



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

## 2019

2019 has proven to be a most productive and rewarding year. Our children, having faced numerous challenges have grown and developed in so many ways.

A strong curriculum focus prevails where staff have been instrumental in consolidating our Teaching - Learning Programs of instruction.

We have achieved a great deal in 2019.

### ***Religious Education***

2019 has seen our community grow and flourish in Faith. Religious Education is our first domain of learning at Mel Maria, and our students continue to have access to high quality teaching of Religious Education and Faith formation experiences.

Results in the recent Bishops Religious Literacy Test for Year three and five indicate our students are performing well above the state average.

Our children's close relationship with Parish on each campus plays a significant role in the lives of our students and their families. We are committed to fostering this close relationship.

Celebrating the Eucharist is an important part of what makes a school a Catholic school. The Eucharist is a memorial celebration of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and as such is the "summit and source" of the Church's life and mission. Our Parish Priests Fr. Don Kettle, Fr. Joseph Lee and Deacon John Kiely celebrate mass regularly with our school classes and community. I thank them for being present in our school and for their availability, pastoral guidance friendship and support.

The school is seriously committed to supporting Parish based Sacramental Programs, which are a central feature of preparation for our students. All sacramental years participate in Retreat days providing reflection and formation experiences for our students.

Parent and Child workshops are important events which recognise parents as the first educators in faith for the children, supported by parish and school.

Mel Maria continues to flourish and is guided by strong principles of social justice. Our attention and service to Catholic charities is embedded within our school and liturgical year. Students are involved in fundraising and awareness raising experiences, which demonstrate how direct action and community co-responsibility can effect change. Our Parents and Friends group support and collaborate with parents during such events. Charities such as Caritas, Life Link, Saint Vincent De Paul and Saint Patricks in Fremantle are some of the recipients of our successful work.

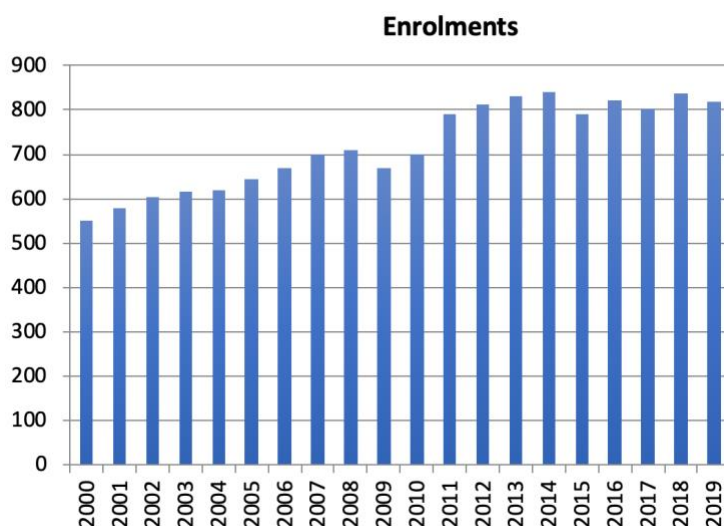
A strong Catholic Culture is present at Mel Maria evidence of a unified community growing with shared values and vision. I thank all our families for your commitment and support to ensure Mel Maria remains a truly Catholic School.

### **Statistics**

During 2019 our school population comprised of 819 students, 520 families and 83 staff members.

Enrolments at Mel Maria have remained steady as the following diagram illustrates: -

### **Enrolment Pattern**



### **Achievements**

Our children are well renowned for their academic achievements in various pursuits, this year has been no exception.

