

# 2022 Annual Report

## St Francis of Assisi College



**Annual General Meeting, 29 March 2023**



# St Francis of Assisi College

## 2022 Annual Report

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St Francis  
of Assisi College  
*Laudato Si'*

# St Francis of Assisi College Board

## Agenda AGM

**Date** Wednesday 29 March 2023

**Time** 7:00pm

**Venue** Collaboration Centre (Yr 7 – 9 Building)

Agenda Item	Description	Presenter	Time
	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	Tim Pfeiffer	5 mins
	<b>Acknowledgement of Country and Prayer</b>	Samuel De Palma	5 mins
	<b>Correspondence</b> – Nil		
	<b>Guest Presentations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Principal's reflections on first year</li> <li>- Student Leaders reflections on first year</li> </ul>	Nathan Hayes  Student Leaders Samuel De Palma Blossom Kimberley	20 mins
	<b>Minutes from Previous AGM</b>	Tim Pfeiffer	5 mins
	<b>Presentation of Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As tabled in Annual Report</li> </ul>	Tim Pfeiffer	5 mins
	<b>General Business</b>	Tim Pfeiffer	5 mins
	<b>Board Overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Newly nominated members, Positions Vacant</i></li> </ul>	Nathan Hayes (Fr Hau absent)	5 mins
	<b>Closure followed by General Meeting</b>	Nathan Hayes (Fr Hau absent)	10 mins
	NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 31 May 2023		8:00pm

# College Board

St Francis of Assisi College Board is comprised of members from the school community, parish community and staff. It is an advisory group that oversees the strategic planning, financial management and policy ratification for the College Community.

During our inaugural year the President of St Francis of Assisi College Board was Fr Paul Bourke. In January 2023 Fr Paul was appointed Parish Priest of Port Lincoln, his replacement as Parish Priest of Our Lady of the River Parish, Fr Hau Le, assumed the role President of the College Board. We thank Fr Paul for his significant contribution to the College Board, and indeed to the development of the College during the planning stages. We welcome Fr Hau as President of the Board, Fr Hau is familiar with the College having been our College Chaplin during 2022.

The efforts of our Board during 2022 have been greatly appreciated, including through the work of Board Sub-committees:

- Finance Sub-committee
- Industry and Community Engagement Sub-committee

## Board Members

### Ex-Officio Members

President	Fr Hau Le
Principal	Nathan Hayes
Finance Manager	Anthony Pickering
Board Minute Secretary	Claire Smith

### Elected Members

Chairperson	Tim Pfeiffer
Deputy Chairperson	Tanya Allan
Parish Representative	Julie John
Staff Representative	TBA
Committee	Ben Dring
	Nick Dowling
	Michael Atsaves
	Paul Searles

These elected members have one year remaining of their two-year term

## New Members

We accept nominations from the following and welcome them to the Board for 2023/2024

- Courtney Tippet
- Emma Warner
- Scerina Rasheed



# St Francis of Assisi College Board AGM Minutes

**Date** Wednesday 18 May 2022    **Time** 6:00pm    **Venue** Collaboration Centre

<b>Present</b>	Fr Paul Bourke, Nathan Hayes, Prue Kempthorne, Sue John, Tim Pfeiffer, Darija Atsaves, Michael Atsaves, Travis Stoneham, Julie Broad, Julie John, Tanya Allan, Paul Searle, Ben Dring, Nanda de Winter, Natalie Meuret, Luke Cotter, Anthony Pickering, Isabella Linnett, Mae Camporeale, Adrian Hunt, Fraser Sampson and Claire Smith
<b>Apologies</b>	Nick Dowling
<b>Welcome from Fr Paul Bourke</b>	<p>As Parish Priest, and I add, excitedly so, beyond most other ventures in my priestly life, I have been part of this journey since day one. Maybe even before day one, as I know many of the people who have been involved in the previous two formal attempts to achieve a Catholic High School in the Riverland, and also those who have quietly chipped away at such a reality.</p> <p>I did lobby CESA (Catholic Education SA) to help convince them of the no brainer, to have such a College in the Murray Darlin Basin. The Advisory Board which Nathan joined and Chaired, after his appointment, began meeting after the College was given the go ahead, with Terissa Shepherd, Retired Principal of the Samaritan College, heading us up. A faithful, forward looking, Group.</p> <p>So as Parish Priest I am the President of the Board (I attended two School Board Meetings last night).</p> <p>Along with the Principal, Business Manager and Minute Secretary we are automatic members.</p> <p>So welcome to you all as family stakeholders to our fresh and ecologically oriented Catholic College School Board. As parents you will hear much and direct and discern from that knowledge. I also welcome Julie John as our Our Lady of the River Parish representative. A task of outreach as the Parish goes as far as Morgan. Hence our College's regional reality. The beautiful Opening Day Liturgy involving the pelican meeting St Francis, showed the connected spirituality that underpins our College.</p>

There will be many terms that will be new to you, but in time you will be sharing their meaning with others.

We have our own Catholic Education Director, Nichii Mardon, who is based in Port Pirie, the administration centre of our Diocese of Port Pirie. Bishop Karol Kulczski lives there and leads us all. We work in with Adelaide but do not belong to them.

Please be encouraged to stand for any position, whatever your faith or vocational background.

It is history and you are the founding blocks of this Board. Finally, I have encouraged everyone to start a diary as it will be history before you know it.

**Acknowledgement of Country and Prayer**

***Acknowledgement of Country***

We acknowledge that we meet today on Meru Country, and recognise the Erawirung and Ngintait peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to the earth and waters, and thank them for protecting this land and its ecosystems since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging and extend that respect to all First Nation peoples present here today.



**Correspondence**

Correspondence – Nil

**Principal's Report**

Francis of Assisi College: Growing in Harmony  
 Our College positioning statement is "Growing in Harmony" and there are many examples demonstrating how our school community has been doing this in extraordinary ways throughout 2021 and 2022 to date. I trust our College Team's reporting offers testimony to the efforts our community, and indeed Catholic Education South Australia, has made that aspiration a reality. Further detail will be provided through updates by our school leaders in the areas of:

- Catholic Identity and Mission
- Finance and Resources
- Learning
- Wellbeing

This report is unique in that it captures an amazing year in the history of St Francis of Assisi College, where quite amazingly, our impressive buildings and grounds were completed within a 12-

month timeframe. Aside from this being a challenging timeframe under any circumstance, and with the current COVID impacted world we live in, this was a significant achievement and a result of an excellent partnership with key stakeholders:

CESA Project Team

Mossop Constructions

Swanbury and Penglase Architects

St Francis of Assisi College

The Build Program began in earnest early in 2021, and it wasn't until several months into the year that visible progress could be seen. The Mossop Team's consistently focused on delivering outcomes, going above and beyond to ensure key milestones were met.

With Build Program deliverables met, we opened with confidence at the beginning of 2022, with our staff and students able to bring purpose and life to our amazing facilities.

Below provides a summary of the total Build Program for St Francis of Assisi College:

Land	\$0.72m
Stage 1 Budget	\$17.01m
Stage 2 Budget	\$6.41m
Stage 3 Budget	\$6.41m
Additional grassing with indexation	\$0.679m
Total	\$31m

Our 'gameplan'

Within the range of experiences and opportunities our students will continue to have, we have a 'game plan' to ensure we remain focused on our commitment to each young person of having a pathway and a place within the St Francis of Assisi College community.

Our College Pillars set up this gameplan:

*Integral Ecology, Excellent Catholic Education, Student Voice, Pathways to and Beyond, Community*

#### **1. Integral Ecology**

An integral ecology is central to our College Motto *Laudato Si'*, and at the heart of this is the notion of care for self, care for others and care for our common home.

This has been expressed in a range of ways across our Catholic Identity and Mission, Wellbeing and Learning initiatives already implemented.



Nanda de Winter, as Assistant Principal for Religious Identity and Mission, has been outstanding in her work in 2021, and 2022 to date, in ensuring our *Laudato Si* is embedded in all we do at the College.

Our commitment to whole school wellbeing also sits within this notion of building an integral ecology and is part of our 'gameplan'. Guided by the leadership of our Leader of Wellbeing, Mr Luke Cotter, our implementation of our Resilient IMPACT 'What, what, how?' approach in partnership with the LBI Foundation is beginning to filter across the whole school, taking an interpersonal, 'moment to moment' view to an organisational strategic view.

