



Chairperson School Board Report 2023

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff, and Students,

I am delighted to present the Annual Report for Christ the King for the academic year 2023. It has been a year filled with growth, achievement, and community spirit, and it gives me great honour to share our progress.

School Board

The Board is made up of staff members, parents & the local Parish Priest. The Board convenes twice a term with items reviewed & discussed with the best interests of the school & children at the forefront.

Topics discussed include:

- School funding.
- School early re-payment of outstanding loan.
- Fee structures.
- Advancement of an active based uniform, including the formation of a uniform sub-committee.
- The master plan with an outlook to ten-years.

Learning Initiatives & Academic Excellence

The commitment to academic excellence remains unwavering. Our dedicated group of staff have continued to provide high-quality education and support to our students. I am proud to report that our students continue to demonstrate their resilience and determination to flourish & succeed.

Throughout the year, there have been innovative learning initiatives aimed at enhancing the educational experience of our students. From the integration of technology in the classroom to the implementation of project-based learning approaches, we have sought to cultivate a dynamic learning environment that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration. These initiatives have empowered our students to become lifelong learners equipped with the skills needed to thrive in an ever-changing world. We have been able to utilise the experience of Tracey Grice who is a literacy educator & consultant, and Anne Bayetto who is an academic leader and highly sought after speaker on literacy and numeracy difficulties in children.

Some highlights include:

- Phonics to Reading Program.
- Mathematic & numeracy program.
- Use of maths word wall.
- Developing understanding of assessments and following rubrics & guidelines.
- Researching Indigenous artists.
- Our place in space.

- A Night on Broadway concert.
- Providing a new Juno sound system for all classes.
- New laptops for all staff.

We are fortunate enough to be able to give our students plenty of educational experiences outside of the classroom. From the arts to sports, we are in a blessed position that our children got to experience some wonderful events.

Excursions

- Charlie & the Chocolate Factory at the Hopgood Theatre.
- Grug and the Rainbow at the Marion Cultural Centre.
- Dream Big Festival at the Festival Theatre.

Sporting Activities

- Lacrosse carnival.
- Netball carnival.
- Touch football.
- Cross country.
- Athletics carnival.
- Swimming lessons.

Overview of P&F events and activities

The Parent & Friends committee continue to provide strong community partnerships that are essential to the success of our school, and I am grateful for the support and collaboration of our parents, guardians, family members, and local organizations. Together, we have worked tirelessly to create a supportive and inclusive school community where every individual feels valued and respected.

Through various initiatives, such as family events, volunteer opportunities, and fundraising efforts, we have strengthened the bonds that unite us and enriched the educational experience of our students.

I wish to thank all parents, guardians and family members who have given up their time in the pursuit of making the school community at Christ the King such a wonderful and inclusive environment.

I would like to especially thank Krista Stewart, Mags Garvey & Kate Cook for their dedication and constant drive for everything that the P&F has been able to achieve in 2023.

Some highlights include:

- Mother's Day luncheon.
- Quiz night.
- Special food days.
- School disco.
- Father's Day stall & sausage sizzle.
- Sports day doughnuts & bake stall.
- Wine drives.
- Christmas party for the children.
- Christmas carol concert sausage sizzle.

Spiritual Growth & Development

At Christ the King, we recognize the importance of nurturing the whole child, including their spiritual and moral development. Our faith-based education programs continue to provide students with opportunities to deepen their relationship with God, grow in compassion and empathy, and develop a strong sense of moral integrity.

Through prayer, Bible study, and selfless activities, our students have embraced the teachings of the Catholic faith and demonstrated a commitment to making a positive difference in the world.

I would like to thank Teresa Pascoe for the continuation of the magnificent work that she does in her role as APRIM, and around Catholic Identity.

Financial Stewardship

I am pleased to report that Christ the King has maintained sound financial stewardship throughout the year, ensuring the responsible allocation of resources to support our educational mission.

Despite the financial challenges carried over from the pandemic & previous years, we have remained committed to providing our students with the resources and facilities they need to thrive academically, socially, and spiritually.

Niamh has continued to do a resplendent job in ensuring the financial success of the school. Due to being in a healthy cash position, we were able to pay off the outstanding loan of \$331,496, 5 years early. This loan was related to the 2018 classroom refurbishment project.

I am pleased to report that we finished 2023 with a surplus of \$89,588.

Facilities Maintenance & Improvements

This year we engaged a new garden contractor who has been taking care of the oval space and the gardens in general. There has been re-shaping of the front garden plants on Dunrobin Road and pruning of the hedges along Jarvis Terrace.

We were able to progress with discussions regarding installing a new playground during 2024. This will be an all-cash purchase from the school bank account.

Student Enrolment

Due to restraints being lifted, we have held numerous principal tours throughout the year, and I am pleased to report that the attendance and feedback has been positive.

We have conducted a marketing blitz on trying to get the school's name out there in the wider community. I am sure that you may have seen the bus stop & billboard adverts around the local area.

Matt and all the team have done a sterling job in trying to bolster the enrolments at school and I am pleased to write that at the end of 2023, we had 156 children enrolled in Christ the King. The future enrolments from the school tours look very promising indeed.

Conclusion

It has been amazing to see the collective CTK community pulling together in the same direction to foster the great school environment that has been created here.

Our school may be small, but it celebrates diversity and embraces the unique backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives of our students and families. Through multicultural events, inclusive curriculum, and intercultural exchanges, we can foster a culture of respect, empathy and understanding among all members of our community.

Christ the King feels like a family, where the students, parents, and staff support and care for one another. This is evident from the morning greetings that can be heard throughout the playground, to the end of day good-byes. There is a warmth and sense of connection that radiates throughout our community which continues to create a welcoming and nurturing atmosphere for all.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank:

- 2023 members of the school board. Father Michael Kyumu, Matt Perry, Jason Gunther, Krista Spencer, Matt Young, Damien Partridge, Jane Kelb, Bec Smith, Orla Matthews & Elise Tavella.
- A special acknowledgment to Jason Gunther who has been the chairperson of the Board for many years. A massive thank you to Jason for all his efforts over the years. Often un-recognised and working behind the scenes, but truly appreciated for the time that he has generously donated to the school community.
- Matt Perry as the outstanding principal and educational leader he is. A true advocate for both staff & students. He continues in his unwavering commitment to the development of our children.
- Teresa Pascoe for her amazing job as the APRIM, Digitech/Library (Resource Based Learning). We are grateful for the hours that she spends educating our children about the ever-changing online world.
- Emma Heinrich as the leader of learning and inclusion. Emma continues to do amazing work along with Matt & Teresa as part of the leadership team.
- Niamh McKeough for her passionate dedication and hard work in planning & executing the balancing of the budgets and finances.
- Di Fulwood & Bryant Crowley for all of the work that they do with the after-school sporting events.
- Meri & Sarah as the first point of contact at the front desk for their warmth and welcoming nature.
- To the teachers and support staff for the dedication that they show daily in helping to educate our children.
- The P&F, for their contribution to reigniting and developing the sense of community here. I for one am very much looking forward to the amazing events that they put on in 2024.
- To all the wonderful students of CTK. The laughter, the smiles and splendid attitudes that they all have that makes CTK such a great school to be involved in.

I am incredibly excited about the possibilities and new heights that we can reach in 2024 and continuing with you all on this journey for the betterment & enrichment of your children.

Warmest regards

Written for the 2023 School Board

Jonathan Carr

Chairperson Christ the King School Board 2024