During 2019 our children participated in the following –

- Speak Up Competition – our children making the State Finals.
- Young Engineers Club
- Tim Winton Young Writers Competition
- Maths Olympiad Competition

Yet again our children have excelled in the national testing arena. Results in the *National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy* (NAPLAN) including a comparison with the previous year is outlined in the following table: -

## **NAPLAN**

### Percentage of Children At / Above National Benchmarks

	Year 3			Year 5		
	2018	2019	Change	2018	2019	Change
READING	100	98	-2	100	100	0
WRITING	100	100	0	100	100	0
SPELLING	100	96	-4	100	99	-1
NUMERACY	100	99	-1	100	99	-1
GRAMMAR &	95	98	+3	100	98	-2

## **PUNCTUATION**

Each year staff examine various sources of data (NAPLAN, school climate data, QCS findings and school assessments) to determine a curriculum focus for the following year. We continued with BrightPaths in 2019 with a focus on building vocabulary and writing skills noting a pleasing improvement in outcomes in Writing.

*BRIGHTPATHS* is a well-researched program that records the results of assessments and reports a range of formative and summative information to teachers and principals. This provides information for developing teaching programs targeting the needs of individual students. Teachers match their students' work with calibrated exemplars and can track student growth over time, compare performances across year levels and provide comparative information of performance with that of other schools.

*In 2020 we intend to continue to use BrightPath data to build on these skills and to update Grammar.*

*Our aim is to continue to develop children's writing skills and to build upon vocabulary to enhance overall literacy skills.*

At Mel Maria we recognize the importance of early intervention. As such we offer Speech and Occupational Therapy screening in our Kindergarten and Pre Primary classes. Our Early Intervention Literacy Program, a vital element in identifying children with literacy concerns, has again proven extremely successful.

In summary our **Literacy and Numeracy** results have been very pleasing indeed. Thanks to Mrs Laura Morgan, our Assistant Principals Mrs Ros Nichols and Mrs Joanne Scouler for their unending commitment in overseeing this area of our curriculum.

## **Technology**

Our technology environment has continually grown and developed in 2019. Staff and senior students have continued to successfully utilize Office 365 suite of applications.

To assist parents with our one to one program we have continued our partnership with Family Zone – a leading cyber safety company. Parents of students in years four – six now have the opportunity to install cyber safety software on their child's device. This has enabled parents to monitor internet use at home ensuring their child have access to appropriate Apps and content when online. The school also operates "School Zone" an additional safety filter. More than 600 schools in Australia, New Zealand and America use the product. The mandated Bishops internet filtering system is also in operation. With the added filters of School Zone, we have been able to extend the protection offered to our students at a higher level when online. Our goal is to assist students to become safe, responsible citizens within the technological world.

As per last year all year three and five students completed the Bishops Religious Literacy assessment and NAPLAN online.

## **STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics**

2019 saw the continuation of the STEAM program year 1-6 and the introduction of Edison robots. Our P&F have funded this purchase which has seen this technology implemented from year 1-4. Additional financial support was also provided to extend our Lego robotics equipment.

STEAM sessions continue to contemporize classroom learning with various technologies enhancing curriculum content.

Our comprehensive STEAM program now includes: Bee Bots, Edisons, Spheros, SCRATCH, Virtual Reality headsets, Imovie, animations and Lego technics.

Students grapple with hands on construction of 3D materials, visualizing and conceiving their ideas through active problem solving; all necessary skills for the future.

Students will build their skill set over their time at Mel Maria engaging in futuristic learning opportunities. Such experiences are invaluable and of great benefit to our children thanks to Mr Roman Popadynec, Mrs Teresa Marra, Mr Damian Williams and the various classroom teachers.

### **Music, Dance and Drama**

Our children continue to enjoy their love of music; dance and drama as pleasing results were again achieved in the 2019 *Performing Arts Festival for Catholic Schools*.

Mel Maria was presented with many Honourable Mentions and Certificates of Merit – an outstanding achievement.

The Mel Maria School Choir were granted an EXCELLENCE AWARD and the SHEILD for the “Sacred” Section along with an OUTSTANDING AWARD in the “Primary Choral Singing” section. They performed at school assemblies, Confirmation Mass, the Parish Feast Day, Graduation, The Choir Festival, Regency Gardens Home and at our School Christmas Carols Night. This could not have happened without the skill and passion of Mrs Genevieve Sumich and the tireless support of parents. Thankyou!

