# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## ST BRENDAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, GANMAIN

Catholic Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga

## About this Report

St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain is registered by the NSW Education Standards Authority. Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga (CEDWW) is the 'approved authority' for the Registration System formed under Section 39 of the Education Act 1990 (NSW).

St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain Annual Report to the community provides parents and the wider community with fair, reliable and objective information about the school's performance measures and policies, as determined by the Minister for Education. The report also outlines information about initiatives and developments of major interest and importance during the year and the achievements arising from the implementation of the school's Annual Improvement Plan.

The Annual Report demonstrates accountability to regulatory bodies, the school community and Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga. This report has been approved by Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga and in so doing, acknowledges that St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain has the appropriate processes in place to ensure compliance with all NSW Education Standards Authority requirements for registration and accreditation.

This report complements and is supplementary to St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain newsletters and other forms of communication. Further information about St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain may be obtained by contacting the school directly or by visiting the school's website.

## Section 1: Message from Key Groups in Our School Community

**Message from the Principal**

2024 has continued to provide our students with the opportunity to receive an outstanding and well-balanced education. The teaching and learning that occurs in our classrooms daily is of a high standard. This is reflected in the strong results we consistently achieve in external tests such as NAPLAN and assessments that we conduct daily in the classroom. Extracurricular activities have been a highlight this year and no more so than the production of 'The Wizard of Oz'. To have all of our students on stage singing, dancing and acting was a wonderful sight. Sport is always a significant part of our school year and our students have had the chance to learn, what were for many, new games such as lacrosse and basketball, and also get to represent our school on the larger stage. Access to academics, the arts and sports make up a very well-rounded education.

The school prayer, prayed regularly in our school, was written in 2018 by the then Year 6 students. In the prayer, our students ask for the qualities displayed by St Brendan namely bravery, courage and a sense of adventure. Daily we ask our students to be brave, to take risks with their learning, to try things that they have not experienced before, and to launch out into the deep which is the last line of the prayer. Through these actions, they not only grow as a student but as a young person as well.

Our older students are always challenged to be the leaders that the school needs, to be role models for younger children and to be the best they can always be. They are eager for leadership roles but we want them to understand the importance of what they are undertaking and what qualities they need to always display. I am confident that our Year 5 students will rise to these challenges and be the very best leaders St Brendan's requires.

We have an outstanding school, however challenges remain for a small school such as ours. We are delighted to be welcoming 4 new students to Kinder in 2025 but we must not rest on our laurels as future enrolments are vital. Parents are invited to spread the word about what a great school St Brendan's is, how we assist students in their learning and social development and how your child benefits from being enrolled here. Parents are invited to encourage anyone who is interested in an education at St Brendan's to make contact, come and have a look. I am confident that they will be impressed.

We say farewell at the end of the year to our Year Three teacher who for the past 3 years has made an enormous impact on the lives of our students. St Brendan's was incredibly fortunate to have such an experienced and professional teacher as a member of the staff. We thank her for her contributions to our school and look forward to seeing her at St Brendan's in the future.

Thank you to the parents for their support of the school throughout the year. We greatly appreciate the efforts you go to support your child in their education and our school as a whole. In 2024 the fundraising undertaken by our parents allowed the purchase of the cold water bubbler and the continuation of the 'Resilience Project' in the classrooms.

I congratulate our graduating Year 6 students. It has been a pleasure seeing them grow as students and young people since they started Kinder in 2018. They have been excellent leaders of the school in 2024 and have set a high standard for the incoming leaders.

I would like to make mention of a special family who have been part of our community for 13 years and thank them for their support and commitment to our school.

Thank you to all of our students. You have had an excellent year of school and have always accepted the challenges that we have asked. This year they seemed greater than ever. You have had many different learning experiences and you have always been enthusiastic and interested.

I would like to take the time to personally thank the school community for their support over the 7 years of my principalship. Being the principal of St Brendan's has truly been the honour of my professional life. I have so many great memories of students, teachers and families that will always stay with me. I thank everyone for their support over this time.

There are exciting times ahead for St Brendan's and I will always look with great interest and pride in the future endeavours and successes of the school.

**Message from the Parent Body**

St Brendan's Primary School is blessed with a positive group of parents and carers who support the school in providing a quality, inclusive education for all.

Throughout 2024 there were many achievements to celebrate as students in our small school continued to be offered a range of wonderful opportunities.

