

RED ROCK

CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE

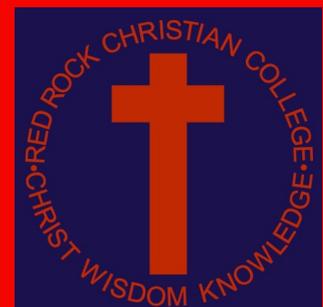
www.redrock.vic.edu.au

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

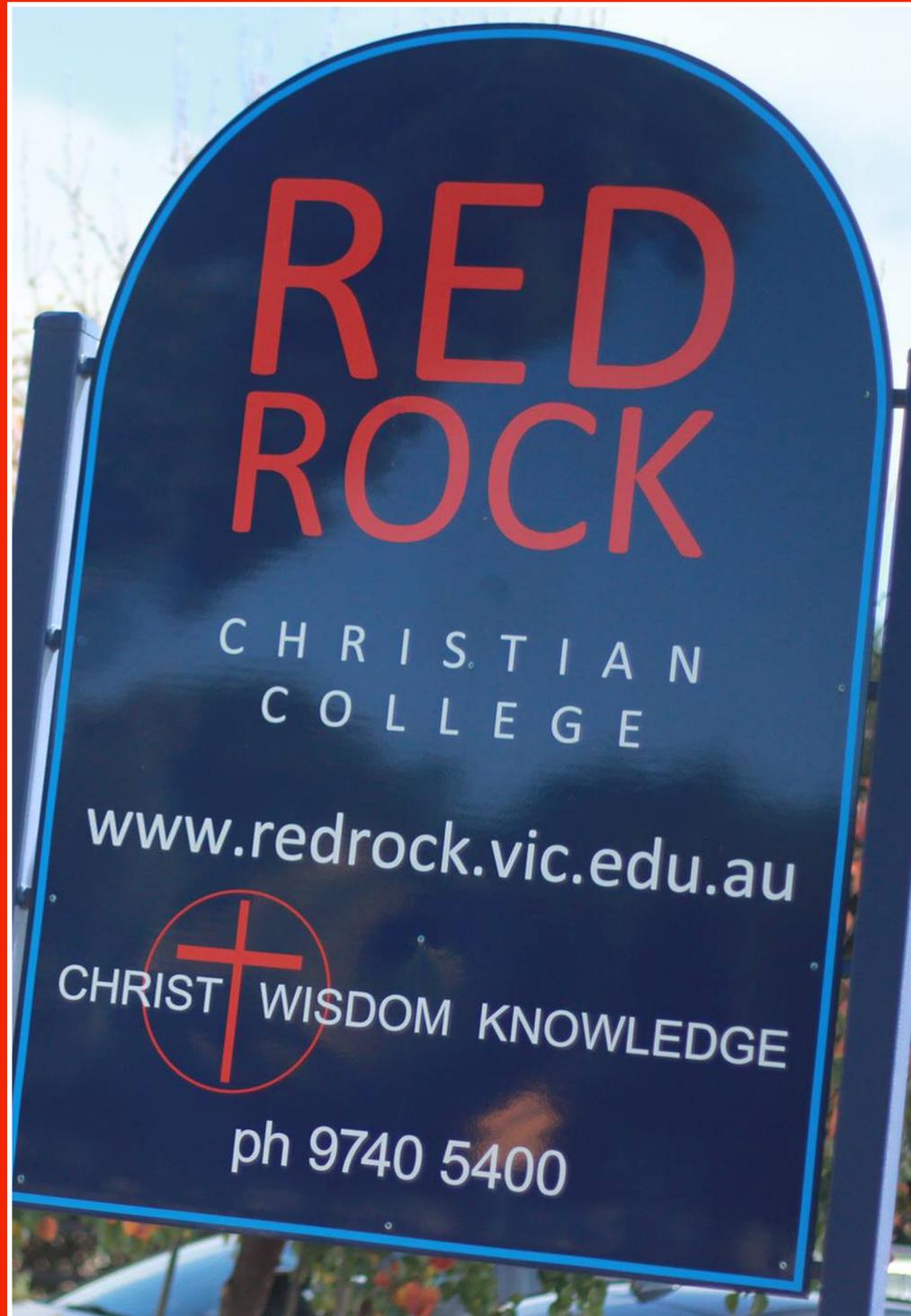


I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalm 139:14



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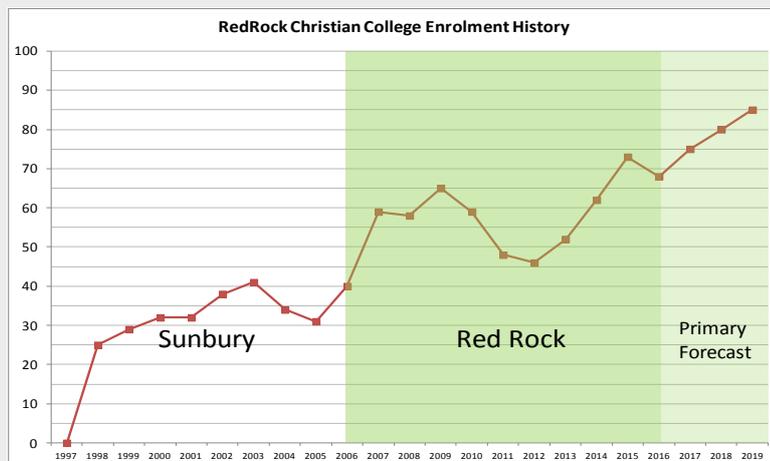


Chairperson's Report

David Gallus
Board of Governance



For the third time as Chair of Red Rock Christian College, I offer my Chair's report and look forward to welcoming you to the 2015 Annual General Meeting. Once again I find myself enjoying reflecting on the year gone and how



God's hand is evident in events, through challenges and in the continuing preparation of our children to influence their world, our world, with integrity. It remains a joy to be connected through the Board and the school community to how Red Rock Christian College continues to grow the physical, academic, social and spiritual understanding and ability of my son. I also watch my other two children who have moved on to secondary college and see how Red Rock has provided them with the foundation for life in the world. I trust your experience is similar, especially for the students and parents new to Red Rock in 2016.

In the Board, we seek to concentrate on three themes: Leadership, Governance and Strategic Planning. Over 2015, we had two key activities in those spaces. First was preparing for and managing our appearance at VCAT with respect to our application to build new facilities and commence secondary education on the Red Rock site. This represented a significant financial investment (~\$120,000) in legal support and technical studies along with the emotional and spiritual commitments by parents, staff