Our Vision:
In faith and love we are united and in our diversity we will work together.

St Paul’s Catholic Primary School is a faith centered community that follows the gospel values of Jesus Christ and the traditions of the Catholic Church.

Our school community aims to celebrate and value the uniqueness of each child, providing them with a quality learning environment. Our educational focus is centered on allowing them opportunities to grow and develop in an environment of support, love and respect.

Together with parents and the wider community, St Paul’s accepts the challenge to assist our children to build for the future.

Our Mission:

- We are a Catholic educational community dedicated to affirming respectful relationships between staff, students, parish and families.
- We strive to demonstrate and incorporate the gospel values in all areas of our teaching and learning.
- We will reflect the Catholic identity of the school community through religious celebrations and activities.
- We will embrace change and be open to new ideas and technologies that enable us to continue to develop dynamic and innovative practices that promote self-reflection.
- We will strive to create a school environment where our students can have fun and develop a lifelong engagement with their learning, while developing a strong sense of hope in their future.
- We will participate in multicultural activities and take pride in the cultural diversity of all members of our school community.
- We contribute to our community through our unique talents and experiences. We acknowledge and encourage independent learning through an inclusive curriculum.
**Brief History**

St Paul’s Catholic School opened as an Infant School in February 1967 with two classrooms that were used as a Mass centre on Sundays. It was started by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Sister Virgil and Sister Gabriel. By the time Cyclone Tracy arrived in Darwin, St Paul’s had grown to a school of 415 students. Many families had contributed much of their time and energy into developing St Paul’s and within a short space of time Tracy destroyed much of the parish and school.

The new library and two-storey building were extensively damaged and the future of the school was unknown.

Occupied by the army, what was left of St Paul’s was used by the community for housing and relief. It was not until February 1976 that St Paul’s was reopened with a new Principal, 15 new staff members and 315 students.

Throughout the late seventies and the eighties St Paul’s grew into a large urban primary school of over 500 students.

As the Nightcliff area changed, St Paul’s became smaller in the nineties and led by a lay Principal for the first time.

In recent years, St Paul’s have refurbished the school to provide modern facilities for the students and staff. Our school has a rich history in Catholic education in the Territory and we have a wonderful reputation within the community.

Parents are acknowledged as the first educators of their children, and the role of our school is to complement Catholic values taught formally or informally at home. We strive to reflect these values in the life of the school and in the curriculum.

Our school motto is “In Faith and Love – Strong in Unity, Rich in Diversity”. As a community of faith, our staff and parents are committed to the holistic development of each child which encompasses the personal, social, spiritual, academic, physical, emotional and cultural growth of every individual. We celebrate our diversity within the life of our school and through building positive relationships within our whole school community. We work closely to prepare our children to be successful learners for the 21st century and we work together to provide quality educational opportunities for the students. We encourage our students to be innovative by providing them with tools and resources to meet the challenges of a modern technological world.

We are proud of our strong traditions and our common vision at St Paul’s Catholic School. We aim to develop a united community where respect for each other is evident in the relationships between parents, students and staff.

We welcome the opportunity to share our school with you. If you are in our area, we would love to have you visit and meet the people who are part of the school community of St Paul’s.
Parents are the first and foremost educators of their children in faith. It is parents who first teach their children to know and love God, and to exhibit Christian values in their lives.

Catholic schools, in partnership with the faith community, work to affirm and strengthen the spiritual life of the family.

In choosing a Catholic school, parents choose an education for their children in which the message of Jesus Christ is available and young people are educated for participation in today’s Church and world communities.

The goals of religious education in a Catholic school are to:
- Foster a Christian environment which permeates all aspects of school life;
- Bear witness to the love of God for all people;
- Draw on students’ life experiences, thus providing a meaningful context for faith development;
- Provide opportunities for the spiritual growth and development of each member of the school community;
- Work in partnership with parents and the parish community.

The Religious Education program at St Paul's consists of:
Faith formative experiences such as prayer and participation in liturgy, and formal classroom lessons.