Highlights included beautiful celebrations of the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation, a magnificent performance of 'The Wizard of Oz' and proud participation in community events such as the ANZAC Day March and singing at the Art Festival on Ford.

We also had 2 students recognised by Mr Michael McCormack MP and several students were selected to represent MacKillop in their respective sports of swimming, AFL and cross country.

Students at our school are encouraged by excellent teaching and support staff who generously go above and beyond to ensure our students embrace all of these opportunities. Their dedication ensures our children consistently grow in faith, learning and ability and we sincerely thank them for their commitment to nurturing our children.

As we look forward to a new year we acknowledge the fantastic contributions of our principal and retiring school secretary to our school community. As we bid them farewell we would like to especially thank them for their many years of service and wish them both good luck for the future.

During the year several fundraising activities were undertaken by families including raffles, catering at the Kelly clearing sale and a very successful Debutante Ball involving several past students. As a result we are proud to be able to contribute financial support to the school for improvements such as the installation of a new refrigerated drink bubbler this year.

Through continued support from families, School Advisory Council members, staff and the Parish our fantastic school will continue to flourish and we thank everyone for their ongoing contributions.

School Council Member

**Message from the Student Body**

What I liked most about 2024. My highlights for 2024 included Cross Country, Swimming Carnival, Naidoc week, Religion, Melbourne Cup day and Healthy Harold. Performing in 'The Wizard Of Oz' was something very new but great fun.
Tom, Year Three Student

In 2024 our school did lots of fun things including the school play, swimming and athletics carnival, Jackie Murphy and Paul Kelly cup. We did some things with the preschoolers like playgroups and the mini athletics carnival. We did activities at St.Michael's for NAIDOC week

and went to Kildare for the ceremony of the Presentation Sisters. There were also a couple of days when we dressed up like for the women's soccer world cup and footy colours day.
Year 6 student 2024

We really liked the school play "The Wizard Of Oz" and getting the chance to compete in things like Cross Country, Swimming Carnivals and Athletics Carnivals. Stage 3, Preschool and Playgroup Attenders all enjoyed the 4 Playgroups throughout the year and the Preschool Athletics Carnival. The year 6s of 2025 are excited to receive their year 6 shirts from the car wash fundraiser. We all enjoyed zooper doopers on a hot day. The year 4, 5, 6s of last year enjoyed going to events like Jackie Murphy and Paul Kelly cup as well as the basketball day.
Year 5 student 2024

In 2024 the Stage 3's did playgroup once every term, it was so exciting watching all the children arrive. The little babies would crawl around the ground laughing aloud. I loved watching them having so much fun, it brought a smile to my face.

Here are some more highlights of 2024 - Healthy Harold, Paul Kelly Cup, Year 6 car wash, Naidoc Day at St Michaels, Jackie Murphy, Basketball Gala Day, Cross country, athletics carnival, swimming carnival, Socktober Day with Ms Plum at St Michaels, Wizard Of Oz play, Representing our school at Sydney Cross Country. I loved the 2024 year at St Brendan's.
Year 5 student 2024

The highlights of 2024 were the Athletics and Swimming Carnivals which were really fun like they always are. I loved having the little kids come to the playgroup and having the Preschool at our school. Playing the role of the lion in our school play was a great opportunity for my confidence. Going to Coolamon for NAIDOC week was nice to make new friends and have fun. I loved 2024 while I was in Year 5.
Year 5 student 2024

My highlights of 2024 were the swimming carnival because I came first place in my favourite stroke freestyle, and everyone was so supportive. I really enjoyed it when we did the play because everyone had fun and tried their best. My favourite time of the year was when we did basketball. I was super nervous but I gave it a try and did super well.
Year 3 student 2025

In 2024 My highlights were ‘The Wizard of Oz’, The Swimming Carnival and Footy Colours Day. We did lots of exciting things and I was happy this was my last year of infants and I am excited about primary next year.
Year 2 student 2024

## Section 2: School Features/Context

St Brendan's Primary School is situated in the small rural township of Ganmain, approximately 55 kilometres northwest of Wagga Wagga in the Riverina District of southern New South Wales. The school is part of St Brendan's Parish and the wider Ganmain community.

