



St Francis' SchoolNathalia

2020 Annual Report to the School Community



Registered School Number: 1823

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Contact Details

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PRINCIPAL	Matthew Knight
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E NUMBER	E3051

Minimum Standards Attestation

- I, Matthew Knight, attest that St Francis' School is compliant with:
- All of the requirements for the minimum standards and other requirements for the registration of schools as specified in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) and the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic), except where the school has been granted an exemption from any of these requirements by the VRQA
- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2020 school year under the Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth) and the Australian Education Regulations 2013 (Cth)
- The Child Safe Standards prescribed in Ministerial Order No.870 Child Safe Standards, Managing Risk of Child Abuse in School.

10/03/2021

NOTE: The School's financial performance information has been provided to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and will be available for the community to access from their website at www.acnc.gov.au

Our School Identity and Vision Statements

Our Identity:

St Francis' school is a welcoming community striving to live the Franciscan tradition of Peace and Joy.

Our Vision:

St Francis' Nathalia strives to:

- Provide a positive learning environment with a commitment to being safe, responsible and caring learners
- Build a community with a sense of responsibility to create a sustainable future for God's world.
- Build an inclusive community that fosters respectful relationships for all.
- Build and nurture a stimulating learning environment where all are supported in reaching their full potential.

School Overview

St. Francis School provides a dynamic, student-centred approach to education for children living in and around the Nathalia area.

From our foundation in 1961 by the Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood, St Francis School has provided an education, which has at its heart the Franciscan values of peace and joy, justice, integrity and respect for all creation. With a focus on the development of the whole person; intellectual, spiritual, social, physical and emotional development, St. Francis' school seeks to create an environment which enhances learning, nurtures young people and empowers them to live the Catholic faith in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

St. Francis' school is committed to providing our young people, our future, with exemplary educational experiences and opportunities that foster their many and diverse gifts and talents and meet their many and diverse developmental needs.

In meeting this challenge, we seek to engage all children in developing a hunger for the learning journey through our commitment to:

- High expectations that promote learning and responsibility;
- Learning which caters for the uniqueness and giftedness of the whole person;
- Each person having an innate and continual capacity to learn;
- Ensure learning is meaningful, purposeful and relevant to our lives;

And most importantly;

- Maintaining close relationships between students, teachers, parents and parish community.
- As a Catholic school, at St Francis we are proud of our heritage and faith traditions.

Principal's Report

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted almost every element of our lives, and the education of our children has been no exception. St Francis' school operations were transformed towards the end of Term 1, with the majority of students completing remote learning from home during Terms 2 and 3.

There have been many achievements at St Francis Primary in response to the pandemic. The wellbeing of our school community was a key focus during this time, with parents, children and teachers feeling supported during these times. St Francis staff made a purposeful effort to reach out and connect with all families and find imaginative and inclusive ways to support families during the pandemic. While the learning and teaching looked different during this time, the dedication of our staff showed their flexibility and professionalism of ensuring student learning continued.

Thank you to our wonderful staff who came together during this time to support each other and our school families. To Father Michael Grace, for his continued support with all the functions and undertakings at St Francis Primary School. His spiritual guidance and presence within the school is greatly appreciated by teachers, parents and students. I personally thank Father Michael for his unwavering support throughout the year.

The 2020 school year has been a year like no other - the pandemic restrictions challenged us and changed us, but COVID-19 never defeated our spirit, our compassion or the connections within our school community.

Leadership

COVID School Operations

Staff working from home: Along with many Victorians, St Francis staff were timetabled on to support children of essential services at school, and also worked supporting their classroom students at home. This not only ensured that we followed the Victorian guidelines of restricting the number of employees on site as per the requirements, it also allowed St Francis staff to support their own children with remote learning.

Border Restrictions: The restriction of movement between Victoria and NSW during the COVID-19 lock downs impacted on our teacher availability. We had two NSW based staff members working from home for over a month, unable to attend school onsite, which required staff to take up additional responsibilities on site.

Pastoral Wellbeing Team: The Pastoral Wellbeing team had a strong emphasis on supporting the wellbeing of all in our school community this year. The pandemic impacted families in a range of ways throughout the year, and we catered to the needs of all through initiatives conducted by the CARE team, school wellbeing team and in partnership with local community organisations. The mental wellbeing of everyone was acknowledged with Tam Perry (Wellbeing Officer) providing

Wellbeing Wednesday videos that outlined ways to connect with others, meditate or to make time for one's self.

