1. **A MESSAGE FROM KEY SCHOOL BODIES.**

**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE.**
Our goal at St. Joseph’s school is to provide each student with solid 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.
One particular focus of the past few years has been to promote leadership amongst all of our students but in particular the older students.

- During 2007 our year five and six students again facilitated the Peer Support Groups, which were initiated during 2005. The aim of the groups is to develop support and friendships across the grades in an atmosphere of acceptance and inclusiveness. The groups were involved in a wide range of activities, which included dance, sport, music, visual arts, and literacy activities. 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.
- Drama Workshops were held to encourage the students to actively work against any form of Bullying. They took part in a workshop with Brainstorm Productions called Sticks and Stones, then with the help of Mrs Lowrey produced and performed their own Anti Bullying Production called The Pirates.
- Students continue to visit the Mid-Richmond Resident’s Village, deliver Meals on Wheels and participate in community events such as the Anzac Day Parade, Remembrance Day and Carols by Candlelight.
- Students were successful in winning two trophies at the Kanga Cricket competition run by Coraki Primary School.
- We had one student selected for the Polding Swimming Team and three representatives in the Polding Hockey Team – this is a quarter of the entire Polding Hockey Team and a magnificent effort on the part of our students and their families.
- The Annual Christmas Performance coordinated by Mrs Lowrey continues to be an opportunity to spread the Good News of the birth of Jesus. It also highlights the skills and talents of our students and is well supported by a wide cross section of the local community.

**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. Each year they hold two bar-b-que nights to welcome/farewell families.

The P & F submitted a successful application to the Commonwealth Government’s Investing in our Schools Grant Committee and as a result an outdoor covered area was completed. Several areas of the school were also air-conditioned as a result of this grant. An opening Ceremony was held at which the Member for Page, Mr Ian Causley, officially opened the new area.

In 2007 the Parents & Friends submitted a further application to the Commonwealth Government’s Investing in our Schools Grant Committee for six new computers, a laptop, a data projector, a scanner and another stage of playground equipment and fitness equipment.
The canteen committee continues to provide a much needed and profitable service to our school families. During 2007 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.

The Parents & Friends organised a Farewell Mass and Dinner for one hundred and seventy guests to mark my retirement from St. Joseph’s School. It was extremely pleasing to see the way the parents worked together to bring this occasion to such a successful conclusion.

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.

Message from the Parents and Friends Association President
During 2007 the Parents and Friends Association of St Joseph’s Coraki has been very active in a number of areas. Another grant in the Investing in Our Schools Project enabled the P & F to plan with the school to install air conditioning as well as extend the playground equipment. Add to this the many fundraising and community building events run by the P & F and we have had a very successful year. We look forward to continued support from the parent community as we continue in partnership with the school administration to provide an exciting and worthwhile learning and faith environment for our students.

Sharon Clark
President St Joseph’s, Coraki
Parents and Friends Association

2. THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL
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 and now includes the Outdoor Learning Area constructed under the Commonwealth Government Investing in our Schools Grant.

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.
In addition to the sacramental programmes and as part of the Parish family:

- We celebrate the feast day of St. Joseph by attending a special mass and sports day with the staff and students of St Joseph’s Woodburn.
- We celebrated the Feast of the Presentation Sisters by holding a liturgy.
- This year our Parish welcomed The World Youth Day Cross & Icon. The vast majority of students and parents took part in this occasion by following the way of the cross and being part of the ceremony.
- The students participated in a fund raising activity and donated $200 to the Presentation missions in New Guinea.
- Students are actively encouraged to take part in Sunday Masses and to serve at these masses.
- On Mothers’ Day and Fathers’ 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 wide cross section of the community attended the Christmas Concert. This year the Christmas Theme was explored through the variety of Christmas Cards available and the true message of Christmas was revealed. As usual the standard of production was extremely high.
- 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.
- Four students were successful in being selected to represent the Diocese in the Polding Hockey and Swimming Teams.
- Year five /six students attended the annual Coraki Primary School Kanga Cricket Day and took out both trophies.

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**

Students receive thirty minutes of formal Religious Education lessons each day. Religious Education is taught using the Diocese of Lismore Guidelines.

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 literacy skills by:

- Providing specific library lessons that include author studies and matching student interests with appropriate books.
- Instruction on a variety of research skills.
- Participation in Premier’s Reading Challenge
- M.S. Read-a-thon
- Promotion of book week activities.
- 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.
- Attendance at Writers’ Festival.
During 2007 the school library was converted to the computerised Alice System. Many new resources have been purchased and older materials replaced ensuring a more efficient system.

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.

In addition to school based activities children participated in Gifted and Talented sessions conducted by Natalie Goodwin at St. Mary’s Casino.

3. STUDENT 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.

In Year Five 100% of students performed in the top three bands in numeracy and 90% in the top three bands in literacy.

In Year Three 90% of students performed in the top three bands in both literacy and numeracy.

Year Five students when compared with their Year Three results showed significant growth with many students exceeding one skill band growth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERCENTAGE IN SKILL BAND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall Literacy year 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Average</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Numeracy Yr 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Average</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Literacy Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Average</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 four, five and six. Our percentage in these bands was above the state average with no children performing at the lowest two band levels.
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 2007 compared with 2006 & 2005.**

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 2007</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE 2006</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR FIVE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE 2007</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE - 2006</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE - 2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**4. PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND TEACHER STANDARDS.**

During 2007 St. Joseph’s School employed four class teachers, one support teacher, one general assistant, a school secretary and a teaching principal.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** All teachers employed are qualified to teach in N.S.W. Four Staff Members hold a Bachelor of Education, one a Bachelor of Teaching, one a Bachelor of Arts. All teachers have already undertaken, or are currently undertaking, additional training in Religious Education.

