



Annual Report 2012



“May your journey always be filled with blessings and may the life of Saint Mary MacKillop ignite in you the flames of faith and service”

Contents:

1. **About our College**
2. **2012 Achievements**
3. **Academic Studies Reports**
4. **2012 Data Reflecting our Success**
5. **Beyond 2012**
6. **Acknowledgements of Gratitude**

From this....



To this!!!!





Dear members of MacKillop Catholic College Community,

Welcome to our 2012 Annual Report. It gives me great pleasure to write a few words of introduction for this our first College Annual Report.

With only one year of history behind us the College is a vibrant caring community. In this short time, we have achieved so much, as you will see as you page through this publication. What a fabulous journey we have had. Educating 115 students, under the most difficult conditions and circumstances and demonstrating to the wider community that MacKillop is a community to believe in; one that can ***“Lead with Courage”***.

Our success is built on the culture of being positively welcoming. This is at the core of our understanding of what it is to be Catholic. Being open and ready to accept others is the essence of being a faith community. Sometimes we can see the risks and the problems before we, in faith and hope, welcome new-comers and strangers to share our life; surprisingly, in most cases those we welcome give us more than we had ever hoped for or even deserved.

I congratulate and thank the MacKillop Community on their faith in us as a foundation staff to provide a quality education under difficult conditions.

The late pope John Paul II described an all-round education as one that “seeks to develop every aspect of the individual: social, intellectually, emotional, moral and spiritual. For there is an ecology of human growth which means that if any one of these elements are overlooked all the others suffer.” Catholic Education can contribute significantly to establishing environments, illumined by the light of faith, where human beings can flourish. This is the good work you as parents, staff and students are specifically charged with managing and is one that aligns seamlessly with the teachings of Christ. My prayer for you this year is centred in the hope that all you do this year will be life giving for you and yours, and that our God will journey beside you and respond abundantly to all that your soul longs for.

God of journey, you have enriched our lives in so many ways throughout this year. Give us this day the wisdom to recognise which things are important and which things are not. Show us how to best use the time and talents you have given us. Help us to use all the opportunities wisely that we may give in service to others the good gifts we have received from you. Amen.

MacKillop has certainly taken flight this year. Together we have achieved so much. Thank you for your contribution in making this a memorable and exciting year. **remember no act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted...** Aesop

With deepest gratitude for the year past and joy and hope for the future,

Laretta Graham

Founding Principal



“May your journey always be filled with blessings and may the life of Saint Mary MacKillop ignite in you the flames of faith and service”

VISION STATEMENT

As a faith community with Christ as our focus we, like Mary MacKillop, follow Him and inspire:

- Strong, clear minds which value learning;
- Compassionate hearts; and,
- Courageous spirits to serve others with confidence.

“If we love one another, Christ lives in us” (1 John 4:12)

MISSION STATEMENT

At MacKillop Catholic College, we aspire to become what God intended us to be. Members of our College

Community will:

- ~ Give daily witness and be open to the presence of Christ amongst us;
- ~ Engage in quality teaching and learning enabling individuals to reach their full potential;
- ~ Exhibit a strong sense of compassion and justice, and respect the dignity and worth of each student within a caring and supportive environment;
- ~ Be optimistic in the face of challenges;
- ~ Seek the truth fearlessly;
- ~ Develop an open and inclusive community that values and sustains all relationships between its members including the home and the parishes; and builds partnerships with the wider Palmerston and rural communities;
- ~ ***Lead with Courage***

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MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE PALMERSTON

2012, Annual Report

1. About our College

Address:	285 Farrar Blvd Johnston NT 0832	Telephone: (08) 89305757 Facsimile: (08) 89305700
Address all correspondence to:	PO Box 2608 Palmerston NT 0831	Email: mackillop@nt.catholic.edu.au Website: http://www.mackillopnt.catholic.edu.au
College Principal:	Mrs Laretta Graham	Parish Priest: Rev Fr Tom English Ph: 0889323774
College Board Chairperson:	Mrs Gez Mulvahil	College Chaplain: Ms Lauren Hill
College Parents & Friends President:	Mr Peter Wallis	Office Manager: Mrs Kate Middleton
Year levels offered in 2012:	Year 7 – Year 9 (First Yr 12 graduates in 2015)	
Total Enrolments (August 2012):	105 students from Year 7 to Year 9 (220 in 2013)	
Student Population:	Co-educational Catholic College	
Newsletter link:	http://www.mackillopnt.catholic.edu.au	

Introduction: MacKillop Catholic College is a new **Catholic Co-educational College**, opened in 2012. It is situated on a picturesque 8 ha site located in Johnston in the City of Palmerston. It is the hope of all people concerned with the development of this College, that it is seen as a shared resource for the local community, with a welcome for all people interested in continuing to seek faith development, spirituality, knowledge and recreation. This concept is at the heart of the grand vision for MacKillop Catholic College. MacKillop is a co-educational college with a student-centred focus, in genuine partnership with families. We believe in giving girls and boys both a purpose and an identity through challenging them to become active, innovative, responsible citizens.