School Enhancement Teams: School enhancement teams continued to run across the school in the area of Catholic Identity, Learning and Teaching and Pastoral Wellbeing. All staff contributed to the teams and developed ways to address our Annual Action Plan outcomes.

Student Leadership: Our students were offered opportunities to develop their unique leadership skills through opportunities such as; Goulburn Valley Leadership Day, Remembrance Day school ceremony, Senior Student Leadership teams and had limited involvement in Youth Engagement, Mentoring Program (YEMP) during Term 1. Even with the restrictions in place this year, it is evident that St Francis has prepared many students to be strong leaders for the future.

School Improvement

PIVOT: Pivot allows teachers and school leaders to develop professionally through carefully designed, confidential, evidence-based surveys, services and reports. Students completed surveys about teaching and learning in their classroom, with the data used as a diagnostic and evaluative tool, and support planning at unit and school level.

CDLP: Jerrod Davison will continue with the Country Diocesan Leadership Program (CDLP) next term with Video Conference calls scheduled. This is an opportunity for middle leaders across Catholic schools in Victoria to be able to develop their knowledge and expertise in leadership.

Student Placement: We had a number of student teachers completing their professional placement this term year.

SIMON: We continued to use SIMON for student attendance, medical information and student reporting. In 2020 we rolled out further features with the Exclusion information and Permission forms completed electronically and PSG and parent teacher interview bookings through PAM.

Capital Works & Grants

Assisi Administration Building: We celebrated the completion of our new Assisi Administration Building this year. With the endorsement of Fr. Michael Grace, St Francis staff and the School Board, our school commissioned Ken Woodman from No. 42 Architects to design and project manage our self funded build, with Diverse Builders Numurkah, submitting the successful tender to complete the works.

The refurbishment includes a new undercover school entrance and administration area, additional staff bathrooms, functional student First Aid & Sick Bay area and a multipurpose staff room and kitchen. Additionally, new meeting & consulting rooms will allow teachers to discuss student needs with parents and medical practitioners in a confidential, professional manner.

Victorian Capital Grant: We were excited to hear of our success in obtaining a Victorian Government grant for \$1,206,000 to refurbish our senior classrooms and old administration areas in 2021. Planning for the remodelling has already begun with students using alternative classrooms for part of next year.

Front Entrance Redevelopment: With the Assisi Administration Building complete, we turned our attention to redevelopment of the front school entrance. The pavers were removed and turf was laid by Matt Smith. A sprinkler system was also installed in the process to automate the watering of this space, along with the installation of a new shade sail. The enhanced connection between both schools and the Franciscan garden has been a positive outcome.

Philomena Billington Arts Scholarship: St Francis was successful in obtaining a \$15,000 grant towards our school Arts project next year. Our proposal titled, "Home Grown", is themed around the impact natural disasters can have on farming communities and how to incorporate sustainable practises, and will combine student pieces involving painting, photography and drawings.

Learning and Teaching

Learning and Teaching: COVID-19 has required many teachers, parents and students to rapidly adjust to new modes of learning. In a matter of days, our school had to find and implement viable alternatives to the traditional model of teaching in a physical classroom. Remote learning opportunities and tasks were introduced to ensure the ongoing learning opportunities for students, while learning remotely.

A strong online presence was established by staff with the use of Google Apps For Education (GAFE) a main tool to connect students with their teachers and the tasks. Across the school we also introduced the SeeSaw app, which provided parents with the ability to view and comment on student work and be connected and informed of their learning. We received positive feedback from parents about the method and implementation of remote learning during the Victorian lockdown one and again in lockdown two.

Numeracy: Our whole school focus for the year was on numeracy, with staff completed Math Assessment Interviews (MAI) for every student at the beginning of Term 1. We had professional development days and PLC meetings looking at the school numeracy data for all students. Working with Bernadette Pearce from Catholic Education Office, staff focused on deepening their understanding of how place value impacts student learning across all numeracy dimensions. Staff continued on upskilling their knowledge of numeracy throughout the year.

