St Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School Milton

Annual School Report 2010
About This Report

St Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School, Milton is registered by the NSW Board of Studies (BOS) and managed by the Catholic Education Office (CEO), Diocese of Wollongong. The CEO is the ‘approved authority’ for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the NSW Education Act 1990.

The Annual School Report to the Community for this year provides the school community with fair, reliable and objective information about school performance measures and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education.

The Report also outlines information regarding School Review & Improvement initiatives and developments of major interest and importance to the school community during the year and the achievements arising from the implementation of the School’s Annual Action Plan.

Accordingly, the Report demonstrates accountability to regulatory bodies, the school community and the Catholic Education Office (CEO). This Report has been approved by Wollongong CEO to ensure compliance with all NSW Board of Studies requirements for Registration and Accreditation.

This Report complements and is supplementary to school newsletters and other regular communications. Following its submission to the NSW Board of Studies, the Report will be presented to the Parent Body and be available on the school’s website by 30 June 2011.

Further information about the school or this Report may be obtained by contacting the school:

St Mary’s Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School
PO Box 178
Milton NSW 2538
Ph: (02) 4455 2328
Fax: (02) 4454 0425
Email: info@sosmdow.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.sosmdow.catholic.edu.au

Administrator Fr Davidanthony Davies Adm

Principal: Mr Anthony Kent
Date: 13 December 2010
Vision Statement

Help one another as we grow in the love of God.
Our mission is to provide an environment where children, staff and parents are educated in an atmosphere of Catholic traditions while living out Christian Values.

Message from Key School Bodies

Principal’s Message

As I reflect on the 2010 school year ‘change’ is the first word that comes to mind. Schools are, of course, all about change. While there is so much that remains constant, such as our vision, values and tradition, we know we have to change in order to grow.

St Mary’s mission statement, proudly displayed on each newsletter as well as the newly created website; “Help one another as we grow in the love of God”, is embedded in the hearts and minds of the staff who are committed to Catholic education and to the children within their care.

The school continues to foster the children’s pride in themselves and pride in being Australian within a world community. We share a diversity of our cultural heritage through the celebrations of National Days of Recognition.

2010 saw the growth of St Mary’s building and educational programs. Late 2009 the Federal Government announced the Economic Stimulus Package which included significant funding for the building of school infrastructure. As a result of this funding, St. Mary’s undertook a building project mid year with the construction of the school hall. This initiative has transformed the Parish and enabled both school and the community to benefit greatly from the government’s investment.

St Mary’s continues to cultivate the links between the school and Parish community as reflected in its commitment to the School Review and Improvement (SRI) process. The SRI included a School Wide Positive Behaviours for Learning project (SPB4L) which focused on positive playground behaviours, addressing issues that effect relationship building. The school developed strategies to improve the reporting of student’s achievements together with reporting to the wider community.

Schools acting alone cannot achieve their mission however hard they work. Schools, like all communities, work because of generosity. I would like to thank the staff and the parents for their continued efforts in providing the best learning environment for all students in 2010. All have contributed to the continued emphasis on student well being and academic excellence.

Parent Involvement

The Parents and Friends Association (P&F) of the school have been involved in a variety of different fundraising events throughout the year such as Mother’s Day Stall, Father’s Day...
St Mary's Star of the Sea is a Catholic Primary School located in Milton. The school is a single stream, serving students from Jervis Bay to Kioala. The school caters for students in years K-6 and has a current enrolment of 155. The school has undergone a major capital works refurbishment that included the redevelopment of the school administration area, refurbishments of general learning areas, a covered outdoor learning area and a school hall.

Student Enrolments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Indigenous</th>
<th>LBOTE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>85</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Diocesan Enrolment Policy and Procedures exists to assist schools in the equitable prioritising of enrolment applications and in order to ensure that the requirements of State and Commonwealth legislation are met. This documentation can be found on both
the school website: www.sosmdow.catholic.edu.au and the Catholic Education Office website: www.dow.catholic.edu.au. No changes were made to this Diocesan Policy in 2010.

**Student Attendance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>92.1%</td>
<td>84.3%</td>
<td>93.3%</td>
<td>94.0%</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
<td>86.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In accordance with the school attendance policy and CEO guidelines daily attendance is recorded. Two weeks duration is given for non-attendance to be finalised. Any student absent from school for more than three days requires a telephone call to the office by the parent. All absences require a written note upon the child’s return to school. Parents are contacted if absences remain unexplained.