The metaphor of “Journey” runs through all that is at MacKillop.

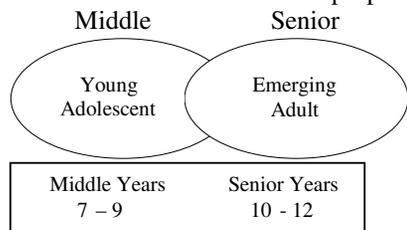
Acknowledgement of Country: We acknowledge the Larrakia People the traditional owners of this land and pay respect to their elders, both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Aboriginal Australia and who educated their children in this area. We show respect for their history, their culture and our shared future. We will always remember that under the concrete, steel and asphalt of this College, this land is, was and always will be traditional Aboriginal land.



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Distinctive Curriculum Offerings:

- A comprehensive academic and extra-curricular educational offerings in sport, music and cultural activities;
- A co-educational environment provides the best start for life, where men and women work with both men and women;
- A college divided into two sectors for the purpose of curriculum delivery and pastoral care;



- A seamless Year 7→10 curriculum expanding into Year 12, by 2015 ;
- An innovative and relevant elective program for middle years with plans to offer electives specifically in line with the needs of senior years students through a multi-pathway approach.

Charism: The College was founded by lay people, based on a Charism of discipleship where outreach and service to the disadvantaged and marginalised is a cornerstone. At MacKillop, above all, we endeavour to give more time than we normally think we can afford to the mechanics of our spiritual life. It is about taking time out of our normal routine to; or as we go about our busy work listen and attend with the ear of our hearts (St Benedict), making a special effort to listen with care and compassion to each person we meet, a gift given in a moment of meeting where a person's true nature and worth is acknowledged. In the text *Bread of Tomorrow*, Janet Morley points out that the service that is asked of us, the active engagement of our hands, feet or voices, is not understood only as a one-way gift. We believe in her words when she says: "one of the hardest assumptions for Western society to relinquish is the view of ourselves as privileged and generous givers". "There is much wisdom we desperately need to receive from those who are in a better position than we are to see the world accurately, if only we could acknowledge this".

*Brother (or Sister), let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.*

Our aim is not to serve the weak or broken. What we set out to serve is the wholeness in each other and the wholeness in life. The part in you that I serve is the same part that is strengthened in me when I serve. Unlike helping and fixing and rescuing, service is mutual...R N Remen from *My Grandfather's Blessings*. Through our College Vision and Mission, each person is connected with others in the community giving rise to willingness to be of service to others. Discovering what connects us to others and understanding our own authenticity can be a challenge. To do this we need to create enough time in each day for beauty, creativity, imagination and learning. The late Morris West concluded that life was an enriching voyage of self-discovery.

School motto: *"Lead with Courage"*.

Philosophy of College:

MacKillop Catholic College works to provide their students with an education, which will empower them to take their place in the world as spiritual, moral, well-integrated persons, contributing positively to the life of the Church and the wider society.

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2. 2012 Achievements

2012 Student Achievements:

- First place in the PARCS Hockey competition;
- Development of the Rugby School of Excellence;
- Introduction of the Young Musician of the Year Competition;
- College Netball teams playing in local Palmerston competitions;
- Second place in the District Model Bridge Building Competition;
- Establishment of school orchestra;
- Electronic music integration with the leading music software in Australia; and
- An innovative programme that is unparalleled in growth potential.



2012 College Community Achievements:

- Implementation of the laptop program;
- Success in the NAB School's First grant for community partnerships; and
- Success in National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program Grant.