## **2. Excellent Catholic Education**

To develop a team-based, collaborative learning culture at St Francis of Assisi College, recruiting people with a team-first approach was critical. Each member of the inaugural College team brings a unique set of capabilities and experience to the team, and each person has contributed to an outstanding start to our first school year:

Principal  
Nathan Hayes

Assistant Principal – Religious Identity and Mission  
Nanda de Winter

Leader of Learning  
Natalie Meuret

Leader of Wellbeing  
Luke Cotter

School Counsellor/Coordinator – Learning Diversity and Inclusion  
Tasha Morath

Finance Manager  
Anthony Pickering

Executive Administrator  
Claire Smith

Administration Trainee  
Annika Newman

Co-curricular and Student Support  
Luke Prokopec

Rowing Coach and Student Support  
Stephanie Turnbull

Tech Studies Support  
Adrian Hunt

Work Health and Safety  
Rachel Dring

Teacher: English and Humanities  
Isabella Linnett

Teacher: English and Humanities  
Mae Camporeale

Teacher: Health and Physical Education / Sport Programs  
Fraser Sampson

Teacher: Maths and Science  
John Lyons

Excellence in teaching and learning is core to our 'gameplan' and due to her thorough planning and preparation in 2021, and outstanding leadership in 2022 our Leader of Learning, Ms Natalie Meuret has ensured an outstanding start to our students learning experiences.

Several key areas of focus to optimise student academic outcomes include:

- Formation of our School Quality and Performance Team
- Literacy and numeracy intervention strategies
- Dr Lynn Sharrett's Clarity Learning Suite
- Differentiated Learning
- SEQTA: Engage, Teach, Learn

### **3. Student Voice**

It is no mistake that Student Voice sits in the middle of our five pillars, and our inaugural school cohort has already made a significant impact in shaping our culture of high expectations for all.

Facilitated by Luke Cotter's leadership, our student body has made significant progress in implementing significant structures and process that will become significant chapters in St Francis of Assisi College' charism and history.

The establishment of our student leadership structure, student action groups and the naming of our four house groups are examples of formative initiatives that have been completed to date.

### **4. Pathways to and Beyond**

The Education Plan developed to inform the establishment phase of the College and beyond, firmly set personalised pathways for

student learning as priority at St Francis of Assisi College. Through planning and community engagement in 2021, moving into implementation in 2022, students have already experienced the notion that 'we see you; we hear you, and what you have to say is important', and this is how the College team see every student.

Current examples of how we are putting this into practice:

Personalised transition programs

Personalised Plans for Learning

Resilient IMPACT Program

Growth Action Plans

Partnership with Lifechanger Foundation

Student Action Groups

Faith in Action Opportunities

College Rowing Program and Sport Opportunities

Bookmark Creek Working Party

## **5. Community**

2021 was a year of difference in that St Francis of Assisi College was based out of our Renmark Avenue offices. The College team initially consisted of myself as Principal, until I was joined several months into the year by our Executive Administrator, Claire Smith, doubling our team size overnight. As we moved into the second half of the year, our team gradually extended to include Natalie Meuret, Nanda de Winter, Luke Cotter and Anthony Pickering. It is important to note that while our local St Francis of Assisi College team formed gradually through 2021, there was a highly invested CESA Project Team that I was part, working tirelessly in Adelaide to ensure as a project, we were going to deliver on our promise of providing outstanding secondary Catholic Education in the Riverland.

The Education Plan for the College informed all decision making throughout 2021 and in the lead up to the 2022 school year. Our Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) played a vital role throughout 2020 and 2021 to ensure our Education Plan was aligned to the needs and expectations of the young people and their families across the Riverland. I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the value each member brought to the IAC and ultimately, our success to date:

Nichii Mardon

Teresa Colligan

Ali Stokes

Domenic Perre

	<p>Tammy Kregar David Mezinec Fr Paul Bourke Tanya Allan Paul Searle Tim Pfeiffer</p> <p>Each team member brought their unique skills and expertise to the group, and not least of all, invested a significant amount of their time. We look forward to the ongoing contributions of several members of this group as they become members of the College Community this year and in the coming years.</p>
<p><b>Student Leader Report</b></p>	<p>Each house worked together to develop their house culture in Term 1. As a leadership group, we agreed on a base design for each house crest and what should go in each of them. Then each home group defined what goes into their crest.</p> <p><b>Aqua</b>, representing the lifeblood of our world, water.</p> <p>The flora and fauna were chosen for their enduring connection to the Murray River. The River Cooba Tree can be found across Australia, usually near water sources in inland arid areas, and is present in woodlands and floodplains along the Murray River. Our virtue of <i>Humility</i> encourages us to act with modesty and reminds us of the precious nature of water in our environment.</p> <p><b>Ignis</b>, representing the light that fire provides in times of darkness.</p> <p>The flora and fauna were chosen for their resilience to adversity. The Black Beak Duck Orchid is a critically endangered native species that requires fire and smoke for seeds to germinate. After the 2020 Kangaroo Island bushfires, four new populations were observed along the fire scar.</p> <p>Our virtue of <i>Courage</i> strengthens us to be bold and daring in our learning and to speak for social justice.</p> <p><b>Terra</b>, representing our connection to land and the grounding earth provides us.</p> <p>The flora and fauna were chosen for their presence and symbolism of the South Australian outback. The Sturt Desert Pea was chosen as it is the state flower of South Australia has a tenacious ability to withstand harsh climates. The Kangaroo has a strong presence in our region and especially in our College grounds.</p> <p>Our virtue of <i>Tenacity</i> drives us to be resilient in our learning and reminds us of the strength of Mother Earth.</p>

	<p><b>Ventus</b>, representing the role wind has in sustaining life and providing energy in a sustainable world.</p> <p>The flora and fauna were chosen to represent our Riverland region, their strength, and the pivotal role they play with the local ecosystem. The river red gum was selected for its presence across the Riverland region and the support it provides to numerous species. The pelican reminds us that even a force as destructive as wind can be used to our advantage.</p> <p>Our virtue of <i>Solidarity</i> asks us to stand together and requires other virtues to be displayed. It captures our need to collaborate and be united to achieve our goals.</p> <p>As student leaders we have had the privilege to lead our Houses during Athletics Carnival and also represent the College at numerous events. We have assisted Mr Hayes with Principal Tours, attended ANZAC Day ceremonies, and begun to form Action Groups.</p> <p>The <i>Laudato Si'</i> Action Group have a focus on the environment. We have helped and formed a partnership with the Bookmark Creek Volunteers and Landscape SA. They invited us to a fish monitoring session in Term 1 which involved students measuring fish and recording species caught.</p> <p>The Community Wellbeing Action Group are focussed on the development of the Arts in the College and on inclusive practices/activities. So far, we have helped with a food drive for St Vinnies and have plans for a fundraiser this term to raise money for Variety. We have high hopes that we can put together a band, a painting group and do a school production!</p> <p>Presented by College Student Leaders: Alissa Yard, Samuel De Palma and Riley Broad.</p>
<p><b>Catholic Identity and Mission</b></p>	<p><i>Creation continues today, it keeps unfolding and renewing every moment of waking and dreaming. Creation is ever present in us, in others, and the whole universe.</i></p> <p><b>A commitment to Catholic Identity &amp; Mission 2022</b></p> <p>Ensuring that the Catholic Identity and Mission of St Francis of Assisi College is centred in the person and message of Jesus, founded in <i>Laudato Si'</i>, experienced within a recontextualised culture of dialogue, inclusive of quality Religious Education and meaningful and authentic prayer, liturgy, and formative experiences.</p> <p><b>Strategic intention:</b> Enhance Expressions of Catholic identity and Mission</p> <p><u>Goal</u></p>

All staff and students are invited to encounter God and Jesus through the motto, vision, and mission of the college.

Actions

We have a targeted focus on St Francis of Assisi, *Laudato Si'* and Integral Ecology.

- We are working towards becoming an accredited Catholic EarthCare school.
- We are working towards a College *Laudato Si'* action plan.
- Implementation of *Assisi Model* for schools, we continue to work with Jacqui Remond.

Establish yearly community outreach program for the College focused on Season of Lent and Season of Creation.

- Students can express the purpose of Social Justice through events and fundraisers and link it to 'The cry of the poor.'

Goal

Development of engaging pedagogy and content in the RE curriculum.

Actions

2022-Focus on Year 7 and 8 Curriculum development explicitly connected to integral ecology.

Explore CrossWays Curriculum to develop rigorous, high-quality teaching and learning.

Create opportunities for exploration and development of creative and innovative strategies in RE.

Goal

Establish Student and Staff reflection retreats to establish the emerging charism of the school.

Actions

Shape formation/ reflection days for staff and students to invite deepening engagement with *Laudato Si'*, integral ecology and scripture of Creation.

Goal

Identifying symbol and ritual for the College.

Actions

Develop authentic prayer opportunities.

Identify and audit visible areas in the school that identify the College as Catholic.

Explore meaning and interpretation of significant symbols.