Our Year five classes at Pater Noster were awarded the shield for “Choral Speech” while the Year fives at St Joseph Pignatelli were also presented with a shield for a “Drama Performance”. Exciting achievements indeed!

An exciting component of the year five and six music program has been their exploration of “Garage Band” music recording software. Our children created Rap Songs and traditional tunes such as “Drunken Sailor” and “Hey Ho Nobody’s Home”. They also recorded versions of pop songs on real instruments.

Not to be outdone all Year four classes received Merit Awards for the “Instrumental Ensemble” Section of the Catholic Performing Arts Festival in 2019. They also showcased their talents in brilliant fashion during Open Night. We combined singing, guitar, ukulele, violin, xylophone & djembe drums. Each class band began practicing at the beginning of the year and as their skills developed so too did their confidence.

We are fortunate to have an inspirational group of musical tutors that visit the school where our children have the opportunity to learn; piano, violin, guitar, singing and percussion! Once again, we thank them for their direction and their dedication.

The whole school joins together for Liturgical Singing to learn new hymns and celebrate the liturgical seasons of the year. This has helped enrich our masses and made the experience a more meaningful one for everyone at Mel Maria.

Our appreciation is extended to our music teacher Luke Murphy for sharing his passion for music and song.

## **Sport**

As always, Sport features prominently on the Mel Maria school calendar. Numerous opportunities were provided for our students to showcase their talents and involvement in the sporting arena.

Before school swimming training was again well supported with strong numbers of students attending training sessions to prepare for trials and carnivals. A number of staff were involved in Running Club at both campuses on a Friday morning; thanks to Andy Carr at Pater Noster and Damian Williams St Joseph Pignatelli for organizing staff and students. Across our various sporting undertakings there were also numerous parents who helped with an array of jobs – thank you for your ongoing support!

2019 was an exciting year for Gold Team who achieved champion team for all three faction carnivals - Athletics, Cross Country and Swimming.

With a best effort in over a decade our interschool competitors, comprising of 109 students, achieved first place overall in all three interschool carnivals – Cross Country, Swimming and Athletics. An outstanding achievement!

Our Interschool Athletics Team braved shocking weather to dominate track events, with the girls finishing runners up and the boys earning top honours.

Our interschool swimmers competed at HBF Stadium where the girls again achieved second place and the boys first place.

In defending our cross-country title from last year, the boys were placed second, by just three points with the girls taking out the shield in first place.

In the latter part of the year our year six students participated in the annual Winter Sports Carnival in which they played soccer, football and netball. Our teams played in the right spirit and came away victorious in most of their fixtures – a great day of sport was enjoyed by all.

Our appreciation is extended to our Sports Teachers, Mr David John, Mr Damian Williams and staff for overseeing our Physical Education program at Mel Maria.

## **Library Resource Centre**

This year the highlight for the Mel Maria Library was the launch of Australian Children's Laureate 2017-2018 Leigh Hobbs latest Mr Chicken Picture Book "**Mr Chicken All Over Australia**".

After Leigh Hobbs visit to Mel Maria in 2018 he was invited by the Library Staff to launch his 2019 book at our school. The invitation was accepted and in collaboration with Leigh Hobbs and his publishers Allen & Unwin the date was set for 21 October 2019.

Leigh Hobbs shared his drawing tips with the students and spoke about his inspiration for his drawings. **Leigh Hobbs** was a hit with staff and students as he relayed his experiences while being the ambassador for children's literature for 2017-2018.

### ABC Interview.

Our school was contacted by the ABC asking we be part of a news items focusing on the decline of school libraries and teacher librarians. The story was aired on the ABC News and subsequent articles and Facebook social media posts were added providing a lot of publicity for Mel Maria and showcasing our commitment to the importance of school libraries and literacy outcomes.

