

COMMUNITY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Good evening to Fr Mark, Fr Matteo, the Catholic School Advisory Council members, Friends of Salvado Executive and Committee members, Parents/Carers and Staff. I am pleased to present to you my Principal Report for Salvado Catholic College for 2021.



Good News of Jesus Christ

CATHOLIC IDENTITY – Inspiring Christ-centred Leaders

It has been wonderful to be able to come together to prayer on many occasions throughout the year, celebrating liturgies and Masses together, with all classes taking on and preparing and leading us. It is also been great that we continue to see a focus at Salvado Catholic College on raising funds for the less fortunate and we are very appreciative of our College community for your generosity in supporting Project Compassion, Caritas, Catholic Missions, Life Link and of course Vinnies. The importance of embedding in our students the gift of charity is invaluable as they grow up in our world. We continue to foster in our students a need to develop a sense of caring, concern and responsibility towards others less fortunate. We have once again enjoyed celebrating our House Days in 2021 and look forward to what 2022 brings as we continue to grow and celebrate these days in different ways, further enhancing the charism of each House Patron at the College. We continue to embed practices and traditions that will assist all in our community in a greater understanding of Catholic traditions, as well as providing them opportunities on their own faith journey.

It was wonderful to be a part of our Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 Sacrament preparations and celebrations this year in the Parish. It was also beautiful to hear of students becoming Catholic and being baptised throughout the year in the St Francis Xavier Church. I would like to take this opportunity thank our Sacrament teachers this year, Miss Carrie Scullard, Miss Chloe Collard, Mrs Clare Jeeves, Mrs Rhonda Cook, Mrs Mary Tierney Dusenberg, along with Mrs Marissa Munro and Mrs Christine Pitman, for their time and commitment in supporting the Parish of St Francis Xavier in preparing the students for the Sacraments and your assistance with the Sacrament celebrations.

The staff and students continue to be given opportunities that assist us in developing our understanding of the Catholic Faith and practices, to support us to enact our School Improvement focus in regard to further developing the students' knowledge of the Catholic traditions and Gospel values. A focus for our staff this year was to continue to have common MJR practices implemented across the College and further develop students' understanding of Gospel values. As a Catholic community, we continue to strive to live the 'Make Jesus Real' philosophy in the way we greet, treat and speak to each other each day. MJR practices are embedded across the College, and students and staff alike are recognised and acknowledged for showing the Spirit of Jesus. W.E.S.T slips are aligned with the College House structure and used to affirm the efforts of those showing Gospel values in their interactions with others. Earlier this year College staff attended an MJR Symposium with staff from other Catholic schools. The professional learning day was an invaluable opportunity to listen to MJR creator Peter 'Mitch' Mitchell and other schools who live the MJR way of life, in order to further develop ways to embed MJR practices at the College, particularly as students move into their secondary schooling years. This year the staff MJR Team submitted a nomination for Making Jesus Real in Action at Salvado in the annual Quality Catholic Education awards. Thank you to all involved in keeping MJR alive at Salvado.

As a staff, we also went on retreat to New Norcia and learnt more about the Benedictine Way and the community of New Norcia that Rosendo Salvado established all those years ago. It is wonderful to be able to keep the connection between the New Norcia Benedictine community and the College, as we too strive to keep growing as a community and developing our young people, as was Salvado's vision all those years ago.

As a College community, I would like to once again thank Fr Mark for his ministry as our Parish Priest and Fr Matteo as Assistant Priest. We are very appreciative of their presence in our College for Masses and Learning Space visits, and their support and prayers for the College community.



Education & Learning

EDUCATION – Catholic Schools of Excellence

As a staff we continue to focus on providing the best possible learning opportunities to all our students, catering for individual learning needs and interests. Our collaborative learning environments and teaching practices continue to promote practices where we want all our students to be given the opportunity to learn and strive for personal excellence.

In 2021, staff in the Early Years continued to reflect on the National Quality Standards to ensure ongoing improvement across the seven Quality Areas. A key focus in this year's School Improvement Plan in the Early Years was to focus on students' cultural backgrounds and incorporate this into the teaching and learning program. As we continue to focus on quality improvement in the early years and across the College, inclusive practices and collaboration with parents/carers will be an ongoing priority to ensure the further development of a welcoming, Catholic community.