The curriculum is based on contemporary teachings of the Catholic Church and has a Sacramental focus at all levels. Representatives from the Catholic Education Office and from all Diocesan schools are currently writing units of work, for use by Religious Education teachers in the classroom that are appropriate to the context of the Northern Territory. These units will be based on the South Australian Religious Education curriculum framework.

Children celebrate Mass at school a number of times throughout the year, both in whole school gatherings and in class Masses. Parents are always welcome to join in the celebrations.

Celebrations and Sacraments:
St Paul's Parish has a family based Sacramental program. This means that parents wishing their children to celebrate either First Reconciliation Confirmation or First Eucharist will also be involved in the preparation program. Parents are also responsible for ascertaining the readiness of their child to celebrate a Sacrament. This may be done in consultation with the Parish Priest or the School. Usually these sacraments are celebrated after seven years of age.

At St. Paul's, children prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Year 2. The Sacrament of First Eucharist is prepared for and celebrated from Year 3, and children from Year 5 onwards.
It is with pleasure that I present this annual report as I am very proud of the way our school community strives to provide a learning environment that promotes the active engagement of our students. This is reflected in the high attendance rate of our students and the participation of our wider school community.

There are several events from the school calendar for 2012 which need to be highlighted:

**Capital Improvements**

We are committed to improving our facilities and services to ensure that we provide an engaging learning environment for our school community. We did not receive any funding for capital improvements this year, however we have modernised some of our learning environments through our own maintenance funds.

We were thrilled by the change of a fresh new look in our Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) service as the centre was professionally painted and we received some new furniture. The room has been transformed to provide a relaxed and engaging environment for our students using this facility.

Our Early Learning Centre received a landscape garden concept from one of our parents (Clouston Associates) to encourage the use of the outdoor classroom as a resource for our young children to experience the natural environment. This project will be staged and has sparked lots of enthusiasm within our community.
Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

2012 was an exciting year for St Paul’s students in the areas of Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE), and wellbeing.

Throughout the year, children were involved in a variety of lessons and activities focusing on integrating the key outcomes of Movement, Games, Fitness and Participation. As well as class based PDHPE, a range of specialist clinics were held throughout the year, delivered by Development Officers from sporting associations throughout Darwin. These clinics gave students the opportunity to be involved and experience a range of different sports while continuing to develop their skills and participation. Clinics included; basketball, netball, cricket, rugby league, AFL.

During 2012, St Paul’s participated in the Prime Minister’s Olympic Challenge, which encouraged students to become active in their daily lives and seek inspiration from athletes competing in the 2012 Olympic Games. As a result, St Paul’s was selected as the Northern Territory winner and received a $1,000 sports voucher and were part of the official Darwin Olympic celebration with several Olympians attending the school and students participating in the Darwin parade.

Upper primary students also had the opportunity to participate in representative school sport. In 2012, there were over 60 primary students from Years 4 to 6 who represented the school at various sporting events including AFL, cricket, rugby league, athletics, swimming, basketball, tennis, and netball. For some students, this then provided a pathway to represent the school at the higher levels of City Cluster, Territory and national events.

St Paul’s participated in the Coles ‘Sports for School’ program and through community support in collecting vouchers, the school was able to order new sporting equipment that will be able to be used in general PDHPE lessons and at sporting carnivals.

In 2012, all St Paul’s students undertook the St John’s Ambulance and the Royal Life Saving education programs. These programs are designed to build awareness of dangers in any environment and to arm the students with lifesaving skills used in both prevention and rescue.
Wellbeing

During 2012, St Paul’s continued to promote health and wellbeing to staff and students, in order to provide a safe, friendly and supportive school environment.

St Paul’s has established a partnership with the Kidsmatter Primary program. This included training for staff during the year to ensure a focus on mental health and wellbeing throughout the school.

St Paul’s also utilised the School-based Constable to educate the students on how to protect themselves on the internet.

Australian Curriculum

St Paul’s Catholic Primary School is committed to high quality teaching and learning. As our teachers transition to the full implementation of the Australian Curriculum, we have reported in the learning areas of English and Mathematics using the achievement standards for teaching, assessment and reporting.

