St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, Warwick

A Catholic co-educational school of the Diocese of Toowoomba

“Seek the Truth”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>PO Box 555 163 Palmerin St Warwick QLD 4370</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year Levels</td>
<td>Prep – Year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolment</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Michelle Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation Care</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>07 4661 1872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax</td>
<td>07 4661 4809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:smwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au">smwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarders</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After School Care</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:smwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au">smwarwick@twb.catholic.edu.au</a></td>
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Our Mission

St. Mary’s Catholic Primary School exists as part of the local faith community to support parents/guardians in the education of their children.

While recognising the uniqueness of each person, we are committed to providing quality service that nurtures their spiritual, emotional, academic, social and physical development.

Using Jesus as our model, we aim to create an inclusive environment characterised by mutual care and respect, acceptance, peace, joy and enduring hope for the future.

The mission of our school is strengthened by the relationship with St Mary’s Parish, school and diocesan administration, Parents and Friends Association and the School Board, who offer support and guidance.
Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

The school curriculum encompasses the Key Learning Areas of:

- Religious Education
- Mathematics
- English
- Studies of Society and Environment
- Science
- The Arts
- Health and Physical Education
- Technology

The curriculum of St Mary’s is based upon the syllabi set by the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) and the Toowoomba Catholic Education’s Religious Education Guidelines. The school’s teaching staff prepares school based curriculum documents appropriate for our school. The delivery of the curriculum is the Year Based model. It is designed to assist students to become lifelong learners with a firm grasp of basic numeracy and literacy skills. The school strives to develop in students the skills, attitudes and values that will enable them to reach their full potential as successful and responsible citizens.

The school community recognises the individual needs of its students and endeavours to provide teaching and learning programs to suit these needs.

Grouping of students
The students at St Mary’s Primary School are grouped in year levels. In most cases there are two classes per year level. In 2011 there were three Year Three classes.

Specialisation among Teachers
St Mary’s Primary School has specialist teachers for the areas of Music and Health & Physical Education. These teachers work with all classes from Prep to Year Seven. The school also has a Teacher-Librarian and two specialist Learning Support Teachers.

Use of Computers

The use of computers and associated software are integrated throughout the School curriculum. Teachers and students view the use of computers as part of their daily teaching and learning. Basic computer skills for each year level are outlined in St Mary’s ICT scope and sequence document. Further, computers are seen as essential tools in developing, maintaining and extending students’ information literacy. In 2011 there were 24 electronic Interactive Smartboards distributed across all classrooms, the two libraries, Learning Support Centre and both general purpose rooms. The School Hall has large dual data projector facilities with an extensive surround sound system. All classrooms have additional computers and the Learning Support Centre has begun investing in iPad resources.

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Interschool Regional Team Sport activities (Cricket, Netball, Softball, Ballgames)
- Interschool Diocesan Catholic Carnivals (Swimming and Athletics)
- Local Under 8’s activities
- Opportunities for regional/state sport selection in a wide variety of endeavours
- School Choir
- Annual School Musical – Alice in Wonderland
- School Camps
- Class Liturgies
- Class Reconciliation
- Whole School Mass
• School Feast Day 15 August
• School Charity – Market Day
• Seasons for Growth
• ICAS Competitions (English, Mathematics, Computers, Writing, Spelling and Science)
• Mini Vinnie’s Student Association
• Cultural Excursions to Toowoomba Empire Theatre Productions

Social Climate

St. Mary's School exists to support parents in the education of their children. The school is committed to providing a service which nurtures the spiritual, emotional, academic, physical and social development of each person to his or her full potential. The school strives to offer quality education founded on Gospel values and the Catholic Christian tradition.

We concentrate on the uniqueness of each child and foster the development of a healthy self-esteem by encouraging participation in a wide range of activities at school and parish level. We strive to develop a sense of belonging and pride in oneself, work and school.

The ‘You Can Do It’ Pastoral Care program operates from Prep – Year 7 at St Mary’s with special certificates being issued to students at the end of each term.