The catholic community of Ganmain is rich in history. From humble beginnings in 1907, with the dedicated governance of the Presentation Sisters, through to the Dominican Sisters and lay principals, the school has always upheld and nurtured the rich faith traditions and practices of the Catholic Church, offering an educational setting for those families seeking a catholic education for their children. To this day, the school community remains dedicated to those ideals and endeavours to prepare students to eventually take their place in society as confident, responsible, caring, global citizens who are well educated and grounded in faith, learning, care, service and stewardship for the good of all.

St Brendan's purpose is to educate and support each student in their academic, spiritual, social and physical development and engage them in quality educational activities that set them up for a positive future.

## Section 3: Student Profile

The school caters for co-educational Kindergarten to Year 6 students. The following information describes the student profile for 2024:

| Girls | Boys | LBOTE* | Indigenous | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 18 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 32 |

*Language background other than English

1. **Enrolment Policy**

   Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga has established an Enrolment Policy. The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga. The policy has been developed in the context of government and system requirements. Children from families who are prepared to support the ethos and values of the Catholic Church may be considered eligible for enrolment.

   Copies of this policy and other policies in the report may be obtained from the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga website or by contacting the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga or by contacting the school directly.
   See CEDWW policy here

## 2. Student Attendance and Retention Rates

| Year | Attendance % |
|---|---|
| Kinder | 88% |
| Year 1 | 90% |
| Year 2 | 92% |
| Year 3 | 89% |
| Year 4 | 87% |
| Year 5 | 93% |
| Year 6 | 91% |

**The average student attendance rate for 2024 was 90%.**

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. The school, in partnership with parents, is responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

Staff, under the principal's leadership, support the regular attendance of students by:

- Providing a caring teaching and learning environment which fosters students' sense of well being and belonging to the School community.
- Maintaining accurate records of student attendance.
- Recognising and rewarding excellent and improved student attendance.
- Implementing programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise.

The Principal is responsible for supporting the regular attendance of students by ensuring that:

- Parents and students are regularly informed of attendance requirements and the consequences of unsatisfactory attendance.
- All cases of unsatisfactory attendance and part or full day absences from school are investigated promptly and the appropriate intervention strategies are implemented.
- Documented plans are developed to address the needs of students whose attendance is identified as being of concern.
- The Director of Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga or designated Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga officer is provided with regular information about students for whom chronic non-attendance is an issue and for whom school strategies have failed to restore regular attendance.

## Section 4: Staffing Profile

There are a total of 6 teachers and 3 support staff at St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain. This includes 3 full-time and 3 part-time teachers.

**Teacher Accreditation Status**

The accreditation status of all teaching staff responsible for delivering the curriculum is:

| Teacher Accreditation Status | Number of Teachers |
|---|---|
| Conditional/Provisional | 0 |
| Proficient | 6 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Percentage of staff who are Indigenous | 14% |

**Professional Learning**

The ongoing professional development of each staff member is highly valued. Professional learning can take many forms including whole school staff days, subject specific in service courses, meetings, conferences and a range of professional learning programs provided by the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga.

**2024 Staff Professional Learning Plan**

Staff Professional Learning is prioritised according to the goals of the Annual Improvement Plan. It is framed by the following domains of the National School Improvement Tool:

- An explicit improvement agenda
- Analysis and discussion of data
- A culture that promotes learning
- Targeted use of school resources
- An expert teaching team
- Systematic curriculum delivery
- Differentiated teaching and learning
- Effective pedagogical practices
- School community partnerships

In 2024, the Staff Professional Learning Program focused on the following priorities from the Annual Improvement Plan:

- Meaningful liturgical experiences for students and building on student liturgies so they are more formal and meaningful
- The pillar of Welcome in the Education Charter

- Improving and encouraging students to engage in higher-order thinking processes to comprehend and infer across all Key Learning Areas.
- Implementation of Yr 3 - 6 Maths and English Syllabus  and review and refining of K-2
- Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
- Increased parent engagement in their child's academic development and performance.
- Increased marketing of school
- Development of The Resilience Project Program
- Compass Chronicle

## Section 5: Catholic Life and Religious Education

Catholic Schools have a unique role in the evangelising and educating mission of the Church. St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain follows the Wagga Wagga Diocesan Religious Education curriculum, *Sharing Our Story* and fully implemented the *Lighthouse Project*.

**Catholic Heritage**
In 2006, St Brendan's celebrated 100 years of catholic education which was begun in 1906 by four Presentation Sisters. The school is proud to carry on their tradition and strives to inspire and motivate each child towards achieving their full potential through Jesus Christ's love.