Music

We have a School Choir to develop our students’ confidence and their appreciation for great music and teamwork. They performed at concerts and official school functions such as the ANZAC day service. Our music teacher also coordinated the national music event called “Music Count Us In” with over 2000 schools from around the country to sing the same song together. Our students also participated in the Northern Territory Catholic Performing Arts Festival this year which provided them with an opportunity to exhibit their dynamic artistic talent at the Darwin Entertainment Centre.

Indonesian

We provide our students with LOTE (Languages Other Than English) experiences through our Indonesian classes. Our students were given the opportunity to perform in the Indonesian concert with a performance called ‘Kolintang and Angklung: We Have a Dream’. The Consul of the Rep of Indonesia Mr Ade Sarwono was one of the dignitaries present at this concert.
**Information Technology**

We are very proud of our modern Integrated Learning Centre (ILC) which serves the educational and research needs of the students and staff. Throughout 2012, our teachers have been working closely with our Information Technology (IT) teacher to implement the RM Learning Platform to offer a rich and personalised experience for our students. This virtual learning environment will provide our students with the opportunity to prepare for the 21st century because they will have an increased capacity to access knowledge and be more autonomous learners.

![Modern Integrated Learning Centre](image1.jpg)

**Northern Territory Catholic Primary School Public Speaking Competition**

We provide our students with many exciting opportunities to develop their confidence at public speaking. We have regular morning assemblies coordinated by our students and the benefits are evident in many areas of our curriculum. In 2012 our students participated in the Northern Territory Public Speaking Competition.

![Public Speaking Competition](image2.jpg)

**Teaching and Learning Initiatives**

(Curriculum, pedagogy, programs, take-up of special funding programs)

Students and teachers were involved in projects aimed at improving learning opportunities for students:

- Teachers participated in a ‘Catholic Identity’ workshop with Rev Elio Capra.
- Teachers participated in professional development for the implementation of the Australian Curriculum in English.
- Teachers participated in a workshop with Dr Lorraine McDonald called ‘Examining Literature and the Australian Curriculum’.
- Teachers participated in a variety of workshops facilitated by Dr Thelma Perso to analyse our students’ Mathematics data in our Professional Learning Communities.
- We had a whole school focus on ‘Kidsmatter’
- All teachers had regular training on utilising the RM Learning Platform.
- Professional Learning Communities focussed on Mathematics for the teaching staff.
- Members of the leadership teams from each of our schools participated in a variety of professional development opportunities which were aligned to the key accountabilities of our school leaders. We were involved in the ACEL (Australian Council of Educational Leaders) program and workshops for ‘Managing Today’s Workforce for Tomorrow’.

![Teaching and Learning Initiatives](image3.jpg)
National Tests (NAPLAN):

The overall NAPLAN data indicates that the majority of the students are achieving at or above the minimum standard in all aspects.

The following tables show the school’s results; all scores are averages.
Managing Non-Attendance:
St Paul’s Catholic Primary School is committed to maximising the achievement of all pupils and there is a clear link between good attendance and educational achievement. We experience a high attendance rate by our students and we believe this is largely due to the supportive school environment. Our school records all attendance-related incoming messages from parents and we notify the class teacher. Our attendance registers are monitored in the front office daily and parents are contacted if there were no satisfactory reasons received to explain a student’s absence.

Attendance – August Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tran</th>
<th>Yr 1</th>
<th>Yr 2</th>
<th>Yr 3</th>
<th>Yr 4</th>
<th>Yr 5</th>
<th>Yr 6</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>119</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>257</td>
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### Staff Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>HC</th>
<th>FTE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and Clerical (including assistants)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Operations Maintenance and Other Staff</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialist Support</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Staff (including librarians)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>21.6</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor Degree</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
St. Paul’s Early Learning Centre (ELC) caters for children who are 3 to 5 years old.

Our Early Learning Centre is a long day care service for children aged 3-5years. We were accredited as High Quality by the National Childcare Accreditation Council (NCAC) and this is the highest level standard which can be achieved. We are always aiming to achieve the highest level of care for the children in our services.

Our Early Learning Centre was presented with a Partnership Award from the Replay Group in appreciation of its support of Replay’s EQF program for Indigenous participants.