2012 Social Climate:

- An irresistible atmosphere where each person strives to be the person Jesus Christ created them to be;
- Pastoral Coordinators who ensure that Pastoral Care permeates every part of College life;
- Co-education which affirms the equality of persons; male and female;
- Students know they are valued as persons where their dignity and spirit are sacred;
- Inclusion Support Specialists supporting all year levels;
- Exceptional staff who look for the best in their students, and value and respect them for just who they are;
- A College focusing on developing partnerships between learners, teachers, community and other providers;
- Highly committed to community involvement and participation; and
- An environment where parents are acknowledged and welcomed as genuine partners in the education process.



2012 Strategies used for involving parents in their son/daughter's education:

- Regular Parents & Friends Association and College Board meetings;
- Parents invited to weekly assemblies, liturgies, celebrations and new parent welcoming functions, and working bees;
- Regular Parent / Teacher / Student meetings and conferences and social & fundraising events;
- Strong partnerships with parents, and other community members; involving them in the planning and implementation of learning programs;
- Application in place for a Defence Transition Mentor to assist with the transition program for all Defence Families; and
- Parent Information & Subject Selection Evenings and Parent/Teacher/Student conferencing opportunities.

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3. Academic Studies Reports

Religious Education, Spirituality & Faith 2012 - 2013

MacKillop Catholic College has been founded on a long tradition of Catholic Education in Australian and the Northern Territory. As a Catholic College we aim to fulfil the purpose for which Jesus Christ called us, to live our lives fully. His messages of hope and love were carried by our College Patron, Saint Mary MacKillop, and we continue her work in educating and preparing young people for their role in the world beyond school. Religious Education is central to all we do at MacKillop College. The “Journey in Faith” Curriculum provides a program for Middle Years which not only reveals to students the traditions of the Catholic Church but offers students opportunities to engage in their faith through Retreat / Reflection days, Sacramental Programs and involvement in the community. Our students have been involved in supporting St Vincent de Paul, Caritas Project Compassion and Catholic Missions. The Year 8 students joined with O’Loughlin Catholic College to attend a NET Ministries retreat day.

As Religious Education Coordinator for the first Semester, 2012, I worked with all staff. In Semester 2, it was both a personal challenge and a privileged to be appointed as the Assistant Principal Religious Education. I thank the staff for their commitment to the development of the religious life of the College. I acknowledge the diverse background of many members of our College community and thank them for the way they have opened their hearts and minds to discover God in their lives.

In 2013, our College has expanded both in student and staff numbers. This expansion of staff has allowed us to ensure we have Catholic staff in all Religious Education classes. Our focus this year is to build on our strong foundation to make our Catholic faith visible in our College. This we will achieve not only through the delivery of our Journey in Faith Curriculum but through our visible presence in the community. The College will continue to have a strong relationship with Fr Tom English and the Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Palmerston, as well as, the two Catholic feeder schools, Sacred Heart and St Francis of Assisi. We also plan to continue our links with Saint Vincent de Paul and the local aged care facility run by Frontier Services with older students visiting and working with these organisations. This year have Lauren Hill working as a College Chaplin. Her role is to work with the youth of the College and Parish and to focus on areas such as social responsibility and social justice. The NET Ministries Team will also work in the Parish and the College this year. In Semester 2 the Year 10 class will commence studying a two year Certificate III course in Christian Ministry and Theology, through the Institute of Faith Education, Brisbane. We have two staff training and delivering this course. This course allows students to complete a senior secondary Religious Education unit which is not only engaging but which also equips them with skills transferable to other career and life choices. I feel that offering this course of study is well suited to our current student cohort. This has been made possible through the work done at CEO in supporting this and allowing teachers to access the necessary training. Our College is new and we are starting a journey together, just as we also have each started on our spiritual journey.

Mrs Marie Butt - Assistant Principal Religious Education.



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Teaching and Learning 2012 - 2013

The learning and assessments of core subjects have been programmed against the Australian curriculum standards utilising tools recommended by the CEO and of non-core utilising the NTCF. Programming has been enhanced by the use of DECS Learning and Assessment Plans for all subjects submitted in week 3 2013. These were introduced to familiarise staff with the process which is mandated for Year 10 and Stage 1 and 2 and to assist in the creation of an assessment calendar for each cohort. These plans were slightly modified from the DECS template in order to encourage staff to embed cross-curricular priorities and Catholic Identity. Cross curricular responsibilities for literacy and numeracy learning in the NAPLAN Years of 7 and 9 are a focus for terms 1& 2. Cross curricular capabilities of personal and social capacity are also recognised as areas needing development. Parent subject information meetings for 7-9 and for Year 10 parents were held in Term 1. The publication of a subject handbook including current offerings and pathways through core, non-core and electives will streamline subject selection processes at enrolment and at the beginning of 2014.

