



St Thomas' Publication of Information Relating to Schools
2015

Principal: Justin Tuohy

SCHOOL PROFILE

St Thomas' School, Claremont, is a Catholic Primary School, established in 1909 by the Presentation Sisters. Today St Thomas' is a vibrant, single-stream, co-educational school catering for the families of St Thomas' parish and surrounding areas for students from Kindergarten to Year Six.

The school is part of a strong and nurturing community and has an excellent reputation for providing a welcoming, involved and academically diverse environment for its students.

The 'whole child' is nurtured, not only through a Religious Education and strong academic program, but also through extracurricular programs. Specialist teachers in Art, Health, Physical Education, ICT and Music, support the rich education available.

St Thomas' implements the RAISe (Raising Achievement in Schools) initiative, focusing on improving outcomes in literacy and numeracy for all children. This includes an extension program. Reading Recovery and Extending Mathematical Understanding intervention are used for students requiring support.

As expressed in our motto 'Together in Christ', the school thrives on a whole-school approach and commitment to collaborative processes, enjoying the excellent good-will and support of the Parish Priest, School Board and Parents and Friends Association.

We welcome students and their families from a variety of cultures into our school community. The community takes great pride in the heritage, tradition and history of the school and is very proud of the students who have graduated from the school in years gone by.

There is a rich support program at the school, which assists teachers to cater for all children. The school has access to the Non-Government School Psychologist services.

There is a school choir and instrumental tuition is also available to complement the children's learning.

Our Early Childhood Centre provides opportunities for children to participate in the Three Year Old Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Pre- Primary. Students then progress to more formal learning in Years 1- 6.

The school acknowledges the involvement of parents as the prime educators of their children and acknowledges them for their assistance in classrooms, social events, attendance at parent meetings and participation on the Parents and Friends Association. Parents are provided with information about their children's learning through information meetings, parent/teacher interviews, learning journeys and portfolios. Teachers also make themselves available to meet with parents on request.

Parents are issued with written reports twice a year. They receive information through a fortnightly newsletter that provides information on a range of issues relevant to the school's curriculum, organisation, special events, student achievements and other matters.

TEACHING STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

We have a very dedicated team at St Thomas' with the children's development being the focus at all times. All our staff members are professional, committed and caring in their duties and as a consequence our children have a real love of life and learning. The one essential criterion for a staff member is to care and to foster a love of learning and of life.

Teaching Staff Qualifications

There are a total of 17 teachers at St Thomas' School who work in either a full-time or part-time capacity.

Master Degrees: 2
Bachelor Degrees: 10
Diplomas: 5

Workforce Composition

8 Teaching Staff (full-time) 9 Teaching Staff (part-time)
1 Teacher Assistants (full-time) 5 Teacher Assistants (part-time)
Library Assistant (0.2)
Office Administration (0.8)
Bursar (0.6)
Presently the school does not have any indigenous staff employed.

Gender Information:

3 Male Staff
23 Female Staff

STUDENT ATTENDANCE FOR 2015

The average student attendance rate for the school during 2015 was 94.92

Year Level	Attendance Rate 2015
Pre-Primary	94.05%
Year One	94.23%
Year Two	93.92%
Year Three	95.31%
Year Four	95.23%
Year Five	96.42%
Year Six	95.28%

A number of students have longer periods of absence from time to time due to overseas travel. Most grades experienced increased absenteeism during winter terms due to winter illnesses. All parents are requested to provide written notes for non-attendance. Parents are contacted for children who are regularly absent. Other action is taken as appropriate in regard to non-attendance.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT RESULTS FOR LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN)

The school's results in both Literacy and Numeracy are extremely pleasing. The success of our programs was evidenced by our NAPLAN results for children in Years 3 & 5. All our children are above the National Minimum Standard benchmark in Reading, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation, Writing and Numeracy. The school mean is above the National mean in every area and in some cases well above. The school's commendable NAPLAN results are a consequence of the dedication of staff and the regular communication between teachers and parents, as well as the weekly professional development that takes place at St Thomas' Primary.

NAPLAN Results Summary 2015

Year 3	
Spelling	School Mean: 426 All Australian School Mean: 409
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Grammar & Punctuation	School Mean: 474 All Australian School Mean: 433
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Persuasive Writing	School Mean: 456 All Australian School Mean: 416
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Reading	School Mean: 472 All Australian School Mean: 426
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Numeracy	School Mean: 426 All Australian School Mean: 398
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>

Year 5	
Spelling	School Mean: 553 All Australian School Mean: 498
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Grammar & Punctuation	School Mean: 561 All Australian School Mean: 504
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Persuasive Writing	School Mean: 529 All Australian School Mean: 478
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Reading	School Mean: 580 All Australian School Mean: 498
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>
Numeracy	School Mean: 558 All Australian School Mean: 492
100%	<i>% students at or above the National Minimum Standard</i>

PARENT, STUDENT AND TEACHER SATISFACTION

The community atmosphere at St Mary's School is obvious and this is one of the strengths of the school. The support provided by parents for all events is outstanding. Satisfaction with St Thomas' School is apparent by the strong attendance demonstrated at all community events.

Students treat the environment respectfully and a high standard of respect for each individual exists in classrooms and in the playground. The staff is collectively very professional and supports the school in all endeavours.

Our School Climate Surveys indicate that parents, students and staff are very satisfied with what is offered at St Mary's School. The data was very positive with most indicators of school climate being above to well above the system average.

Particular strengths, as indicated by the data, are as follows:

Student Behaviour

Staff Team Work
Staff Professional Growth
Teacher Confidence
Student Connectedness to School
Student Connectedness to Peers
Teacher Empathy
School Improvement
Homework
Teacher Morale
Parent Input

POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

Secondary Schools/College	Number of Students
Iona Presentation College	5
John XXIII College	10
Scotch College	1
Christchurch Grammar College	3
Trinity College	1
St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls	1
Shenton College	1
Perth Modern	1
Interstate/Overseas	1

SCHOOL INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Please click on the hyperlink to see St Thomas' [**2015 Financial Information**](#)