and the Board. In September, VCAT determined that Red Rock could add facilities and provide secondary education from our site, consistent with the decision by the Hume City Council in January. Second was an application for State Government co-funding for half of the estimated \$950,000 required to build those facilities. However, we were advised in April 2016 that Red Rock was not recommended for a grant due primarily to our expectations for enrolment growth not being accepted, particularly with respect to secondary. It may be hard to see God's hand on this unless you join in the pursuit of His will, be aware of the faith journey that has put us where we are and the sense of anticipation that comes with expecting God. Now we find ourselves asking God for His leadership in taking the next steps in governance of His provision and implementation of His plan. In the meantime, come to assembly and hear the sound of Heaven touching earth!!

There was much else that happened in 2015. Music, sport, staff, students, working bees, pool night, Battle of the Choirs, 'You've been spotted!', all culminating in a powerful celebration at the end of the year as we farewelled our grade 6ers with their valedictory speeches and flipped through the pages of Renée Leach's Red Rock Christian College school magazine.

Thank you to my Board partners and our staff for their commitment and dedication to serving God at Red Rock Christian College.

David Gallus

Chairperson,
Board of the Red Rock Christian College Association Incorporated

Principal's Report

Karen McCoy



Each year on looking back I find that a theme has run through the year; sometimes it is very strong and other times its several smaller interlinked themes. The theme for 2015 was definitely, ‘you are fearfully and wonderfully made’.