### Excursions/Incursions/Community

Year one visited the State Library of WA for a wonderful **Fun with Fairy Tales** excursion. The SLWA provides the perfect venue for the Year one children to experience the joy of Fairy Tales in this wonderful public space.

The annual **Better Beginnings** promotion for Kindergarten in conjunction with the Melville Public Library is always the perfect introduction into children's literature. Each Kindergarten child received a book pack with reading suggesting and story ideas for parents and a delightful picture book to add to their personal library.

### Library Events 2019:

Library & Information Week in May - theme of '**Find yourself in a Library**'. **National Simultaneous Storytime Event** -2019 story - **Macca the Alpaca**

**The Children's Bookweek** author/illustrator sessions were held across a variety of Melville Council venues. 2019 theme was **Reading is My Secret Power**. An opportunity for the children to meet authors and illustrators - Kylie Howarth and Michael Speechley. Storyteller Andy Wright was a huge hit as was Noongar storyteller Kerry-Ann Winmar.

Indigenous Literacy Book Swap - Again Mel Maria hosted an **Indigenous Literacy Foundation Book Swap** during **Bookweek**. With the help and support of parents this event gave the children the opportunity to read and share books donated by the students themselves. It is also a pertinent reminder to help those less fortunate than ourselves. The Bookswap has become an annual event in our Library calendar

Mel Maria Library works closely with the Fremantle Literature Centre, Melville City Council Library and the State Library of WA to promote good literature through Australian authors and illustrators.

#### Additional events from the Library Calendar:

Dec/Jan:	Premier's Summer Reading Challenge
Feb:	Library Lovers Day National Simultaneous Storytime
March:	World Book and World Poetry Day St Patrick's Day
May:	Library & Information Week, National Simultaneous Time (NSS)
Aug:	Children's Bookweek
Sept:	Author Visit - Morris Gleitzman
Oct:	Leigh Hobbs Book Launch Indigenous Literacy Bookswap
Nov:	Nonfiction November and Picture Book Month

#### Resources

The **Library Webpage** is a dynamic resource for the staff and students providing curated e-resources for online research.

Curated resources are regularly added and updated so the children can access relevant, reliable and age appropriate information at school and at home.

This accompanied by a Weekly Library Newsletter to Parents

The setting up of a Student Book Title suggestion box

Ongoing collaboration with City of Melville Libraries

Celebrating numerous Reading events: e.g. Library Lovers Day & Bookweek



Regular displays celebrating: World events and Authors/Illustrators

Over 1400 new items were processed in 2019 along with subscriptions to World Book Online Encyclopedia and Britannica Online. The emphasis for 2019 has been on Waste Wise information with the focus on *Laudato Si'* which will continue into 2020.

#### Sustainability Waste Wise Initiatives

The school successfully applied for and was granted Waste Wise Schools Program Accreditation and funding. This was the motivation for students to create Recycling Depots as part of a waste wise school system operating in classrooms and the playground.

Reading books were also purchased in Term four for the Early Years with a view to purchasing novels sets for the middle and upper grades in 2020.

With the release of the updated Religious Education Curriculum this year some initial relevant resources have been sourced and purchased - this will remain a focus for 2020 across both sites. With continued emphasis on writing, appropriate teacher resources and quality literature have been selected for classroom use and reading for pleasure for the students.

The library is a safe haven for students during busy lunchtimes, a first point of call for students doing research and for those just looking for a quiet place to read. In this time of heightened anxiety in young children libraries are essential for children who need respite from the fast pace of the world around them.

With the growing collection and increased use of the library our parent helpers are relied upon even more to provide assistance with the covering of both reading and library books, along with shelving resources, assisting with incursions and end of year cleaning tasks. A big thank you to all the parents who provide this assistance throughout the year.

Our utmost appreciation is extended to our amazing library staff, Elizabeth Martini, Megan Cooper, Greta Scheggia and Dawn Plester for providing our children with such a rich and meaningful learning environment.