**Liturgical Life of the School**
Prayer is an important part of daily life at St Brendan's. Students and staff gather at assembly to begin each Monday and end each Friday with prayer. Each class has their own prayer schedule as they enter and leave the classroom.

School Masses are usually held regularly with students actively involved with the Mass. Special feast days, such as the feast of Mary MacKillop, the feast of St. Brendan and Presentation Day are celebrated through prayer, Mass or liturgies.

The Sacraments are celebrated in the following years:
Reconciliation – Year 2
Eucharist – Year 3
Confirmation – Year 5/6 on a bi-annual basis.

Instruction for the sacraments is both school and parish based and children from other schools are welcome to attend.

**Staff and Student Faith Formation**
Being a Presentation school, St Brendan's puts great emphasis on the Presentation charism and continuing this tradition and faith story through the school.

The principle reason for the existence of this school is to provide faith development to the parish school community, while encouraging excellence in academic learning. Religious Education is, therefore, an integral part of the life of the school. Aside from being taught as a particular subject, its values and beliefs permeate every aspect of school life, staff and student relations, other Key Learning Areas and the day-to-day operation of the school. There is a minimum of two and a half hours spent each week on Religious Education as well as daily prayer, liturgies and hymn practice.

**Social Justice**
2024 saw the continuation at St Brendan's of the Mini Vinnies Program at the school. We were ably supported by the St Vincent de Paul Society from Wagga which encouraged our fundraising initiatives such as Winter and Christmas Appeals.

St Brendan's Primary School supports Catholic Missions and Caritas each year, to encourage stewardship and care for others. Once again, the students excelled themselves and it was a credit to the students and their families.

Participation in commemorative services and environmental workshops encourage care for others and for the world in which we live.

**Professional Learning in Catholic Life and Mission**
CEDWW has established a policy on the Professional Requirements for the Accreditation of Teachers of Religious Education which is implemented by all systemic schools in the diocese.

All staff members who teach religion are expected to be accredited in the teaching of Religious Education or working towards this accreditation. Staff are given the opportunity for professional learning in Religious Education, through spirituality days and retreats. Much of the professional development in the area of RE in 2024 was conducted on the Lighthouse Project which was fully implemented this year.

The Religious Education Coordinator attends regular meetings and reports on these to the staff. Opportunities are given to all staff members at staff meetings to discuss Religious Education. One staff meeting per term is dedicated to Religious Education.

## Section 6: Curriculum

The school provides an educational program based on and taught in accordance with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) syllabuses for Primary Education. The Key Learning Areas (KLA's) are English, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Human Society and its Environment, Creative Arts and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education. Each KLA is delivered as required for Registration and Accreditation under the Education Act 1990 (NSW) and school's implement the Religious Education Syllabus requirements for the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga.

Numeracy and literacy support occurs across all stages both in and out of the classroom. This support is coordinated by our Instructional Maths and Literacy teachers and is based on data gathered by these leaders and class teachers.

A maths instructional teacher is utilised across all classes. They support all teachers in their classrooms each day and have scheduled time to meet with them each week for planning, feedback and goal setting.

Several intervention programs are offered across English and Mathematics. These include Extending Mathematical Understanding, Literacy Focus, Royal Far West, Reading Recovery and support within class time. This is in addition to differentiation practices across all learning and teaching. Covid support funding continued in 2024 with small group and individual intensive support being provided in both Literacy and Numeracy.

The continuation of the Literacy Instructional Teacher(LIT) Program in 2024 proved beneficial for both staff and students. Being a small school, the Program was implemented across all classes with the primary focus on the K–2 area. The LIT conducted whole classes and worked with intervention with small group lessons and ran professional development for staff.

## Section 7: Student Performance in State-Wide Tests and Examinations

**NAPLAN 2024 Results**

NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It tests the types of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. The tests cover skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy. In 2024, all CEDWW schools completed NAPLAN Online.