	<p><b>Strategic Intention:</b> Engage communities in spiritual and faith formation</p> <p><u>Goal</u> Engaging Parish, parent, and wider community with the College.</p> <p><u>Actions</u> Building School-Parish relationships Engaging the parent community in the life and charism of the school Bringing the broader community into the College</p>
<p><b>Finance Report</b></p>	<p><u>Stage 1 Project Funding and Expenditure as at 30 April 2022</u> Funding \$17.97m Grant Funding \$7.6m State funding \$3.3m Construction Loan \$7.0m ICT Loan \$0.07m Expenditure \$18.02m Land \$0.8m Buildings \$16.9m Furniture &amp; Equipment \$0.2m ICT \$0.1m Tools &amp; Equipment \$0.02m Key Point: Managed by Catholic Education Office Project Team <u>Stage 1 Project Outstanding Items</u> Recycled water finalisation with SA Health and Renmark Paringa Council Final build costs and variations Warranty Period Term is 12 months Grounds and Building Maintenance Included Defects are reported to Architect and Mossops (Project Construction) <u>Operating Budget 2022</u> Catholic Education Office (CEO) provided financial support including preparing the budget for 2022 Initial budget based on 103 enrolments with a \$30k cash deficit Revised budget to 75 enrolments with a \$340k cash deficit projected, working with CEO on top up funding Timing issues with set up costs such as equipment purchases, working with CEO on grant funding these non-operational items.</p>

## Wellbeing Report

The College has embarked on a select few programs that have clear links between each other to ensure the Wellbeing program at St Francis of Assisi College is deliberate, focussed, and purposeful.

Our partnership with David Kelly from the Life Buoyancy Institute (LBI) has supported the College to develop a Wellbeing Framework underpinned by *Laudato Si'* and guide us in identifying and achieving short-term, medium-term and long-term goals to develop thriving students, capable learners and leaders for the world God desires. The Impact Program run by LBI has provided tools and a common language to support student wellbeing and reflection upon behaviour through the Impact Activation Cycle of What – What – How:

- What's Happening?
- What's Important? (What is my intent?)
- How Can I Act?

To support the Pastoral Care and Wellbeing program we have partnered with the Institute of Positive Education through an investment in their Positive Education Enhanced Curriculum (PEEC) which provides lessons, resources and activities that are utilised in Pastoral Care. As well, we have formed a partnership with the LifeChanger Foundation. The Foundation "identifies and develops inspiring mentors within communities and delivers holistic self-development workshops for teens, creating and sustaining safe and resilient communities."

LifeChanger Workshop dates:

WORKSHOP	DATE
ACTIVATION	Friday July 1 <sup>st</sup> (Term 2, Week 9)
HEALTH	Friday July 29 <sup>th</sup> (Term 3, Week 1)
SKILLS	Friday August 5 <sup>th</sup> (Term 3, Week 2)
SELF	Friday August 26 <sup>th</sup> (Term 3, Week 5)
PURPOSE	Friday September 9 <sup>th</sup> (Term 3, Week 7)
TRIBE	Friday September 23 <sup>rd</sup> (Term 3, Week 9)

During Term 1, the Student Leadership Council was formed with a Year 7 and Year 8 student representing each of the four Houses. The leaders will renew in Semester 2.

The current SLC is as follows:

AQUA	IGNIS
Luca Blackwell Ryan Prokopec	Samuel DePalma Billie Augey
TERRA	VENTUS
Sophie Robertson Aaron Kurian	Alissa Yard Riley Broad



As part of Pastoral Care in Term 1, the students researched, and suggested possible House names. After a thorough process and approval from the Bishop and Catholic Education, we ratified the House names as Aqua (water), Ignis (fire), Terra (earth), and Ventus (wind). They each find origins from the Canticle of Creation written by St Francis of Assisi who pays respect and homage to the natural resources of the earth. The students in each House worked together to identify native flora and fauna who have clear links to their House name and identified a House virtue.



The College hosted a successful transition program in Term 4, 2021 at the Renmark Football Club, Renmark Recreation Centre and at the developing College buildings. The College received positive and constructive feedback which is being used to inform the transition program for 2022. This year, we are introducing College Immersion days for all Catholic primary schools and interested students from the Government and Private sectors to experience a day at the College. The Immersion Program will include a tour led by student leaders, three extended specialist lessons taught by College staff and a Q&A session with Mr. Nathan Hayes.

**Teaching and Learning**

**SEQTA**

SEQTA is the learning management system used by the College. Teachers have become proficient at using SETQA teach to set learning intentions, success criteria and resources for students needed to complete activities. This has supported student learning during COVID. Teachers have also supported continuous reporting by uploading grades and specific student feedback of two assessment tasks onto SEQTA for students and parents to access. Through various communications, most Parents/Caregivers have been actively using SEQTA Engage to view their child's learning, and assessments. Parents have also been using SEQTA engage to communicate with the College or their child's teacher directly. Parents have valued the ability to receive feedback directly about their child's academic progress. As the year has progressed, students have become more capable at using SEQTA learn to access lesson resources, submit assessment tasks and to reflect on their learning based on the feedback provided by teachers.

**Assessment and Reporting**

Student progress updates were completed on SEQTA and made available to parents in week 6. The aim of this report was to provide

	<p>parents/caregivers feedback about their child's progress before a formal grade is given in the end of semester report. Following these reports, Student/Teacher/Parent conferences were completed week 9 via Teams due to COVID. Parents appreciated the opportunity to discuss their child's learning with their Home Group teacher. For semester reports, teachers will use the recently developed College's reporting template on SEQTA.</p> <p><b>Standardised Testing</b></p> <p>During week 5 term 1, PAT-R and PAT-M adaptive, with 100% student participation. Data was analysed to identify groups and targeted differentiation. NAPLAN for year 7s was also conducted. This occurred during week 2 and 3 of term 2, with 95% student participation.</p> <p><b>Developing and Building Teacher Capacity</b></p> <p>At the beginning of term 1, teachers reflected on High Impact Teacher Strategies. These are 10 instructional practices that reliably increase student learning wherever they are applied. Teachers have also successfully developed unit plans that align to the Australian Curriculum and where possible have embraced the message of <i>Laudato Si'</i> by incorporating themes and ideas into their lessons. To further build individual teacher capacity, peer observation will be introduced in term 2 and 3. Peer observation will enable teachers to develop a shared understanding of effective classroom practice and build their capability in giving and receiving feedback.</p> <p><b>Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) and Personal Learning Plan (PPL)</b></p> <p>To ensue all students at the College are successful and capable learners, PPL's have been developed with the support of students and their families to ensure that adjustments have been made to meet student with learning needs. To assist with the NCCD data collection, a process has been created to establish how the data will be recorded and entered on SEQTA.</p>
<p><b>Board Formation</b></p>	<p>Fr Paul Bourke, as President of the College Board presided over the election of Board positions for the 2022 school year, all positions were declared open.</p> <p><b>Nominations for Chairperson</b></p> <p>Tim Pfeiffer nominated by Tanya Allan, seconded Paul Searles.</p> <p>No other nominations were received. Tim Pfeiffer was declared elected Chairperson, Fr Paul congratulated Tim.</p> <p><b>Nominations for Deputy Chairperson</b></p> <p>Tanya Allan nominated by Paul Searles, seconded Michael Atsaves.</p>

	<p>No other nominations were received. Tanya Allan was declared elected Deputy Chairperson, Fr Paul congratulated Tanya.</p> <p><b>Nominations for Chairperson of the Finance Committee</b></p> <p>Ben Dring nominated by Michael Atsaves, seconded Tanya Allan</p> <p>No other nominations were received. Ben Dring was declared elected Chairperson of the Finance Committee, Fr Paul congratulated Ben.</p> <p>Fr Paul thanked all in attendance and congratulated the College community on the appointment of the inaugural Board and spoke of the exciting way forward for the College community.</p>
	<p><b>MEETING CLOSED:</b> 7:15PM <b>NEXT BOARD MEETING:</b> Wednesday 29 June 2022</p>



# Board Chairperson's Message

A new chapter of the Riverland's history has been written with the opening of Saint Francis of Assisi College, the first Catholic high school in the region. While I am a relative newcomer to the region, I'm aware that this is a hard-fought win that has been on the wish list for decades.

Like many in our region, I watched with anticipation over the course of 2021 as a state-of-the-art new College emerged out of a dirt and the initial staff appointments were made. To go from a dusty paddock to a fully functioning school, with a dream team of staff, in approximately 12 months is nothing short of incredible.

It is hard to comprehend the sheer logistics and workload that goes into the establishment of a new school and credit must go to our inaugural Principal, Mr Nathan Hayes along with the Diocese of Port Pirie, Catholic Education South Australia and the Riverland Parish.

But what is an amazing school without students? Credit must also go to you, as the families of the first cohort of students, who could see that initial spark that Nathan and the team were creating and knew that this was something great to be part of.

Earlier in 2022, I was pleased to be appointed onto the Saint Francis of Assisi College Board and was genuinely honoured to be appointed the inaugural Chairperson. Our Board comprises individuals with an impressive array of professional and personal experiences, each bringing a unique voice to the table. Our Board is also well supported by office staff, teaching staff and Parish representatives.