#### **Support**

In order to meet the diverse needs of our children and indeed to challenge them the school provides additional services and opportunities. This year approximately 110 children received extra assistance from our Support team in the Numeracy area and 99 in Literacy.

Our support staff are trained in identifying and responding to children's specific learning needs via the ongoing monitoring and assessment of student progress. Teaching strategies such as a Differentiated Teaching approach and focused intensive teaching one on one and in small groups are regularly practiced.

Support staff liaise with Students with Disabilities' consultants from the Catholic Education Office, organize IEP meetings (Individual Education Plans) and maintain contact with parents, teachers and specialists' practitioners such as Speech Pathologists, Behavioural Optometrists, Occupational Therapists, Psychologists and Audiologists. This year approximately 45 children were referred to such professionals.

Assessment programs include: YARK (Yok Assessment of Reading Comprehension), Magic Boxes Assessment, Mathematics Assessment Interviews (MAI's) and PAT Reading, Spelling, Mathematics and Vocabulary Assessments as well as Speech Screening in Yopp Singer and Burt Sight Word Test in Pre-Primary.

Support programs used at Mel Maria include: Repeated Reading, Minilit, Multilit, Spelling Mastery Program and Sounds Write Program. Support for Mathematics is based on EMU principles (Extending Mathematical Understanding) program developed by the Australian Catholic University.

We extend our appreciation to Mrs Joanne Ciccarelli, Mrs Pierina Monaco, Mrs Laura Morgan, Ms Tonya Blair, Ms Lisa Evans, Mrs Christina O'Callaghan and our Assistant Principals, Mrs Ros Nichols and Mrs Joanne Scouler for their time, dedication, patience and care afforded to the children in this program.

### **Students Exceeding and Excelling in Developmental Skills**

SEEDS our Academic Extension Program caters to the gifted and talented students from years one to six. It offers multi- aged groups across both campuses opportunities to engage with like-minded peers and be challenged. It is critical and creative thinking at its best.

It offers multi-aged groups across both campuses the opportunities to engage in programs that challenge – such as PHILOSOPHY, FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING, MATHS OLYMPIAD, TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND, ROBOTICS, WOW SEEDS, MAG SEEDS, ENGQUEST tasks, SEEDLINGS and State and National competitions.

Tournament of the Mind had both of our teams invited to the State finals held at Edith Cowan University Joondalup. They had a spontaneous problem and a three-hour lock in challenge to solve and present to a panel of judges. Both teams received State honours.

The prestigious Tim Winton Writing competition saw four of our WOW SEEDS students place in the top ten for their category out of 1500 entries. Congratulations to Helen Smith, Jemima Hills, Isabelle Noonan and Olive McDonald.

The National Maths Olympiad competition saw Hayden Malaspina score in the Top 20%, whilst Samuel McCormick, Xavian Tong and Henry McRea were ranked in the top 25%.

Our appreciation is extended to Mrs Teresa Marra for conducting these challenging programs with our children.

### **Social Worker**

Our Social Worker Mrs. Christine Pittman has again this year provided a vital service assisting students, teachers and parents with the management of numerous issues around children's wellbeing. These include friendship difficulties, dealing with emotions, peer relations, grief/loss, stepfamilies, parental separation, anxiety, conflict resolution and transition management.

She has presented vital information on a range of topics to staff, provided regular items for the school newsletter, worked with teachers and parents regarding individual students' concerns and conducted social skills sessions with classes of various levels. Christine runs the "Rainbows" loss and grief program, has introduced staff to current research around trauma informed practice in schools, continued implementation of the "Keeping Safe" Child Protection Curriculum and the "Highway Heroes" Social Emotional Program and ran the year six Peer Mentoring Program.

Christine continually emphasizes the school's focus on the holistic wellbeing of our children and their families.