As educators to maximise success in achieving the best learning outcomes with our students there needs to be a constant thread of building a right and true identity. A strong sense of positive identity enables us to face challenges and new circumstances with confidence and without fear. It enables us to sit comfortably with ourselves and those around us. We are less likely to be shaken or threatened by differences or what other people think. So, Interwoven throughout our daily interaction we are teaching students that – they are all created uniquely and in the image of God, with a purpose and the capacity to fulfil this purpose. That they are loved, blessed and designed to make a meaningful contribution to the world in which we live. They are creative, wise and gifted to support the weak, reach out to the downtrodden and to act justly. In essence, they are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Alongside establishing this identity we need to be forming right thinking. This is much harder than it sounds – and takes a lifetime to master. But beginning to develop disciplined habits of mind as young learners will not only enable them to think rightly about themselves and others it will led to healthy, courageous and wise young people that are always open to continuous learning and who will be called upon to influence their world.

To achieve the great educational outcomes we as a school aim for, a secure positive identify and right thinking is important. They help everything we do educationally to fall on fertile ground which leads to greater learning.

This year we have witnessed much growth academically, socially, physically and spiritually: growth that has been supported by carefully planned curriculum with key changes in the delivery of mathematics and the inclusion of coding, the introduction of the accelerated program, targeted learning support, pastoral care from teachers; additional interschool sporting activities, and of course an incredible music program.

It goes without saying, this comes about because of staff that are passionate about your children and seeing them become everything God intended them to be. They say it takes a village to raise a child. I would also say that it takes a team of teachers to ‘prepare your child to influence their world with integrity.’ This preparation doesn’t happen overnight, it is built upon year after year. We have an awesome team that I thank God for every day. I am very proud to be one of them.

Each year a highlight of our Presentation Evening is hearing from our outgoing Year 6 students; their speeches, the song they prepare and the very sincere and delightful character they each exhibit is evidence of the wonderful parenting and dedicated influence of all the staff at Red Rock. I am always touched by the sincerity with which they express the joy of their primary years. This year was no different. It is a highlight because we feel greatly encouraged and confident in seeing our students move on knowing they do so from a very strong, healthy and happy foundation.

Even though at the time of publishing this report 2016 is well underway I wish to look back and express my deepest gratitude to the staff, board members, parents and students who have all shared in and contributed to the success of 2015. In April we celebrated 10 years at our current site, operating under the name of Red Rock Christian College and 18 years of being a school. Every year, this college is built on the strength of the past year. Every year, we build for the benefit of those here now, but we also build for the benefit of those yet to come. Without the dedication of those who are here now, there wouldn’t be a school for tomorrow.

Thank you.

Principal's Report

Karen McCoy



Supporting an Engaging and Expansive Learning Environment

Achieving our vision to prepare our students to influence their world with integrity happens through a variety of opportunities presented to students. The classroom environment is hugely instrumental in the process and staff build affirming relationships and provide pastoral care in a natural and fluid way, but other activities also build character, skills and help students to understand their own strengths which is essential to becoming a person of influence.

Reflections of 2015

Students continued to support students at Naoith's children home in India and to be involved in community work closer to home through supporting CAREWORKS and the Salvation Army. Music teams also visited local nursing homes to perform Christmas carols. Such activities help to build the understanding that we all play a part in creating positive and just communities.

The annual Sunbury Rotary Club Spelling completion was held at the Sunbury Football Club and this year Bethany (Year 6) represented our college in this challenging and exciting event.

Student Leadership

Student leaders play an important part in developing the culture of the school and as it is our custom four house captains were appointed to the college house teams: Carmichael, Judson, Roseveare and Taylor. Their role was to support and assist students to connect across the year levels. In March they attended the National Young Leaders Day hosted by Hallogen in Melbourne which supported them in identity and practising leadership skills. The house captains emceed the weekly whole school assembly and the end of year Presentation Night, organised casual clothes days, assisted at events such as open days, represented the College at the Sunbury Anzac Day service, and provided support to other students when in the school yard.

