

RED ROCK

CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE

www.redrock.vic.edu.au

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6





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Chairman's Report

Morris Keane - Chairman
Board of Governance



Dear Members,

Another year of adventure at the school with God has come and gone.

God is good. He has blessed the Sunbury and Macedon Ranges area with a wonderful school. Red Rock Christian College may, in some ways, appear to be concealed from the attention of many in our community but in reality this school is a large flower bud ready to burst into its full glory in God's time (kiros moment).

Over the years that I have been involved at the school I have witnessed the faith of parents, friends and staff trusting God with the vision that He has laid out before them concerning this school.

Our Heavenly Father gets excited when we trust Him, Hebrews 11:6. Such trust continues to be exercised and tested here at Red Rock. At every level within the school community there are those of you who serve and pray. Without such commitment to God and each other this would be merely a shell without purpose or life.

As I have often testified I believe that God sees this school as a mission to the wider community in which it is situated, providing Christian education to everyone who desires it. As a school we have already witnessed the blessing of such a missional approach. During the year we formally implemented an open enrolment policy whilst being able to maintain strong Christian governance over the school.

In regard to promoting the school, a marketing committee has been established under the direction of Graeme Crichton. It became clear through our communications with various Christian schools and business leaders that marketing was an essential practical element to the promoting of the

school.

As my time on the board has come to a close I take this opportunity to say thank you Father for what has been and what will be.

I say thank you to Karen who is a most noble character and who leads the school with great integrity. Thank you to Judy for your ever vigilant and gracious presence. Thank you to all our staff, Millie, Mel, Sandra, Russell, Kylie, Adele & Cathy, such committed, enthusiastic God appointed teachers. We are blessed.

Thank you to all current board members and to those who have served before. Thank you for inclining your ear to God's still small voice. Your enthusiasm, commitment and dedication draws deep respect and high regard. I want to say thank you to my personal secretary, my wife Debra, without whom I would not be able to function as a board member.

I continue to look forward to seeing you all, around the school.

Morris Keane

Principal's Report

Karen McCoy



2012 was a year of recreating vision. The Board and Staff spent time and prayer in dreaming and stating what it is we want to see come about in the lives of our students while they are here and as they take up the many and varied roles God will call them to in the future.

Out of this came a clear vision: we want to prepare young people to influence their world with integrity.

This vision can only be achieved when it is embedded in everything we do. It has been achieved when students are confident in their identity, have developed in their character, are able to recognise and use their various abilities, and are developing their relationship with Jesus. The curriculum, the structure of our activities and the time spent in pastoral care are all developed and carried out with the end in mind – the child who is well prepared to influence their world with integrity.

The tree with its trunk, its branches and its leaves became a three part visual representation of this vision for the staff. The trunk contains the qualities and skills that a person needs to be able to fulfil this vision. Qualities and skills such as: compassion, imagination, responsible risk taking, acting justly, communicating with clarity, respecting others, empathy, creating, evaluating, persistence, and problem solving – just to name a few. The branches represent the key pathways in which this comes about: Firstly we believe these qualities are more readily developed out of relationship with God. Secondly they are more likely to form when there is a positive relationship with teachers; when learning occurs through authentic tasks; when students are engaged in learning and in their school; and when they are genuinely involved in service and know they belong to the school community. Lastly the leaves represent the practical outworking of the key areas represented by the branches. This can be seen in the kind of tasks that we undertake such as: mentoring, community involvement and learning

tasks. It is also evident in the environment we provide both in and out of the classroom, as well as the planned and spontaneous opportunities that can be embraced. And just like leaves on a tree, these metaphorical leaves may drop off and be replaced with new leaves as the needs of the students change and as the school develops and discovers other ways to establish the pathways of the branches.

So with the end in mind – the child who is prepared to influence their world with integrity – we began the process of evaluating and changing our curriculum, altering the way we do things in class, selecting our professional development courses and marketing the school.

Curriculum and Professional Development.

In response to the introduction of the National curriculum early in 2012, staff members spent a total of 10 days unpacking the National Curriculum in seminars presented by Independent Schools Victoria. The subject areas covered were Mathematics, English, Science and History.

The staff had the opportunity to spend a day with Sue Startling, the Principal of Teaching and Learning at Flinders Christian Community College, unpacking the thinking behind curriculum design. Following the introduction by Ms Startling, Miss Barclay, Mrs Inglis and I also attended a whole day seminar and workshop, hosted by Flinders Christian Community College and led by one of the world's leaders in curriculum design, Jay McTighe.