**Summary of Means**

| | Number of Students | School Mean | State Mean |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Year 3** | | | |
| **Numeracy** | 9 | 415 | 403.4 |
| **Reading** | 9 | 388.6 | 410.4 |
| **Writing** | 9 | 413.4 | 426.7 |
| **G&P** | 9 | 413.5 | 408.8 |
| **Spelling** | 9 | 391.9 | 401.4 |
| **Year 5** | | | |
| **Numeracy** | 7 | 537.8 | 489.1 |
| **Reading** | 7 | 544.8 | 496.4 |
| **Writing** | 7 | 523.9 | 484.8 |
| **G&P** | 7 | 522.3 | 506.5 |
| **Spelling** | 7 | 528.3 | 486.5 |

## Section 8: Pastoral Care and Well Being

Information here about your school's procedures and programs

Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established a Pastoral Care and Well Being Policy which is implemented by all schools in the Diocese. The implementation of this Policy is monitored by Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

See CEDWW Policy **HERE**.

St Brendan's Primary School is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating environment conducive to learning. This is characterised by endorsing the gospel values of justice, inclusion, reconciliation, respect, truth and honesty.

A safe and secure environment is developed when all members of the school community respect an individual's rights and freedoms, responsibilities and duties, as well as responding to the needs of students, staff and community. The Pastoral Care Policy of St Brendan's Primary School asserts that students have a right to a safe environment at school and that

inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated. Clearly defined steps are taken to protect students in a safe, healthy and friendly environment.

Zones of Regulation and Positive Behaviours for Learning continued to support students with mental health, behaviour and wellbeing.

2024 also saw the continuation of 'The Resilience Project at St Brendan's. This program saw the students daily practising gratitude, empathy and mindfulness and taking part in a weekly detailed lesson on an area of these important elements.

**Discipline Policy**

Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established a Discipline Policy which is implemented by all schools in the Diocese. The implementation of this Policy is monitored by Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

See CEDWW Policy **HERE**.

It is the policy of St Brendan's Primary School to offer all students an education of the highest quality and to assist each student to develop fully as an individual, as a member of their school and the wider community. To this end, teachers encourage a learning and teaching environment where there is appropriate management to ensure purposeful learning. The Pastoral Care Policy observes the right of every child to feel safe, to learn and to be treated respectfully. In acknowledging these rights, students have the responsibility to keep themselves and others safe, to learn to the best of their ability and let others do the same and the responsibility to treat others with respect. The school policy on student management is understood and adhered to by teachers and students.

**Anti Bullying Policy**

Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga has established an Anti Bullying Policy which is implemented by all schools in the Diocese. The implementation of this Policy is monitored by Catholic Education Diocese of Wagga Wagga.

See CEDWW Policy **HERE**.

Students and staff have the right to expect that they will be free from the fear of bullying, harassment and intimidation. Bullying is taken seriously and is not acceptable in any form. Teachers, students, parents, caregivers and members of the wider school community have a responsibility to work together to address bullying. Any inappropriate behaviour which prevents or limits teaching and learning in schools and interferes with the wellbeing of students, is not accepted.

**Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility**

St Brendan's is committed to preparing young people for tomorrow's world by providing an education that is harmonious with the values of the Gospels and the teachings of the Catholic Church. The school's Vision and Mission Statement is based on respect for others and the children taking personal responsibility for their actions.

In putting these values into action, the school usually participates in community-based events such as Senior Citizens Week, ANZAC Day and the Ganmain Show.

The Life Education Program is highly valued and supported at St Brendan's, promoting nutrition, active lifestyle, communication, problem-solving, personal health choices and growth development. In keeping students safe, the school participated in an annual intensive swimming program in which all students benefited from the life-saving skills being taught.

After running a leadership training day, the school holds elections for school captains and sports captains. Students complete a leadership application form and a speech in front of staff and students. These positions are voted on by all students.

The school's transition program was continued this year, where the new Kindergarten children for 2024 spent three days in the infant's classroom during term 4. Closer links to the Pied Piper Pre School were continued with our Stage 3 students organising and running an athletics carnival for them. 2024 also saw the school hold play groups, each term, for local children under school age. These sessions were run by Stage 3 students for two hours and saw the young people playing games in and out of the classroom and taking part in activities such as arts and crafts. The play group sessions were a way to further promote St Brendan's to the wider community.

Representative sports continued in 2024 with students from St Brendan's competing in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals at Deanery, Diocesan and MacKillop level and also playing in AFL, Netball and Rugby League.

**Complaints and Grievances Resolution Policy**

Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga has established a Complaints Handling Policy which is implemented by all schools in the diocese. The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga.

See CEDWW Policy **HERE** & Procedures **HERE**.

