Open Hearts ~ Open Minds*