

# Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

**Principal's Annual Report to the School Community**



**15TH NOVEMBER 2017**

# Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

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## Principal's Annual Report

### VISION STATEMENT

***“Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary seeks to offer excellence in education, enlivened by the life and teaching of Jesus Christ in a school community where the dignity of each person is valued.”***

Our Lady of Lourdes Vision Statement encompasses the education and well-being of the “whole” child. It acknowledges the individuality of each child and the opportunities each child has to progress and develop. The curriculum needs to be broad and balanced engaging the children in activities that are appropriately challenging and in contexts meaningful to the students’ own lives.

Central to the philosophy of the Vision Statement is the emphasis on a strong Christian education which flows through all aspects of school life. Further to this, the strong relationship between home, school, parish and community ensures that shared values and beliefs create the best possible learning environment for students.

### SCHOOL MOTTO, VALUES & MISSION STATEMENT

***‘Honor Pretiosior Auro’ – ‘Honour is more precious than Gold’***

Our motto reminds us to look to Jesus Christ, whose life and teaching inspire us to live with honour, seeking justice for all.

***“Our Lady of Lourdes School seeks to provide educational excellence through the integration of Faith, Life and Culture.”***

***Belief***

***Harmony***

***Responsibility***

Our Mission as a Catholic school founded under the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy is to empower all members of our community, especially the students entrusted to our care, to be active and fully informed citizens recognising the integration of our faith beliefs in an evolving and enriched multi-cultural society.

Our school values are witnessed through the following core principles:

- ❖ *We believe that God made and loves each of us uniquely.*
- ❖ *We work and play in harmony with all members of the school community.*
- ❖ *We each accept our personal responsibility at all times.*

### **SCHOOL GOALS**

Our Lady of Lourdes' School Goals were refined in 2014. They are established in order to demonstrate how our Vision, Mission, Motto, Values and Principles are enacted upon, and thus guide our decision making processes and strategic directions:

- 1. Provide an atmosphere which reflects Christ's teaching and projects him as a life model through the integration of faith, life and learning.**
- 2. Provide students with a positive outlook for the future through the development of their confidence and self-esteem.**
- 3. Encourage parents to play an active role in their child's education.**
- 4. Affirm, respect, and develop the individuality and uniqueness of each child, staff member and school community member.**
- 5. Provide a broad, balanced and developmentally appropriate curriculum that utilises the best practices of teaching and learning, making use of the latest technologies and educational research/ development.**
- 6. Developing our traditions and rituals along with a school culture which acknowledges events and celebrations.**
- 7. To have sufficient infrastructure, facilities and equipment which support the strategic ambitions for teaching and learning, providing a safe and secure working and learning environment.**

# INTRODUCTION

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Good evening everyone. I am delighted to present to the School Community of Our Lady of Lourdes the 2017 Principal's Annual Report to the School Community. This being my first full year as Principal of Our Lady of Lourdes has been a very challenging but rewarding one. There have been many changes that have taken place this year from a teaching and learning point of view and from an upgrading of facilities lens. Mr. Dan Wood has again been seconded to CEWA for 2018 as a School Improvement Advisor and I have been asked to continue in the role of Principal for the 2018 school year, which I had no hesitation in accepting.

A great strength of Our Lady of Lourdes is the on-going commitment of our teachers, assistants, admin staff, parish and school community. It is that willingness to ensure that students are exposed to many wonderful experiences that creates the great spirit that Our Lady of Lourdes can be proud of.

Our purpose is to compliment the work of parents, as the first educators of their children and recognise the primary role played by the family and the parish in the faith development process. The full benefit of our school occurs when the school, the family and the parish work in harmony to create a loving environment with each child as the primary focus.

The relationship between our Parish and School is an extremely strong one. This strong alignment is led by Fr. Stan who takes a keen interest in school affairs and makes himself available to advise, support and encourage. He is a great asset to our community and he brings the human and pastoral face of our God to all.

Our Lady of Lourdes continues to maintain and further develop educational standards and initiatives in all learning areas, which reflect best teaching and learning practices, and cater for the individual needs of students. All we do aims to cater for and enhance the spiritual, pastoral, educational, physical, social, emotional and cultural needs of all children entrusted to our care.

This report outlines some of the highlights of our year's journey across the domains of Education (Learning), Community (Engagement), Stewardship (Accountability) and Catholic Identity (Discipleship).