Later in the year I was able to attend a very inspiring day, along with a team from FCCC, at Northern Beaches Christian College in NSW. This day was again about challenging us to think about how our school environment and



our teaching practice fulfil our school's mission. This focus on developing our understanding of how curriculum design can best achieve our mission was continued in staff meetings throughout the year. Alongside this the staff unpacked Art Costa's Habits of Mind, which strongly align with the quality and characteristics we see as being essential to developing young people who can influence their world with integrity.

One of the greatest challenges we face as we move forward as a school into a 21st century mindset and approach to learning, is how can we turn abstract mission and policy statements and educational thinking into concrete practise? The professional training undertaken by the staff in 2012 has certainly assisted in addressing this question. We began the process of rethinking the way we design our curriculum and are continuing to develop and alter the way we think about and plan for the learning outcomes of our students. Our planning is heavily influenced by the modal 'Understanding by Design' developed by Jay McTighe and Grant Wiggins. I am thankful to God for the outstanding team who form the staff at the College, and whose commitment to Jesus and to the College vision is fundamental to the success of our students achieving their very best. I also wish to thank the parent community for your ongoing support. I pray we will continue to work together to see God take our College from strength to strength.

Supporting an engaging learning environment.

Health and Physical Education

One of the highlights of the year was the 'Dance Off'. After a term of learning about dance students in all year levels formed dance groups and performed for family and friends.

With the assistance of the House captains, a mini Olympics was held in conjunction with the Olympic Games.

Focus on the Family was invited to speak with the students in Years 5 & 6. They conducted sessions on Navigating the Transition from Primary to Secondary. This covered many of the changes including physical, social and emotional that they may experience. Parents were invited to attend an evening session which helped to equip them with supporting their child through the transition period.

Music

In addition to the weekly music program students were inspired by a visiting drummer who performed along with one of our students and ran a workshop on technique. A drum kit was donated to the school which enabled one of our talented students to play drums each week for our assembly. Our choir and music team represented the school magnificently at several public events such as Pets on the Lawn, Carols by Candlelight and at local nursing homes and the Sunbury Square shopping centre. At our annual Night of Music, students again had the opportunity to show case their talents to family and friends. It was once again a privilege to be able to launch an original song, 'Jesus You are Mine' written by Monique Leach.

Japanese

In support of authentic learning our students were able to take part in the construction of puppets under the tuition of local puppet maker Helen Scrutton from Puppet Adventures. These puppets were specifically designed to support the student's performance of the Japanese Folk Tale 'Momotaro'. Students were also inspired and entertained by the performance of 'The Boy in the Peach' by Red Herring Theatre Company.



Classroom Activities.

The curriculum is enhanced at Red Rock Christian College with a range of exciting incursions and excursions. Wherever possible enduring understandings are reinforced with real-life application, which often takes children out of the classroom or brings specialist and guest visitors to the classroom. This provides a depth of experience and a variety of ways to reinforce learning that couldn't otherwise be achieved.

In 2012 some of these experiences have included: excursions to Werribee Zoo, Science Works, Dromkeen (Prep-Year 2) and Sunnystones Camp (Year 3 –Year 6) Students participated in the Commonwealth Bank, Start Smart program and Western Water's, Water Wise program. Students in Prep –Year 2 celebrated 100 days of school with special activities. As an extension of the Junior Art program, students worked along with Nicholle Gallus to weave a basket and a class wall hanging. They also had real hands on experiences with local builder David Smith, who over a number of days taught students basic carpentry skills culminating in each child making a wooden toy. Timothy Osborne represented the College at the Sunbury Rotary Club Spelling Competition. The House Captains attended Student Leadership training at the Melbourne Convention Centre run by Impact Student Leadership and represented the College at the Junior School Congress held at Parliament House.

School Performance Data

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 year we maintained a high level of student attendance which enabled staff to provide consistent support and structure within learning.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
98%	90%	98.9%	97%	97.5	89.1

Overall attendance rate 96.4%

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.