Buddy leaders are also appointed. It was their role to organise weekly Buddy activities, supported by the Prep teacher, including a teddy bears picnic, games, role play activities and craft activities. The Music captain works alongside the music teacher and provides support in setting up for assembly and assisting with music presentations.

Music

2015 was another fantastic year for our music programme. It was a year of seeing many students develop their gifts in music through dedicated practice and commitment. The music room was always buzzing with sound during recess and lunch breaks as students enjoyed making music together. This year we introduced the saxophone. In March we participated in the Battle of the School Choirs and placed second. We were incredibly blessed again to have the expertise of Arch Stevenson who produced two high quality backing tracks for this competition. In September we had our yearly Night of Music where students were able to perform to a captive, appreciative audience. This year's original song written by Anneliese Van Santvoort, and recorded by Arch Stevenson was called 'I Think About You'.

Camps

The year 3 - 6 camp was held at Camp Sunnystones in Bacchus Marsh. The students were able to participate in many different activities such as rock climbing, low ropes course, archery, hut building, geocaching and hiking. The year 1/2 students had a fun time sleeping over at school. Pizza for dinner, watching a movie, flying paper aeroplanes, and photography were some of the great memories shared by the students.

Principal's Report

Karen McCoy



Sports

On July 21st, years 3 - 6 travelled to Bundoora for the Christian School's Sports Network Cross Country. The day was a great success for our school with every student completing a 2km run, except for the U12's who ran 3km. Our teams did exceptionally well with our U9, U10 and U12 girls and our U9, U11 and U12 boys' teams taking first place in our division. This was later followed up with the CSSN athletics carnival which involved the students in a range of new and challenging skills. Again it was a great day, thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The Hume City Council hosted an excellent sports event for students in years 5-6. The rotation of sports which included hockey, cricket, lacrosse and rugby were run by their respective official sports body. We were impressed with the level of instruction and organisation that enabled the students to access the sports at a high level.

Players from the Essendon Football Club took the students through an afternoon of footy skills and helped to promote a love of football and community spirit.

Extra - curricular

Whenever possible we aim to support our learning with contributions from experts in their field. Western Water supported learning by developing students understanding of environmental issues and how they relate to them in their everyday lives. The students also participated in 'Start Smart' a financial literacy program run in the school by the Commonwealth Bank. We also had the wonderful opportunity of attending a performance by the Watoto Children's Choir.

LOTE

As part of our language program students participated in four different activities at the Japanese incursion. Teachers and parents assisted students with preparing a delicious Japanese dish called *onigiri*, which is a ball of rice filled with tuna. They painted cherry blossom trees, used fine paintbrushes and black ink to create Japanese calligraphy, made a stunning Japanese doll bookmark from special origami paper; and made an origami 'never-ending-card'.

Principal's Report

Karen McCoy



Life in the Classrooms

Prep/One

Prep/1 students made Anzac Day poppies, planted and watched a bean seed from over a number of weeks, had a teddy bear's picnic with their buddies, and made muffins and damper while learning about procedural texts. Orange and lemon juice icy poles made from scratch were a favourite when the weather was hot; playing shops and taking turns to be a customer or shopkeeper was engaging. Mr Flutsch taught Prep/1 in Term 3 while Mrs Lepp was in South Africa, Zambia and Swaziland. 100 days at school was celebrated by listing 100 things we thank God for. The Prep/1's loved spending time with their buddies especially when the Year 5/6 class shared the books they had made for them.

One/Two

The very vibrant and active students in Year 1/2 loved being visited by Sparky, Miss B's pet budgie. They also enjoyed their home visits from Starbow and Giggles, and writing their journals about the adventures they had together. Performing as a class is a great way to learn many skills and performing 'The Apple Dumpling' was no exception. As part of their study of ANZAC day, they made both ANZAC biscuits and Hard Tack. The Hard Tack wasn't very popular but the ANZAC biscuits were enjoyed by the whole school. But most of all the class just enjoyed their time together, singing, playing and of course learning.