The Reading Recovery programme continues to be an essential part of our literacy program. We have four teachers in our school who are trained in Reading Recovery.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT:** During 2007 all staff members attended three Professional Development Days. One day was a Regional Standards Day on assessment procedures for Plain English Reporting the second day all staff took part in a Spirituality Day organised by the Catholic Education Office and another day was used to review school policies and procedures.

Staff development provided by the Catholic Education Office included Religious Education and Faith development, Curriculum development, Plain English Reporting, Basic Skills, Primary Writing and Special Education. The average amount spent on Professional Development for staff at this school was $2948.00 per staff member.

**5. TEACHER ATTENDANCE AND RETENTION.**

The average attendance rate for teachers across the reporting period at St Joseph’s is 95.28% The Catholic Education Office has provided this information.

All permanent staff employed in the 2006 school year returned in 2007. The School Secretary resigned at the end of Term Two. One staff member returned from Maternity Leave in December when another teacher went on Maternity Leave for the remainder of 2007 and all of 2008. I will be retiring at the end of the 2007 school year.

The average student attendance rate for 2007 was 92.56%.
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>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>71</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>87</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>98</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


There were eighty-nine students enrolled as at census date 9th February 2007. The forty-eight boys and forty-one girls were accommodated in four class groups. There were forty-four Catholic students with a further eleven students with one Catholic parent.

6. ENROLMENT POLICIES AND PROFILES.
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 turn 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:

a. Catholic families with a commitment to the faith life, worship and service of the parish;
b. Other Catholic families of the parish;
c. Catholic families from other parishes

In the case of enrolments of children of other faiths and beliefs the following will apply:

a. Consideration is given to those who already have children in the school and those who can show a commitment to Gospel Values.
b. Enrolment of children with special needs will be considered in accordance with Diocesan Catholic Education Office procedures.

The 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.

7. SCHOOL POLICIES.
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 current Discipline Policy was formulated in 2004, and involved consultation with all staff members, representatives of the Parents & Friends Association and the school leaders. During 2006 this policy was modified to include a register of incidents, which tracks inappropriate student behaviour. A Behaviour Level Chart and Behaviour
Management Plan have also been developed and were presented to parents at a Parent Teacher Meeting during first term 2007. A photocopy of this policy is available on request.

Should a parent have a complaint or grievance in respect of class issues these 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.

8. SCHOOL DETERMINED IMPROVEMENT TARGETS FOR 2007

Organisational Goals achieved:- Painting of Library, installation of air-conditioned cupboard for Wide Area Network, covered shelter area and air conditioning installed. Accounting System upgraded to SAS2000 and Library System to Alice.
Relationship Goals achieved:- Whole School Peer Support Program, Drama workshops to encourage positive interactions between students.
Faith & Culture Goals:- Many students received Nano Nagle Awards for serving at Sunday Masses.
Teaching & Learning Goals achieved:- Two students took part in Reading Recovery; new resources purchased; teachers have taken part in professional development, school has been upgraded to the Wide Area Network enabling faster connection to the internet.

9. RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY.

During 2007 staff and students worked together to enact the Vision Statement for the school and to enunciate the Values we promote at St. Joseph’s. The values selected were Safety, Respect, Honesty, Enthusiasm, Responsibility and Doing Your Best. Weekly school awards reinforce and promote these values. A Values Education Toolkit was purchased. It is a comprehensive collection of fun, multiple intelligence activities that aims to enhance the teaching and learning of values education.

10. PARENT, STUDENT, TEACHER SATISFACTION.

Parents & Friends Association is held on the second Thursday of each month. This is an excellent forum for discussing any issues that arise. The committee is extremely supportive of the school.

11. 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 2007.
## 2007 Income - St Joseph's Primary School - CORAKI

### Pie Chart

- **Grants-Commonwealth Govt**: 73%
- **Grants-State Govt**: 18%
- **Fees**: 5%
- **Other Private Income**: 3%
- **Govt.Capital Grants**: 1%
- **Other Capital**: 0%

### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Heading</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2007 Income</th>
<th>2007 Income Total</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
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<td>Fees</td>
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<td>CORAKI</td>
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<td>39861</td>
<td>$39,861</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Private Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19901</td>
<td>19901</td>
<td>$19,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants-State Govt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>137978</td>
<td>137978</td>
<td>$137,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants-Commonwealth Govt</td>
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<td></td>
<td>573722</td>
<td>573722</td>
<td>$573,722</td>
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<tr>
<td>Govt.Capital Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8640</td>
<td>8640</td>
<td>$8,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Capital</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>975</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>$975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 2007 Expenditure - St Joseph's Primary School - CORAKI

### Expenditure Breakdown

- **Salary & Related Expenditure:** 87%
- **Other Expenditure:** 11%
- **Capital Expenditure:** 2%

### Table: Expenditure Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure Heading</th>
<th>School Location</th>
<th>2007 Expenditure</th>
<th>2007 Expenditure Total</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Salary &amp; Related Expenditure</td>
<td>St Joseph's Primary School</td>
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<td>706996</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Expenditure</td>
<td>St Joseph's Primary School Total</td>
<td>86882</td>
<td>86882</td>
<td>86882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditure</td>
<td>CORAKI</td>
<td>18573</td>
<td>18573</td>
<td>18573</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Veronica Martin (Principal)**