ANNUAL REPORT 2005

St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School

Coraki
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE.

Our goal at St. Joseph’s school is to provide each student with good academic, social and spiritual experiences. The whole school community is striving to ensure that St. Joseph’s is a place where everyone is safe, encouraged to develop friendships and continues to learn. I am confident you will agree that the range and quality of experiences the children are involved in will ensure a good quality, well-rounded education.

One particular focus of the past year has been to promote leadership amongst all of our students but in particular the older students.

• For the past two years our year five students have attended a leadership camp at Kiononia that allows them to explore a range of leadership skills which they are encouraged to use in their daily lives.

• Our four school Leaders accompanied by Mr and Mrs Bullpitt attended the Young Leader’s Day in Brisbane. The definition our students were given on this day is “A leader is someone who knows the way, shows the way and goes the way”. The four leaders certainly took this message to heart and were a marvellous example to their fellow students.

• The Peer Support Groups, which were initiated during 2005, were facilitated by our year five and six students and was a very practical way for them to develop their leadership skills. The aim of the groups is to develop support and friendships across the grades in an atmosphere of acceptance and inclusiveness. Our senior students are to be congratulated on the manner in which they conducted these groups and the encouragement they gave to the younger students.

• Our main school building was constructed in 1905. The Centenary mass and celebration to mark this occasion provided the opportunity for our students to meet some distinguished catholic leaders including Mrs Dianne Marshall, Director of Catholic Education in the Lismore Diocese, Sr. Mary McFadden and Mr Gary Burdett, both of whom are former Principals of St. Joseph’s.

• Carl Rackerman provided the children with a great example of leadership when he used his experiences as a world class cricket player to encourage them to look after their bodies by being fit and active and joining in team sports to develop their skills.

• Bishop Jarrett visited each class and spent a considerable length of time talking to the children and answering their questions about himself, his role as leader in the church, the Sacrament of Confirmation and the church in general. This was a valuable experience for the children and the bishop.
ST. JOSEPH'S CORAKI

Faith and Mission.
Fr. Doyle opened the first Catholic School in the town of Coraki in 1880. The parents and laity ran the school. In 1896 the Presentation Sisters were invited to teach at Coraki and a school consisting of seventy-five students and staffed by the Sisters was established at Richmond Terrace. In 1904 the church/school was destroyed by fire and the present school in Adam Street was built in 1905.

The Presentation Sisters withdrew from teaching at Coraki in 1986 because of falling numbers of religious; however, they are still a very important part of our school culture. Although the school is now run entirely with lay teachers the same commitment to good quality catholic education remains.

St Joseph’s School is situated in the township of Coraki, on the Far North Coast of N.S.W., approximately 26 km. south of Lismore. The school is situated on the main road into and out of the town. It is adjacent to the former convent, the church and presbytery. It is situated on a site of approximately one hectare, including playing fields.

The school consists of the original 1905 weatherboard building, a demountable building consisting of two classrooms and an Administration Building that was opened and blessed by the Most Reverend John Satterthwaite D.D. in 1988. Also constructed at the same time were the Canteen, storage room and cement play area.
It is important to acknowledge that St. Joseph’s School is part of the Coraki Parish and wider community and as such we continue to be actively involved in community events.

- During 2005 we took part in the Anzac Day March and Remembrance Day ceremonies.
- Performed choral items at the Coraki Lions Club Carols By Candlelight.
- Visited the residents of the Mid Richmond Residents Village and the Coraki C.W.A. run Gumnut Pre-School.
- Delivered Meals on Wheels to local community members.
- Made regular contributions to the Coraki & District News through articles and the Junior Editor Competition.

In addition to the sacramental programmes and as part of the Parish family
- We celebrated the feast day of St. Joseph by hosting a special mass and sports day with the staff and students of St Joseph’s Woodburn.
- We held a special Shine Day to raise money for and awareness about the work of Fr. Chris Riley’s Youth Off the Streets.
- We donated $200 to the Presentation missions in New Guinea.
- On Mother’s Day and Father’s Day flowers and prayer cards were handed out to parents and parishioners.
- The events of Holy Week and Easter were performed and presented to the parents and parishioners.
- A very entertaining and high quality Christmas Concert – The Little Star- promoted the real message of Christmas to a wide cross section of the community.

Our students attended a variety of Zone Sports Carnivals and Gala Days organised by the Diocese as well as our own swimming, athletics, cross country and of course our now famous and very popular Infants Sports Carnival.
This year, seven students took part in the Polding Sports Trials for hockey and rugby league at Bathurst.

An eight week A.F.L. skills development was offered during term two.