### **Japanese**

The Japanese language program at Mel Maria is flourishing. The students enjoy experiences with a well-balanced program of studies, arts and practical activities associated with the Japanese language and culture.

Students from Years three to six on both campuses enjoy one hour per week of language lessons. After four years, our Year six students graduate being able to read, write and speak in Japanese. I am sure you will agree that this is an incredible accomplishment for our students. Technology has also been integrated successfully into Japanese lessons, with students using educational programs, such as Quizlet and Kahoot, on their iPads and laptops.

In 2019, students once again enjoyed the annual excursion to the Japanese School to put their language skills to practical use and enjoy calligraphy, origami and traditional Japanese art activities. The Taiko drum and origami incursions have been booked for 2020 for children of all year levels to enjoy.

In 2018 the Japanese Language Program became aligned with the Western Australian Curriculum. In 2019 all programming, assessing and reporting is in accordance with the requirements of SCSA (School Curriculum and Standards Authority).

The Japanese language program is a great success, largely due to our enthusiastic and engaged students and teacher Cate O'Connor.

### ***Staff***

Aside from parents there is no other group that has a greater influence upon the overall education of your children than our staff. I congratulate them all on their dedication, sheer hard work, care and love afforded to our children. They are an exceptional group of educators of the highest calibre as reflected in the numerous messages of affirmation from parents. The quality programs offered at the school reflect upon their commitment!

All teaching staff are registered with the Western Australian Teachers Registration Board and hold the appropriate tertiary qualifications and level of Accreditation as required by the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia.

The retention rate of staff from 2018 to 2019 is 100 % and the rate of attendance is 98 %, which reflects their commitment to the children of Mel Maria.

Our non-teaching staff are also well qualified and experienced to undertake the vital roles assigned to them.

During 2019 staff completed in excess of over 80 hours of Professional Learning, at an average cost of \$ 192 per teacher comprising of instruction in the following areas-

- Rosemary Simpson -Narrative focus. – Development of a whole school vocabulary scope and sequence
- Susan Stopworth – Building student vocabulary
- Shelly Forbes – BrightPath and developing Oral Language
- Dyslexia – Spell Conference
- Women in Leadership Course – CEWA
- Faith, Story and Witness – CEWA
- July Bradley – Smart Words
- Mandatory Reporting renewal
- Diabetes refresher
- Anaphylaxis first aid training

- Professional Learning Cluster meetings

We owe a huge debt of thanks to our **Office Staff** – Mrs Cathy Cowcher, Mrs Maree Passmore and Mrs Sylvia Tamigi. Collectively the ladies undertake an enormous variety of tasks in a jovial fun-loving manner to ensure the smooth operation of our school. From attending to our school financials, mending the wounded, assisting parents staff and students in whatever capacity – the list is endless. Thank you for the many things you do for they make a huge difference for us all.

I am deeply indebted to the members of our **Leadership Team**, Mrs Ros Nichols and Mrs Joanne Scouler for their assistance, support, loyalty and friendship. These two ladies have given of themselves totally and tirelessly throughout the year often to the detriment of their own personal lives. They have achieved a great deal behind the scenes in planning and preparation for the school. I have certainly appreciated and relied upon Ros and Joanne for their good nature and dedication in ensuring that Mel Maria continues to be a school of the highest calibre. Thank you, Ros and Joanne.

Sadly, as the year draws to a close, we bid farewell to Rosanne McWilliam who will retire at the conclusion of the current school year. A long-standing staff member of twenty years Rosanne is a teacher of the highest calibre who will be fondly remembered.

We also farewell Georgia Gillen who has accepted a teaching position at John XXIII College, Jacob Rees who will relocate to Beagle Bay in the Kimberley and Alicia Playtes as per the expiry of her contract. After extended leave for two years Tanya Parker has tendered her resignation.

All five have worked tirelessly for the benefit of all members of our school community. We sincerely thank them for such great commitment and wish them well in their future pursuits.

