



Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn
CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Pambula, NSW

2010 School Report to the Community



LUMEN
CHRISTI
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Welcome to our School

Welcome to Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula!

Our College Vision "Let us be the Light of Christ, learning to value God's gifts, inspiring hope and serving others" is a challenging ideal in which to strive towards on a daily basis. Lumen Christi has developed a fine reputation within the region, however we continue to remind ourselves of the teachings of Jesus when there are times that we are challenged in our efforts to live out the College's vision and mission. Reflecting on our beliefs and goals ensures we do not lose focus on why Catholic education began in Australia and why we build on legacy of those who gave gracefully in setting up and maintaining the unique role of a Catholic school. St Mary of the Cross MacKillop is one such pioneer who made a significant impact on the Australian education landscape with her emphasis on providing an education to the poor and underprivileged. Lumen Christi has two feeder Catholic Primary schools that were founded by St Mary MacKillop.

Lumen Christi is an authentic educational institution where the goal is to work on improving educational outcomes for all students. This is provided through a combination of engaging teaching and learning practices, an effective student management program based on restorative practices, prudent fiscal management and providing a wide array of activities for the students.

Lumen Christi Catholic College is part of the Country Area Program and in 2010 CAP funds were used to provide staff with professional development activities focussing on quality teaching and learning.

The College offers both a strong academic program and opportunities for students who have skills and interests in vocational education. This is achieved within a climate of acceptance, forgiveness and reconciliation in the way community members treat each other, so that students feel safe and have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Highlights of the Year

Lumen Christi Catholic College has had a most successful year in 2010.

"Lumen's Got Talent" is the Term 2 activity that raises the latent talent of many of our students. Each week there are performances held at lunchtime and voted upon by the student leaders. The grand finale on the last day was a wonderful celebration of the talent of our students for the enjoyment of the whole community.

The College's Feast Day, Lumen Day, was considered the best ever with an array of activities that had the students enjoying a most successful event.

The House system continues to provide a strong connection for each student as they develop their sense of belonging. The participation in three wonderful sporting carnivals is testimony to the growing sense of belonging and house spirit.

The students' response to charitable causes such as Project Compassion and the Pakistan floods was most impressive. Their willingness to participate in the Imlay House (Aged Care facility), Relay 4 Life, 40 Hour famine and Daffodil Day, just to name a few, highlights their sense of justice and willingness to help those in need.

Students were also able to participate in two very special events that improved their understanding of how we learn. These included the John Joseph 'Brain day' and Karen Boyes "Study Skills day" with the students giving glowing reports on the benefits of such an opportunity.

Culturally and sporting wise, the students at Lumen Christi showcased their talents especially for the Creative Arts Showcase for the senior students and with a large number of students representing the College at regional, diocesan, state and national level.

Principal's Report

The theme for 2010 was Micah's Theme which is "Live justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God" and was a focus for many of our staff meetings. The College staff joined with the staff of our three Catholic Primary feeder schools to enjoy a day facilitated by Fr Frank Brennan, Jesuit priest and lawyer and one of Australia's national living treasures. He presented to us the work, life and times of St Mary MacKillop and co-worker Fr Julian Tennyson Woods in light of the theme of social justice. It was a most inspiring and worthwhile presentation.

The continuing close association of the four Catholic schools in the region saw the development of the South East Catholic Schools network that has been formed to outline a strategy for a learning continuum from Kindergarten to Year 12. This will be launched in 2011.

Staff at Lumen Christi have had the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of professional development activities that enhance their teaching and learning skills in the classroom. The College belongs to the Country Area Program which is a federally funded program that assists regional and remote schools overcome isolation. The College is grateful for the support given by the program and the staff and ultimately the students benefit greatly from this initiative.

One of the major priorities in 2010 was the successful completion of the Registration process for the College. These are five-yearly audits where a panel of ten professional educators visit the College for three days and look at our programs, policies and procedures and the financial management of the College. The staff at Lumen Christi can be justly proud of its achievements and attention to detail in meeting compliance and regulatory processes.

School Community Report

The P&F Association continues to provide the opportunity for parents to be actively involved in the College community. The main event for 2010 was the organisation of the "10th Year Anniversary Dinner Dance" which was enjoyed by all. Special guests included the previous Director of the CEO, Mr Geoff Joy and a large contingent of students who were enrolled in the inaugural cohort. This was a fitting tribute to the development of the College community to date.

The P&F also organised an Easter Raffle earlier in the year and this also was a very successful fundraiser with generous donations from a wide variety of people. The management of the canteen is a major responsibility of the P&F Association and the Coordinator does a wonderful job overseeing the operations of the canteen with numerous parents who are volunteer helpers. The P&F is hoping the basketball/netball courts will be completed and in operation for the new year.

The College Board assist the Principal in the management of the College and normal business includes approving and managing policies and budgets. The Board was also instrumental in gaining approval for a Government grant to construct a multipurpose hall in 2010. Tenders have been called and hopefully construction will begin before Christmas. With the Federal election held in 2010, the Board was very active in becoming knowledgeable on the various parties' policies on education. The return of the Labor Government has meant that no instant changes were made, however with the new Australian Curriculum on its way and a new policy of school funding in the pipeline the Board will be busy keeping abreast of developments.