MiniLit: Veronica Willimas continued with MiniLit sessions (via Video Conference during Remote Learning) for selected students to enhance their literacy skills. There has been positive growth shown during the year with this intervention continuing in 2021.

NAPLAN: Due to COVID-19, NAPLAN was cancelled for students in 2020.

Reporting: Due to the pandemic, student reports were adjusted this year, as outlined by the VCAA.

Governance

St Francis' Employer: Schools are preparing to change governance and come under Catholic Education Sandhurst Limited (CES Limited), moving away from Parish administration on 1 January 2021. All staff were notified of the change of employer via a letter. The move to CES Limited also means that schools will no longer have a School Advisory Board, but instead have a School Advisory Council.

VRQA Full School Review: St Francis had our Victorian Regulations and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) review this year which looked at all elements of the school operations, which included; Child Safety, Financial Management, Staffing, Curriculum and School Maintenance. We passed with flying colours, with very positive feedback given to the school. Thank you to our staff for all your work that went into preparing for the review.

Child Safe: Practices have been identified and enacted at St Francis; a specific focus on safeguarding children and young people at St Francis primary School against sexual and physical abuse or neglect. It is intended to complement other professional and/or occupational codes. Throughout the year staff developed their understanding of changing legislation and continued to maintain VRQA requirements in line with the Child Safe standards. We actively promoted our school requirements to families via the newsletter, website and through digital and printed materials.

Complispace: The Diocese of Sandhurst and Catholic Schools within have employed the services of 'Complispace' - an online management system for school policies & procedures, OH&S requirements, governance etc. This year we employed Fional Byrnes to maintain our VRQA requirements through CompliSpace. We also developed our own Staff Learning System, where all professional development is recorded in line with VRQA requirements.

Finance: St Francis successfully completed their Annual Financial Statement in Term 1 with auditors viewing our records. Families were provided with regular schedules for payment of student fees and Matt and Louise attended the CEO Budget Video Conference workshop for 2021. The session involved aligning the school priorities, staffing and student enrolments and developing an annual budget to meet our needs. As part of the change of governance to CESL, all separate Parents and Friends banking accounts were closed, with all transactions coming under the school's banking system.

Catholic Mission and Identity and Education in Faith

Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Enhance curriculum development in Religious Education.
- To further promote Social Justice & sustainability initiatives across the school.

Achievements

During 2020 many of our opportunities to celebrate our faith have been impacted by the restrictions around the Corona Virus (COVID-19), but we did manage to fit a few things in!

Los Angeles Religious Education Conference: Veronica attended the annual religious education conference in Los Angeles in February with the support of Catholic Education Sandhurst. LA RE Congress is the largest annual gathering of its kind in the world. The four-day event is held at Anaheim Convention Centre (California) and is sponsored by the Los Angeles Office of Religious Education attracting over 40,000 participants. As well as attending the Congress, the tour included visits to HomeBoy Industries, Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral, the new Christ Cathedral (Crystal Cathedral) and a number of other educational, religious and tourist highlights.

RE Accreditation: Melanie Sezun completed some units towards her RE Accreditation this year. These courses are designed to enhance the teacher's understanding of RE concepts and how to effectively design and deliver religious education units.

5/6 Retreat: Students worked with Kylie Smith (RE Team - C.E.O Bendigo) in Term One for a day to consider how they can grow and follow Jesus' teaching. The day was designed for students to consider practical ideas of how our school can enhance the lives of others. Kylie will be running another retreat day for our school leaders in 2021.

St Francis Feast Day: Students participated in activities to mark the feast of St Francis on the first day of Term 4, which coincided with all students back at school. It was lovely to see students engage in further learning about our school's patron Saint.

Sacramental Programs: Unfortunately we were unable to run these in 2020. Fr Michael has been delegated responsibility by Bishop Shane to conduct sacrament celebrations for our parish. Veronica will work with Fr. Michael to ascertain child numbers from our school families and the parish community and will look into suitable dates for 2021.

Advent and Christmas: The Grade 4/5 students ran Advent liturgies on Monday mornings in the lead up to Christmas and the school finished our 2020 year with a Whole School Mass in the undercover area.