Comment is often made regarding the appearance of our **school campuses**. Thanks to our groundsman Mr Mike Stals we continually enjoy a safe, tidy and aesthetically pleasing environment. Mike is amazing in that he tends to two school grounds – a remarkable feat for one man.

My thanks to Mrs Marie Dimeo, our **canteen** manager and Mrs Sara Wearing our **uniform** manager for their hard work and efforts this year. These ladies have been outstanding in their service to our community. They do the “little bit extra” to ensure all is “just right” for our children, staff and parents. I am most grateful to both of them.

An endearing characteristic of Mel Maria again evident this year is the dedication, commitment and sheer hard work of our parent body.

The current **School Board** is typical of this commitment. Under the leadership of Campbell Brown, Treasurer James Massie-Taylor and Secretary Raechell Craig the board have continued to guide the school finances safely through a difficult financial environment.

I sincerely thank all members of our 2019 School Board for making themselves available for school matters, attendance at meetings, for their excellent service and expertise, advice and their tireless energy. Their work has been exceptional.

As always our amazing **Parents & Friends Association** is a vital element in the overall functioning of our school. From providing much needed resources and equipment to the building of community spirit through social activities our P&F continually strive to provide nothing but the very best for our children. I am constantly amazed at what is achieved! To President Michael McGoldrick, Vice President Lucia Ceniviva, Treasurer Gabby Locke and Secretary Pauline Tavani, Class Representatives and parents you are to be applauded for your remarkable achievements. On behalf of our children and staff I thank you sincerely for your support this year and what you do to make Mel Maria the special community it is today.

To all our **parents** - a huge THANKYOU for your continued support and assistance. From working in the library, in classrooms, on excursions, in the canteen, members of committees or assisted in whatever capacity your commitment to the children of Mel Maria is very much appreciated.

I congratulate you on the way you have raised your children – they are a delight. We are fortunate indeed to have such a marvellous, dedicated and caring community.

To the families leaving us this year, we wish you the very best for the future and thank you for being a part of our Mel Maria family. We pray your lives continue to be blessed.

### ***Children***

I am never ceased to be amazed with the enthusiasm, perseverance and love of life displayed by our children. To see the endeavour, the smiles and hear the laughter as you make your way around our campuses certainly warms the heart. The fact that our children enjoy a 98% attendance rate reflects their love of school life. Thank you children for making our days worthwhile and rewarding.

At the conclusion of the year we farewell our Year six children as they leave to further their education at various Secondary schools. As leaders they have been an exceptional cohort. Always keen to assist they have contributed greatly to the operation of our school. We are extremely proud of the fine people they have become. We wish them every success for the future and remind them they are always welcome at Mel Maria.

Visitors often make comment upon the atmosphere / feel of our school. There is no doubt there is a sense of friendliness and genuine care that is evident as you walk around each campus. I believe Mel Maria is certainly unique - an outstanding community enjoying excellent facilities within the Catholic tradition.

As I reflect on another school year and prepare for the future, I recall reading a quote from Albert Einstein regarding life and in particular Education: -

*“The important thing is not to stop questioning”*

This is precisely what we endeavour to do at Mel Maria – to question, to seek answers, to believe we can be the best we can, to succeed.

Our main focus in 2020 will be threefold: -

*Firstly, to continue a curriculum focus on Reading and Writing with an emphasis on whole school practice.*

*Secondly, to continue to build teacher’s understanding of effective pedagogical practices to enhance student learning.*

*Finally, an emphasis on providing effective student feedback to engage student learning and improve student outcomes.*

I thank you sincerely for a truly wonderful productive year and look forward to 2020 as we together strive to meet the challenges ahead as we expand and grow in the unending quest to provide a dynamic, enriched Catholic Education for our children. As we break for the holidays I pray all families enjoy a well-earned break from the school routine and a Happy, Holy Christmas.

God Bless.

Greg Stinton

**PRINCIPAL 2019**