Staff Retention

Proportion of teaching staff retained from 2011 to 2012: 100%



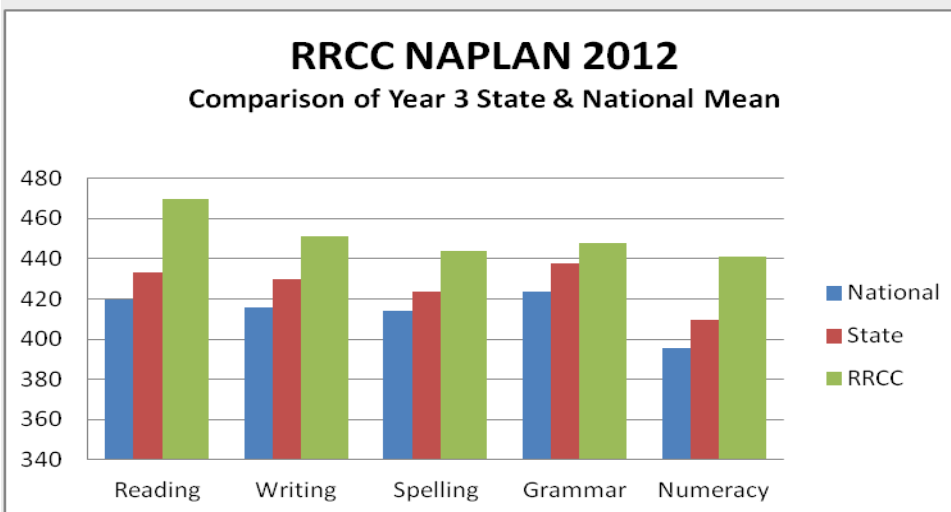
Staff Attendance

The mean number of days teaching staff were absent was 4.5

Professional Learning

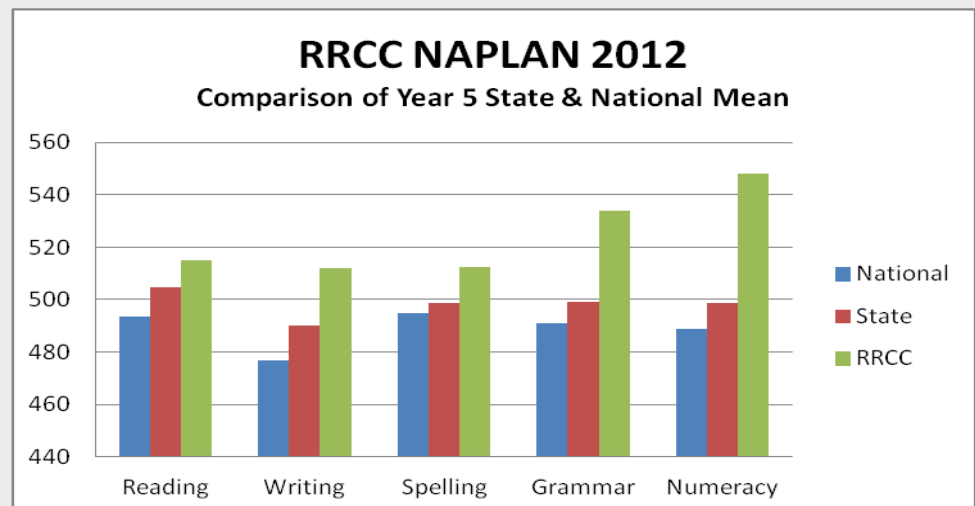
Proportion of teaching staff that participated in professional learning: 100%. See also earlier comment.