Three/Four

It was a year of discovery and engagement; certainly we found there is a lot to be in awe of in our world. Our class made miniature sundials tracing the movement of the Earth around the Sun. We dyed jonquils green and blue to determine if plants drink and we compared the melting time of two ice blocks - one wrapped in a face washer and the other not. We also created an oven out of recycled material, and using the Sun's energy tested to see how hot we could make the internal temperature.

We also had lots of fun comparing measurements of different parts of our body; discovering that our foot is as long as the distance between our elbow and hand, and our height is the same as the length between the fingertips of our outstretched arms. Our class loved learning about the migration history of our own families and visited the Immigration Museum to learn more about the history of immigration in Australia.

English was filled with role playing and creating. We made commercials, created poetry, wrote book reports and made a documentary on our favourite animals and we created our own digital portfolios to store all the great work we did.



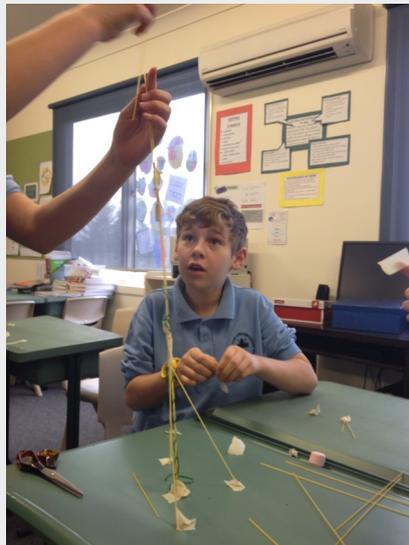
Principal's Report

Karen McCoy



Five/Six

The 5/6 class was a very hands on learning environment and the 2015 team were inquisitive, high energy learners who loved to be challenged. From learning about the Solar System to studying 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' - the class threw themselves into their activities whole heartedly whether they were building model Solar Systems or making Turkish Delight. For this class delving into coding and Pixar in a Box were some of the highlights.



School Performance

Karen McCoy



School Performance Data

Staff Retention

In 2015 there were 4.9 full-time teaching staff including the teaching principal. The staff also included 1.7 non-teaching staff including administration and classroom aide. 100% of staff continued on in service in 2015.

Staff Qualifications

All teachers employed to teach hold appropriate qualifications and are currently registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching and comply with any conditions or limitations of that registration.

Professional Development

Professional development is an important part of creating an expansive learning community where everyone, students and staff alike, are involved in continued growth. Red Rock sets aside time during weekly staff meetings to explore pedagogy, to examine the way we think about learning and to learn from each other. This time is highly valued by staff and is seen to add significantly to the growth of our learning community. In 2015, our major focus for professional development during our staff meetings was on developing a growth mindset as well as developing peer coaching teams.

In addition to this, staff attended professional development activities outside of the school which built on their knowledge and practise of teaching.

Some of the professional development sessions undertaken by staff in 2015 are as follows:

- Differentiation - what does it look like?
- We are all individuals, but what does it mean to be gifted?
- CSA Networking Conference - God's Big Story.
- Understanding Self and others to maximise leadership.
- Finding out more - Coding the future.
- Effective planning and assessment for life.
- First Aid Management of Anaphylaxis.
- Teaching genre writing through oral language.
- Digitally resourcing the Australian curriculum.