Since 2016 the College has had a strong focus on integrating Aboriginal Education in the Learning Spaces and beyond. Staff discussions, together with feedback from students and parents/carers, led to a key focus in the School Improvement Plan being the incorporation of the Noongar language into everyday practices across the College. Across the campus age-appropriate Noongar language is incorporated in a variety of ways from a daily greeting in Noongar to the class roll with Noongar responses, from a morning Acknowledgement of Country to the Wanjoo or Welcome song. These embedded practices have resulted in an inclusive environment in which all feel welcomed and valued, and in which many of the College's Aboriginal students have further embraced their heritage in conjunction with their families and the broader community. The staff Aboriginal Education and Multicultural Events Team also submitted a nomination in this year's QCE awards and were awarded a Certificate of Merit for the submission of 'Kaartdijin: A Journey of Teaching, Learning, Living. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this submission and to all staff for their tireless efforts in embedding Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum. We look forward to continuing on embedding Aboriginal perspectives across the curriculum and celebrating Aboriginal culture and traditions across the College.

We continue to collect and analyse a range of student assessment data to ensure the development and implementation of effective teaching and learning programs that cater for students' diverse needs. Mathematics continues to be an area of focus across the College. As part of our School Improvement Plan in 2021, teaching staff were ensuring that explicit teaching of mathematical vocabulary was a focus in Maths lessons. The development of a whole College scope and sequence for mathematical vocabulary that links to the WA Curriculum is an ongoing initiative that will continue in 2022, with further support provided in the area of Mathematics to assist our students to further develop their mathematical knowledge and skills. We will also continue to focus on whole College practices and the implementation of high impact teaching strategies to support all our students in their learning. It is pleasing to see that most of our students are demonstrating reasonable and significant growth, and we will continue to look at the data we collect to inform our teaching moving into 2022.

We continue to strive as a staff, both teachers and education assistants, to provide the students the best possible support, wherever they are along their learning journey. We also will continue to look at ways we can challenge our students to excel even further in their learning as they grow as life-long learners for tomorrow's world. MiniLit and McqLit will continue into 2022 at the College and it has been wonderful to have Mrs Katrina Fiolo join us this year as our Learning Diversity Coordinator. As we continue to grow as a College, this role has become even more important as we cater for the needs of our growing student numbers. Our Specialist classes of Languages, Music, Physical Education and Science we continued in 2021 will continue into 2022 in the Primary Years, with the addition of Digital Technologies sessions taught specifically by a specialist teacher. We will be focusing even further on our digital technologies across the College in 2022 and we will see even more variety in what we are offering the students across the College. Our curriculum in Secondary is also continuing to grow and our students are provided with some fantastic opportunities in a variety of Learning Areas in their Secondary schooling.

2021 has seen all our students benefit from various incursions and excursions throughout the year to compliment the teaching and learning taking place in our Learning Spaces. As we continue to grow, it is wonderful to see our Performing Arts in the College growing too, and the participation and enjoyment from our students is fantastic! Thank you to all our teachers who have taken on extra-curricular activities and thanks in advance to those keen to introduce new initiatives in 2022.

Our Year 6 students enjoyed going on their Adventure Camp this year and our Year 7 students also had a great day on their Activity Day. We have continued to perform very well in our Primary Interschool sporting competitions such as Cross Country and Athletics. As we continue to grow as a College, we are seeing ourselves becoming more and more competitive against other Catholic schools in these competitions. Our Year 7 students have also enjoyed participating for the first time in the ACC Interschool Cross Country and Athletics carnivals, as well as the Year 7 Super Series Carnival. Thank you Mr Colin Loh for coordinating all of these sporting events for the Secondary students for the first time. In our first year of Secondary schooling at Salvado Catholic College, the students in Year 7 have experienced some wonderful opportunities, enjoying some great new facilities as well.



Working together as a College Community **COMMUNITY – Catholic Pastoral Communities**

As a College community we continue to prioritise student wellbeing across the campus. A range of initiatives and practices are in place to support students with their wellbeing and social emotional learning. The URStrong program has been implemented once again this year to assist students to explicitly develop their social emotional literacy and learn skills to successfully navigate conflict within friendships and understand what healthy friendships look and feel like. The Zones of Regulation are utilised across the College to assist students to recognise and identify their emotions and learn ways to appropriately express their feelings and develop strategies to manage how they are feeling. Mrs Kerry Browne, in her role as Student Wellbeing Coordinator and Mrs Jenny Mair-Wieman, our College Psychologist, have worked in collaboration with staff and parents/carers to support students with their wellbeing and social emotional needs. In 2022 we will see the URStrong program continue in our Primary years and Aussie Optimism introduced for our Secondary students.