# CATHOLIC IDENTITY

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## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, SACRAMENTS & LITURGY**

Our Lady of Lourdes School is a place where every individual is welcomed, cherished, respected and valued. Our Catholic ethos ensures that a Christ-centered approach is at the heart of all we do. We live and learn within a community that is caring, loving, compassionate and forgiving. Meaningful relationships form the basis of all our interactions.

Prayer is an important part of school life at Our Lady of Lourdes School. Opportunities are provided for staff, children and parents to nurture our Catholic Faith through meaningful Class Prayer, Liturgies, Assembly Reflections, Whole School and Class Masses. Staff Prayer is held on a regular basis and provides active witness to our community of the importance of our faith. Overall, our aim is to provide prayerful experiences for the community in order to give opportunity for each person to further develop their personal relationship with God.

The school implements the Archdiocesan Religious Education Curriculum. In addition to developing children's knowledge and faith through strong curriculum, the school demonstrates an active partnership with the local parish and is enthusiastically involved in the broader life of the Church.

I sincerely thank Father Stan for the support and guidance he offers to the staff, students and the community of Our Lady of Lourdes. I extend my personal thanks to Father Stan for his support and efforts in maintaining such a positive and healthy parish/school relationship.

**In 2017 we fostered liturgical prayer and life through a wide range of experiences. These included:**

- Harmony Day Parish Mass
- Whole school Masses throughout the year
- Class Masses in Years Three to Six
- Class liturgies in Years One and Two
- Reconciliation services
- Rosary recital in May and October
- Daily classroom prayers
- Staff prayer
- Lenten and Advent reflections
- Our Lady of Lourdes Feast day
- Ash Wednesday
- Easter paraliturgy

- Feast of the Assumption
- Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross Mackillop
- Feast of Saints Peter and Paul
- Sacramental Commitment Mass
- School Board and P&F Executive Commissioning Mass
- ANZAC Day Service
- Remembrance Day Prayer Service
- All Saints Mass
- Graduation & Thanksgiving Mass
- Sacramental Retreats
- Celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation, Eucharist and Penance

### **MISSIONS & CHARITIES**

Our outreach to support communities in need has seen the overwhelming generosity of our school community throughout 2017. As a result, significant support, both spiritually and financially, has been extended to the following charities and organisations:

- Caritas' Project Compassion
- Lifelink
- Cancer Council of WA
- St Vincent de Paul
- Wheelchairs for Kids
- MS Lottery

### **50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH**

On September 24<sup>th</sup> the Parish Community celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church with a special Mass and morning tea. The main celebrant for the Mass was Archbishop Costelloe and it was great to see a big crowd in attendance. For this very special Mass the school will was involved in many ways. Each class completed a photo album/scrapbooking page which will be added to the Parish family pages as a record of who was here during this 50<sup>th</sup> Year celebration. We also had students involved in the offertory procession and as altar servers. Our P&F were involved in helping to decorate the hall and entertain the children during the morning tea. As a gift from the school, we bought a new paten for the church in honour of this wonderful achievement. I would like to congratulate Fr Stan and the Parish Community on what was a memorable celebration and milestone for the church.

## **BISHOPS' RELIGIOUS LITERACY ASSESSMENTS**

Children in Year 3 and 5 sit The Bishops' Religious Literacy Assessment each year. This year the test was administered online. Results of this test are used to inform teaching and learning from Kindergarten to Year 6. The summary data is as follows:

	<b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES CLASS AVERAGE</b>	<b>ALL PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AVERAGE</b>
<b>YEAR 5</b>	<b>57.4%</b>	<b>56.5%</b>
<b>YEAR 3</b>	<b>56.2%</b>	<b>60.2%</b>

# EDUCATION

## **2017 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

In line with our Annual School Improvement Plan for 2017, the past year has seen the achievement of a number of significant milestones.

These include:

### **Introduce a systematic and sustainable spelling, grammar and punctuation programme across the school**

- The Diana Rigg PLD programme was used to promote the proficiency strand through teaching and learning.
- Diana Rigg in-serviced staff on the implementation of the PLD programme.
- Professional Learning Community Meetings were split into junior and senior clusters to discuss implementation methods of the Diana Rigg approach.
- Time was made available for all staff to view video tutorials on age appropriate teaching methods.

### **Implement a sustainable Numeracy intervention programme**

- Louise Baldock who is a trained Extending Mathematical Understanding teacher, has provided small group support to number of Year One students at risk.
- Numeracy Dedicated Time is timetabled and programmed for by each class teacher.