Bullying undermines Christian values and prevents students from achieving their full potential in the educational and social setting. St Mary’s School has established an Anti-Bullying Policy and Behaviour Management Policy. The school community, especially students, are made aware of expectations of behaviour and interpersonal relationships based on personal responsibility, care, respect, inclusion and diversity. Teachers actively teach strategies and approaches for positive behaviour, anti-bullying and respect.

Teachers are aware of and receive regular inservice on these policies, procedures and legislative requirements. Policy documents are made available to parents / caregivers at the time of enrolment and attention is drawn to them periodically through the newsletter as required. The Behaviour Management Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy are in the School Handbook and Staff Handbook. They are also regularly discussed at staff meetings, to ensure all staff members are aware of procedures.

The school seeks to provide an environment where all members of the school community reflect Gospel values, responsible behaviour and an attitude of respect for self and others. Bullying is not tolerated and is addressed immediately and consistently through implementation of the policy’s disciplinary consequences.

The school also provides a family/student counselling service for students who may be experiencing difficulties at home or at school. The counsellor is employed by the Toowoomba Catholic Education Office. Parental permission is sought when counselling is recommended.

Parental Involvement

St Mary's welcomes and encourages parental involvement in their children’s education. Opportunities for parental involvement include:

• Parent-Teacher Information sessions at the beginning of the school year
• Twice yearly Parent-Teacher interviews
• Assistance with reading and maths programs
• P & F Association monthly meetings
• Tuckshop service
• School Musical costuming and props committees
• Sports coaching and management
• Mother’s Day and Father’s Day Liturgy
• School Board monthly meetings with parent representation
• Invitation to all school assemblies, liturgies, mass and celebrations
School Financial Information

The information on net recurrent income including:
- Federal Government recurrent funding
- Queensland Government recurrent funding
- Fee, charges and parent contributions
- Other private resources
Is available from: www.myschool.edu.au

Staff Composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Total Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Total Non-teaching Staff</th>
<th>Indigenous Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teacher Qualifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>% of Teaching Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral / Post-Doctoral</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor Degree</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</table>

Professional Development

The Staff has access throughout the year to attend professional development in a variety of Key Learning Areas. Throughout each year a significant portion of the school budget is allocated to staff professional development. These opportunities include:
- Religious Education Inservice
- Special Needs Conferences
- Mandatory Child Protection
- First Aid and C.P.R.
- Early Years Education
- Numeracy and Mathematics
- Literacy and English
- First Steps – Reading
- Implementation of QCATS
- Consistency of Teacher Judgement
- Assessment & Reporting
- Smartboard Inservice
- Jolly Phonics Inservice
- ACARA Australian Curriculum Inservice
The 2011 school budget expended $5,914.48 on staff Professional Development. Further professional development was provided by Toowoomba Catholic Education.

**Average Staff Attendance**

97.37%

**Staff Retention**

95%

**Average Student Attendance Rate**

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2011 was 93.8%.

**Student Attendance for Each Year Level**

(Student Attendance expressed as %)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Prep</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>
<th>Year 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>93.7</td>
<td>92.7</td>
<td>93.9</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>95.2</td>
<td>94.2</td>
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</table>

**Description of How Non-Attendance is managed by the School**

- Class rolls are marked electronically at 8.45 am and again at 1.50 pm.
- With unexplained non-attendance, parents are contacted via phone or SMS
- Parents are reminded to contact the school to explain any absence from school in regular newsletters and handbook
- Parents are informed in writing about concerns of frequent non-attendance
- Absences are noted on school report cards

**National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3 Test Results (2011)</th>
<th>OUR SCHOOL AVERAGE</th>
<th>NATIONAL AVERAGE</th>
<th>STATE AVERAGE</th>
<th>Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>377</td>
<td>415.7</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>415.9</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>405.9</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>421.2</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>398.1</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Year 5 Test Results (2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>OUR SCHOOL AVERAGE</th>
<th>NATIONAL AVERAGE</th>
<th>STATE AVERAGE</th>
<th>Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>488.1</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>482.6</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>484.1</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>499.1</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>487.8</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Year 7 Test Results (2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>OUR SCHOOL AVERAGE</th>
<th>NATIONAL AVERAGE</th>
<th>STATE AVERAGE</th>
<th>Percentage of Students at or above the National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>540.2</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>529.1</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>537.7</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>532.4</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>544.6</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Value Added

The community of St Mary’s Primary School continually seeks meaningful ways to partner parents in the education of children. Staff members strive to develop programs and procedures that will add value to the educational experience of all students. Our school endeavours to support and provide educational, cultural and spiritual opportunities for all within the context of the goals of Toowoomba Catholic Education and government initiatives and policies.