**Staffing Profile**

There are a total of 11 teachers and 6 support staff at St Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School. This number includes 8 full-time, 3 part-time teachers.

**Teacher Standards**

Teacher qualifications fall into 1 of 3 categories for all teaching staff responsible for delivering the curriculum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognised by AEI - NOOSR*</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have qualifications as a graduate from a higher education institution within Australia within AEI-NOOSR* guidelines but lack formal teacher qualifications</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not have qualifications as above but have relevant successful teaching experience or appropriate knowledge relevant to the teaching context</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Australian Education Institution – National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition Staff Retention*

**Teacher Attendance and Retention**

The average daily teacher attendance rate for 2010 was 96.02%. This does not include planned leave such as maternity or long service leave. The teacher retention rate from 2009 to 2010 was 100%.

**Professional Learning**

Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School staff. During 2010 school personnel undertook a range of professional learning activities related to improving student outcomes.

These included:
- Leading Literacy and Numeracy: Assistant Principal (1 teacher);
• Numeracy Project- Working Together to Succeed- Closing the Gap (3 teachers);
• Focus on Numeracy in the Early Years K-2: Assistant Principal (1 teacher);
• Religious Literacy Marking (1 teacher);
• System Focus Day: Assistant Principal (1 teacher);
• NALSSP- Focus Group Asian Languages (1 teacher librarian);
• SMART Data Analysis (Principal and 1 teacher);
• CPR (12 teachers);
• SPB4L (5 teachers); and
• National Partnerships (Principal and Assistant Principal).

School based expenditure on professional learning in 2010 was $3,400.00. This is in addition to expenditure on professional learning opportunities provided by the Catholic Education Office.

Catholic Life & Religious Education

At the commencement of the school year the staff from the three Shoalhaven Catholic Schools came together for the Annual Mass and dinner, which was held at St Michael's, Nowra.

After eight years as Parish Priest of the Milton, Ulladulla, and Sussex Inlet Parish, we farewelled Father Francis Tran. Father Francis worked tirelessly in our local community. In June we welcomed Father Davidanthony Davies from Fairy Meadow to the area as the new Parish Administrator.

St Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School has continued to develop links with the Parish and the wider local communities. Parish Masses are attended by school families and followed by BBQ and hospitality. The Parish Community were invited to the blessing of the new buildings by the Bishop followed by hospitality. St Mary's Star of the Sea plays a key role in the Parish Liturgical celebrations of Lent, Easter and Christmas. Members of the Parish and the school staff come together to implement Sacramental Programs.

Students held many activities to raise money for Caritas, Catholic Mission, Sr Anna Warlow Rural Outreach, National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) and St Mary's Feast Day celebrations. Staff organised weekly prayer meetings and attended staff spirituality opportunities including: REC retreat day, whole staff spirituality day at the Abbey, Grief, Loss and Letting Go spirituality day, and the Diocesan Mary Mackillop Mass. The Year 6 students attended prayer and conversation with the Bishop.

St Mary's Star of the Sea is recognised by the community as a pastoral school. Staff are encouraged and supported in their community involvement. The staff are active in the Liturgy of the Church, sport, SES, learn to swim, surf life saving, music, St Vincent de Paul and preschool work on a voluntary basis. This involvement is recognised by the wider community and contributes significantly to the pastoral responsibility we share as a staff.
Religious Literacy Assessment

The Religious Literacy Assessment Program for Year 4 students was successfully implemented within schools across the diocese in 2010. In 2010 the school cohort consisted of 20 Year 4 students who sat the Religious Literacy Assessment Workbook (Part A) on 30th August and 20 completed the Extended Task (Part B). The Extended Task is based on the Unit: One With God’s Creation and was completed during the first half of Term 3.

The performance of each student was described as developing, achieving or extending. St Mary’s Star of the Sea Religious Literacy overall results were above the Diocesan percentages.

Students showed a high level of performance in their knowledge of the parts of the Mass. A high level of performance was particularly noticeable in their ability to:

- identify the key aspects of the Season of Lent;
- understand the Sacrament of Reconciliation; and
- understand the presence of Jesus in various parts of the Mass.

The student's responses showed a need for them to develop their capacity to work with and apply the religious traditions especially in their ability to:

- recall the importance of the Season of Advent; and
- demonstrate basic understanding of Jesus' message in the Parables.

For Part A 10% of students were placed in the developing level, 70% in the achieving level and 20% were in the extending level.

For Part B 0% of students were placed in the developing level, 57% in the achieving level and 43% were in the extending level.