Student pathways processes through electives in Years 7-10 with articulation of and preparation for projections into years 11 and 12 have been refined. In order to begin the design of our senior courses and to prepare students for what can be offered them in Stage 1 in 2014 and Stage 2 in 2015 electives from 7-10 are being refined, elective offerings enhanced and student and parent information handbooks and selection processes developed. Staff are being given opportunities to design back from Stage 1 and 2, in order to better deliver up through the Middle Years. More integrated curriculum and vertical timetabling may be required to develop these offerings.

A range of student work skills and flexible learning pathways are being developed and implemented throughout 2013. PLP has been introduced in Year 10 with assessment in Semester 2. The aim is that each Year 10 student will have a clearly articulated pathway including VET, flexible learning through Stage 1 and 2 by October 2013. A literacy for work and community life course for low literacy Year 9s was developed in Term 1 2013 with the embedding of work skills. All Year 9s will attend the try a trade day and work skills programs will be extended to more Year 9s in semester 2 2013, with year 9 students being given opportunities to participate in VET in the Middle courses in 2014.

2013 has a focus on teacher development through mentoring, personal growth partnerships, shadowing opportunities and targeted professional learning with goals of Supporting novices and TFAS Supporting those new to Catholic education Improved course design Improved classroom practice Preparation for stage 1 offerings in 2014 Improved pathways through electives



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4. 2012 Data Reflecting our Success

2012 Percentage of Students in year 7 and 9 ON or ABOVE National Benchmark

2012	Year 7	NT Average	School Average	Year 9	NT Average	School Average
Numeracy	96%	473	519	100%	530	566
Reading & Viewing	100%	473	548	92%	516	576
Writing	96%	434	537	100%	469	567
Spelling	96%	463	535	92%	504	559
Grammar & Punctuation	98%	475	543	100%	511	586



Results shown as % of students who score above the National Benchmark levels in each area and School and Territory Averages.

Ongoing school based student assessment and the Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN test results are used to inform classroom teaching and the College learning support programmes. In this way, extra support or extension work can be provided; serving individual needs of the most gifted as well as the neediest of students at MacKillop.

2012 School Leavers Report

MacKillop Catholic College, Palmerston					
Students	Year 11	Yr 12			
2012	0	0	Not applicable for us in 2012		

We enrolled no Year 11 or 12 students in 2012.



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2012 Student Enrolment

	7	8	9	10	11	12			TOTAL
Girls	35	9	12	0	0	0			56
Boys	22	20	7	0	0	0			49
Total	57	29	19	0	0	0			105

% Indigenous students: $15/105 \times 100\% = 14.3\%$ Indigenous as per 'August Census 2012'

% Students with a disability (SWD): $7/105 \times 100\% = 6.6\%$ as per 'August Census 2012'

2012 Average Student Attendance: The average student attendance rate is **92 %**.

Period 5, 2012			Period 6, 2012			Average for the Year		
Enrol	Attend	% Attend	Enrol	Attend	% Attend	Enrol	Attend	% Attend
106	94	89%	107	102	95%	106	104	92%

2012 Student Retention: Not applicable as MacKillop Catholic College was a new College enjoying its first year of operation, in 2012

Year 10		Year 12		Year 10-12
Year	Enrol	Year	Enrol	Apparent Retention Rate
2012	0	2012	0	n/a
2013	23	2013	0	First year of year 10
2014		2014		First year of year 11
2015		2015		First year of year 12

2012 School Based Apprenticeship:

No students participated in School Based Apprenticeships in 2012. Two students participated in VET Courses through Charles Darwin University.



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2012 Extra-curricular Activities

Bands & Ensembles	Numerous Sporting Teams / Events	Choirs
Local Community Competitions and Maths, English & Science Competitions	Student Leadership Opportunities	Compulsory Instrumental Music lessons for all Year 7 students
Ski Trip to Perisher NSW for Yr 8, 9 & 10 Students	Camps & Retreats for all year levels	MacKillop Swimming Club with National coach
Modern Languages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japanese • Indonesian 	Local Community Partnerships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palmerston First Scouts; • Sunset Calisthenics. 	Community Involvement: Anzac Day Services; Remembrance Day services; charity walks, aged care visits; coaching primary student sporting teams
After School Homework Program	MacKillop Rugby League Development School of Excellence	Instrumental Music in a full range of instruments



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2012 Staff Profile – MacKillop Catholic College

	Head Count	Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Part timers
Administrative & Clerical (including Officers & Assistants)	3	0.4
Principal	1	0
Teaching Staff (including Librarians)	8	0.8
Grand Total	12	1.2

2012 Average Staff Attendance Statistics

Leave is all inclusive including: Sick, Parental, Family, Maternity, Leave without Pay, and Long Service Leave. Worked hours/days refers to normal full time or part time work.