Senior students attended a Rugby League Competition at Woodlawn.

Students took part in traditional Aboriginal games at Coraki Primary School during Indigenous week.

At the annual Coraki Primary School Gala Cricket Day we won the Junior School Trophy with some outstanding performances by individual students.

As a Catholic School we see St. Joseph’s as a loving, caring faith community and as such we endeavour to provide an education that promotes the formation of the whole person within a context where life, faith and culture are given a Catholic meaning.

**Curriculum**

Religious Education is taught using the Diocese of Lismore Guidelines. During 2005 we implemented the new Diocese of Lismore Religious Education Curriculum in years three to six. Kindergarten to year two guidelines and support documents will be implemented in 2006. Students receive thirty minutes of formal Religious Education lessons each day.

N.S.W. Board of Studies syllabuses are used to provide learning experiences for all other Key Learning Areas.

We continue to promote and encourage a love of reading and continuing development of reading skills by:

- Providing specific library lessons that include author studies and matching student interests with appropriate books.
- Instruction on a variety of research skills.
- Promotion of book week activities – the theme was Reading Rocks.
- Book Club.
- Continual upgrading of library and literacy resources.
- Providing Reading Recovery to year one students.
- Running small group support sessions to develop fluency, accuracy and confidence in reading.
Three Staff Development Days were held this year. Robert Pirerra, Sue Galletly and Andrew Fuller facilitated them. In addition to these whole staff development days, staff attended a variety of inservices relevant to their particular interest or area of curriculum responsibility.

Samantha Lynch completed her two-year training program as a Reading Recovery Teacher. This training requires a huge personal commitment on the part of teachers both in time and energy. We now have four trained Reading Recovery Teachers working full time in the school. This programme continues to be an essential part of our literacy program.

The school provides Reading Recovery for students in Year One to ensure they reach proficient reading standards before they become frustrated with the mystery of reading. This programme is half an hour each day one on one with a teacher for approximately twenty weeks.

Students across the school who need additional support in a particular area take part in small group sessions or work within the class with the support of a teacher’s aide. Some of the programmes currently running include small, guided reading groups, spelling, social skills, precision academics, listening skills, maths, computer skills, fine and gross motor skills and language activities. Children move in and out of these groups on a needs basis.

Many programmes are designed to develop and extend students academic and social skills by using Multiple Intelligence strategies that allow students to stretch their imagination and potential. In addition to school based activities children participated in Gifted and Talented Camps held at Woodlawn College.

Parent Involvement
A meeting of parents on the 30th April, 1952 resulted in the formation of the first Parents & Friends organization at St. Joseph’s. A membership fee of two shillings per year was set.

This association is still very active and provides many resources for our school as well as being the medium where parents can express their hopes and visions for the school. The committee are an important part of our induction programme for new families to the school.

During 2005 the school started a Parent Library, initially with books recommended by Robert Pirerra, but now including a good range of topics and authors on a variety of parenting issues.

Three families from our school took advantage of the Parenting Today program that was sponsored by the Diocesan Schools Forum. Feedback from the parents was very positive.

In the past few years air conditioning in the demountables and an adventure playground area have been provided through P & F fundraising efforts. The current committee is having plans drawn up for a large all weather multi purpose area and are obtaining quotes to air-condition the remainder of the school.
The P & F will submit an application in March 2006 to the Investing in Schools Grant Committee for funding of these projects.

The canteen committee continues to provide a much needed and profitable service to our school families. During 2005 the committee continued to implement the Healthy Food Guidelines provided by the government. The volunteers who donate their time and talent are invaluable to the running of the canteen.

A uniform committee was formed at the end of 2005 to conduct a survey into satisfaction or otherwise of the current uniform and to investigate alternatives.

Parent and Friends Meetings are held in the staff room at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month and all parents are encouraged to take part.
PERFORMANCE IN STATEWIDE TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS.

All students in N.S.W sit for the Basic Skills Test in years three and five. Student results are reported in skills bands. These bands range from Band 1 (lowest band) to Band 5 (highest for year 3) or Band 6 (highest band for Year 5). These skills bands indicate increasing levels of student ability in literacy and numeracy as measured by the test. Skills typical of each band are described in the report to parents. In Year 3 students in skill band 2 or above are generally achieving at or above the minimum standard. In Year 5 students in skill band 3 or above are generally achieving at or above the minimum standard.