The ELC features:
- An Educational Program using the Early Years Learning Framework;
- Modern facilities and safe environment;
- Access to school resources;
- Integration program in preparation for Transition;
- Trained and caring staff;
- Full-time enrolment or part-time if available.

Competitive Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Care</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Price as of 2011</th>
<th>Meals Provided</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Time</td>
<td>7:30am—5:30pm</td>
<td>$270.00</td>
<td>Morning Tea, Lunch &amp; Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Time</td>
<td>8:20am—2:50pm</td>
<td>$270.00</td>
<td>Morning Tea, Lunch &amp; Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Care</td>
<td>7:30am—5:30pm</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>Morning Tea, Lunch &amp; Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students at the ELC are eligible for the government child-care subsidy.

Applications for enrolment are available from St. Paul’s School Office, Francis St, Nightcliff (8985 1911) or from the Centre, Cummins St, Nightcliff (89854678)
OSHC and Vacation Care deliver a quality caring environment. We ensure variety and fun when planning our programs. Afternoon tea is supplied daily at OSHC and all food is supplied during Vacation Care.

CCB is available through Centrelink ~ this then reduces your fees based on income.

OSHC runs for the 40 school weeks excluding public holidays. Vacation Care operates 10 weeks per year only closing for the Christmas and New Year weeks.

If you would like to access our December/January program please contact us. Applications for enrolment are available from St. Paul's School Office, Francis St, Nightcliff (8985 1911) or from the Centre, Cummins St, Nightcliff (89854678)

### Out of School Hours Care

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operation Time</strong></td>
<td>2:45pm—5:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Casual Fees</strong></td>
<td>$18.00 per casual day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Permanent Part-Time per Day</strong></td>
<td>1st Child—$75.00 per week</td>
<td>Additional Children—$70.00 per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Late Fees</strong></td>
<td>$2.00 per minute</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Vacation Care

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<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operation Time</strong></td>
<td>7:30am—5:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Casual Fees</strong></td>
<td>$50.00 per casual day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permanent Part-Time per Day</strong></td>
<td>1st Child—$200.00 per week</td>
<td>Additional Children—$195.00 per week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Late Fees</strong></td>
<td>$2.00 per minute</td>
<td></td>
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Parents at School
At St. Paul's Catholic Primary School we value the support of parents across the range of school life. This includes management, maintenance and fund raising through the School Board and Parents & Friends Association. The fund raising that takes place in the school is vital for providing the necessary resources for student learning. This can include information technology, reading material, play equipment and the general upkeep of the school grounds facilities such as shade areas.

Parents are also invited to assist by supporting teachers in the classroom on a regular or casual basis. Helping with excursions, sports (coaches, managers, transport) and sporting events run by the school. Please speak to your child’s teacher about how you can help.

Parents are always welcome at any activities organised by the school, and we encourage you to be involved in school events whenever possible.

School Board
The School Board is an advisory and support group which assists the Principal, staff and Parish Priest to ensure the smooth running of the school.

All parents have the opportunity to participate in policy development and planning by joining the School Board for a set term. Members are elected annually. Information on participation on the Board can be obtained through the Principal.

Parents and Friends Association
All families are encouraged to belong to the Parents & Friends Association. An elected executive committee works with the school to organise fundraising, development of resources and plans for the future of the school. The P & F are represented on the School Board.

Parent Satisfaction
There are a number of ways we collect evidence of the satisfaction of the parents at St Paul’s Catholic Primary School including these below:
- Surveys through the School Improvement and Renewal Framework (SIRF) tool
- Parents are encouraged to meet the teachers at an open night at the beginning of the year
- Parent participation in our school functions is very high
- Emails sent to the school with feedback
- High attendance rate of our students
We have continued to use the SIRF document as a tool to support and guide schools in meeting the demands of providing a quality education to the students in our care. This year the executive team from the Catholic Education Office visited our schools to have targeted conversations about our strategic priorities with a strong focus on teaching and learning.

School income is derived from a variety of sources and can be summarised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>100 %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Government</td>
<td>61.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Territory Government</td>
<td>19.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other sources</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
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### Endorsements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Smith</td>
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<td>School Board Chairperson:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne Gabbert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Catholic Education:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Avery</td>
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