Staff Attendance: The average teacher attendance rate is **97.2%**.

Relevant comment: During 2012, staff had the enormous task of setting up our new College from a greenfield site.

2012- 2013 Teaching Staff Retention

Number of permanent teaching staff at end of program, Year 2012	Number of staff retained in 2013 from 2012.	% retention rate	% turnover
Head Count = 10	Head Count = 9	90.00%	10.00%

Relevant comments: Total number of full-time equivalent teaching staff = 9.8 teachers (including one part-time teacher and a teaching Principal).

2012 Teacher Qualifications

Teaching Qualification	Number of teachers qualified to this level, in 2012
Diploma	1
Bachelor's Degree	9
Master's Degree	1 (Principal)

Relevant comments: One staff member presently studying for her Master's Degree overseas and will return to MacKillop Catholic College, in 2015.



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2012 Expenditure and Teacher Participation in Professional Learning

Total number of teachers (Head count) for 2012	Total expenditure on teacher professional learning for 2012	Average expenditure on professional learning / teacher (This amount does include teacher relief salaries)
10	\$9,545	\$ 954 / Teacher

2012 Professional Learning - priorities for professional learning included the support for:

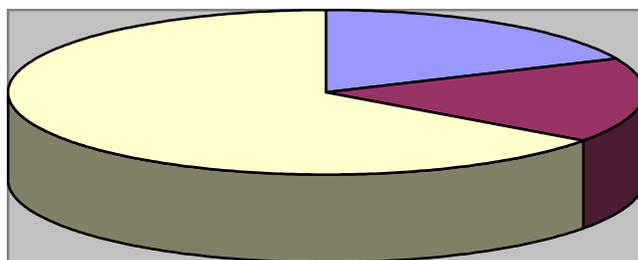
- The development of work programs using the Australian Curriculum in Mathematics, Science, English and History;
- Religious Education Programs with the introduction of Certificate III in Christian Ministries;
- Senior School Curriculum (Years 11, & 12) – the development of Learning Area Plans;
- Tracking, Assessment & Reporting in all areas;
- Social & emotional learning programs, mentoring programs, cyber bullying awareness programs, positive schooling, and deep democracy programs;
- Staff Leadership & Theology Studies;
- Capacity building in the area of Behaviour Management; and
- NAPLAN test marking and preparation.

In 2012, participation in professional learning was supported by **\$9,545** of professional learning funded by the College and an additional amount provided by Catholic Education Office. Professional development of staff took place on six student-free days throughout the year as well as on regular school days when replacement teachers were employed to teach classes.



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Recurrent income received in 2012: Fees & Levies - \$327,060 ≈18.4%; NT Grants - \$293,297≈16.5%; Commonwealth Grants - \$1,158,748≈65%



We sincerely thank the Northern Territory Government for their generous financial support for Stage 1 Building Project

Fixed Assets	\$
Income:	
Buildings	24,262,383.24
Furniture & Equipment	380,063.50
Classroom furniture	3,067.73
Office furniture & Equipment	2,550.00
Tuition Resources	33,043.27
Classroom Resources	103,240.94
Library Resources	28,951.01
ICT Equipment	113,479.55
Network Hardware	30,831.15
Computers	128,752.11
Peripherals	63,110.62
Motor Vehicle	2,727.27
Total	25,152,200.39

Building a new school not a task for the faint hearted.



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4. Beyond 2012

Strategic Priorities 2013 – 2017

“The Catholic School of the future will continually re-evaluate its own structures and processes and also its relationships with parents, the community and Catholic Education at large, so that there is a consonance between the Christian values it espouses and its actual practice”
(Project Catholic School, 1978).