PERCENTAGE IN SKILL BAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Literacy year 3</th>
<th>Band 1</th>
<th>Band 2</th>
<th>Band 3</th>
<th>Band 4</th>
<th>Band 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Average</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results indicate the wide and differing range of abilities in the children in this class group. Whilst the majority of children are performing at or above the minimum desirable standard as set by the government analysis of results has indicated specific areas and groups requiring additional support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Numeracy Yr 3</th>
<th>Band 1</th>
<th>Band 2</th>
<th>Band 3</th>
<th>Band 4</th>
<th>Band 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Average</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our Year 3 Numeracy results were very pleasing. Students performed at a high standard in comparison with Diocesan and State averages with almost half in the top band. None of our students scored in the lowest band.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Literacy Yr 5</th>
<th>Band 1</th>
<th>Band 2</th>
<th>Band 3</th>
<th>Band 4</th>
<th>Band 5</th>
<th>Band 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Average</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our BST literacy results for year five were very pleasing. All students achieved at or above the minimum standard with the majority of our students performed in bands three, four and five. Our percentage in these bands was above the state average with no children performing at the lowest band level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yr 5 Overall Numeracy</th>
<th>Band 1</th>
<th>Band 2</th>
<th>Band 3</th>
<th>Band 4</th>
<th>Band 5</th>
<th>Band 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Average</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our Year 5 Numeracy results were quite pleasing showing that the majority of our students are performing in the top four band levels.

Summary results from our feeder high school says that students from St. Joseph’s demonstrated a high level of proficiency in the SNAP (Secondary Numeracy Assessment Program) Test. Scores were in the top 30% of the population on a number of tasks and this level of skill was consistent across the areas of number, measurement, space, data and problem solving.

Many students participated in external examinations set by Macquarie University at their parent’s expense and certificates of commendation were awarded to these students.

**National Benchmarks in 2005 compared with 2004.**
The Commonwealth sets minimum desirable standards for reading, writing and numeracy at particular ages. These are referred to as National Benchmarks. Student performance in the BST is compared to the National Benchmarks. The percentages of our students achieving at or above these National Benchmarks for Years 3 and 5 are reported below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR THREE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE - 2005</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE - 2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR FIVE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE - 2005</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE - 2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TEACHING AND SUPPORT STAFF.**
Educational outcomes for the students depend largely on the quality of the teaching and support staff. I believe we not only have a very professional and dedicated staff who are actively involved in the life of the school and the parish but also the most caring that you would find anywhere in Australia.

During 2005 we had four class teachers, two support teachers, three general assistants, a school secretary and myself teaching part time.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Four Staff Members hold a Bachelor of Education, one a Bachelor of Arts and all have undertaken, or are currently undertaking, additional training in Religious Education.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT:** During 2005 41 days of staff development were undertaken by individual teachers and all staff members attended three Professional Development Days with Robert Pirerra, Sue Galletly and Andrew Fuller.
STUDENT INFORMATION AND RETENTION RATES.
Enrolments numbers as recorded on the February Government Census for St Joseph’s School Coraki are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>73</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


There were ninety-eight students enrolled as at census date 4th February 2005. The forty-seven boys and fifty-one girls were accommodated in four class groups. There were sixty-one Catholic students with a further sixteen students with one Catholic parent.

Average Student Attendance Rate: The average student attendance rate for 2005 was 92.8%.

POLICIES.
All school policies are on display in the school office. The Parent Handbook, given to each family as a new student is enrolled, includes details of school policies as well as general information on school procedures.

Enrolment
The Diocesan Education Board has established enrolment guidelines for all schools within the Lismore Diocese which state that all children must be turning five years of age by 31st March in their first year of school. Children who turn five years of age between 1st April and 15th May during the year of enrolment to Kindergarten may be admitted with the provision that parents be informed that it may be necessary for the child to repeat during the Primary years.

Priority is given to:
- Catholic families with a commitment to the faith life, worship and service of the parish;
- Other Catholic families of the parish;
- Catholic families from other parishes

In the case of enrolments of children of other faiths and beliefs the following will apply:
- Consideration is given to those who already have children in the school and those who can show a commitment to Gospel Values.
- Enrolment of children with special needs will be considered in accordance with Diocesan Catholic Education Office procedures.

Enrolment procedure consists of completing a Pre-enrolment Form and submitting it with the necessary documentation and attending an interview with the principal. The Principal, in consultation with the Parish Priest may exercise discretion regarding any application.
An acknowledgement that **ALL** students will participate in the Catholic Religious Education programme and associated activities is essential when seeking enrolment.

**Pastoral Care/Student Welfare**
Pastoral care is an integral part of our curriculum and is reflected in every area including Occupational Health and Safety, Sun Protection, Personal Development, First Aid and Child Protection. Specific programs in social skills, resilience and wellbeing are provided for children to assist them to develop to their full potential.

