

# St Thomas More School



## **Principal's Report**

2021 School Performance Report

AGM



# St Thomas More School Context

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St Thomas More is a Reception to Year 6 Catholic primary school founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1960. With its neighbouring Catholic schools, St Thomas More employs a community worker to help nurture and develop courses and support for the parent members of the community, which it is hoped, in turn, will help the students. The three Mercy schools in the Elizabeth Parish work closely together. Teachers program using the Australian Curriculum. The school has specialist teachers for Physical Education, The Art and Languages (Italian). The Student Wellbeing focus has resulted in the use of Circle Time, the use of Restorative Practices and the highlighting of the Mercy Education Values. There are whole school Reading Agreed Practices and Mathematics Agreed Practices which are used to support effective teaching and learning.

Specialist programs include What's the Buzz?, Geckos, Buddies, Sporting Schools program and a Breakfast Club. The school also has a Playgroup and an Early Learning Years (ELY) Program. Students are expected to exercise leadership skills, with senior students being involved on a number of committees. The embedding of the Walker Learning Approach has been successful in building a culture that strives to cater for all children, personalising learning and creating an environment conducive to quality student learning and wellbeing.

## Vision

As Catholic Schools, we are guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ where thriving people, capable learners and leaders for the world God desires is core to our mission and work. We are two schools in the Elizabeth Catholic Parish that are grounded in the Mercy tradition and values. St Mary Magdalene's School was established in 1957 and St Thomas More School in 1960 by the Sisters of Mercy, founded on the values of compassion, justice, respect, hospitality, service and courage. In 2021, we embarked on an inspirational, innovative and unique journey of working collaboratively in partnership to enhance educational opportunities for every student, greater access to facilities and resources and stronger collaboration across teaching practices and programs.

In 2021, as this partnership developed, we began a revisioning process where parents, students and staff of St Mary Magdalene's School and St Thomas More School undertook the DISA Survey to get a snapshot of how our schools are operating in the areas of academic performance, culture and community and teaching practices.

The combined survey results identified that we are connected, cohesive communities with high expectations for all where, passionate staff work collaboratively with all in the community. With a sound understanding of school values, our aspiration is that we continue

to work collaboratively, strengthening our flourishing communities ensuring that the voices of all are heard, valued and respected and where the Mercy Values are embedded in who we are and what we do.

There is an identified awareness that staff use informed teaching practices and shared knowledge to provide high quality educational experiences and opportunities. As innovative educators we endeavour to further develop consistent, data informed schoolwide practices that are targeted to ensure all children are successful learners.

With these findings in mind, our schools developed a vision for learning to empower students to be active participants, informed citizens with intercultural and ecological awareness where they are inspired by faith and the Mercy Values as they shape a future for the world God desires.

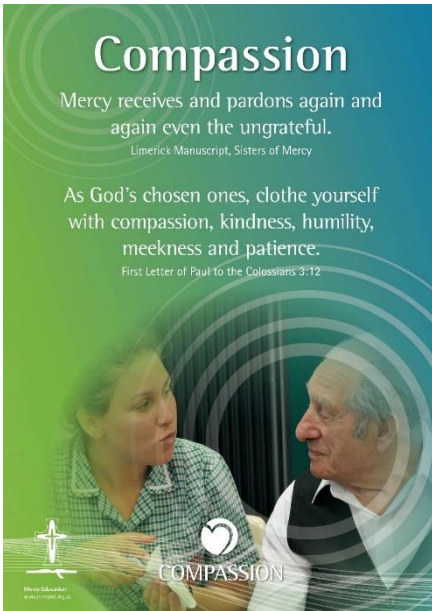
The colours and the symbol of a circle signify the celebration of bringing our two schools together, sharing meaning through respectful dialogue, creativity and a common ground. We nurture a sense of belonging in a caring and supportive environment, empowering individuals to thrive in a global community, shaping the future together.

Dedicated to a continuing tradition of cultivating excellence in an ever-changing world, we prepare our diverse student body for success by engaging them in rigorous and relevant learning opportunities. These opportunities shape a future of learners that promote a moral stance as they strive to make a difference in the lives of others and for the common good.

At the core of who we are and what we do is our passion for serving Christ embedded with the Mercy values.