The core focus of the Board over the course of 2022 has been on establishing the core functions and systems for Board reporting, providing financial oversight, considering enrollment strategies, discussing future building options, collaborating on the development of the new Strategic Plan and building an operating rhythm for a brand new entity.

As a new Board providing oversight for a new College, I am looking forward to us beginning to extend our gaze outward to a greater extent in 2023 and deepening our engagement with both the College community and the broader Riverland community.

I would like to thank our inaugural Board, comprising; Ben Dring, Nick Dowling, Tanya Allen, Michael Atsaves, Prue Kempthorne, Paul Searles and Fr Paul Bourke. With the support of Riverland Parish representative, Julie John and College staff representatives, Nathan Hayes, Claire Smith, Anthony Pickering, Mae Camporeale and Fraser Sampson.

It has been an inspiring initial year for our and I am enthusiastic for the incredible opportunities that lie ahead for our students.

**Tim Pfeiffer**

**Chair of the Board**

# Principal's Message

## St Francis of Assisi College - Vision to Reality

***“Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”***

**— St. Francis Of Assisi**

The opening of St Francis of Assisi College for the 2022 school year was the culmination of a huge amount of planning, time, and resources from many people. The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS), the Catholic Education Office (CEO) and the Diocese of Port Pirie all made significant contributions in the years leading up to our beautiful College opening.

The St Francis of Assisi College CEO Project Team played a lead role in delivering the huge task of guaranteeing the College was ready for the 2022 school year.

The members of the Project Team were:

Nichii Mardon	Director of Education - Port Pirie Diocese
Karen McKendrick	Project Manager
Terissa Shepperd / Nathan Hayes	Education Lead
Paul Grooms	Finance
David Kerr	Human Resources
Adin Sabic	ICT
Peter Smith	Planning and Development
Corinn Wakely-Young	Marketing

A strength of the process was the consultation with Riverland families, and our four Riverland Catholic primary schools. The ongoing local consultation ensured we were providing learning experiences relevant and appropriate for our Riverland context. The completion of a detailed Education Plan up front was critical as it informed all subsequent decisions required from the Project Team. The Education Plan ensured a student-centred focus throughout, and the provision of an excellent Catholic Education for families in the Riverland.

With respect to the build program, Mossop Construction + Interiors and Swanbury Penglase Architects, formed an effective team in partnership with the Catholic Education Office to deliver on the significant challenge of completing a new school build within a twelve-month timeframe.

Consultation with Riverland families was key throughout the initial investigation and planning period, and this continued to inform the formation of the College, insuring connection to the needs of the Riverland community. An Implementation Advisory Committee was formed very early in the planning stages, and this group met each month in the second half of 2020 and throughout 2021. This group was made up of the following stakeholders:

Mrs Nichii Mardon	Director of Education – Port Pirie Diocese
Fr Paul Bourke	Our Lady of the River Parish Priest
Mr David Mezinec	Principal at Tenison Woods College
Ms Teresa Colligan	Parent and Community Member
Ms Ali Stokes	Parent and Community Member
Mr Domenic Perre	Parent and Community Member
Ms Tammy Kregar	Parent and Community Member
Mr Tim Pfeiffer	Parent and Community Member
Ms Tanya Allan	Parent and Community Member
Mr Paul Searle	Parent and Community Member

### **Blessing and Official Opening**

On what was an unusually grey and wet summers day, we welcomed over 100 special guests and community members to the Blessing and Official Opening of St Francis of Assisi College on Monday 28 February 2022. Thunder clouds, lightening, and rain couldn't dampen our enthusiasm and students demonstrated a strong sense of pride in their new school, as they welcomed guests.

The formal ceremony officially blessed and opened the College, the Diocese of Port Pirie's first new Catholic school in over 20 years, and the first new Catholic secondary school in 59 years. Invited guests in attendance included SJ. Bishop Karol Kulczycki, SDS, Bishop of the Diocese of Port Pirie, Mrs Nichii Mardon, Director of Education for the Port Pirie Diocese, Professor Denis Ralph, Chair, South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools and Emeritus Bishop Gregory O'Kelly, the Honourable John Gardener, State Minister for Education and Tim Whetstone MP, Member for Chaffey. Bishop Karol Kulczycki, SDS, led the College community in blessing the College with involvement from various College and Our Lady of the River Parish members.

Mrs Nichii Mardon, Professor Denis Ralph, and Mr John Gardener, officially opened the College. Nichii Mardon opened her address commenting that "there's someone upstairs doing a happy dance for us" in reference to the downpour of rain that occurred earlier in the morning. Nichii acknowledged the commitment of the South Australian Commission for Catholic school to bring to life the "joy-filled vision" for the College that was developed with, and for, the people of the Riverland.

A beautiful feature of the ceremony was the 'Pelican Project'. The project was let by inaugural APRIM Ms Nanda de Winder in partnership with Kat Bell, local Aboriginal artist, in conjunction with students. A highlight was an animation showing the gathering of pelicans across the four Riverland towns making their way to the College in Renmark. The project culminated at the Opening in the entrance of a beautiful, large pelican puppet, managed by three student puppeteers.

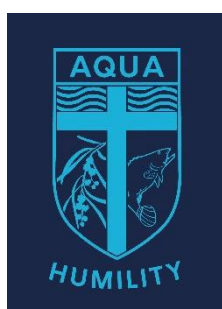
## Shaping our Catholic Identity

Our students their families and our amazing College team have been the key ingredient in bringing our College to life. We welcomed seventy-five students from thirteen primary schools from all parts of the Riverland and beyond!

To support our amazing students, our team of educators joined us from nine different schools and all parts of the state. Informed by our Catholic faith tradition, shaped by our College motto, *Laudato Si*, this rich tapestry of human talents and experiences began to enliven our unique identity as a Riverland Catholic College.

With the stewardship of our Assistant Principal of Religious Identity and Mission, Ms Nanda de Winter, our community came to understand our motto, *Laudato Si*, and what this would look like in our school. An early highlight was the Pelican Project developed in partnership with Kat Bell, a local First Nations artist. The Pelican Project was a highlight at the College Blessing and demonstrated the interconnectedness of our Riverland Catholic Schools.

To bring our Catholic Identity to life, at the beginning of Term 1 each House worked in their home group to define their unique House identity. The inaugural students of each House, led by their student leaders, came up with the following:



**Origin:**

Water

**House Colour:**

Blue Sky

**House Flora:**

River Cooba Tree

**House Fauna:**

Murray Cod

**House Virtue:**

Humility

**From the Canticle:**

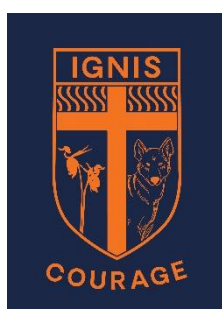
*Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water,*

*So useful, humble, precious and pure.*

Aqua, representing the lifeblood of our world, water.

The flora and fauna were chosen for their enduring connection to the Murray River. The River Cooba Tree can be found across Australia, usually near water sources in inland arid areas, and is present in woodlands and floodplains along the Murray River.

Our virtue of *Humility* encourages us to act with modesty and reminds us of the precious nature of water in our environment.



**Origin:**

Fire

**House Colour:**

Sunset Orange

**House Flora:**

Black Beak Duck Orchid

**House Fauna:**

Dingo

**House Virtue:**

Courage

**From the Canticle:**

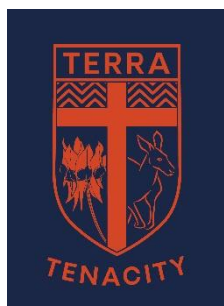
*Praised be You my Lord through Brother Fire,*

*through whom You light the night and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.*

Ignis, representing the light that fire provides in times of darkness.

The flora and fauna were chosen for their resilience to adversity. The Black Beak Duck Orchid is a critically endangered native species that requires fire and smoke for seeds to germinate. After the 2020 Kangaroo Island bushfires, four new populations were observed

along the fire scar. Our virtue of *Courage* strengthens us to be bold and daring in our learning and to speak for social justice.



**Origin:**

Earth

**House Colour:**

Earth Red

**House Flora:**

Sturt Desert Pea

**House Fauna:**

Red Kangaroo

**House Virtue:**

Tenacity

**From the Canticle:**

*Praised be You my Lord through our Sister*

*Mother Earth*

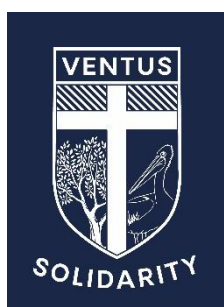
*who sustains and governs us,*

*producing varied fruits with coloured*

*flowers and herbs.*

Terra, representing our connection to land and the grounding earth provides us. The flora and fauna were chosen for their presence and symbolism of the South Australian outback. The Sturt Desert Pea was chosen as it is the state flower of South Australia has a tenacious ability to withstand harsh climates. The Kangaroo has a strong presence in our region and especially in our College grounds.