VALUE ADDED

- St Francis Garden and prayer space established with St Mary of the Angels
- Deputy Principal faith development with Los Angeles RE Conference
- St Vincent De Paul collections including the Christmas and Winter Appeals
- Ongoing commitment to CARITAS during Lent.
- National Reconciliation school service.
- Commitment to Acknowledgement of Country at all Masses and assemblies.
- Continued commitment to fly both Australian and Indigenous flags each day.

Learning & Teaching

Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Whole school Scope and sequence for Inquiry & RE Units
- Numeracy Place Value Inquiry Mindset
- Strategies and timelines for curriculum e.g. scope and sequence.

Achievements

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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

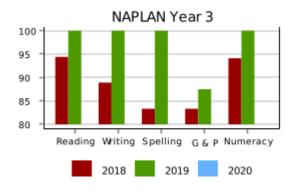
Our school used a range of tools to track and measure student growth throughout the year. Our junior students Reading Text Levels were consistently measured throughout the year and the Literacy Suite conducted at the beginning and end of the year. The senior classes used Essential Assessment to measure student growth throughout the year.

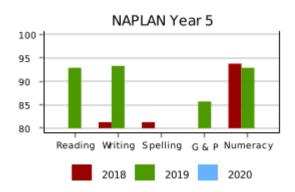
All students participated in the Math Assessment Interview (MAI) in Term 1 of 2020. We will use this data to measure growth when we complete the same testing again at the beginning of 2021.

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS MEETING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS					
NAPLAN TESTS	2018	2019 %	2018 – 2019 Changes %	2020 % *	2019 – 2020 Changes %
YR 03 Grammar & Punctuation	83.3	87.5	4.2		
YR 03 Numeracy	94.1	100.0	5.9		
YR 03 Reading	94.4	100.0	5.6		
YR 03 Spelling	83.3	100.0	4.2		
YR 03 Writing	88.9	100.0	11.1		
YR 05 Grammar & Punctuation	68.8	85.7	16.9		
YR 05 Numeracy	93.8	92.9	-0.9		
YR 05 Reading	68.8	92.9	24.1		
YR 05 Spelling	81.3	78.6	-2.7		
YR 05 Writing	81.3	93.3	12.0		

^{*} There are no NAPLAN results to report in 2020 as the Australian Government decided that due to the COVID-19 pandemic NAPLAN Assessments would not take place.

^{***} No students sat the NAPLAN tests in this year level and in one or both of the relevant years.





^{**} Data cannot be reported for this year as the number of students that sat the test was below 5 and the data has been suppressed for privacy reasons in accordance with the ACARA NAPLAN data reporting provisions.

Pastoral Wellbeing

Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Continue the implementation of Positive Behaviours Interventions and Support (P.B.i.S)
 Framework at St Francis.
- Continue to adhere to Child Safe practices
- Family & Community Relationships

Achievements

The Pastoral Wellbeing team had a strong emphasis on supporting the wellbeing of all in our school community this year. The pandemic impacted families in a range of ways throughout the year, and we catered to the needs of all through initiatives conducted by the CARE team, school wellbeing team and in partnership with local community organisations. The mental wellbeing of everyone was acknowledged with Tam Perry (Wellbeing Officer) providing Wellbeing Wednesday videos that outlined ways to connect with others, meditate or to make time for one's self.

VALUE ADDED

- Embedded teacher practices based on the PBiS Framework and provided students resources of how to implement this in the remote learning home environment.
- Provided Respectful Relationship training for staff.
- Monitored and promoted student attendance at assembly / newsletters and in classrooms
- Student participation in the Mackillop Art Exhibition.

STUDENT SATISFACTION

The 2020 Insight SRC survey results show that there was consistency from 2019 to 2020 across most reported elements, especially within the areas of Teacher Empathy, Purposeful Teaching and connectedness to peers.

The results showed a marked improved from 2019 to 2020 in the area of Classroom Behaviours.

A future area of consideration for the school may be Student Morale, with the 2020 score lower than 2019. This may also be attributed to the remote learning environment and pandemic restrictions students experienced during the year.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student non-attendance at school monitored through SIMON and is followed up through automated SMS or phone contact made with parents to ensure that the student is able to return to school as promptly as possible, and that there are no serious impairments to them returning to school. First contact is completed by administrative staff, followed by the classroom teacher and further correspondence is made by the principal as needed.