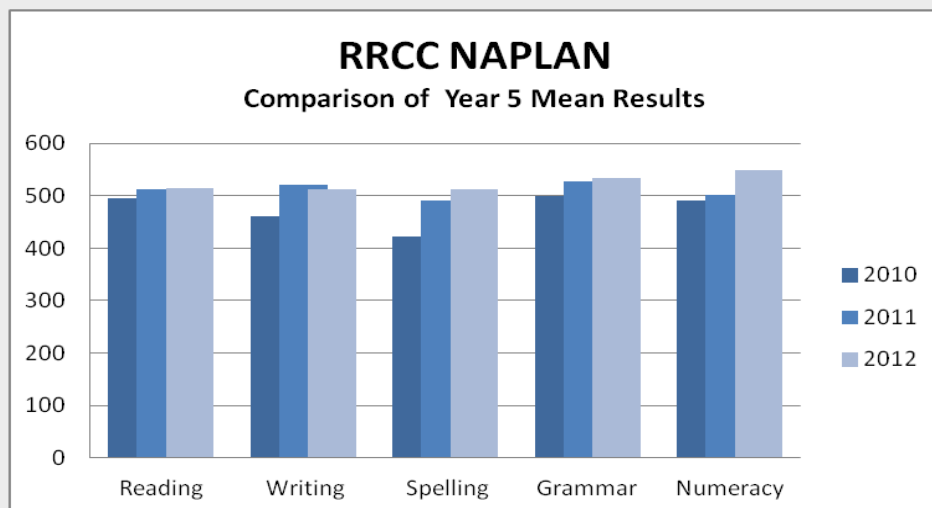
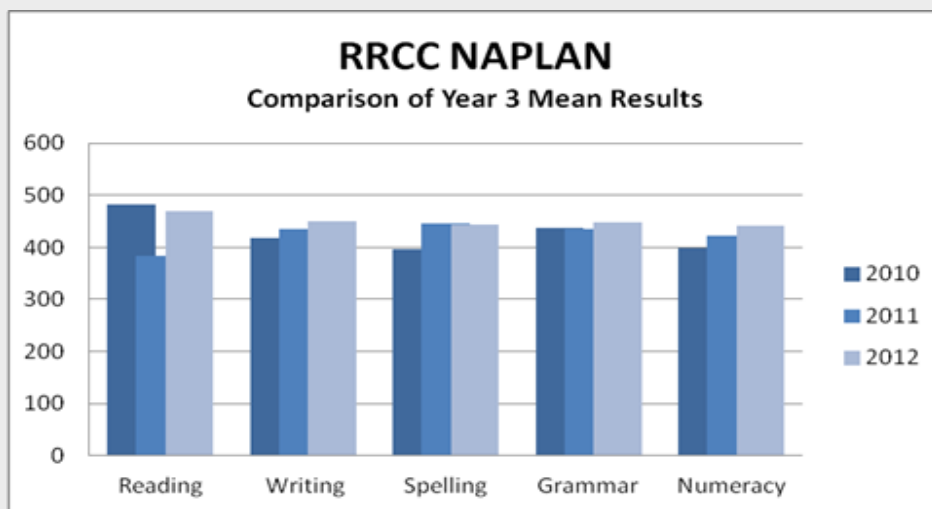
National Assessment Results



The tables show that Red Rock Christian College students in Years 3 and 5 continue to compare well against the national and state mean results. 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



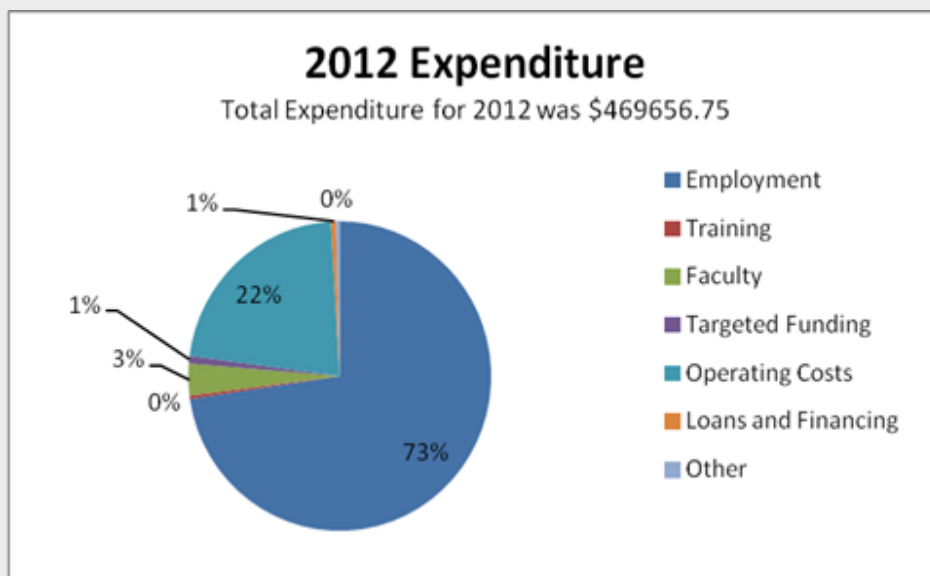
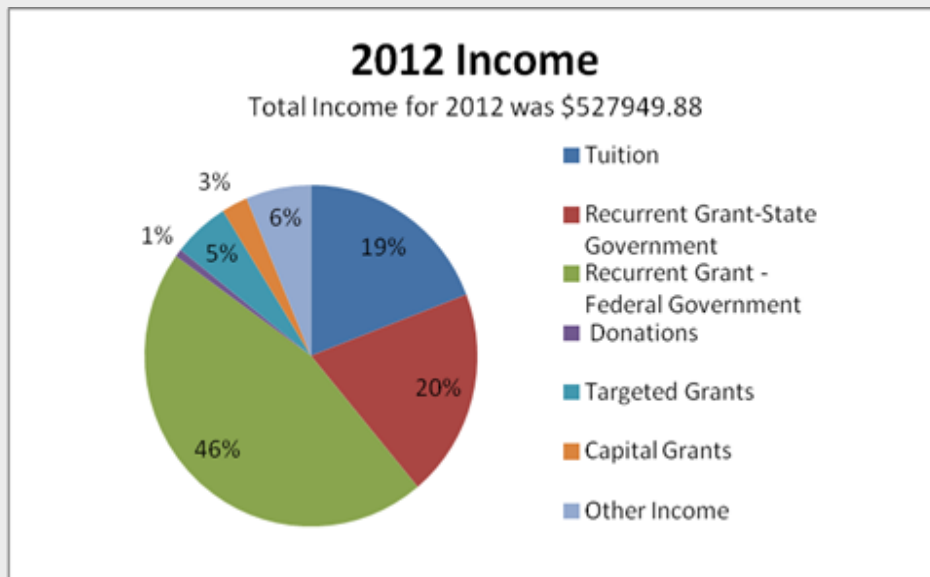