Our virtue of *Tenacity* drives us to be resilient in our learning and reminds us of the strength of Mother Earth.



**Origin:**

Wind

**House Colour:**

True White

**House Flora:**

Ghost Gum

**House Fauna:**

Pelican

**House Virtue:**

Solidarity

**From the Canticle:**

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers*

*Wind and Air,*

*And fair and stormy, all weather's moods,*

*by which You cherish all that You have*

*made.*

Ventus, representing the role wind has in sustaining life and providing energy in a sustainable world.

The flora and fauna were chosen to represent our Riverland region, their strength, and the pivotal role they play with the local ecosystem. The river red gum was selected for its presence across the Riverland region and the support it provides to numerous species. The pelican reminds us that even a force as destructive as wind can be used to our advantage. Our virtue of *Solidarity* asks us to stand together and requires other virtues to be displayed. It captures our need to collaborate and be united to achieve our goals.

## Excellent Catholic Education

We have been unwavering in our commitment to provide outstanding learning experiences for our students. As Leader of Learning, Mrs Natalie Meuret has displayed excellent leadership in our first year, walking alongside our educators to provide engaging, personalised, and rigorous learning experiences with our students.

Our educators have challenged each student to stretch themselves as learners and achieve at their personal best. Students have increasingly displayed agency over their learning throughout the year, developing the capabilities to become thriving people, capable learners, and leaders for the world God desires.



Our use of 'SEQTA' as our learning management system was a focus this year. Teachers have used SEQTA to ensure each lesson has clear learning intentions and success criteria for students, accompanied by all required digital resources. Our teaching staff have provided students with clear understanding of learning expectations and used SEQTA to provide timely and targeted feedback to students about their learning progress in a subject. Students have successfully navigated their use on SEQTA to access all learning materials and reflect on feedback. Staff and students are to be congratulated on how successfully they have embraced this system.

The professional development of our staff this year has focused on High Impact Teaching Strategies through peer observations. The process of peer observation provided an environment where collaboration and continuous development among teachers was encouraged and supported. It enabled teachers to focus on an aspect of high-quality teaching, building their teaching capabilities and empowering staff to continue to develop, leading to an increase in student achievement and learning outcomes.

### **Student Wellbeing**

The evidence is undeniable, supporting students with their physical, emotional, and social wellbeing is critical to enable them to be at their best, and be successful learners.

The St Francis of Assisi Wellbeing Model has been underpinned by the Catholic ethos and values of the College and Catholic Education SA. The values of St Francis of Assisi College are the enduring compass points that enrich understandings of what St Francis of Assisi College stands for. They are Gospel inspired, heart driven and informed by wisdom.

The College has partnered with key programs and organisations to ensure the wellbeing of all members in our community is supported. The Life Buoyancy Institute supported the College staff in the development of our Wellbeing Framework and have provided key professional development sessions to all staff in trauma-informed practice to ensure we are proactive and respond to student's needs. Staff have been supported and trained to approach all interactions with students with mindful awareness and to have a strong understanding of their intent for the interaction.

As the students formed strong and withstanding connections, it was important we supported our young people to engage with their own sense of self as they develop their understanding of their identity. By encouraging connection with their own identity, students have flourished in confidence to be their true self. Part of this endeavour was achieved through our partnership with the LifeChanger Foundation and their Youth Program.

A key success of the College Wellbeing Program has been the onsite counselling service led by Mrs. Tasha Morath. Although all staff do a wonderful and professional job in ensuring that not only each student's academic needs are being met, but also their wellbeing needs, at times more focussed and targeted support is needed. Many students have been referred by staff or self-referred to seek support from Mrs. Morath for a wide variety of reasons and needs. It is in these professional and confidential 1:1 or small group sessions that students have learnt new strategies to work through challenges and learn healthy scripts and strategies to assist in navigating their teenage years.

Our students have displayed outstanding leadership this year through both formalised structures and opportunities and the day-to-day opportunities that present.

Our connectedness as a community strengthened as the year progressed and students have taken the lead in many critical stages of our formation as a Catholic College in the Riverland. Supported by our Leader of Wellbeing, Mr Luke Cotter, foundational processes such as the naming of our College House Groups, establishing our Student Leadership structure, and our Student Action Groups, our inaugural cohort of students have laid excellent foundations for the years ahead.

It was quite amazing to see how quickly our College team and students collaborated to create experiences and opportunities that seemed beyond reach for a College in its infancy. Throughout 2022 there was a constant tension for our team to balance the requirements of attending to our 'big rocks' to ensure we were providing a safe, responsive school environment where students can learn at their best, whilst creating further experiential learning opportunities.

As the year progressed, the inaugural St Francis of Assisi College Board was formed to provide the necessary governance and stewardship for the future direction of the College. A key milestone of the Board was the endorsement of our Strategic Plan for 2023 – 2027.

In 2022, St Francis of Assisi College students participated in a number of co-curricular activities involving community events such as:

### **Student Support**

- differentiated curriculum;
- Educational Support Officers providing support in classes;
- improved access to specialist resources and learning support;
- coordination programs;
- literacy and numeracy support;
- Maker Space
- Learning Centre; and
- outside agency support

### **CO-Curricular Activities**

- National Reconciliation Week;
- ANZAC Day celebrations;
- Caritas Australia's Project Compassion Campaign;
- Mother's and Father's Day celebrations;
- R U OK Day;
- Social Justice Sunday;
- Vinnies Winter and Christmas Appeals;
- XR Extended Reality Challenge;
- \$20 Boss;
- Relay for Life;
- Riverland Field Days
- Riverland Rose and Garden Festival

### **Personal development Opportunities**

- Student Retreat experiences;
- Student Action Groups;
- Community Outreach opportunities;

- Outdoor Education experiences;
- LifeChanger Foundation Workshops; and
- Open Parachute Program;

At this time, I acknowledge the outstanding dedication and commitment of all St Francis of Assisi College staff. This inaugural team has been unwavering in their efforts to make St Francis of Assisi College the best school it could be in 2022, and beyond. The unknown's required of establishing a school in the first year are difficult to quantify without experiencing it first-hand. Our compass is always to consider what is best for our students when discerning our way forward and every team member has committed to this wholeheartedly.

The School Board, who came together in the second half of the school year, have been outstanding stewards for our school community. They are highly invested in the direction and success of the College, under the leadership of Tim Pfeiffer, continue to ensure the vision for our College community takes shape in the coming years.

I am also grateful for the very strong support of Fr Paul Bourke, and Fr Hau Lee, who have both provided terrific personal support for me over the past two years and have also been a constant presence for our students and staff. I wish Fr Paul the very best as he now heads back to his home patch in Port Lincoln and look forward to continuing our Parish partnership with Fr Hau, and Fr Emil who has joined the Parish in 2023.

Nichii Mardon, Director of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Port Pirie, has been a huge support and advocate for the establishment of the College in the Riverland, and to me personally as Principal. I thank Nichii for her support, and for the ongoing support I know will continue as the College establishes itself in the Riverland.

To our wonderful parent community, thank you for the confidence shown in myself, and our team, by entrusting us with your young people. This has certainly involved a leap of faith to some extent, and we look forward to growing our parent community, and providing opportunities for families to engage with the life of the College.

God Bless,

**Nathan Hayes**

**Principal**



# Inaugural President's Message

1956 resonates here in the Riverland, as we faced again nature's dominance with the floods. Our expertise and preparedness steered us through this time, we were united with pride through effort, to those who were affected.

Our new College had its pristine location severely tested, and everything possible was done to safeguard against any harm from the flood. It is one of many events that have embraced St. Francis of Assisi in its birth year, and I am sure each has bequeathed growth, resilience and unspoken ownership. It is ours: students, staff, families and community quietly acknowledge, as much continues to unfold that adds to the pulse of life in the Riverland. So much has grown in such a short era of time.

My own youthful excitement on what has been achieved in all aspects of College life has been the most privileged of later life privileges. An education precinct that is at one with the Church's universal obligation of "Safeguarding our Common Home", in the beauty of the Murray Darling Basin. We have much to contribute to this duty of care and education. My regular visits to the corridors of learning at St. Francis, simply encourage belief that it is in safe hands.