# Mercy Education Values



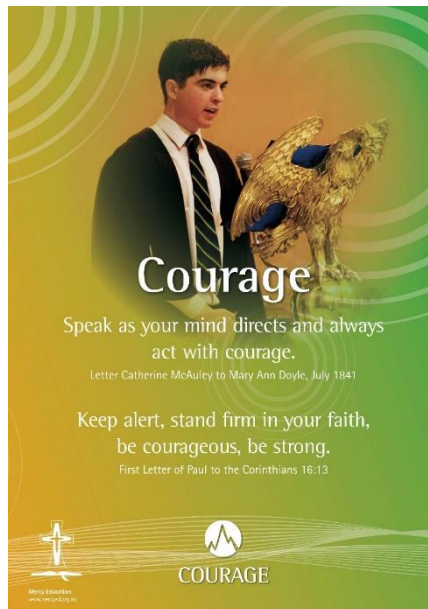
## Compassion

Mercy receives and pardons again and again even the ungrateful.  
*Limerick Manuscript, Sisters of Mercy*

As God's chosen ones, clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience.  
*First Letter of Paul to the Colossians 3:12*





COMPASSION



## Courage

Speak as your mind directs and always act with courage.  
*Letter Catherine McAuley to Mary Ann Doyle, July 1841*

Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong.  
*First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 16:13*



COURAGE



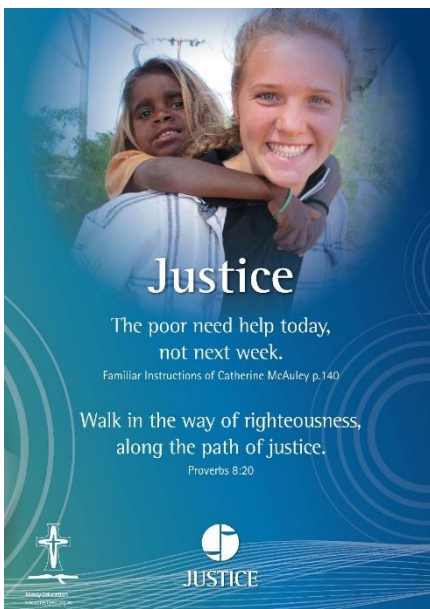
## Hospitality

A good beginning is of great importance. You must waste some time with visitors.  
*Letter Catherine McAuley to Elizabeth Moore, December 1838*

Welcome one another just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.  
*Letter of Paul to the Romans 15:7*





HOSPITALITY



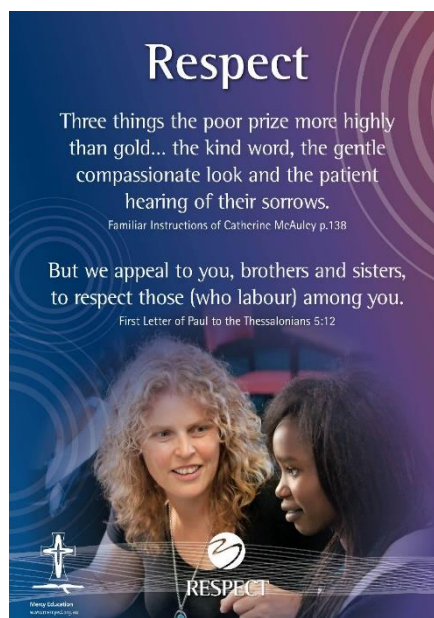
## Justice

The poor need help today, not next week.  
*Familiar Instructions of Catherine McAuley p.140*

Walk in the way of righteousness, along the path of justice.  
*Proverbs 8:20*





JUSTICE



## Respect

Three things the poor prize more highly than gold... the kind word, the gentle compassionate look and the patient hearing of their sorrows.  
*Familiar Instructions of Catherine McAuley p.138*

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those (who labour) among you.  
*First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians 5:12*





RESPECT



## Service

It is for God we serve the poor, not for thanks.  
*Familiar Instructions of Catherine McAuley p.140*

Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.  
*First Letter of Peter 4:10*




SERVICE

# Staffing


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Chris Platten	Principal
Vicki Rubino	Head of Campus
Melissa Musolino	APRIM (0.5)
Leah Williams	Wellbeing & Inclusive Ed Coordinator (0.6)
Alex Appelbee	Reception Teacher
Gorgi Zolotovs	Reception Teacher
Connie Carter	Reception/Year 1 Teacher
Anne Mannella	Year 1/2 Teacher (0.5)
Marie D'occhio	Year 1/2 Teacher (0.5)
Lisa Crossley	Year 1/2 Teacher (Terms 1, 3 & 4)
Brianna Galvin	Year 1/2 Teacher (Term 2)
Janie Gosling	Year 2/3 Teacher
Cristian Morgado	Year 3/4 Teacher
Stephanie Maiello	Year 3/4 Teacher
Tara May	Year 5/6 Teacher
Carly Morrison	Year 5/5 Teacher
Carly Durdin	Italian Teacher (Term 1)
Rosemarie Villano	Italian Teacher (Terms 2, 3 & 4)
Megan Pollard	The Arts Teacher (0.4)
Fabian Chevalier	Physical Education Teacher (0.4)