Finance Report

Graeme Crichton



Dear Members,
The year finished on a positive note financially, showing a minor loss of \$972 after allowing for depreciation.
Our Cash Reserves were maintained and we achieved a reduction in borrowings.



Parents & Friends Association Report

Debra Keane - Coordinator



Dear Members,
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. Thank you to all the parents who participated in helping with PFA activities last year and to the small team of Mums who help with the planning of fundraising and social events. All parents of the College are welcome to join in PFA meetings.

Regular Events:

Each term a Casual Clothes Day with Sausage Sizzle lunch was held. Thank you to parents who took on the responsibility of cooking for these days. Any funds remaining after expenses from the Sausage Sizzle is used for the children the students sponsor at Naoith Children's Home in India.

Both a Mother's Day stall and a Father's Day Stall were held in 2012. While funds are raised from these events, fundraising is not the primary object of the event. It is an opportunity for the children to give some thought to the purchase of a gift for their parent. Last year we had a lovely selection of gifts for the children to choose from- thank you to each person who contributed goods to the stalls.

Social Events:

Family Fun Night at the Gisborne Aquatic Centre in February 2012. This a free event for families with the cost of the hire of the facility met from PFA funds. The school has the use of the whole facility as a private function. It is a great opportunity for all families of the College to gather together and spend some time getting to know one another. In 2012 PFA funds were also used to pay for a sausage sizzle at the pool, providing a meal as the event is from

6.30pm to 8.30pm and much conversation around the BBQ.

Fundraising Events:

Tony's Pie Drive in Term 2.

Toy Catalogues in Term 3 – School receives 20% of sales in vouchers to use to purchase resources.

Three Sausage Sizzles were held outside Bunnings Warehouse in Sunbury during the year - this is a very profitable fundraiser also providing a means of fellowship as parents work together on the stall and an opportunity to advertise Red Rock Christian College. Bunnings generously provides the shelter, tables and BBQ for this event.

This is an event where many hands does make light work when as many families as possible are able to offer an hour or two to serve at the stall. Thank you to Sheryl McConaghie who has organised these for the past few years.

PFA Purchases:

There were no purchases made in 2012 but at a meeting of parents at the close of the year it was agreed to pay for new drinking fountains. The current thought is that Aqua Bubblers (made in Victoria) will be installed which have both a bubbler and the facility to fill up drink bottles.

PFA Funds Available as at December 31, 2012 was \$6,167.63.

In 2012 and prior, the role of PFA co-ordinator was held by myself, but as I have committed to other voluntary responsibilities at the school the role is now vacant. The role of the Parents and Friends Association is important in the school for the support of families, teaching staff, and the wellbeing of school community. Please consider if the role of co-ordinator is for you.