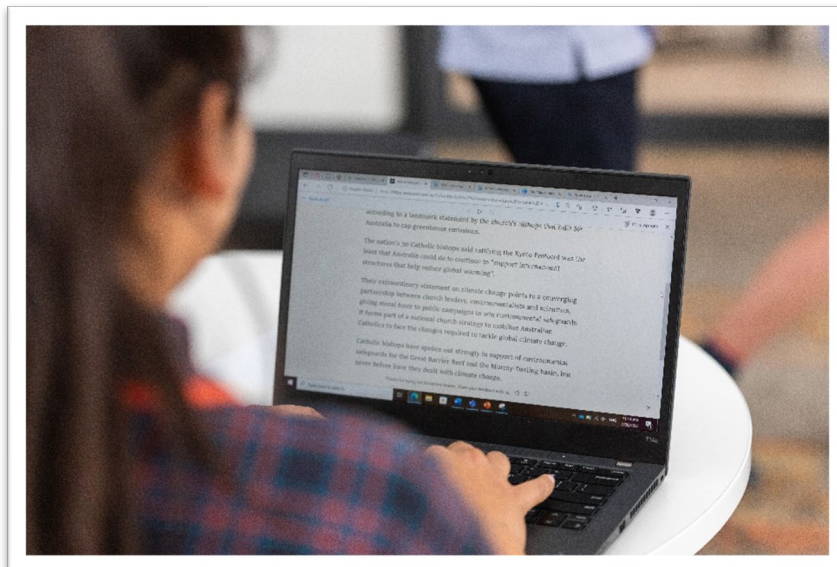
Staff and students exude the utmost confidence that all will be well, not so much in words, but in the family embedded culture that has grown so obviously and practised collectively at the College.

Its birth has been an answer to prayer and persistent efforts over many years. Its future will rest in that persistence, Prayer and our desire of God's will.

Well done to all and keep writing the history of what is now a reality, by the proper use of your own gifts. My deepest congratulations and gratitude with the abundance of God's Blessings.

**Fr. Paul Bourke**

**Inaugural College Board President**



# Current President's Message

With the new parish appointments at the end of last year, we farewelled Fr Paul Bourke and welcomed Fr Emil Mikwego. This parish, Our Lady of the River, is the largest parish in the diocese of Port Pirie with the amalgamation of all six Riverland Catholic churches in 2015, this includes: Renmark, Berri, Barmera, Loxton, Waikerie, and Morgan. This has laid the groundwork for the inception of such a College, as it may well be a great "meeting place" with students coming from all over the Riverland, but also from all walks of life, modelled on the Catholicity of the Church in its universal mission.

It is a great privilege to be involved with this College from the very beginning. To see where it has come from to where it is now, and in years to come. It is clear that Catholic Education SA have high hopes for this College and great confidence in the direction it is taking, in its commitment to excellence in learning, instilling faith and values, and building a welcoming community. This of course can only happen with great leadership under our principal, Mr Nathan Hayes along with the leadership team and the inaugural school board, who have laid excellent foundations and steered the school community remarkably well in what has been an eventful 12 months, as the community came out of COVID restrictions only to be met with severe flooding. The resilience of this nascent community through all the elements can only hold the College in good stead as Stage 2 commences this year, and sees the buildings grow along with our students.

Congratulations to everyone at St Francis of Assisi College and be assured of the prayers of our parish community, as your presence in many ways has already been an answer to them.

COURAGE. HUMILITY. TENACITY. SOLIDARITY.

**Fr Hau Le**

**Current College Board President**



# Finance Sub-committee Report

KPMG were engaged by Catholic Education SA to undertake the end of year audits across both archdioceses. Given the volume of work this entails, we are yet to receive a completed audit report for 2022. The draft report however indicates no areas of concern, so we expect a positive outcome when it is completed.

Operating Cash Profit recorded for 2022 was \$642k (all figures in \$,000's). This was a positive variance against budget of \$246k deficit. This was largely due to startup funding provided from Catholic Education SA.

	<b>2022</b>
Net Operation Cash Profit	\$642K

St Francis of Assisi College by comparison, is a low tuition fee College that offers very generous sibling and concessional discounts (for those families experiencing financial difficulties). Families have welcomed the College flexibility for spreading payments over the calendar year. The College Bus service costs have been subsidised by Catholic Education SA due to Government funding keeping inter-town bus fees low for families.

Main College operating expenses for the financial year were Salary and Wages for teachers and support staff, initial setup costs such as sports and science equipment, food technology equipment and general tuition expenses. The College reduced its electricity costs and environmental impact with solar panels installation and the Renmark Paringa Council supplied the College with recycled water for the oval and garden bed irrigation.

The College has developed a five-year financial plan and is confident of operating in a positive cash flow position over that period. This plan takes in to account expected future enrolments, student needs, human resource requirements, operating and capital expenditure.

The College currently has only two existing loans, one for Stage 1 of the Master Plan and one for Information Technology. The balance of the current loans as at 31 December 2022 is:

- Construction Loan Stage 1 \$7.0m
- Information Technology Loan \$213k

## **Future Capital Works**

Stage 2 construction commences in 2023 with anticipated Capital Expenditure of \$9.5m, the capital expenditure is fully funded by Catholic Education SA and will have a nil impact on the College cash position.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Finance Committee consisting of Michael Atsaves, Nathan Hayes and Anthony Pickering for their support throughout the year.

**Ben Dring**

**Chairperson of the Finance Sub-Committee**

# School Performance Report

## School Information Statement

### Enrolments

St Francis of Assisi College enrolment numbers for our inaugural year were 72. The College opened its doors for the first time to Year 7 and Year 8 students on Wednesday 2 February 2022 in the midst of COVID19 pandemic.

### Term Attendance

Term	1			2			3			4			Total
Year Level	F	M	Total	F	M	Total	F	M	Total	F	M	Total	
07	89.6%	87.1%	88.1%	85.3%	87.0%	86.3%	85.1%	85.2%	85.2%	84.0%	86.8%	85.7%	86.4%
08	95.0%	75.6%	83.7%	83.6%	82.7%	83.1%	82.9%	78.6%	80.4%	92.6%	86.8%	89.3%	83.9%
Total	91.9%	82.3%	86.2%	84.5%	85.2%	84.9%	84.2%	82.4%	83.1%	87.6%	86.8%	87.1%	85.3%

Year Level	1	2	3	4	Total
07	88.1%	86.3%	85.2%	85.7%	86.4%
08	83.7%	83.1%	80.4%	89.3%	83.9%
Total	86.2%	84.9%	83.1%	87.1%	85.3%

### 2022 Breakdown of Students

Year Level	Year 7	Year 8
Boys	24	17
Girls	18	13
Total	42	30

### Where Students Come From

Post Code	Area	No. of Students
5341	Renmark	35
5345	Baramera	11
5340	Paringa	10
5343	Berri	7
5344	Glossop	3
5333	Loxton	3
5346	Cobdogla	1

5332	Moorook	1
3496	Lindsay Point	1

Previous Schools	Year 7	Year 8
St Joseph's School, Renmark	22	7
St Joseph's School, Barmera	4	9
Our Lady of the River, Berri	3	4
St Albert's School, Loxton	1	1
Other Local Schools	9	5
Schools from outside the region	3	4
	42	30

Languages Spoken at Home					
English	65	Greek	1	Khumer	1
Punjabi	4	Tagalog	1		

## National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Please refer to the following charts for NAPLAN 2022.

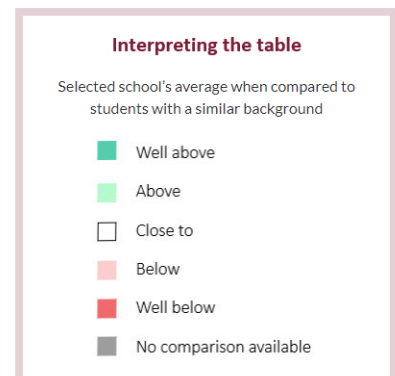
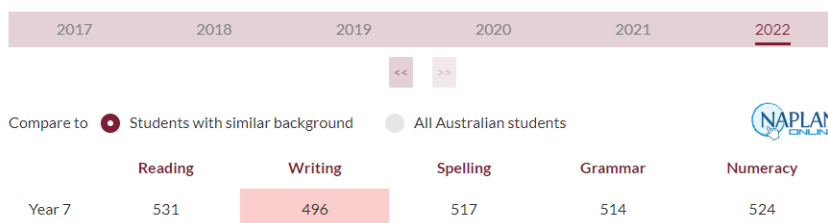
We are close in achievement to students from similar schools in all areas except the following, where we are slightly below:

- Year 7 Writing

The College continues to put considerable effort into improving the literacy and numeracy learning of all students through investing in professional learning for staff and increasing our use of data to identify learning needs for all students and plan interventions.

### Year 7

The following tables show the 4fr School Mean Score for all NAPLAN components for 2022.