Combining Parts A and B, 5% of students were placed in the developing level, 70% in the achieving level and 25% were in the extending level for Religious Literacy.
Financial Summary

The P&F contributed financial support to the school in the following ways: $500 for Library Resources, $300 for a Stage 3 excursion ($10/head), and $200 for Year 6 Book Prizes.

The following graphs reflect the aggregated income and expenditure for St Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School for the year ended 31 December 2010. This data is taken from the 2009 financial return to the Australian Government, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

![Income Pie Chart]

- Fees and Other Private Income: 50%
- State Government Funds: 33%
- Commonwealth Recurrent Grants: 8%
- Government Capital Grants: 2%

![Expenditure Pie Chart]

- Salaries, Allowances and Related Costs: 53%
- Non Salary Expenses: 7%
- Capital Expenditure: 8%

Student Welfare

Introduction

Our school has a Student Pastoral Care Committee for students needing extra support to develop skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary to maintain a safe school environment. It is characterised by fairness, mutual trust, respect and reconciliation.

Pastoral Care

A range of pastoral care incentives has been continued for students at St Mary's. Buddy classes are established between Year Five and Kindergarten and Year Six and Year One. New Kindergarten children come to school to 'Get Started' play sessions and Orientation Day.

The CentaCare school counsellor visits the school once a fortnight and plays a vital role in the pastoral care and well being of students, parents and staff. This year St Mary's has commenced the Catholic Education Office program School Wide Positive Behaviour For Learning (SPB4L). SPB4L's focus is to implement positive approaches to student behaviour in a supportive environment.
Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wollongong are committed to a safe and supportive environment. The principles, guidelines and procedures set out in the Policy documents Maintaining Right Relationships and Safe Work Environment are the framework for school leaders, students, staff, parents and the wider community to develop a safe and supportive environment. The Diocesan Complaints Handling Procedures forms an important element in the Diocese’s commitment to ensuring safe and supportive environments for our school communities. These documents can be found on the Catholic Education Office website: www.dow.catholic.edu.au. No changes were made to these Diocesan documents in 2010.

In compliance with the NSW Reform Act 1990, Corporal Punishment is banned in all schools within the Diocese of Wollongong.

Access to all policies and guidelines can be obtained by contacting the school office.

Learning and Teaching

Introduction

St Mary’s Star of the Sea provides opportunities for students to grow and develop intellectually, physically and spiritually. National testing via the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) has placed emphasis on the development and monitoring of literacy and numeracy skills. The school's integrated units of work for all stages has helped ensure the provision of engaging and diversifying, quality learning experiences for all students to achieve specific outcomes. There is a range of curriculum opportunities that reflect an awareness of the individual learning and pastoral needs of the students.

Curriculum & Pedagogy

At St Mary's there are a range of initiatives to support the development of Religious Education, Literacy, Numeracy and other Key Learning Areas through the use of the Board of Studies curriculum documents K-6, and Religious Education Curriculum documents K-6. Year 3 and Year 5 sat the NAPLAN tests and Year 4 sat the Religious Literacy Assessment, a project established between the Catholic Education Office, Wollongong and the Australian Catholic University. Staff continue to develop Literacy and Numeracy Plans which include professional development, intervention, support and parent support.

An important aspect of our Catholic identity is that we provide tuition for the students who are ready to prepare for the Sacramental Programs. Sacramental preparation includes Penance, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

The programming of the Key Learning Areas promotes an integrated approach to learning. Using diversified strategies that are based on theories of Habits of Mind, Bloom's Taxonomy and Gardiner's Thinking Hats. The Learning and Teaching programs include analysis of achievement data to inform and improve student outcomes.

Staff members have developed Scope and Sequences with planned assessments in order to build a continuum of learning from K-6 across all Key Learning Areas including a process
of review. This year a scope and sequence was developed for spelling K-6. A Review Committee monitor the progress and support students need in the areas of literacy and numeracy. The Leadership Team with the Special Needs teacher initiates and monitors case management for students with special needs. Implementation of Reading Recovery includes the maintenance of ongoing monitoring of ex reading recovery students up to and including Year 4.

Learning Technology remains a priority for the school as students utilise Information Technology as tools to support their learning and enhance their education. St Mary's students have access to two mobile pods of laptops (15 computers), making it possible for all students to use the technology when appropriate for research and learning. St Mary's has purchased 15 new laptops to support ICT in the classrooms. Students utilize this technology in the Numeracy and Literacy periods, becoming proficient with its use and expanding their learning opportunities.