Student Attendance Rate

RRCC is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment. Students can reach their full educational potential only when they are happy, healthy and safe, and when there is a positive school culture to engage and support them in their learning. Student wellbeing and student learning outcomes are inextricably linked as is student attendance and student learning outcomes. Last years attendance data results are lower than in previous years. This reflects the higher than usual rate of student absenteeism in Term 3 due to illness

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
91%	90%	89%	89%	94%	90%

Overall attendance rate 90%

Academic Achievements

Karen McCoy



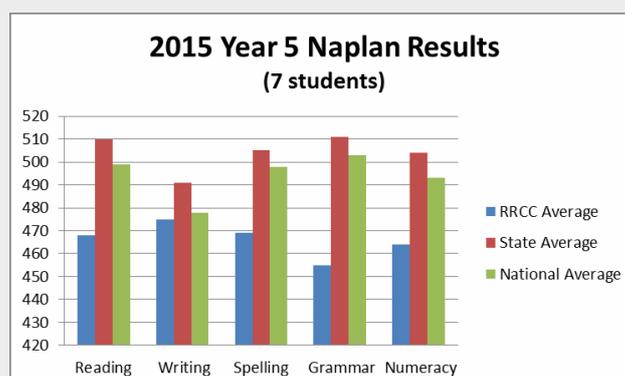
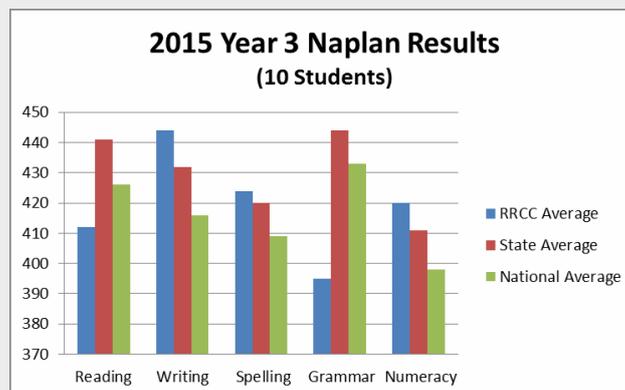
National Assessment Results

Students in years 3 and 5 participated in the NAPLAN (National Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Program) tests which are conducted each year. These tests are one of the ways in which we as a school, as well as government bodies, can determine whether or not our students are meeting expected educational outcomes. These tests are conducted in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy.

Information regarding the performance of Red Rock's students can be found on the MySchool website. This site also enables comparisons with other schools. It is important to note that in 2015, both Year 3 and Year 5 were small cohorts of students, 10 and 7 respectively, therefore it is necessary to take this into account when considering averages.

The 2015 results, particularly in Year 5, were below previous years. This reflects the high level of support required by some students for whom such assessments are of little or no value.

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy, results are used by the College to inform the teaching and learning program. We will continue to actively use the data to improve our curriculum offerings and delivery.