Student attendance is consistently promoted at assembly and through the newsletter.

During the Remote Learning stages of 2020, student attendance onsite at St Francis for children of Essential Workers was completed as follows:

- Parents booked in children attending school on site the week prior via a Google Sheet to ensure capacity and staff ratios were followed.
- Parents rang the school office or used PAM to notify the school of any sick / absent children during Remote Learning (as per normal process).
- Parents used PAM to notify the school of students completing Remote Learning from home.
- St Francis Primary notified Catholic Education Sandhurst of daily students and staff numbers onsite via a Google Form during Remote Learning.

AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE BY YEAR LEVEL	
Y01	92.8%
Y02	95.4%
Y03	97.1%
Y04	93.3%
Y05	94.1%
Y06	96.4%
Overall average attendance	94.8%

Child Safe Standards

Goals & Intended Outcomes

St Francis focuses on child safety and student wellbeing by:

- Ensuring we are compliant with V.R.Q.A. prescribed minimum standards for schools.
- Reviewing our V.R.Q.A. Child Safe practices with all key stakeholders.
- Constantly communicating the Child Safe policies, School Child Safety Code of Conduct and the PROTECT documentation.
- Successfully completing Child Safe practices and procedures as part of the V.R.Q.A. review.
- Ensuring strategies are embedded into the organisational culture of child safety and understood by all key stakeholders within the school.
- Establishing and communicating Volunteer induction program requirements.

Achievements

Practices have been identified and enacted at St Francis; a specific focus on safeguarding children and young people at St Francis primary School against sexual and physical abuse or neglect. It is intended to complement other professional and/or occupational codes. Throughout the year staff developed their understanding of changing legislation and continued to maintain V.R.Q.A requirements in line with the Child Safe standards. We actively promoted our school requirements to families via the newsletter, website and through digital and printed materials.

Additionally, 2020 required St Francis to ensure our child safe and cyber safety practices were well understood by all staff, students and families, as we engaged with our students during in the Remote Learning environment. This included frameworks around Video Conferencing sessions (Google Meet / Zoom) which outlined the way these would be carried out to meet our requirements.

Leadership & Management

Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Review and develop School Strategic Directions documentation
- Update Graduate Outcomes
- Develop middle leaders within the school
- Establish staff goal setting proforma and procedures

Achievements

COVID School Operations

Staff working from home: Along with many Victorians, St Francis staff were scheduled on to support children of Essential Services at school, and also worked supporting their classroom students at home. This not only ensured that we followed the Victorian guidelines of restricting the number of employees on site as per the requirements, it also allowed St Francis staff to support their own children with remote learning.

Border Restrictions: The restriction of movement between Victoria and N.S.W during the COVID-19 lock downs impacted on our teacher availability. We had two N.S.W based staff members working from home for over a month, unable to attend onsite, which required staff to take up additional responsibilities at school.

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Student Leadership: Our students were offered opportunities to develop their unique leadership skills through opportunities such as; Goulburn Valley Leadership Day, Remembrance Day school ceremony, Senior Student Leadership teams and had limited involvement in Youth Engagement, Mentoring Program (YEMP) during Term 1. Even with the restrictions in place this year, it is evident that St Francis has prepared many students to be strong leaders for the future.

School Board: The School Board continued to meet using Video Conferencing (Zoom) throughout the year. The Board continued to provide input and expertise into strategic planning for the school. The new Assisi Administration Building Master Plan and grant applications were a constant agenda item throughout the year.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Description of Professional Learning undertaken in 2020

RE Accreditation (Melanie Sezun)

- Los Angeles Religious Education Conference (Veronica Williams)
- CDLP: Jerrod Davison completed the Country Diocesan Leadership Program
- Pastoral Wellbeing meetings with CEO Wellbeing team (Steve Hicks)
- Principal & Deputy Principal Meetings (Via Video Conferencing)
- · Level 2 First Aid Training provided to all staff
- Languages Network days
- R.E.C. Network Meetings
- Child Safe Leader Training
- MiniLit Literacy Training (Interventions)
- Learning Diversity PD
- Numeracy PD and ongoing PLCs throughout the year

Number of staff who participated in PL in 2020: 19

Average Expenditure per staff member for PL: \$407

TEACHER SATISFACTION

There is much energy, enthusiasm and pride amongst the staff at St Francis School. Working together in such an environment is conducive to the creation of effective teaching and learning practices. There was considerable growth with regard to morale (both individual and school), as well as strong improvement in role clarity and staff empowerment, as indicated through the Insight SRC survey.