Cross Curriculum

During 2010 Numeracy has remained a high priority at St Mary's Star of the Sea. Staff members have continued to participate in Working Together to Succeed, Closing the Gap Numeracy Project and Focus on Numeracy in the Early Years K-2. Students are using Count Me In Too Maths games and the assessment tool to enhance their understanding of Mathematical concepts and support the Mathematics Curriculum K-6.

Indigenous Education was further developed in 2010. St Mary's welcomed the Indigenous students from St John's the Evangelist Catholic High School, Nowra who performed a smoking ceremony at the blessing of the new school buildings. The staff and students of St Mary's celebrated NAIDOC week with Ulladulla High School Indigenous students. The Elders and students participated in our school liturgy. The Ulladulla High School Indigenous Dancers performed and lead our students in a number of Indigenous games.

Meeting the needs of all students

A Special Education Support teacher and four School Support Officers provide extra support in Literacy and Numeracy for students who currently attract Students with Disability Funding and also work in small groups with students who may have learning needs. Teachers implement an Individual Educational Plan to meet the needs of those students who attract additional funding. The Special Education Support teacher and the class teacher meet with the parents of these students twice/year to discuss the progress of the child.

Our school library provides the staff and the students with educational resources to support individual interest and needs. The teacher Librarian plans collaboratively with teachers to ensure a rich learning environment. Most students completed the Premier's Reading Challenge this year and the volume of books being borrowed from the library increased.

Indonesian continues to be taught at St Mary's Star of the Sea to all students from K-6. Lessons focus on language and cultural studies of our nearest neighbour in a positive and meaningful way. Students participated in the Clean Up Australia, World Environment Day and National Tree Day.
Expanding Learning Opportunities

St Mary's Star of the Sea students participated in a number of formal and informal competitions. Formal competitions included the UNSW educational and testing competitions in English, Writing and Spelling, Mathematics, Science and Computer Studies. Students received High Distinction, Distinction, Credit and Participation Awards. The local and wider community competitions included: The National Dorothea MacKellar Poetry Competition, Australian Bush Poetry Society Writing and Recitation Competition, Milton Scarecrow Competition, Inter school Chess competition, Australian Wide Music Count me In, Wollongong Diocese Public Speaking Stage 3 and 'The Christmas Story' Art Competition.

During December students performed on a number of occasions in the local community; at the Village Green in Milton and singing at Sarah Clayton Retirement Village. These were excellent opportunities to promote St Mary's Star of the Sea community spirit. St Mary's offers the opportunity of a specialist Music Program. All students have curriculum-based lessons and individual students may choose to learn a musical instrument in groups.

St Mary's Star of the Sea offers a wide range of sporting choices. Students participated in the South Coast swim trials, Mackillop Swimming Championships, Mackillop Cricket Championships. Cross Country and Wollongong Diocesan Athletics. Students participated in school sports carnivals and intensive swimming programs Term 1 and 4.

Excursions at our school enrich and supplement the curriculum with relevant learning experiences. Students visited; Mogo Zoo, HMAS Albatross, Dunn Lewis Bowling Centre, Ulladulla Primary School Play and the Australian Capital Territory.

Student Achievement

The school uses a variety of assessment strategies at key points in the learning framework. These include teacher observation, projects and presentations. The school also participates in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for the purposes of diagnosing individual learning needs and reviewing whole class teaching programs. Information on student progress is communicated on a regular basis and external assessment results are discussed with parents on an individual basis annually.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN was introduced for students in Years 3 and 5 in May 2008. NAPLAN replaces the previous State-based Basic Skills Test and the results provide valuable information about student achievements in Literacy and Numeracy. Analysis of the results is used at school level to support the enhancement of literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students.

St Mary's Star of the Sea Year 5 results showed that the targeted students have made significant progress in at least three aspects of the Literacy testing. In all areas St Mary's
students performed above the national average. Overall the Year 3 cohort performed at the national average in literacy. The students in Year 3 were above the national average in all areas with the exception of grammar and punctuation.

In numeracy the students in Year 3 performed above the national average and above the national minimum standard. Students performed best in the areas of number and pattern. Overall the Year 5 cohort achieved excellent results with all students achieving at or above the minimum standard.