**Workplace Health and Safety**

Each school is required to implement and comply with the Diocesan School System Workplace Health and Safety Management System (WHSMS). This system reflects the current statutory requirements for WHS and complies with the Australian Standard for WHS Management Systems. The WHSMS adopted by the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga Systemic Schools has been designed to address general health, safety and welfare matters and also to take account of specific issues that apply to school communities. The management system supports the provision of a safe and supportive environment for all students as well as taking into account the health, safety and welfare of staff, visitors and contractors to the school site.

Principals, in consultation with the relevant CEDWW personnel, are responsible for monitoring the school's compliance with WHS legislation and implementing the management system in keeping with the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga Annual WHS Plan. External WHS system audits are conducted across a sample of schools each year to validate the implementation of the management system.

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wagga Wagga are committed to a safe and supportive environment. The principles, guidelines and procedures set out in the policy documents CEDWW of Pastoral Care, Student Well Being, Bullying and Harassment are the framework for school leaders, students, staff, parents and the wider community to develop a safe and supportive environment. The Diocesan Complaints Handling Procedure forms an important element in the diocese's commitment to ensuring safe and supportive environments for school communities. No changes were made to these documents in 2024.

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

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

See CEDWW Policy **HERE**

## Section 9: School Review and Improvement

Each year the school develops an Annual Improvement Plan indicating the intended key improvements for student learning outcomes. The plan is drawn from the Catholic Education Diocese, Wagga Wagga Annual Improvement Plan.

**2024 Annual Improvement Plan**

**Review of 2024 Annual Improvement Plan**

- Evangelisation and Religious Education

To live the Diocese of Wagga Wagga Education Charter pillar of welcome a conscious effort was made to show to the local community that St Brendan's truly was a school that was welcoming to all. Due to the reduction in enrolments, we wanted to give witness to the pillar of welcome to show all members of the Ganmain community that there truly is a place for them at St Brendan's.

More school-based liturgies were held in 2024 allowing students to be actively involved. These liturgies took different themes based on events during the year or the liturgical calendar. Some of these events included Lent, Harmony Day, St Brendan's Feast Day, Grandparents Day and Advent. Students were involved in the selection of the music for these liturgies. Students participated in a concert, exposing them to a wider range of liturgical music. There was an increase in the school budget for liturgical items to enhance these experiences and we ensured that the new Parish Priest, Fr Blaise, was invited to all school liturgies.

- Learning and Teaching

A great deal of time was spent engaging students in higher order thinking across all areas of the curriculum. Appropriate professional learning occurred and time was spent in the explicit teaching of vocabulary. Consistent stating of co-constructed learning intentions and success criteria proved beneficial as did individual student goal setting and feedback.

Full implementation of the new Yr 3-6 English and Maths Curriculum was successfully undertaken as was a review and refinement of the K-2 Maths and English Curriculum. Ongoing subject specific professional development, sharing of best practice and refining of scope and sequences in light of multi stage classes was undertaken. Engagement with syllabus in planning and refining of units was a constant throughout the year.

The Multi-tiered Systems of Support(MTSS) were more evident and required in Stages 2 and 3 to support students with personalised plans. Tiers were required in the following areas: academic, social and emotional, sensory, safety and behavioural. Royal Far West and Centacare, regular communication with parents regarding students personalised plans all formed part of the MTSS. We were pleased with improved engagement with learning and growth in relationships with their peers. Students involved in the initiatives increased in self confidence and in their ability to socially interact and to engage in academic endeavours.

- Community Engagement

Increasing parents' awareness of classroom practices in the Numeracy and Literacy areas is an ongoing project at St Brendan's. Parents were invited into the classrooms to observe daily practice in both areas. Newsletter pieces were also utilised, sharing tips and ideas where these skills can be enhanced at home.

A great deal of time and effort was put into the marketing of the school in 2024. The school worked in collaboration with the School Advisory Council to look at a variety of ways in which to promote an education at St Brendan's. Physical spaces at the school, such as the front fence, were utilised for further promotion of school events and social media became a key part of the marketing strategy.

- Leadership and Stewardship

Implementation of the Resilience Project continued at St Brendan's in 2024. The students increased their understanding of gratitude, empathy and mindfulness and looked to practice these daily. Weekly lessons had greater impact due to all primary classes engaging in the Year 5 curriculum and Infants the Year 2 curriculum.