Jane Wells	Canteen
Sue Dixon	Finance Manager
Leeanne Fisher	Admin ESO
Sharmaine Johnstone	Admin ESO
Hayley Odgers	Marketing & Communications
Lesley Swann	Library ESO /Curriculum ESO
Michael Higgle	WHS Coordinator (0.2) (Terms 1, 2 & 3)
Andrew Scott	Grounds person (.5)
Raelene Smith	Curriculum ESO
Sandra Shephard	Curriculum ESO
Linda Marsh	Curriculum ESO
Shannon Goulding	Curriculum ESO (Term 1 & 2)
Craig Drendel	Curriculum ESO
Gwen Xie	Curriculum ESO



Anzac Lochowiak  
Mihail Lochowiak  
Anne Clarke



Curriculum ESO  
Curriculum ESO  
Counsellor (0.6) (Terms 1 & 2)

Kate Thede OSHC Director  
Cheryl Bielby OSHC  
Abbey Washington OSHC  
Sarah Hardy OSHC  
Rebecca Musico OSHC / Curriculum ESO  
Michael Musico OSHC / Curriculum ESO  
Jay O’Leary OSHC / Curriculum ESO  
Jo Williamson ECC Coordinator (Terms 1 & 2)

## Teacher Standards & Qualifications

Masters	16%
Diploma	26%
Bachelor	89%
Graduate Certificate (RE)	58%
Other Graduate Certificates	5%

## School Information

### St Thomas More Primary School

50 Yorktown Road

Elizabeth Park South Australia 5113

<b>School Type</b>	Primary
<b>School Sector</b>	Catholic – Non-Government
<b>ICSEA value</b>	942
<b>Total Enrolments</b>	228
<b>% Indigenous enrolments</b>	11%
<b>% Students with disabilities</b>	21%

## Enrolments by Year Level

	Male	Female	Total
Reception	29	28	57
Year 1	13	17	30
Year 2	16	10	26
Year 3	10	16	26
Year 4	21	14	35
Year 5	13	9	22
Year 6	15	17	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>228</b>

## Student Attendance

Year Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Reception	86.6%	86.5%	89.9%	88%
Year 1	90.2%	88.2%	89.3%	89.7%
Year 2	92.7%	91.2%	90.3%	91.6%
Year 3	88.6%	88.7%	88.1%	87.7%
Year 4	88.6%	88.4%	89.6%	88.2%
Year 5	90.3%	89.9%	90.3%	90.1%
Year 6	89.3%	87.6%	90.5%	87.3%
<b>Averages</b>	<b>89.2%</b>	<b>88.4%</b>	<b>89.7%</b>	<b>88.8%</b>

### School Management of Student Non-Attendance

Parents are required to notify the school if students will be absent for any reason. This can be done in person, via phone, email or by leaving a message on the school answering machine. If the school has not been advised of a student absence by 9:30am, an SMS message is sent to parents by Administration Staff to ascertain reasons for the absence. For longer term absences, the school requests that parents advise, in writing, the length and details of the extended absence. Unsatisfactory reasons for absences are referred to the Principal who will follow up with families as required.

## School Income 2021

State Government Grant	\$835,407
Commonwealth Government Grant	\$2,726,536
<b>Total Government Grants</b>	<b>\$3,561,943</b>
School Fees	\$213,344
Other Income	\$992,384
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$4,767,671</u></b>

## Post School Destinations

St Columba College, Xavier College, Thomas More College, Craigmore High School, Trinity College, Gleeson College, Playford International School Mark Oliphant College