The sense of loss caused by death, divorce or separation is very real for all of us. Six students took the opportunity to take part in the Seasons for Growth programme that was offered to provide them with strategies to deal with these events in their lives. Mrs. Hodson facilitated this programme.

**Discipline**
During 2005 our Discipline Policy was reviewed. The document was formulated in 2004, and involved consultation with all staff members, representatives of the Parents & Friends Association and the school leaders. This policy was modified after consideration of aspects of its effectiveness and input at Staff Development Days.

**COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCE RESOLUTION**
Class issues can be discussed with teachers either by phone or in person. Telephone contact with teachers can best be made immediately prior to school beginning or just after the close of school, alternatively, messages will be taken at the school office and calls returned when the teacher is available. Please ensure that contact does not occur during class time as this disrupts lessons. Parents are openly encouraged to contact the Principal whenever they have an issue they wish to discuss.

**SCHOOL DETERMINED IMPROVEMENT TARGETS FOR 2006**

**Organisational Goals:**
1. To paint demountable classrooms, toilets, canteen and storage area.
2. Submit application for covered shelter area.
4. Obtain quotes for air-conditioning.

**Relationship Goal:**
In order to provide the students with the skills necessary to resolve conflicts in their lives the following strategies will be employed:
   b. Run a Theatre Program for boys during term one.
   c. Organise a Friendship Day
   d. Expanding Parent Library on subjects such as parenting, spirituality, self help, psychology etc
Cultural Goal:
To strengthen school, parish and community relationships through the following strategies.
   a. Build on the current School/Parish Sacramental Program
   b. Encouraging participation in parish and community activities.

Educational Goals
1. To continue to provide the Reading Recovery Programme for year one students.
2. Support the implementation of curriculum by purchasing resources to support programs.
3. Engage in a structured professional development program for teachers.
4. Ensure all students have access to and develop their skills in information technology.
5. Introduce students to Learning Objects provided by the Curriculum Corporation.
6. Incorporate the Interwrite into classroom practices.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial graphs that follow indicate that the vast majority of the income for our school is as a result of government grants and this expenditure is mainly for salaries.
Funding is calculated based on the number of students enrolled at the date of the Commonwealth Census. The Catholic Education Office administers these Government Grants. They also calculate and pay salaries to staff members.

Other Income received at St. Joseph’s consisted of School Fee payments, P & F Donations (Including tuck shop), Parish School Building Fund, can recycling, interest and other donations. This accounted for eight percent of the total income.

This “Other Income” is the only source of revenue whereby we pay for consumable items such as textbooks, paper, photocopying etc and for electricity, water, security, telephone, council rates and maintenance, as well as upgrading existing infrastructure and resources.

This Annual Report is presented to you as an opportunity to inform and communicate some of the activities of 2005.

Veronica Martin (Principal)
## Income 2005

### Sch.No. 1010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Heading</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2005 Income</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>St Joseph's Primary School</td>
<td>St Joseph's Primary School Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Data</strong></td>
<td>CORAKI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>40499</td>
<td>40499</td>
<td>40499</td>
<td>$40,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Private</td>
<td>26853</td>
<td>26853</td>
<td>26853</td>
<td>$26,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>141247</td>
<td>141247</td>
<td>141247</td>
<td>$141,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants-State</td>
<td>461097</td>
<td>461097</td>
<td>461097</td>
<td>$461,097</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Govt</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants-Commonwealth Govt</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Capital</td>
<td>1392</td>
<td>1392</td>
<td>1392</td>
<td>$1,392</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2005 Income - St Joseph's Primary School - CORAKI

![Pie chart showing income distribution]

- **Grants-State Govt**: 21%
- **Grants-Commonwealth Govt**: 69%
- **Fees**: 6%
- **Other Private Income**: 4%
- **Other Capital**: 0%
- **Govt.Capital Grants**: 0%

Total income: $404,999
## Expenditure 2005

**Sch.No. 1010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure Heading</th>
<th>School Location</th>
<th>2005 Expenditure</th>
<th>2005 Expenditure Total</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary &amp; Related Expenditure</td>
<td>St Joseph's Primary School</td>
<td>585517</td>
<td>585517</td>
<td>585517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenditure</td>
<td>St Joseph's Primary School Total</td>
<td>108155</td>
<td>108155</td>
<td>108155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
<td>8381</td>
<td>8381</td>
<td>8381</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2005 Expenditure - St Joseph's Primary School - CORAKI

- **Salary & Related Expenditure**: 84%
- **Other Expenditure**: 15%
- **Capital Expenditure**: 1%

![Expenditure Pie Chart](chart.png)