We continue to promote student voice in and around the College and ensure that our practices promote inclusivity and the students feeling safe in their environment to speak up. We are in the process of reviewing our Student Code of Conduct that was created a couple of years, relooking at our commitment to the values of Kindness, Respect and Safety for all our students. Our student leadership structures have expanded from having Year 6 House Captains, to also including Year 7 Pastoral Care Group Leaders and Year 7 House Leaders. I would like to congratulate our Year 6 students on their efforts as they come to the end of their Primary schooling at Salvado Catholic College. We look forward to having our Secondary years continue to grow in 2022 with Year 7 and Year 8 students.

After the year that was last year, we have worked extremely hard as a staff to continue to promote a positive home/school partnership and involve our parents/carers in the life of the College and their child/ren's learning journey. It is hoped that as we move forward our parents/carers continue to get involved as much as they can when the opportunity arises. "It takes a village to raise a child" is an African proverb that refers to an entire community of people needing to provide for and interact positively with children for those children to learn and grow in a safe and healthy environment. This is what we strive for at Salvado Catholic College, always have and always will.

It was great to be able to offer some parent information evenings again this year, with the Child Safe Framework and Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum Information session, along with a Surf Online Safe Cyber Safety presentation. We continue to strongly believe in promoting these importance opportunities, and encouraging parent/carer participation and attendance is vital so that we can work together to share the same important messages with our students so that they not only feel safe in their environments both at school and at home, but also to encourage them to learn about healthy and respectful relationships.

Thank you to our parents and carers that have assisted around the College in some way this year, whether in Learning Spaces, at College events or in other ways. It is very much appreciated! I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Friends of Salvado Executive Committee of 2021 for their time and efforts throughout the year. Thank you Kylee Nastasi, our President, and to the rest of the FoS Executive Committee for your ongoing support and time. We appreciate all that you have done in organising events in 2021 to build on community, a community feel that we have taken so much pride in in the past. Thanks again to all those involved in any events this year at the College.



Steewardship of Staff, Environment & Resources

STEWARDSHIP – Accessible, Affordable and Sustainable Systems of School

Our Catholic School Advisory Council has once again been very supportive of the College and myself in the stewardship of resources in 2021. There has continued to be much work going on to continue to grow as a K-12 College and develop plans for future building development. I am pleased to announce that work will finally commence on the top floor of the Science and Design Block in the coming weeks, and we have been approved from the Australian Government Capital Grant Funding Assistance, funds to build our Food Technology Centre and extend our Administration building to provide more spaces for Student Services. We look forward to getting Stage 4 up and going in 2022, as well as looking even further ahead and submitting an application for future stages, to include our Design & Technology Centre, extra General Learning Spaces, the Oval (which we have now finalised a Shared Use Agreement with the Shire) and beyond that, Performing Arts and Media spaces, as well as a future gymnasium. Our updated master plan will also consider whether one day into the future, Salvado Catholic College becomes triple stream in the Primary Years. We are also looking forward to introducing both Before and After School Care at Salvado in 2022, as well as a Canteen service for our students and staff.

Thank you to James Moles as Chair and to all the Advisory Council. I am always very appreciative to them for their time and contribution to the Catholic School Advisory Council. I would also like to personally thank Pat Kellett who is finishing up this year as our Parish Representative. We are truly grateful for your contribution and willingness to be on our Catholic School Advisory Council for all these years.

In 2021 we continued with 2 classes of Pre-Kindergarten due to the high interest in the community. We also had 2 streams through to Year 5 and a single class of Year 6, and 3 streams of Year 7, with over 500 students and 300 families in the College this year. We continue to grow as a Catholic College of choice in the Byford and surrounding area. We have very healthy waitlists in all year levels in our Primary years and our secondary numbers are also starting to grow. In 2022 we will welcome another double stream Kindergarten cohort and will make us double stream throughout our Primary. We will be welcoming our second cohort of Year 7 to join the Year 8 students and will have over 600 students in 2022 from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 8.