### **To develop a Strategic Plan for 2018-2020**

- A subcommittee of the School Board was formed to determine the strategic direction of the school for the next three years.
- A draft copy was then made available for comment from the community.
- The new Strategic Plan will be available on the website at the end of December.

### **To review and enhance student leadership roles in the school**

- The student leadership structure was remodeled at the beginning of the year. We created leadership groups who are responsible for different areas of the school. The new student leadership groups consist of Technology, Sport, Communications, Social Justice and Sustainability. This has created more opportunities for students to participate in leadership roles and to develop their leadership skills.

#### **Update the Aboriginal Education Policy and create an Aboriginal Education Plan**

- A new Aboriginal Education Plan has been created which includes a scope and sequence chart for each year level.

#### **Update the Evangelisation Plan**

- The Leadership Team reviewed and updated our existing Evangelisation Plan in May of this year.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN**

2018 will see the implementation of the first year of our new Strategic Plan, this will again be addressed through an Annual School Improvement Plan and a Quality Improvement Plan for Early Years. Our target areas for 2018 include:

- Targeted Professional Development
- Data being used effectively to inform the teaching and learning process and improve student learning
- Providing an increased number of STEM and Digital Technologies opportunities for students in all year levels
- Updating the school website and communication channels to provide current, translatable and easily accessible information.
- Increasing the number of parents/guardians involved in the school
- The imbedding of Social Justice themes in relevant curriculum contexts

### **EDUDANCE**

In Term One of 2017 we implemented the Edu-dance program into the school. Each class from Kindy to Year 6 were involved in lessons every week with Edu-dance instructor Tina Belladonna. Tina was fantastic with our students and really had them performing some excellent moves. A highlight of our school calendar in Term 1 was the Edu-dance concert. This was extremely well attended and I thank our school community for supporting our students as they showcased their talents.

### **DIANA RIGG PLD**

After closely analysing data collected over a number of years, we introduced the PLD Literacy Program (Diana Rigg) to the school this year. At the start of Term 2, we had Diana come and

present to our staff on this program and it has been the focus of many of our Professional Learning Community Meetings. A major reason for the implementation PLD is to improve the student's transference of spelling words into writing tasks. The results we have collected in this area across the school has shown some great improvements. As this becomes imbedded practice within the school we hope the results will improve even further.

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE**

Leading Lights (CEWA Digital Transformation Initiative) has seen the school move into a new phase technologically. This year we bought 17 new Microsoft Surface Pro Laptops for staff to replace the existing 5-Year-Old MacBook Pro's that were in use. The MacBook Pros have been wiped and given to our EA's so they have easy access to emails and other important communications and information. Seven desktop computers running windows 10 were purchased for the administration, library and music departments. 80 new iPads were also purchased for student use throughout the school. This has resulted in each class having one device between two students. Hardware has also been purchased so DVDs can be played and images air played to TV screens in each classroom. This has allowed our staff the ability to give instant feedback of student work and celebrate success. The school G-Drive has been migrated onto OneDrive so staff can access work and files from anywhere that has an internet connection. This allows staff flexibility in their working options. We have had professional development in this area and will continue to support staff where required so they are using the technology in more creative and sustainable ways.

### **LEARNING CONVERSATIONS**

In 2017 the teachers at Our Lady of Lourdes continued to use the learning conversations coaching strategy. This again involved rich discussion, peer observations in the classroom and the review of professional learning goals. A Professional Learning Plan, aligned with the AITSL Standards for Teachers, is created and discussed with a member of the Leadership Team. This strategy has been extremely useful in promoting reflective practice amongst staff and will continue in 2018.

### **NAPLAN DATA**

In May of this year, national literacy and numeracy assessments were administered to students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The assessments in literacy covered: Reading, Writing, Language Conventions, Spelling and Grammar & Punctuation. The Numeracy test covered mathematical concepts. The Writing assessment was based on the narrative writing genre.