Compass Chronicle became a more important tool in 2024 at St Brendan's. Templates were formatted to fit the needs of the school and professional development occurred in term 1 to ensure all staff were aware of the program and how it should be used and what their roles will be. We did see an increase in the usage of Chronicle in 2024 across all students.

## Priority Key Improvements for 2025

**The 2025 Annual Improvement Plan**

## Section 10: Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction Parent Participation

**The information below is a guide only. You may write this to suit your school.**

Parents are the primary educators of their children and are always welcome at St Brendan's Primary School Ganmain The opinions and ideas of parents, students and teachers are valued and sought. Their suggestions are incorporated into planning for and achieving improved outcomes for students. This year the school used a variety of processes to gain information about the level of satisfaction from parents, students and teachers.

St Brendan's School Council comprises parent representatives, the Parish Priest and the Principal. They meet termly to provide support to the Principal on matters of policy relating to the wellbeing and direction of the School and support the organisation of the school through promotion, fundraising and budgeting.

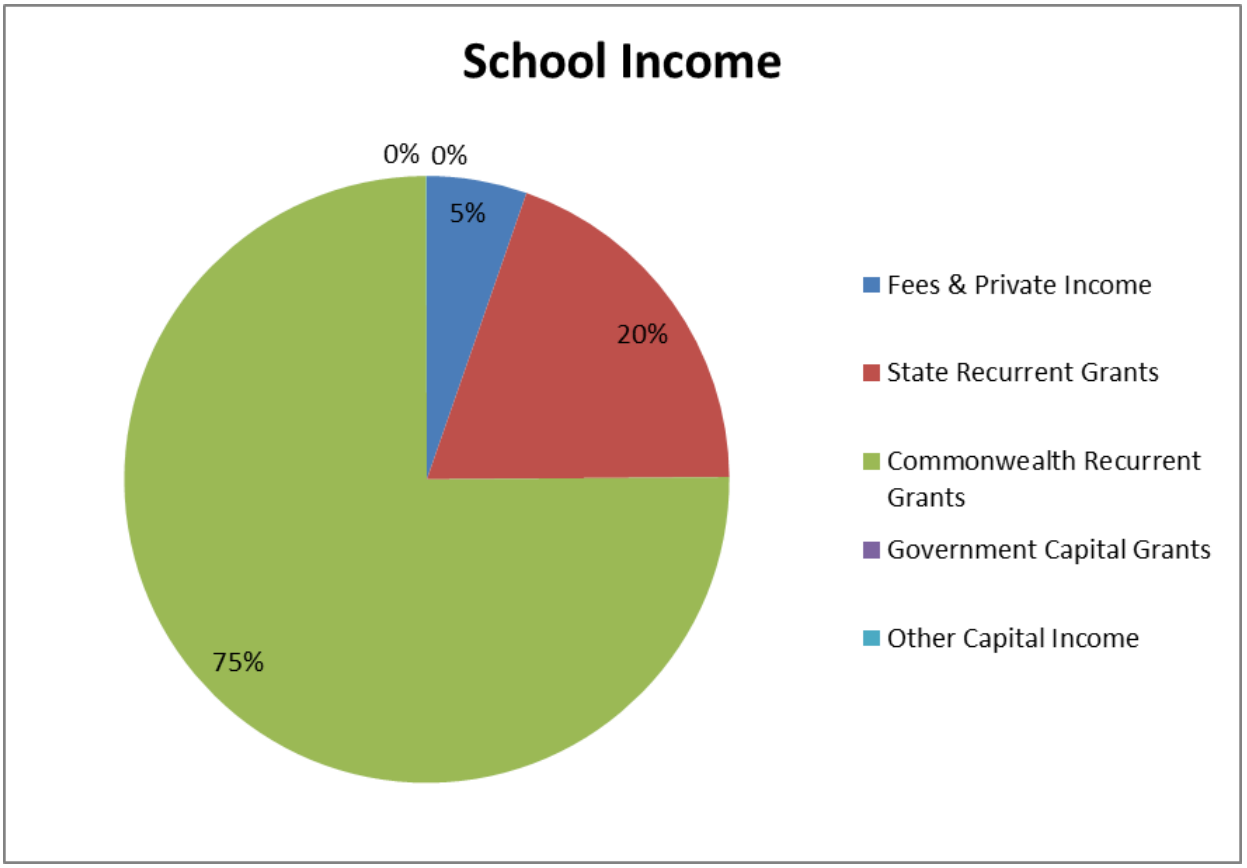
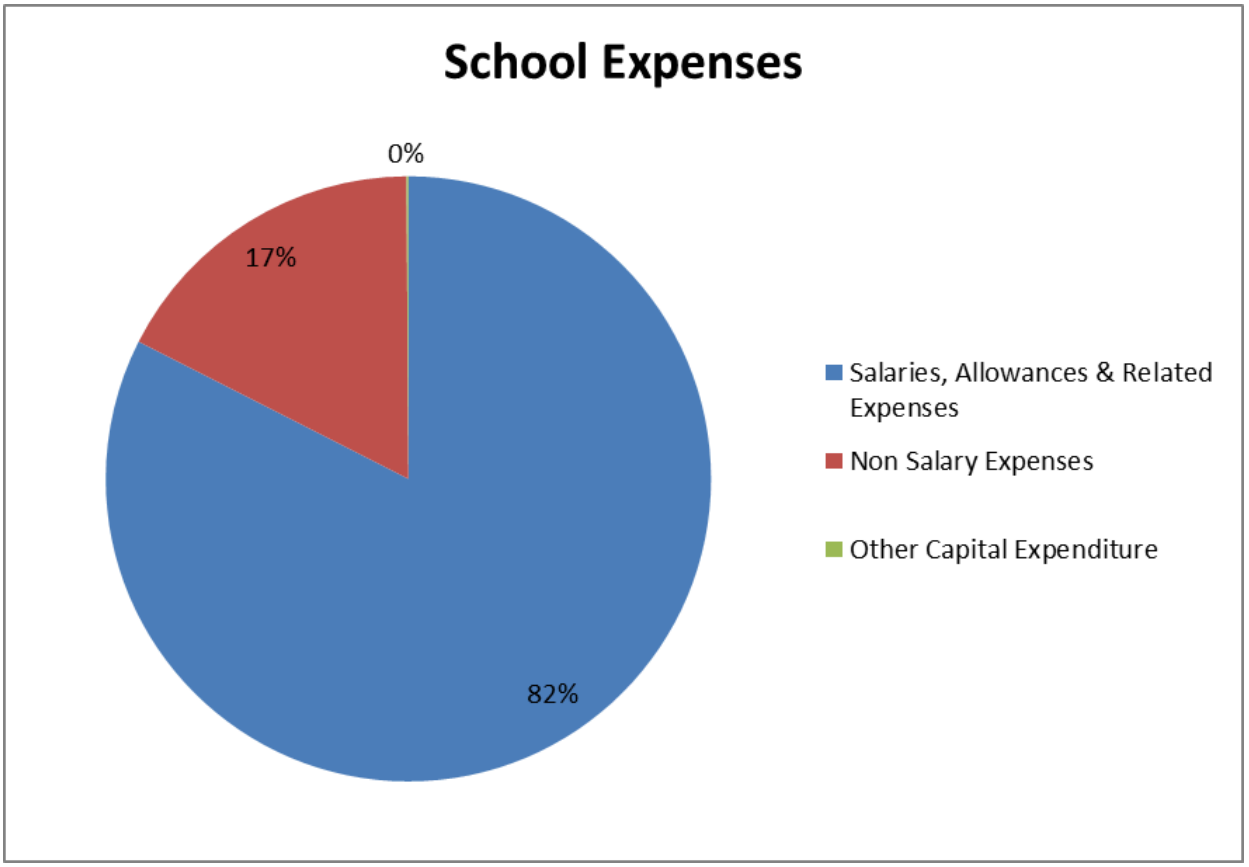
The school has a very high degree of parental involvement in many capacities, which is very supportive and encouraging. This is obvious through working bees, fundraising activities, catering, attendance at school functions and assistance in a variety of other areas. In 2024, the Ganmain Debutante Ball was a major fundraising event that was coordinated by parents. Alongside this ran a Mother's Day Stall and providing catering for a number of community events,

Communication between home and school is essential and actively encouraged.

**Parent Satisfaction**

| Highly Satisfied | Satisfied | Dissatisfied |
|---|---|---|
| 50% | 50% | |

**Teacher Satisfaction**

| Highly Satisfied | Satisfied | Dissatisfied |
|---|---|---|
| 86% | 14% | |

## Financial Report