Student Achievement

The following tables show the school's results in the national testing of literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) in 2010.

School and National Mean Scale Scores

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	546.0	533.4	544.6	535.1	547.7
School	585.2	553.9	568.0	564.0	565.7

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	573.6	567.7	578.4	578.8	584.9
School	612.3	603.2	593.7	593.7	600.5

The above tables show the students at Lumen Christi in Years 7 & 9 achieved results, on average, considerably higher than the national average in every domain tested in the NAPLAN tests.

Proportion of students at or above the National Minimum Standard

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	94.8%	92.6%	92.9%	91.5%	95.0%
School	99%	100%	100%	97%	100%

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
National	90.7%	87.2%	89.6%	90.8%	93.1%
School	98%	98%	94%	98%	99%

The above tables show there is a very small number of students who did not meet the minimum standard. These students have already been identified as students requiring special assistance and have been doing so since their arrival.

Proportion of students in each Achievement Band

YEAR 7	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 9	21%	9%	14%	21%	11%
Band 8	31%	30%	29%	11%	27%
Band 7	28%	23%	31%	39%	38%
Band 6	17%	33%	13%	19%	16%
Band 5	1%	5%	14%	8%	9%
Band 4	1%	1%	0%	3%	0%

YEAR 9	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 10	11%	13%	7%	4%	1%
Band 9	30%	16%	21%	23%	27%
Band 8	30%	32%	34%	33%	38%
Band 7	20%	23%	26%	30%	29%
Band 6	7%	13%	6%	7%	4%
Band 5	2%	2%	6%	2%	1%

The above tables show the students are performing above state and national averages in the majority of the higher bands and have less representation in the lower bands.

Student Wellbeing and Engagement

Students at Lumen Christi Catholic College are a positive, vibrant, engaging and welcoming group of students. They generally speak highly of their school in the community and are proud ambassadors. This is reflected in their behaviour outside the school and the numerous positive reports that are returned to the school by those who observe them in various capacities.

There were 273 females and 231 males enrolled at the October census. We proudly acknowledge the 21 students who identify as indigenous Australians. They feel included and have a high profile in the College. The establishment of the Didgeridoo group is a positive addition to school assemblies and cultural immersion. There were four students identified as having English as a Second Language, and these students also brought their gifts and talents to the College for the benefit of all. The College location is considered regional and remote.

The College has a vertical homeroom structure. In each homeroom there are students from each year for the duration of the pastoral care period each day. This assists with all students having interactions with the full spectrum of students and provides mentoring and peer support for all students.

Special days that further enhance student wellbeing and participation include the sporting carnivals, Lumen Day, spirituality days, retreats, assemblies and special events that bring the students together as a community.

Priorities and Targets

In 2010 the College focussed on consolidating processes and programs begun in 2009. In relation to staff professional development the aim was to build capacity within teaching pedagogy. For students, we re-timetabled successful initiatives used in 2009 for the ongoing development of student skills. Specific programs included those listed below.

Refining subject selection processes for students entering Year 11 has been a focus for 2010. Year 10 students were interviewed and counselled on career options. An array of subjects was then presented to the students including subjects run at the College and a variety of other alternatives from external agencies. These included online subjects, TAFE, and distance education options. The individualisation of the curriculum resulted in a 92% retention rate which is a 8% increase over recent retention data.

The College has further developed partnerships with external agencies especially in relation to students completing workplace hours for their VET subjects, school based apprenticeships and work experience opportunities. There have been significant benefits here in keeping students engaged in their education generally and provide a vital connection between school and post-school options.

The Learning Support teacher has initiated a transition program for students with special learning needs. This program allows the teacher to view first hand the prospective student in their primary school classroom to assist in assessing their needs before the move to high school. Whilst at the College, the Learning Support teacher helps the student to access post school destinations that are appropriate for the student's employment prospects.

The College Pastoral Care Policy has been further refined in 2010 through regular meetings with key staff personnel, promotion of the House system, further understanding of the charism of the house patron saints, further development of student leadership and better understanding of restorative practices in student management.

Improving teacher expertise in the use of interactive white boards and incorporating model mapping techniques have been two priorities for teacher professional development in 2010. Both focus on providing students with deeper engagement in the classroom.

Literacy and Numeracy

- Utilise student performance data to inform alignment of class groupings and structures
- Develop strategies and processes for staff to access and interpret NAPLAN data
- Implement specific targets for literacy and numeracy strands as indicated by performance data
- Further embed QTF strategies to inform programming and assessment

School Contact Information

Address:	P.O. Box 316, Pambula. 2549
Principal:	Mr Paul Carroll
Parish Priest / School Chaplain:	Fr Mick MacAndrew
School Board / Council Chair:	Mr Richard Jarmusz
Telephone:	(02) 6495 8888
Fax:	(02) 6495 8887
Email:	lccc@lumen.nsw.edu.au
Web site:	www.lumen.nsw.edu.au

This report was prepared by:

Paul Carroll
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