Individual and detailed reports are provided to the parents of children who undertook the national assessments. Furthermore, school receives detailed evaluation of the whole school and class cohorts, which allows for ongoing school improvement. The data provided to school also allows teachers to examine individual and class performance on each of the questions. Contrasts can also be made between national and state results, including “like school” comparisons. It is important to remember that the national assessments are only one source of evidence of student achievement, gained on one particular day. Similarly, comparisons from one cohort to another can be remarkably different. The summary data for Year Three and Year Five for our school is as follows:

<b>YEAR THREE</b>	<b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES MEAN 2017</b>	<b>OLOL ABOVE NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARD</b>	<b>ALL WA SCHOOLS MEAN</b>	<b>ALL AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS MEAN</b>
<b>READING</b>	407.3	100%	420.1	431.3
<b>WRITING</b>	402.8	100%	409.9	413.6
<b>SPELLING</b>	404	96%	408.5	416.2
<b>GRAMMAR &amp; PUNCTUATION</b>	388.3	92%	428.9	439.3
<b>NUMERACY</b>	372.7	92%	402.3	409.4

<b>YEAR FIVE</b>	<b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES MEAN 2017</b>	<b>OLOL ABOVE NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARD</b>	<b>ALL WA SCHOOLS MEAN</b>	<b>ALL AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS MEAN</b>
<b>READING</b>	508.2	100%	498.8	505.6
<b>WRITING</b>	498.1	100%	468.9	472.5
<b>SPELLING</b>	522.1	100%	498.3	500.9
<b>GRAMMAR &amp; PUNCTUATION</b>	497.3	100%	492.4	499.3
<b>NUMERACY</b>	508.9	100%	488.6	493.8

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Our dedicated staff continue to engage in professional development. This ensures that our staff are at the forefront of the latest developments in the Catholic Identity, Educational, Community and Stewardship domains. A snapshot of professional development this year has included:

- Diana Rigg PLD Literacy
- Key Teacher Numeracy

- Faith Development
- Notre Dame Education Conference
- Finance Officers' Workshop
- Administrative Officers' Workshop
- AP RE Network Meetings
- Office 365
- Staff Wellness
- Leading Lights
- Learning Support
- Reading Recovery Professional Learning
- Catholic Principals' Conference
- Assistant Principals' Conference
- Leader's Forums

### **INCURSIONS & EXCURSIONS**

To enrich curriculum delivery teachers organise a number of incursions and excursions. These activities help to broaden the learning experiences for students. Some special events in 2017 included the following:

*Matilda*

*Sacramental Retreats*

*Harmony Week*

*Parliament House*

*Kings Park*

*WA Museum*

*Perth Zoo*

*Fremantle Prison*

*Elizabeth Quay*

*First Aid*

*Herdsmen Lake*

*Waterwise*

*Beach Safe*

*Woodside STEM Incursion*

*School Camp*

## COMMUNITY

### **OUR COMMUNITY**

At Our Lady of Lourdes School, we provide a nurturing learning environment where students feel happy and safe. Our students respect themselves and others in a non-judgmental manner and show tolerance and respect toward all cultures, both within the school and in the wider community. We ensure that all within our community are treated with dignity and respect. Our school encourages all people to participate within the school community. All classrooms are open, welcoming and include all children regardless of needs.

## **COMMUNICATION**

After discussions about communication channels at Our Lady of Lourdes P&F and School Board meetings, this year we implemented a number of new instantaneous ways community members can access school information easily. At the beginning of Term Two, a school smartphone application was developed and trialled with school staff. Once the staff decided on what needed to be included, we made it available for parents to download. This smartphone application allows the school to push out important messages to targeted audiences, permits instant access to the newsletter, includes policies, access to the canteen menu, contains an electronic absentee slip and access to the view student reports on your device. The introduction of the smartphone application then allowed us to change the newsletter format so information can be easily found. The new newsletter format also gives us the opportunity to see which families have opened the newsletter, either on the application or via email. We have used this data to make sure we are reaching as many people as possible.

This year we also implemented online ordering for our school canteen. This initially was done on a trial basis, but as a result of the numbers being strong, we have continued this service for the parent community. This has improved productivity for Rosie, our canteen manager, as she now has more time to make new items and improve the menu. The parent community are also enjoying the easy ordering process and the fact you can order from anywhere you have an internet connection.