As I do every year at Salvado Catholic College, I would like to acknowledge the work of our Teaching Staff and Education Assistants at the College. We are very blessed as a College community to have such a committed and hard working staff who never ever say that anything is too much when it comes to helping our students doing what is best for each and everyone of them. On behalf of the College community, I would like to thank each and every one of you for all that you do in your Learning Spaces and around the College. This year, with our first Year 7 cohort, we had all new Year 7 teachers. Thank you to all of you for your efforts in what has been a foundation Secondary year at the College. Lots has been done, and lots more ahead. Thank you to everyone!

I would also like to acknowledge our Administration Staff of Kasey Atwell, Judy Schwarz and Julie Gibson for all that you continue to do in administration. Your work ethic, skills, knowledge and smiles are amazing. Thank you for all that you do and being the wonderful voices and faces of our College for the new families to the College and the friendly 'nothing is ever too much mentality' that you share with the entire College community. Thank you Sam Chapman, our Business Manager for the way that you have continue to juggle finances, buildings and the ever growing tasks that a growing K-12 College has to deal with each day. Thank you to Yvonne Nicholls for coming on board this year in a part-time Finance Officer role at the College to support Sam. Your wealth of experience and knowledge is an asset to us.

I am so very thankful for our entire team. They are simply amazing!

I would like to once again take this opportunity to thank Nathan Phillips for his time and efforts in maintaining our grounds so beautifully. We are very appreciative of Nathan's efforts and the pride that he takes in his role. Nothing is ever too much and we are often complimented by our visitors to the College in the way our grounds are kept. Thank you Nathan!

I wish to acknowledge our Leadership Team of Marissa Munro (Head of Early Years), Christine Pitman (Head of Junior School) and Keith Gilbert (Head of Middle School) for your support and leadership. I am very appreciative of all that you do to support, students, staff, parents/carers and myself. I am blessed to have such an awesome team to work with. Sadly Keith will be leaving us at the end of the year, after being on our College Board since 2015 to 2019, and then as Head of Middle School for 2020 and 2021. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Keith's efforts and commitment to his role over these years. He is a caring, respected and genuine nice guy who has done a wonderful job in his role as Head of Middle School. I wish him all the best as he goes back to his passion for teaching Economics in 2022. The door is always open Keith. I will be forever grateful for your support and efforts in assisting to get Salvado Catholic College to this point.

At the end of this year we will be also farewelling Liam Carle, Taylia Kenny, Sierra Ostle, Natalie Pritchard-Loh, Rebecca Stockbridge and Hailey Weaire. I thank Liam, Taylia, Sierra, Natalie, Rebecca and Hailey for their contribution to Salvado Catholic College over their time with us and wish them all the very best for their futures. Mrs Jess Hanretty will continue on Parental Leave in 2022 and Mrs Lucia Scales will return in 2022 from Parental Leave in a part-time capacity.

In 2022 we look forward to welcoming Mr Brendan McGrath onto the Leadership Team as Head of Middle School (Year 7 to Year 9). We also welcome to the Staff Team of Salvado Catholic College the following new members – Mrs Jennifer Simpson, Ms Devina Branche, Miss Sarah Schultz, Mr Jason Meynell, Mr Wade Old, Mr Michael Cave, Mr Simone Lobbia, Ms Emma Ford, Ms Ebony Manzi and Mrs Alison Honter.

Staffing in 2022

Refer to Slideshow

As I reflect on 2021 and look to 2022, I thought about the question - what was Rosendo Salvado's Mission? As a Benedictine monk, Salvado had pledged himself to a life-long journey of "conversion of life" aimed at creating better individuals and communities. Salvado's original vision was to create, among the Aboriginal people of the Victoria Plains, a Christian, largely self-sufficient village based on agriculture. As we look at the feedback from our School Climate Survey in 2021 and progress our Strategic Directions into the new year, we too want to continue to grow the community of Salado Catholic College. We want to celebrate the many successes, look at ways we can enhance the learning journey of all our students in our village, and continue to grow a Catholic College that is Christ-centred and child focused.

Our students have always been the reason we do what we do, and we are very proud of all of them! I am also very proud to lead our amazing staff. It really is a great place to be! Wishing everyone a safe and Holy Christmas. May the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ this Christmas bring joy to everyone!

Peace & Happy Days!

Mr Santino Giancono
Principal