The 2020 Organisational Climate Aggregate Indicator decreased slightly to 62.7 (to from 71.6 in 2019) which may be reflective of the uncertain times the school faced during the pandemic. Insight SRC data reflected the Teaching Climate Aggregate remained consistent from 2019 to 2020.

Notable growth in both the Student Behaviour Classroom and Student Behaviour Yard indicators from 2019 to 2020 reflected the work of staff to implement and embed our P.B.i.S Behaviour Framework into our school life.

TEACHING STAFF ATTENDANCE RATE

Teaching Staff Attendance Rate

81.4%

ALL STAFF RETENTION RATE	
Staff Retention Rate	70.0%

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS	
Doctorate	0.0%
Masters	11.1%
Graduate	11.1%
Graduate Certificate	11.1%
Bachelor Degree	44.4%
Advanced Diploma	22.2%
No Qualifications Listed	33.3%

STAFF COMPOSITION	
Principal Class (Headcount)	1.0
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	12.0
Teaching Staff (FTE)	9.4
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	12.0
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	7.8
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	1.0

School Community

Goals & Intended Outcomes

- Support sustainable growth and promotion of the Nathalia Learning Community with a focus on Rights, Resilience and Respectful Relationships education.
- Continue to support families in need through participation in St Francis Care Team.
- Continuation of Early Years Transition Team building partnerships across sectors.
- Be an active member of the Nathalia community.

Achievements

St Francis has an incredibly strong school community. St Francis is committed to ensuring every family an affordable and quality education. When we budget each year, we ensure that fees are set at a manageable rate and the school is well resourced.

The following achievements were evident at St Francis in 2020;

- The school continues to be extremely well resourced across all areas of the curriculum providing resources to cater for the individual needs and learning styles of each student.
- Fee setting for 2021 began with discussion at the October School Board meeting and the fee levels for the following year are communicated to families as early as possible, fees were streamlined to include all 'out-of-pocket' expenses.
- The Principal and Administration Officer consistently sought advice from Catholic Education
 Office personnel and peers to develop their knowledge and understanding in the area of
 finance and administration.

St Francis National School Chaplain engaged and supported our community by running the following initiatives:

- Plan and implement the Seasons for Growth program at St. Francis.
- Support staff, students and families to embed the Positive Behaviours, Intervention and Support (P.B.I.S) Framework.
- Contribute on a regular basis to the community newsletter.
- Implement staff orientated wellbeing initiatives and check ins.
- Member of the Pastoral Wellbeing team that focussed on the implementation of resilience programs.

St Francis Parents and Friends Group: All schools (Catholic in particular) rely heavily on their P&F to contribute both physically and financially throughout the year. Unfortunately due to COVID, there were limited opportunities to engage socially with our parents in 2020. Our incredible P&F team were still able to fund new bike and scooter racks for students to encourage them to actively ride to school. We look forward to working in partnership with this team again in 2021.

Community Engagement: Opportunities for community engagement were limited in 2020 due to the pandemic. We found ways to engage with our community through online platforms, such as

Facebook and SeeSaw, and shared our school experiences and student achievement with families.

PARENT SATISFACTION

Our 2020 Insight SRC parent results showed a significant overall increase in the Community Engagement Aggregate, increasing from 57.2 to 71.9. All parent survey indicators increased from 2019 to 2020, with the most growth in Learning Focus (62nd Percentile to 82nd Percentile) and Behaviour Management (57th Percentile to 78th Percentile) indicators. Continuing to address ways to effectively communicate with our families and provide purposeful reporting of student learning will be a focus for 2021.

The 2020 Insight SRC data indicated that parents feel there was strong school improvement with regard to Learning Opportunities and Staff Engagement, with families happy with our school transition programs and the stimulating learning elements provided to their children. The survey results indicated that parents believe that Social Skills and Connectedness to Peers is a strength at St Francis, with both elements rating above the 86th percentile.