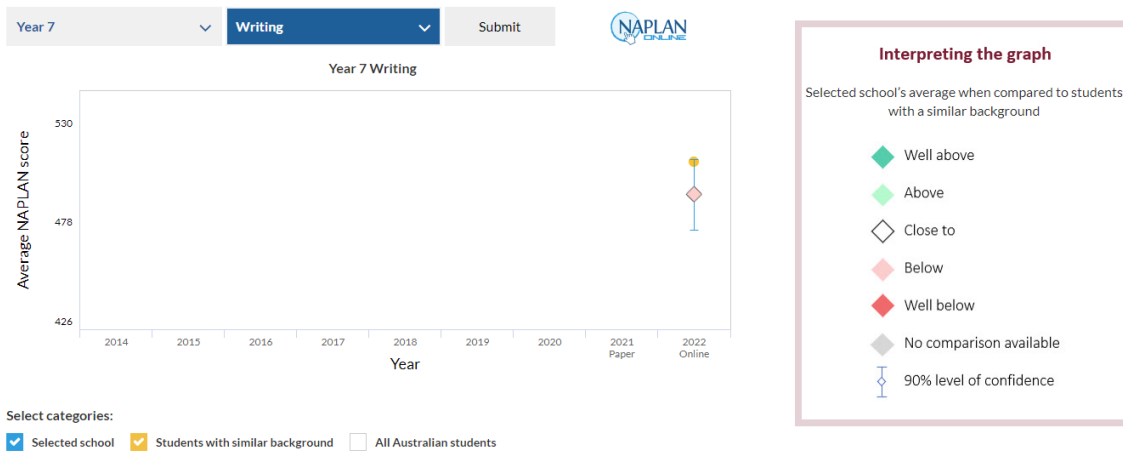
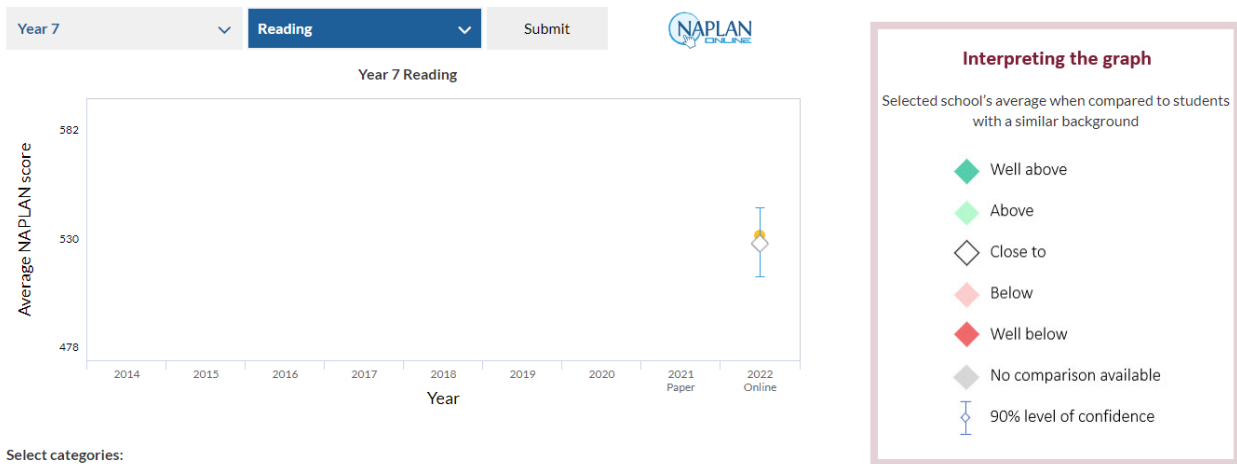
<sup>NB</sup> In 2020 education ministers decided that NAPLAN testing would not proceed that year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

<sup>NB</sup> A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate for a comparison to be available. Grey shading indicates participation did not meet these thresholds.



## Year 7

The graphs below shows the average NAPLAN score for all students at the College in each domain, compared to the average score of students with a similar background.





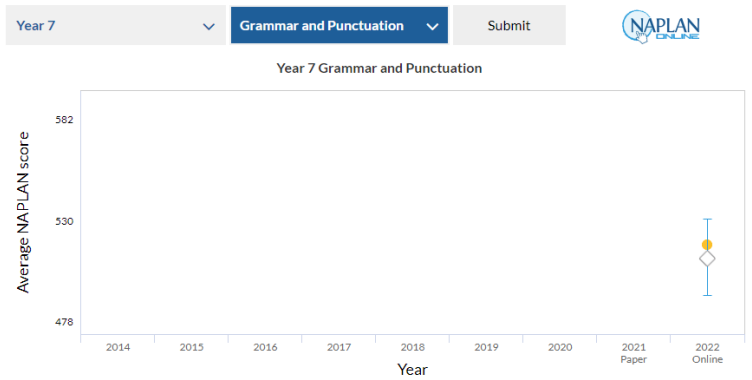
Select categories:

- Selected school  Students with similar background  All Australian students

**Interpreting the graph**

Selected school's average when compared to students with a similar background

- ◆ Well above
- ◆ Above
- Close to
- ◆ Below
- ◆ Well below
- ◆ No comparison available
- 90% level of confidence



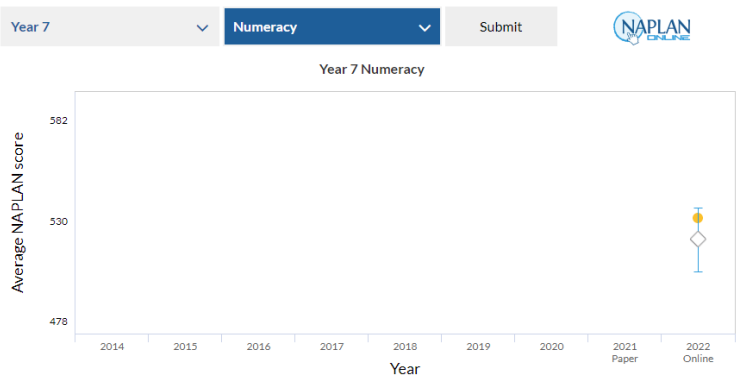
Select categories:

- Selected school  Students with similar background  All Australian students

**Interpreting the graph**

Selected school's average when compared to students with a similar background

- ◆ Well above
- ◆ Above
- Close to
- ◆ Below
- ◆ Well below
- ◆ No comparison available
- 90% level of confidence



Select categories:

- Selected school  Students with similar background  All Australian students

**Interpreting the graph**

Selected school's average when compared to students with a similar background

- ◆ Well above
- ◆ Above
- Close to
- ◆ Below
- ◆ Well below
- ◆ No comparison available
- 90% level of confidence



# Community Wellbeing

## LIVING LEARNING LEADING SURVEYS

In 2022, surveys were conducted with NSI Partnerships using the Living Learning Leading Framework.

The Living Learning Leading Surveys have been developed to support schools in rating their performance and progress towards meeting the intent of the Framework. Data collected using the Surveys will be interpreted and used, with support from Schools Performance Leaders, to assist in our endeavours to position Catholic Education South Australia as a leading Catholic system. Seeking stakeholder perceptions through the administration of the Living Learning Leading Surveys will provide evidence that can be used by schools to support their self-assessment of performance against the four components of the Living Learning Leading Standard (namely, Catholic identity; Curriculum and co-constructed learning and assessment design; Students agency, identity learning and leadership; and Community engagement). Further, the perception data will provide important information that can be triangulated with other data when making school improvement decisions.

A guide on how to read the survey's can be located [here](#).

## PARENT / CAREGIVER SURVEYS

### Parent and Caregiver Feedback

In 2022, surveys were conducted with the NSI Partnerships. 18 parents and caregivers completed this survey. The results can be found [here](#).

## STUDENT SURVEYS

### Student Voice – Middle School (Years 7-9)

In 2022, surveys were conducted with the NSI Partnerships. 68 students in Years 7-8 completed this survey. The results can be found [here](#).

## STAFF SURVEYS

### Teacher and Leadership Feedback

In 2022, surveys were conducted with the NSI Partnerships. 9 teaching and leadership staff completed this survey. The results can be found [here](#).

### Education Support Officer Feedback

In 2022, surveys were conducted with the NSI Partnerships. 5 education support officers completed this survey. The results can be found [here](#).

## COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Student, staff, and family wellbeing underpins everything we do at St Francis of Assisi College.

Nurturing a positive self-concept, providing opportunities for social connection, and developing the skills to bounce back when faced with challenges support young people to flourish and be at their best.

At the heart of our framework is our commitment to our students and our understanding of all people – we see them as ‘thriving people, capable learners, leaders for the world God desires.’

## WELLBEING PARTNERSHIPS

In 2022, we formed partnerships with a number of wellbeing-based content providers to support the work we do with the young people in our care. All partnerships were intentionally decided upon and have core values that align to our strategic plan.

### Orah Nurture

Orah Nurture provides staff with real-time wellbeing data and an opportunity to connect with students during times of stress. All students utilise Orah Nurture to complete a 30-second Mood Check every Monday and Thursday during school term. Students can book meetings with Wellbeing staff to receive counselling or to share information.

### Wellio

Wellio works with the College to develop a Scope and Sequence of lessons that we deliver to our Year 8 cohort. Topics covered include Relationships, Emotions, Finding Meaning, Accomplishment, Engagement and Health.