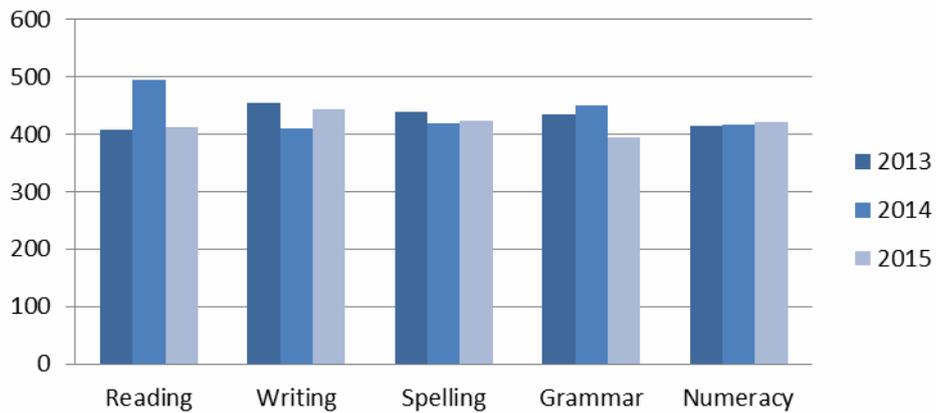


Academic Achievements

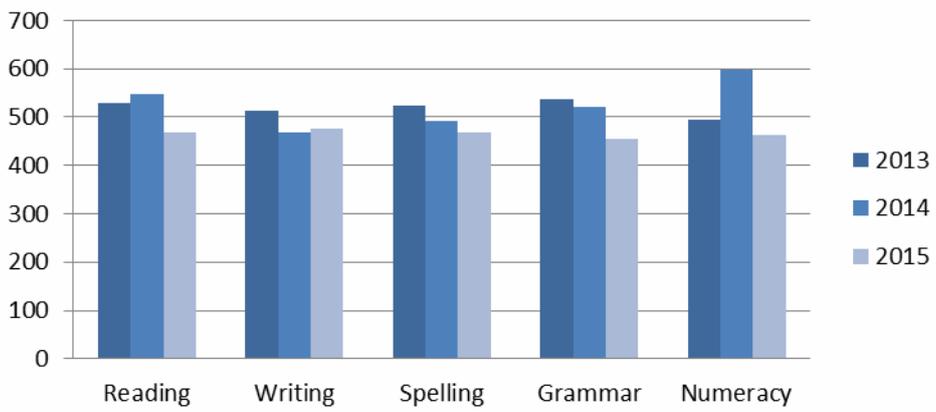
Karen McCoy



RRCC NAPLAN RESULTS
Comparison of Yr 3 Results 2013-2105



RRCC NAPLAN RESULTS
Comparison of Yr 5 Results 2013-2015



Finance Report

Graeme Crichton
Board of Governance



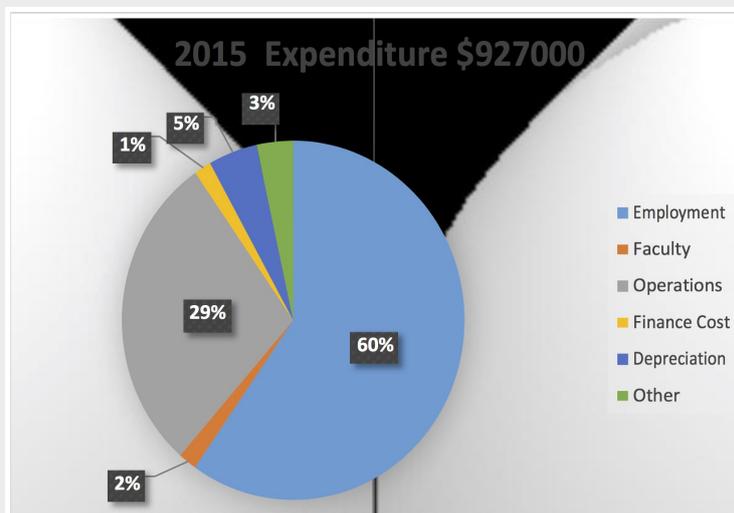
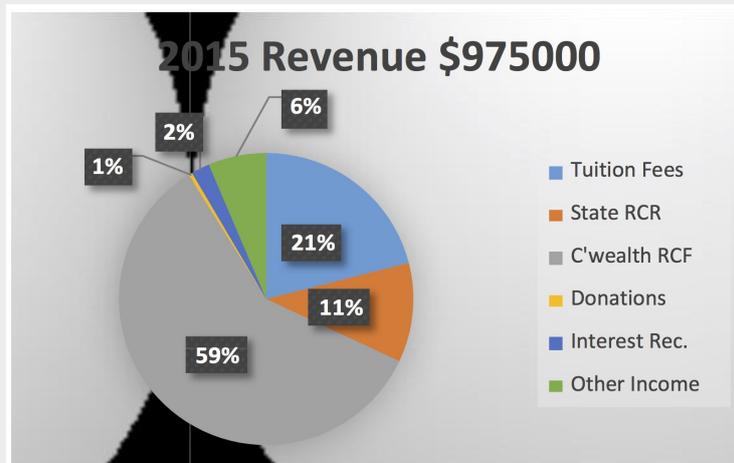
We completed the 2015 year in a sound financial position, having met all our obligations and provided for staff and future liabilities.

Government funding is within the acceptable ratio's and is ongoing, based on the number of students at the school. We completed the process of borrowing additional funds needed to commence the building program to meet our growth into years 7 & 8.