## **PARENTAL PARTICIPATION**

The commitment of our parents in supporting school is greatly appreciated by all staff and students. Along with assisting on excursions, parents have been actively involved in a range of activities across the school including:

- School banking
- Scholastic books
- Canteen
- Library
- Classroom learning
- Social events

# STEWARDSHIP

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## **CYCLIC REVIEW**

In September of this year the school was involved in a cyclic review. This review process looked at our school improvement agenda over the past five years and determined future direction for

the improvement of student outcomes. It involved four members of CEWA who interviewed staff, students, parents and the leadership team over a two-day period. It was a positive process with the school being commended on our shared vision which is centered on the learning of all students. Highlights include:

- Distributed Leadership Model evidenced allowing all staff members to have a voice
- Whole school data analysed in great detail
- Targeted programs appear to support the needs of lower achieving students
- Growth and development of the digital technologies curriculum continues for all staff
- Meetings are focused and purposeful
- Parent engagement has been and will continue to be a major focus
- Considerable efforts have been made to improve communication between home and school
- Strong link between the school and parish
- The school's improvement agenda is systematic, ongoing and informed by all stakeholders
- The Catholicity of the school is evident in actions and relationships
- Exemplary pastoral care is provided for staff, students and families
- There is a clear vision of what it is to be a Catholic school and there are ritualized practices of faith
- There is a strong social justice focus in the school

### **SCHOOL BOARD/ PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION**

Before moving into next year, it is important to acknowledge all families as members of the Parents and Friends Association. I thank you for your fantastic efforts in fundraising and supporting all the activities of the school. You have continued to enhance the children's education and support the community in so many wonderful ways. I am grateful for the leadership of Joanna Wood (President), Ruza Foster (Vice President & Treasurer) and Sarah Hardy (Secretary) over the course of 2017. Joanna and Ruza are stepping down from their current positions at the end of the year and I would sincerely like to thank them for all they have done for the school community over the years. I know that whoever takes on these roles will continue the good work of our P&F and continue to enhance our community.

To members of our school Board, Donna Gow - Chairperson, Biju Anthony - Treasurer, Shankar Louis – Secretary, Fr Stan, Nadine White, Katherine Millington, Vicki Paolo (P&F Rep) and Luke Credaro (co-opted). Thank you all most sincerely for your generosity of time, good humour, forward thinking, expertise, confidentiality, positivity, genuine support, care and concern and for staying composed, astute and measured through the various issues and developments we

have been working through this year. My sincere thanks must go to Katherine Millington and Biju Anthony who will step down from the School Board at the end of the year. Thank you for your commitment to our school.

### **STAFF**

We constantly recognise that all members of our staff – regardless of position or qualification - are teachers - as their influence on the education of our children is insurmountable. Teaching is not always fun or easy, and is certainly not an 8.30am to 3pm job. The staff of Our Lady of Lourdes are sincere, passionate people and this drives them to put so much energy into everything they do. Their passion helps them to keep going when faced with difficulties and motivates them to continue to look for ways to improve their abilities – regardless of their experience and expertise. You cannot be a great teacher without a very real and obvious love of and passion for learning. Our children are fortunate to have great role models that instill a love of living life fully and a true hunger for learning. Our staff work hard and are always willing to do whatever it takes to ensure the best outcomes for all. As individuals, and as a team, they strive for the common good and understand that it is through consistent effort and endeavor that we truly succeed. Our staff care about our children. They show our children they believe in them, and their abilities, and know the importance of challenging them to excel while supporting them to do so.

Thank you to Mrs. Gayle Connell and Mr. Matthew Gray who, as Assistant Principals over the year, have carried out their leadership responsibilities with professionalism and amazing energy. Their passion and commitment to the vision and purpose of our school is endless, and their support is greatly appreciated.

### **STAFFING COMPOSITION 2018**

Our school has an established and dedicated staffing composition which provides a wealth of knowledge and skills and thus ensures continuity for our community. Our staffing composition for 2018 is as follows:

Principal	Mark Ryan
Assistant Principals	Gayle Connell & Matthew Gray
3-Year-Old Kindy	Jessica Giorgio
Kindy	Joanne Quesnel
Pre Primary	Alison Casey
Year 1	Sonia Jenaway & Sandra Murgia

Year 2	Liana Ottobriano	
Year 3	Jessica Giorgio & Maria Gaudoin	
Year 4	Elise Cruttenden	
Year 5	Kate Burns	
Year 6	Matthew Gray & Judy Russo	
Learning Support/Special Needs	Gayle Connell & Louise Baldock	
Reading Recovery	Grace Valli	
Music	Mary Happ	
Phys Ed	Steven Mammoliti	
Digital Technologies	Louise Baldock	
Italian	Grace Valli	
<b>Educational Assistants</b>		
General support/Library/Art	Pina Versaci	
Pre-Primary	Teresa Erceg	Anne Fusco
3-Year-Old Program	Anne Fusco	
Kindy	Marie Ferrone	Josie Frost
Special Education Support	Mireinne Cumbo	Veronica Bayer
Special Education Support	Anne Fusco	Cyril Narra
<b>Office Staff</b>		
Finance Officer	Margy Reeler	
Administration Officer	Janet Harris (Mon – Thur)	Anne Fusco (Fri)
<b>Ancillary Staff</b>		
Uniform Shop	Bernadette Dyblik	
Canteen Manager	Rosie Samuels	