Within lessons, staff receive up to date information from surveys to measure the impact of the content delivery upon student wellbeing over time.

### LifeChanger Foundation

LifeChanger Foundation is a preventative mental health and wellbeing non-profit that empowers young people to live thriving, resilient lives by developing social, emotional and resilience skills.

They work explicitly with our Year 7 and Year 9 students in Term 1 to develop critical foundational skills that empower students to successfully navigate life, overcome challenges and pursue their unlimited potential.

### Open Parachute

The goal of the Open Parachute program is to teach practical mental health skills to students. The focus is on prevention, giving students an opportunity to practice skills for addressing any current or future challenges that might impact their mental health. By taking a proactive approach, we will move towards a transformational, proactive approach in responding to student needs.

The Open Parachute program is delivered in Health lessons.



# People and Culture

St Francis of Assisi College progressively recruited its teaching and non-teaching workforce with initial appointments to the leadership team commencing in the second half of 2021. The teaching workforce were then recruited and commenced in January 2022. We have been very fortunate to attract an excellent mix of skills and experience, appointments were made from personnel living both locally and from various regions across South Australia.

There has been 100% retention of staff, with the exception of Nanda de Winter, Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission. Nanda took up the position of Principal at St Joseph's School, Baramba, mid year 2022. During her time at St Francis Nanda made an indelible impact on the College's Religious Identity and understanding of *Laudato Si'*, our College Motto.

Year	Catholic Teaching Staff	Honours Degree or Grad Dip	Master's Degree	Grad Certificate in Catholic Studies
2023	64%	18%	10%	18%

2022	WOMEN			MEN			Total
	Full time	Part time	Casual	Full time	Part time	Casual	
Principal	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Position of Responsibility	2	-	-	1	-	-	3
Teachers	2	1	-	2	-	-	5
Education Support Officers	-	1	-	1	1	-	3
Administration / Other	1	1	-	1	-	-	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15</b>

## Training Records

- Life Buoyancy Institute
- Staff Retreat
- David Kelly, Buoyancy Institute
- High Impact Teaching Strategies through Peer Observations

# Workplace Health and Safety

St Francis of Assisi College follow the policy and procedure guidelines outlined in the Catholic Church Safety Manual which is in line with the WHS Act. The College is committed to meeting the standards required and to meet these objectives the active co-operation of all persons involved are required by the school in establishing and maintaining the highest possible safety standards. The aim is to ensure that workers, volunteers, visitors and other persons working/visiting the site are safe from injury and risks to their health while involved in school activities.

All staff are given opportunities to have an input into WHS. These include, WHS on staff meeting agenda's, emails, Safety Bulletins, Workplace Inspections, and feedback on Emergency Drills.

Catholic Safety Health & Welfare consultant Lucas Parfitt made two visits to the College.

This is how we achieved safety standards in 2022:

- Workplace Inspections
- Emergency drills tested
- Risk assessment procedures for excursions and classroom activities
- Risk assessment and planning for flood waters
- COVID management plan
- Identification and rectification of construction issues
- All regular contractors contacted for updates on COVID information etc.
- All emergency exit lights tested
- Security software implemented and Master Key system in place
- Emergency management and disaster recovery plan completed
- All firefighting equipment tested and stamped as compliant

Reportable Incidents: 0 reports were entered into the WHS website detailing injuries, causes and recommended actions. No incidents were required to be reported to Safe Work SA. There were 0 work cover claims.

Hazard Reports: 5 were logged for the year all were resolved no further investigation required.

Thank you to all for their ongoing support of WHS and keeping St Francis of Assisi College a safe and happy place.

**Anthony Pickering**

**Finance Manager**

# College Highlights

## School Sports

### Term 1

- SFoAC Athletics Carnival
- Adelaide Swimming
- Rowing Program Commenced

### Term 2

- Pastoral Care Coaching Clinics (Football, Soccer, Netball, CrossFit)
- SFoAC Cross Country Carnival
- Riverland Interschool Cross Country
- Oakbank Cross Country
- Statewide School Basketball Competition
- Statewide School Soccer Competition
- Riverland Interschool 9-a-side football

### Term 3

- Statewide School Netball Competition
- Riverland Interschool 5-a-side soccer
- Catholic Athletics Carnival
- Pastoral Care Coaching Clinics (Cricket, Basketball, Tennis, Baseball/Softball)

### Term 4

- Riverland Schools Cricket Cup
- SFoAC Swimming Carnival





The commitment of the College community to leading and living healthy lifestyles through sporting and recreational endeavours is wonderful to see. In our inaugural year, our College was successful in running some major whole school events including our Athletics Carnival, Cross Country Carnival, and Swimming Carnival. These events provided students the opportunity to earn points and show team spirit for their respective houses. Additionally, selected students were provided the opportunity to compete in the SA School Swimming Championships, Riverland Cross Country, Oakbank Cross Country and Catholic Athletics Carnival, testing themselves at the next level. A highlight was our College winning the Pool B U13 category in our first year at the Catholic Athletics Carnival.

A big focus of our School Sport program has been on providing as many opportunities as possible for students to experience different sports, with the intention of finding a summer and winter sport for each student. This was promoted through Pastoral Care sessions throughout Term 2 & 4, where students participated in coaching clinics run by staff and community volunteers with coaching expertise in netball, football, soccer, CrossFit, cricket, basketball, tennis and baseball/softball. To further promote student participation in community sport, our College entered teams in the Statewide Schools Competition for year 7/8 girls netball, year 7/8 boys basketball and year 7/8 boys soccer, along with teams in the Riverland 5-a-side soccer, 9-a-side football and Cricket Cup competitions against other High Schools in the region.

We also commenced our College Rowing Program, headed by our specialist Rowing Coach Stephanie Turnbull. All students were provided the opportunity to try rowing as part of their HPE lessons early in the year, having the opportunity to try the program, before making a formal commitment in Term 4. Students have really enjoyed the challenge of learning a new sport and developing the technical, tactical and organisational skills required.

Our first year was filled with many great school sport opportunities that we look to build on and expand in 2023 and beyond!



## Rowing Program

St Francis of Assisi College is the first and only regional school in South Australia to offer a rowing program. Through a strong partnership with Renmark Rowing Club, we have been able to do this in our first year of operation.

In the first part of 2022 all students were given the opportunity to experience on water rowing as part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum. This was both exciting and challenging for the Year 7 and 8 students. It gave students a taste of what rowing involves and led to those interested in nominating for extension learn to row sessions during Term 2.

The fully fledged Rowing Program was then launched in Term 3 with 14 students committing to the program. Students continued to develop their skills in rowing, working through the correct sequence of the stroke, the importance of timing and working as a crew to efficiently maneuver the boats. During the year they contested with windy conditions, wash from other river uses, the high river and fast flows. They handled these conditions exceptionally well.

The College purchased six Concept2 rowing machines to support students on land development. These have been incredible assets and have enabled students to continue to develop their rowing skills and fitness when we ceased all on water activity in early November (due to flood conditions).



The river conditions caused by the floods, certainly provided challenges in launching our Rowing Program. Students really are to be commended for their continued excitement and commitment to fitness and strength conditioning sessions. They completed two rounds of testing on the rowing machines and showed great improvements in their fitness and technique.

2022 concluded on a high note with an excursion to West Lakes Rowing Centre, where students rowed single sculls, and practiced capsized and recovery techniques in a safe environment. They then enjoy Rowing SA's Indoor Rowing Room, testing themselves in sprint races and using technology where they were able to monitor their individual performances against their peers in real time. It was a fantastic opportunity to experience the hub of the sport in SA and hear from the SASI Development Officer on the potential pathways within the sport.

The rowing season continues through Term 1 in 2023 and excitingly students were able to return to on water training in Week 3. After a 14 week pause, I was incredibly impressed with their on-water technique after such little experience. All the effort students had put into their ergo sessions during the on-water break, certainly paid off.

We then headed off to West Lakes for our second excursion at the end of Week 4. This time to volunteer at the Rowing SA State Championships, which showcased top athletes in the state, from U17's to Open age. We were lucky to watch all boat classes in action, even seeing some past Olympians and Australian Representatives in action! Students were based down at the 2000m start line where they lay on a pontoon and held boats in place when they entered their lane. They were exposed to what's required to start a rowing race, including; time management needed to travel down to the start line, working as a crew to manoeuvre into your correct lane, the importance of the coxswain and the process in which a race is called to start.



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While there were a lot of challenges during our first season, it has been a fantastic year of rowing. Students have been exposed to the wider SA community in rowing, completed 3 rounds of

fitness testing on the ergo, all recording PB's, and most importantly enjoyed learning how to row and the training that is involved. It has been a privilege to teach these new skills and introduce rowing to not only the students, but the College community. Moving forward, I look forward to Year 7's learning to row in 2023 and our current students continuing to develop their skills and compete next season!

**Stephanie Turnbull**

**Rowing Coach**