Unique educational experiences include:

- Involvement in the annual St Mary's School Musical,( 2011) “Alice in Wonderland”
- Upper Campus visits to Aged-Care Facilities (Years 4 – 7)
- Participation in ICAS English, Writing, Spelling, Mathematics, Science and Computer Competitions
- Attendance at various Toowoomba Empire Theatre Performances (Prep – 7)
- Year 7 Transition Days with Assumption Secondary College
- Swimming Tuition in Term 3 and Term 4 with qualified instructors at the Warwick Indoor Recreation and Aquatic Centre (Pre – 7)
- Participation in Warwick regional events (Peace Festival, Rose & Rodeo activities, ANZAC Day Commemoration March and Service)
- Close association with the St Mary’s Parish St Vincent De Paul association with our student Mini Vinnie’s group
Parent Satisfaction

St Mary’s Primary School has a number of venues for assessing the level of student, staff and parent satisfaction with the school. Parents are encouraged to maintain regular communication with their child’s teacher and the school offers parent/ teacher nights and formal parent-teacher interviews. The P & F Association is also a forum in which parents are able to provide feedback to the school on satisfaction levels. The School Board is another vital arena for parents to express their approval in partnership with the school executive.

The school undergoes a School Renewal Process every five years. In 2011, Parental input was sought for the 2011 School Review. A total of 137 responses, representing just under half of families in the school responded. This demonstrated an excellent response rate, indicative of the interest parents take in the school. The external validator reviewed the results and all individual responses. Many parents took the opportunity to make comment on the various aspects of the survey.

2011 PARENT SATISFACTION WITH COMMUNITY OF FAITH DIMENSION (School Review)
In this dimension parents indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the propositions relating to the school as a community of faith. This is clearly an area where parents are supportive, with up to 99% agreement that the Catholic ethos and Religious Education dimension were evident in the school. It was clear from the results that the community supports efforts made by the staff to provide opportunities to celebrate together as a faith community and develop a sense of care for others among students.

2011 PARENT SATISFACTION WITH PLACE OF LEARNING DIMENSION (School Review)
Parents were again supportive. Parents indicated a high level of satisfaction that students were encouraged to grow as individuals with unique capabilities and positive concepts of themselves and others as learners.

2011 PARENT SATISFACTION WITH INCLUSIVITY AND OUTREACH (School Review)
Parents were again supportive of the school's efforts in the areas of inclusivity and outreach. 77% of respondents indicated that they believed strongly or very strongly that there was a sound Pastoral Care system in place that supported members of the school community, 80% of respondents believed that an ‘environment exists in which conflict is resolved speedily and satisfactorily’. Parents confirmed that the school has a good reputation in the wider community.

2011 PARENT SATISFACTION WITH ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION (School Review)
98% of respondents indicated that they strongly agreed or agreed that ‘the school is efficiently managed on a day-to-day basis’ while 98% also strongly agreed or agreed that ‘the school communicates effectively with the Parent Body e.g. through newsletters and information nights’.

2011 EXTERNAL VALIDATOR CONCLUSION STATEMENT (School Review)
It is clear that St Mary’s Primary School in Warwick continues to provide a quality Catholic education for the families of Warwick and surrounding areas. The enrolments are steady and growing as the local area is experiencing growth. The school maintains an excellent educational program. Teachers are dedicated, caring and collaborative, and teachers hold the respect of students and parents. The school is held in high regard in the wider community and students have opportunities for engaging in a wide range of school based and community activities.
The School Principal and Board are providing quality leadership and there is a sense of hope and optimism in the school that is consistent with its Catholic ethos.

Student satisfaction is measured through student attendance and the level of respect displayed by all students towards others in the community. Teacher satisfaction is measured through an open forum during staff meetings, as well as cooperation and professional courtesy that are displayed daily.

A hardcopy of this report is available by request from the Principal.