### **QUALITY CATHOLIC SCHOOLING COMPONENT REVIEWS**

The components reviewed in 2017 were:

1. Systematic Evangelisation Planning
2. An Explicit Improvement Agenda

Each of these components were rated and evidenced with data that supported the recognition of school strengths and the identification of areas for development. Areas for continual improvement are closely aligned with the school's new Strategic Plan (2018-2020), Quality Improvement Plan for Early Years and Annual School Improvement Plan.

In 2018, the following QCS Tool components will be reviewed:

1. Systematic Curriculum Delivery
2. Targeted use of School Resources
3. Wider Community Partnerships

### **SCHOOL CAPITAL & MAINTENANCE PROJECTS**

A key aspect of the schools' Strategic Plan was in the establishment of a detailed Capital Development Plan and Maintenance Programme. The School Board established a Finance, Capital & Maintenance Committee in 2015 in order to better coordinate the infrastructure needs for Our Lady of Lourdes. Significant works have been addressed already or have been identified for future years. In 2017 work has been undertaken in regards to:

- Painting maintenance of outdoor areas and administration block
- Re-laminating of office desk
- Introduction of 65inch TV's into Pre Primary & Yrs. 4,5 & 6
- Contemporary learning furniture in Yr. 5
- Replacement of mulch in nature play areas

In 2018 work has been identified for improvements as follows:

- Instillation of 65inch TV's into Kindy & Yrs. 1,2 & 3
- Contemporary Learning Furniture in Yr. 2
- Maintenance work on courtyard walls
- New garrison fence along parish carpark
- New gate on parish drive through
- Speed humps constructed in Parish drive through area
- Painting maintenance of indoor areas

## CONCLUSION

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In closing, I would like to thank the Our Lady of Lourdes community for the way in which I have been welcomed into the school over the past year. The quality of an education system cannot exceed the quality of its teachers, administration and support staff. I acknowledge and wish to express my deep gratitude to all staff at the school for providing the highest quality care and Catholic Education to our students. It continues to be a pleasure working with such outstanding people - thank you.

As 2017 comes to a close, sadly there are some farewells for members of our community whose immediate connection will draw to a close this year.

To our families that are leaving us this year we hope and trust your time at Our Lady of Lourdes has been a rewarding and positive experience for you and your family. We wish you all the best as you embark on the next chapter in your journey.

To our Year Six students, we wish you well as you journey onto high school. Your time with us has been very special, no matter how long, and with the help of all staff you are now ready to take the next step. We are proud of you and hope that you come back and share your new adventures with us with us. Thank you for your contributions to our school and good luck on the next chapter in your life. Remember to embrace all challenges that come your way and do your best in everything you do. You will be missed.

To **Mrs Janet Callaghan** who retires at the end of the school year. Thank you for the many significant contributions you have made to Our Lady of Lourdes School over the past 43 Years. Thank you for being very passionate about teaching as a profession, and for making your class engaging and fun. We will never forget all your valuable contributions and useful advice. Your professional manner and genuine care and support for the students in your class is evident in all you do. Your experience, ideas and guidance will be greatly missed by everyone here. I wish you and Jim all the best in retirement. You deserve the rest and relaxation that your retirement will bring but we all know you will be a welcome visitor and contributor to our school for many years to come. Thank you for all that you have helped build at our school in the pursuit of Belief, Harmony and Responsibility.

To **Mrs Leonie Forrest** who has been our Kindy teacher for the last two years. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to Our Lady of Lourdes School during your time here. The staff and school community as a whole has really appreciated your commitment to your vocation. We wish you all the best of luck in your work with Graham, your husband, in his expanding business. Please don't be stranger and know that you'll always be welcome here.

May God bless all members of our community with the spirit of peace, hope and joy, this Christmas season, and may we all be blessed abundantly in 2018.

**Mark Ryan**

**Principal**