Our 2015 accounts have been audited and the complete signed copies are available for the AGM.

God continues to bless our college when we trust in Him and provides the basis for His children to grow and develop for their future.

Graeme Crichton
Treasurer



Parents & Friends' Association Report

Jessica Amberley - Co-ordinator
Parents & Friends Association



The Parents and Friends Association at Red Rock Christian College aims to provide opportunities for parents, extended family and friends, through fundraising and social events, to become involved in the life of the school.

Thanks goes to the small but dedicated team of Mums who form part of the regular PFA committee, together with all others who have helped over the year. All parents and friends of students at the College are welcome to join in PFA meetings.

Leadership

Jessica Amberley continued to co-ordinate the PFA throughout 2015.

Fundraising Events

Hot Cross Bun Drive

As in previous years, hot cross buns were sourced from Riddells Creek Bakery and parents were given the opportunity to make orders through the school. While orders are small, it is an enjoyed fundraiser that also engages the local community.

Mother's and Father's Day Stalls

The 2015 Mother's Day stall was run in the traditional manner, with items being sourced from a supplier and sold to the students for a small profit. It was again rewarding to see the students participation and enjoyment of this event, as they make careful selections of gifts and have a 'mini-shop' experience.

The 2015 Father's Day stall trialled a new concept due to dissatisfaction with the suppliers offerings, and a 'create your own lolly jar' stall was held. Students were able to select from a wide range of wrapped lollies to create their own jar for Dad. It proved such a hit that we had to go out and buy more jars between recess and lunch! We plan on running this again in 2016.

Thanks goes to all who assisted with the planning and running of these stalls.

Bunnings BBQs

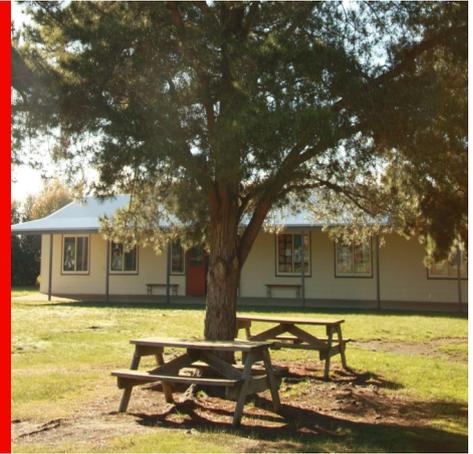
One of these BBQs was held in July 2015. These are our most profitable fundraiser (profit \$1,129), and are also an excellent way to raise the schools profile in the community. Many thanks go to Deborah Keane who very ably organises these events, and to all parents who manned the BBQ.

Pie Drive

The Pie Drive runs in conjunction with Tony's Pies. It was again a success in 2015, with a decent level of engagement from the school community, and a moderate profit. Timed in mid-winter, it is a great time to stock up the freezer!

Parents & Friends' Association Report

Jessica Amberley - Co-ordinator



Social Events

Pool Night

The Family Fun Night at the Gisborne Aquatic Centre was again held in February 2015. As always, this is a popular event with students and parents alike enjoying the private use of the pool and inflatables. The PFA meets the cost of this and a sausage sizzle.

Thank you to all who contributed, especially the Bretherton and Keane families who contributed equipment and time to the entire event.

Music Night

The PFA organised catering following the annual music night, with a variety of families contributing delicious items. There was a suggestion that the amount of savoury items should be increased. Thank you to all who helped bake and serve.

Presentation Night

The PFA provided catering following the annual presentation night, with hot dogs once again proving a popular snack, right down to the very last!

PFA Purchases

PFA Funds have gone to:

- Pool Night
- Catering for Music Night
- Catering for Presentation Night

The PFA also has funds set aside to:

- Purchase ball court adaptors for the gymnasium
- Organise further social events TBA, and other projects in consultation with Mrs Karen McCoy

PFA funds available at 31/12/2015: \$3,340.93

Jessica Amberley
PFA Co-ordinator