## Staffing

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1 Male FTE Teachers

12 Female FTE Teachers

6 Part Time Teachers

**Total of 14.7 FTE**

19 Female Educational Support Officers

7 Male Educational Support Officers

**Total of 12 FTE**

## Staff Attendance

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Staff attendance was 90%



# Staff Professional Learning

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MultilLit

Catholic Schools Primary PE Conference

Literacy Network

First Years of Schooling Literacy PD

Learning Difficulties Seminar

EAL Moderation and Training

Supporting Students in the Emerging Phases of English Language Learning

Contact Officer Refresher Training

ATSI Focus Day

Multisport PD

Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young People

Aspiring Leaders Program

Graduate Certificate in Catholic Studies

Senior First Aid

Walker Learning Conference

Employee Relations Seminars

SACPPA Conference

ReLaT Information Session

Early Career Teacher Professional Learning Day

EYA Training Day

Choir Training Day

NAPLAN Supervision Training

PLC Planning Days

PRIMA Day

# School Events – Value Added

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Andrew Chinn concert

SAPSASA Winter Carnival

Catholic Schools Athletics Carnival

Central Districts Football Club Clinics Years R-6

SAPSASA District Swimming Carnival

SAPSASA District Summer Carnival

Catholic Schools Touch Carnival

Catholic Schools Year 4/5 T-Ball Carnival

Sports Day

Sporting Schools

Whole School Carnevale Parade

Class Excursions

Class and School Liturgies and Masses

Project Compassion Activities

Remembrance Day Liturgies

Buddies Programs

Year 5/6 Leadership Days

Year 6 Graduation Liturgy

Year 6 Graduation Dinner

Year 6 Leadership Top



Year 5/6 Camp

Year 5/6 Road Traffic Crossing Training

Playgroup

Early Learning Years Program

Book Week Dress Up day



New Reception Transition Program

SAPOL Visits

School Counsellor

Elizabeth Community Connections

Geckos Fine Motor Program

Parent/Teacher Meet and Greet Times

New Reception Families Information Meeting

Chris Crebbin Workshops

Catholic Schools Music Festival

## NAPLAN 2021

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2020 NAPLAN WAS CANCELLED DUE TO COVID 19

Year 3

	2020 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	2021 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	Mean Score 2020	Mean Score 2021
Reading	-	96	-	372.7
Writing	-	96	-	374
Spelling	-	88	-	393.5
Grammar and Punctuation	-	80	-	367.8
Numeracy	-	92	-	353.7

# NAPLAN 2021

## Year 5

	2020 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	2021 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	Mean Score 2020	Mean Score 2021
Reading	-	86	-	439.6
Writing	-	90	-	430.6
Spelling	-	81	-	461.2
Grammar and Punctuation	-	76	-	435.6
Numeracy	-	86	-	434.7

Progress 2019-2021	Reading		Numeracy	
	School	All students	School	All students
Low	54%	25%	54%	25%
Medium	38%	50%	31%	50%
Upper	8%	25%	15%	25%



# ReLAT Results 2021

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# School Satisfaction 2021

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**IDEAS Survey** (Innovative Design for Enhancing Achievements in Schools) and will inform school improvement. The survey was completed by parents/caregivers, staff and students.



# School Improvement Plan – 2021

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# Acknowledgments

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I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the children, staff, families, parish and wider school community for helping to make St Thomas More School a place of learning in 2021. A school community does not flourish without the support given from all of these groups. The efforts of each individual and group is both appreciated and deeply valued.

I would like to especially acknowledge the work of the School Board; Alison Duke (Chairperson), Hayley Sterry, Tamika Campbell (Treasurer), Jan Lamb, Yunis Noori, Vicki Rubino and Melissa Musolino. Thank you also to Sue Dixon for her guidance and sound financial management of the school.

We are extremely fortunate to have Fr Pat Woods as our Parish Priest. He always has the best interests of our children at heart. This is especially evident during all of his liturgies where he focuses on supporting children's understanding of our rich Catholic Tradition and making such celebrations meaningful and relevant to them.

I would like to acknowledge the work of our school leadership team; Vicki Rubino (Head of Campus), Melissa Musolino (APRIM) and Leah Williams (Leader of Teaching & Learning) for their ongoing support of me, staff, students and the wider community. They are outstanding leaders whom I feel privileged to work alongside.

Thank you to all the teaching staff for the professional way in which they conduct themselves on a daily basis and for ensuring that teaching and learning remain our core business. The feedback from the parent satisfaction survey is an accurate indicator of their care for our children and their overall commitment to our school. Thank you to the Administration and Curriculum Co educators, OSHC and ECC staff. They are wonderful role models for our children and add a great deal of value to our school community.

I look forward to being a part of the St Thomas More School Community in 2022. I have great hope and enthusiasm that 2022 will be a rewarding and productive year of educational excellence.

**Chris Platten**  
**Principal**