

ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL STRATEGIC RENEWAL PLAN



ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2011

Achievements for Goal 1 Religious and Evangelising Mission

St Francis Xavier School staff have participated in a Stewardship professional learning program to assist in establishing a Stewardship culture in partnership with St Francis Xavier Parish.

St Francis Xavier School initiated with other schools, the concept of Rice Day where the Year 6 and 7 children experienced one cup of rice in place of their lunch on this day. Many classes across the school participated in other activities to raise funds for Caritas' East Africa Drought Crisis Appeal.

In terms of Social Action and Justice, St Francis Xavier School responded to the flood crisis in Goodna by raising funds to support staff, students and their families who were affected. Our school Pastoral Care Worker co-ordinated this response through emotional, practical and financial support of these families.

St Francis Xavier School have contributed to the Pacific Smiles program donating funds, educational and hygiene assistance packages.

St Francis Xavier School donated books to the McIntyre Foundation which lost all resources in the January floods.

Partnerships with the parish sacramental program have been supported through the publication of important sacramental dates, inclusion of sacramental information at point of enrolment, Prep orientation and initial meetings with members of the parish to plan a whole parish approach to all sacraments.

Many classes have been involved in ecological sustainability through the creation of a vegetable garden in the Prep and Year 5 to 7 Eating Area.

All classes at St Francis Xavier School have participated in the support of a mobile phone recycling program.

During curriculum planning sessions with all teachers, the Australian Curriculum Cross-Curriculum priority of Sustainability has been reviewed and discussed where relevant.

St Francis Xavier School participated in Australian Government Quality Teachers Program – Inquiry Learning Project which focussed on teaching mathematics inquiry units with hands-on resources with the added benefit of limited photocopying and use of textbooks.

An induction day is prioritised for all new staff where the religious life and practices of St Francis Xavier School are discussed and clarified.

Achievements for Goal 2 Student Learning Outcomes

The Curriculum Support Teacher (CST) and Literacy Numeracy Improvement Teacher (LNIT) worked with all teaching staff to plan, implement, assess and report in English and Mathematics from the Australian Curriculum.

Selected staff attended professional learning opportunities on the new Australian Curriculum presented by Brisbane Catholic Education and university staff – Orientation to the Australian Curriculum – English with Catherine Cushing, Grammar Workshops with Beverley Derewianka and Catherine Cushing and Mathematics workshops with Michael Barra and Peter Sullivan.

The new system wide reporting system was implemented and rolled out for the Semester 1 reporting period.

The LNIT, in partnership with the leadership team and Support Teacher Inclusive Education (STIE), has co-ordinated standardised testing, data collection and analysis with teams of teachers.

Teachers have been trained in data analysis processes to enable sustainability of data analysis after the conclusion of the National Partnerships program.

St Francis Xavier School's English Committee has developed and fine-tuned a school Literacy Support document, to inform teachers of the expectations and school programs used at St Francis Xavier School to teach literacy. This includes a phonics scope and sequence, spelling sequence and detailed information about the school's approach to the teaching of reading.

St Francis Xavier School staff has been supported in the teaching of grammar and spelling through spelling workshops, a grammar focus in professional conversations and staff attendance at relevant professional learning opportunities.

Classroom teachers have prepared and supported, through learning opportunities provided in classrooms, children's understanding of social action and justice – Rice Day supporting Caritas' East Africa Drought Crisis Appeal and flood crisis support in the flood affected areas of Goodna.

Achievements for Goal 3 Student Support

St Francis Xavier School has successfully strengthened our capacity to provide for the diverse needs of students at our school through the distribution of Students with Disabilities funding in consultation with the leadership, learning enrichment and student support teams.

The Student Support Achievement Summary sheet and folio has been created and implemented. All staff are using this recording system to improve data collection, analysis and synthesis.

The student leadership program at St Francis Xavier School has been reviewed and a focussed approach to the teaching of leadership skills has been implemented.

Educational adjustments for students with learning needs have been formally incorporated into planning sessions with the CST, LNIT, STIE and ESL. There is now a place on all planning templates to record and highlight these adjustments.

St Francis Xavier School has provided professional learning opportunities for staff targeting students with specific disabilities across the school – Autism Australia and specialised sessions with the school Guidance Counsellor, STIE and the school's Pastoral Care Worker.

Achievements for Goal 4

Staff Support

A planned approach to support and develop a new leadership team was created and implemented successfully.

Professional partnerships have been developed between teaching staff to sustain whole school pedagogies and programs – Early career teacher and mentor, teaching teams, teachers and teams working with LNIT.

Priority has been given to providing professional learning opportunities for the whole staff to meet requirements mandated by the Queensland College of Teachers. This has been achieved through a budget allocation provided by Brisbane Catholic Education and the National Partnerships Program.

Initial discussions and training were provided by Steve Dunn – Senior Performance and Development Officer with leadership team members to support staff with goal setting and individual development plans.

Achievements for Goal 5 Partnerships and Relationships

The Catholic School Interschool Sport program continued to develop collaborative partnerships and links with other Catholic Schools in the local area.

St Francis Xavier School has continued to work with consultants, BCE staff and school staff to achieve National Partnership Program goals.

A partnership between the school and the Parents and Friends Association has resulted in the near completion of the Interactive Whiteboard project (full completion Term 1 – 2012).

Achievements for Goal 6 Information, Communication and Learning Technologies

BCE's new Student Information System has been successfully rolled out and implemented. Professional learning for all staff has occurred and this system continues to be an integral part of the school's functionality.

The implementation of the Student Information System has seen the use of a new school portal and host website.

Budgeting for future ICLT requirements (hardware and personnel) is embedded into school priorities.

Financial support provided by the St Francis Xavier School Parents and Friends Association has enabled twenty two interactive whiteboards to be installed throughout the school.

Professional learning opportunities were provided for all teaching staff who have an interactive whiteboard in their classroom. One staff member has been trained to be a mentor in IWB technology and supports staff.

All teaching staff were provided with a school laptop that has been imaged in accordance with the school's standard operating environment which was upgraded to the Windows 7 operating system and the 2010 Office product suite.

All desktop computers are compatible with the Windows 7 operating system and have been updated with the 2010 Office suite.

All staff participated in two twilight Digital Citizenship awareness workshops conducted by Danielle Carter - BCE Education Consultant. The learning from these workshops is a focus across all key learning areas.

A new ICLT Acceptable Use Policy and Guidelines has been developed.

An ICLT Curriculum Committee has been established to assist teachers to embed ICLTs into the new Australian Curriculum and manage future ICLT directions.

Teachers have used the new Australian Curriculum to assist in embedding ICLTs into all aspects of classroom practice.

Achievements for Goal 7

Resourcing Catholic Schooling

Resources have been provided to support teaching and learning in a number of key learning areas with a focus on Literacy, Numeracy and ICLTs.

New access procedures for the storage of teaching and learning resources in the Mercy Resource Centre have occurred.

Funds for the formation and professional learning of staff including more targeted opportunities for school officers has been achieved – reading, numeracy and ICLT workshops.

Achievements for Goal 8 Renewal and Quality Assurance

Emphasis has been placed on effective reporting processes that clearly align achievements against the goals of the annual action plan.

Strategic procedures for the monitoring, developing and reporting on all key learning areas have been developed and implemented.