**Student Achievement in Bands**

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses aspects of Literacy and Numeracy in Years 3 and 5. It provides valuable information about student achievements in Literacy and Numeracy. Analysis of the results is used at school level to support the enhancement of Literacy and Numeracy outcomes for all students. Year 3 results are reported in Bands 1 to 6 with Band 6 representing the highest achievement and Year 5 results are reported in Bands 3 to 8 with Band 8 representing the highest achievement. Please Note: Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAPLAN 2010: % in Bands</th>
<th>YEAR 3</th>
<th>YEAR 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bands 1 and 2</td>
<td>Bands 3 and 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading</strong></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing</strong></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling</strong></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</strong></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Student Achievement of National Minimum Standard**

Students are considered to be achieving BELOW the National Minimum Standard (NMS) if they are in the lowest Band for each year (Band 1 in Year 3 and Band 3 in Year 5) or if they have been exempt from NAPLAN. Students in the second Band for each year (Band 2 in Year 3 and Band 4 in Year 5) represents students who are achieving AT the NMS. Students in all other Bands are achieving ABOVE the NMS.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAPLAN 2010: % AT or ABOVE NMS</th>
<th>YEAR 3</th>
<th>YEAR 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Parent, Student and Staff Satisfaction

In a recent survey of parents and the community, the following information was obtained relating to the satisfaction with the school. 25% of those surveyed replied. St Mary's Star of the Sea was seen as a safe and supportive environment for students. It was acknowledged that the staff had a genuine interest in the student's welfare and a passion for teaching.

Parents indicated that the school takes an active role in community events. Some of the ways this is achieved is through classroom work, Friday and Parish Masses and our involvement in environmental days.

Parents would like the opportunity to be in-serviced in the areas of student learning, homework and behavioural issues. It was suggested that parents work with the teachers to help provide support for students with needs, particularly in the area of reading. Other comments mentioned the high cost of transport for our excursions.

100% of the staff responded to the primary school staff survey. 75% of those surveyed agreed that the school strives to meet the individual needs of students and 100% agreed that the school provides appropriate information to parents about student progress.

The senior students responded positively to the survey. 100% agreed that the school helps them in their understanding of the Catholic faith and provides opportunities for involvement in sporting and extra curricula activities.

### School Review and Improvement

School Review and Improvement is an ongoing process of self evaluation measured against a commonly agreed set of criteria. It informs action planning at the school level to
identify areas of strength and areas for improvement. Above all, Catholic schools must be good schools with a strong learning orientation and a strong sense of purpose. In all aspects of improving and developing, schools should be learning-centred, constantly striving for excellence and have the student as their primary focus.

In 2010 St Mary’s Star of the Sea undertook an evaluation of selected components from the School Review and Improvement Self-Assessment instrument. A whole school process was led by the Principal and Leadership Team. The school assessed the School Review and Improvement components using the 1-7 Rating Scale.

School Review and Improvement components reviewed and rated in 2010:

- **Key Area 1: Catholic Life and Religious Education**
  1.1 Vision and Mission

- **Key Area 2: Students and their Learning**
  2.3 Reporting student achievement

- **Key Area 3: Pedagogy**
  3.5 Assessment
  3.6 School climate, learning environment and relationships

- **Key Area 5: Resources, Finance and Facilities**
  5.1 ICT Resources

- **Key Area 6: Parents, Partnership, Consultation and Communication**
  6.2 Reporting to the community

School Review and Improvement components to be reviewed and rated in 2011:

2011 will see the implementation of Phase 1 of the National Partnerships Program. In conjunction with the Catholic Education Office and key personnel appointed to support the reforms, the staff of St Mary’s has identified these key areas for School Review and Improvement.

- **Key Area 1: Catholic Life and Religious Education**
  1.2 Religious Life

- **Key Area 2: Students and their Learning**
  2.1 Educational potential

- **Key Area 3: Pedagogy**
  3.2 Provision for the diverse needs of learners
  3.3 Teaching practices

- **Key Area 4: Human Resources, Leadership and Management**
  4.2 Professional Development of staff
• **Key Area 5: Resources, Finance and Facilities**
  5.3 Environmental Stewardship

• **Key Area 6: Parents, Partnership, Consultation and Communication**
  6.1 Parent Involvement

• **Key Area 7: Strategic Leadership and Management**
  7.2 Innovation, Development and Change

A dedicated component with the framework will be staff professional development, highlighting the importance of components 2 and 3 in the SRI. These components explicitly encourage the school to embark on professional development which meets the needs of the students as contemporary learners. The school has made provision for SRI component 4.2 - Professional Development of Staff - to continue throughout the cycle of the National Partnerships.