We are called to: plan, evaluate, and review, through:

- 1. Promoting faith and Catholic identity;**
- 2. Providing quality teaching and learning through: curriculum development, resourcing, administration, financial management, implementation, practice and review;**
- 3. Enhancing pastoral care and well-being for all in the Community;**
- 4. Enriching community and culture through collaboration and relationships – internal to the College;**
- 5. Strengthening connections with and service to the wider community and beyond; and**
- 6. Developing leadership across the college community.**

Our Success will be built on well thought-out educational philosophy, curriculum and pedagogy.

In a very short time, classroom teachers are noted for taking pride in monitoring student achievements. Support strategies are being implemented where necessary. The College is developing an overall Curriculum Plan (Year 7 to 12). This plan will include comprehensive scope and sequence in: literacy, numeracy, learning support, and gifted & talented. These programmes will cater for the diverse needs of all students, enabling them to learn in different ways and at variable rates, flexible pathways will be available at MacKillop Catholic College as student s progress through to Year 12.

Staff Development Priorities for 2013 and beyond:

- Set up a Buddy/Mentoring Programme across the College for staff and students;
- Embed Social Emotional Learning throughout the College through the use of the Restorative, Positive Schooling and Deep Democracy strategies for change management and conflict resolution;
- Develop teacher awareness and capability in the area of inclusion support and responsibility;
- Develop a whole college approach to child protection and cyber safety awareness;
- A continued development of senior years’ work programmes - (Years 11 & 12);
- Further implementation of Australian curriculum from Years 7 to 10;
- Develop school based work programmes from Years 7 to 10 in electives subjects;
- Provide opportunities for studies in Catholic theology & spirituality to all staff;
- Provide professional development supporting the implementation of the College Laptop Program and the whole College ICT Skill Development Strategy, including the use of RM software; and
- Building capacity in staff to better manage challenging student behaviour.

More Recent Student Achievements, in 2013

- The Girls U13 Netball came 1st and the two U15 teams came 3rd in the recent PARCS Competition
- The boys Rugby League teams both achieved 2nd place in the PARCS Competition

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Future Initiatives:

The School opened in 2012, catering for students from Years 7 – 9. Purpose-built facilities were built to support the latest developments in middle years' curriculum delivery – open classrooms and spill out areas. A middle years' curriculum forms the foundation for learning into the senior years. For the first four months we operated our school from the Palmerston Campus of the Charles Darwin University.

Capital Works: The 2011 – 2012 Stage One Capital Project attracted a total of **\$25,152,200.39** for capital works seeing the College through to Year 10, 2013. Stage 2 Project when built will include the provision of additional General Classrooms, Staff Facilities, Music and Performing Arts Centre, Visual Arts, Media, Dance & Drama Facilities, Covered Basketball Court, and related infrastructure. The Stage 2 Building Project is planned to be built in 2013, for occupancy in 2014.

Major ICT Infrastructure upgrades:

MacKillop Catholic College has installed significant computing infrastructure in Stage One capital development, and implemented a growth strategy that has increased the demand for ICT capability and capacity. Our College has a growth strategy to cater for the planned expansion of our College. The ICT support team under the leadership of Mrs Vanaja Arrakal is responsible for over 250 laptops, and plans to meet the computing requirements of over 850 students and 75 staff, by 2018. Additionally, it is intended that certain services (such as remote application access) be offered to affiliated schools in the future.

Latest Information & Communication Technologies provide flexible modes of Teaching & Learning and access to a vast range of subjects through wireless infrastructure for 100% on-demand access to network resources.



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5. Acknowledgements & Gratitude

*Thank you to Charles Darwin University Palmerston Campus our home for 12 weeks.
A great story! – One of resilience and generosity.*

Sincere thanks to Charles Darwin University, Palmerton Campus and in particular Professor Barney Glover the Vice-Chancellor, and his staff Ms Aretha Amos & Mr Joe Kerr, wonderful people, who shared their campus with us for 12 weeks from the last week of January, 2012. Charles Darwin University campus became the home for 90 students and 14 staff from MacKillop Catholic College during our first term of operation, in 2012.

Our wonderful students could be seen in their bright ochre, navy and white uniforms about the campus in Palmerston. Comments from parents included: “Students are doing really well”, “teachers are extremely flexible”, and “university personnel are absolutely amazing and generous”. Other comments included: “It has been good to see the interaction between the older university students, the university staff and our students - smiles of encouragement and understanding”. “It has been a real adventure for our middle years’ students to experience life on a university campus - they feel very grown up being here - they are the future students of CDU.” “MacKillop students are very resilient and adaptable.” “Everyone still has a smile on their face,” and “enrolling students to start at a new school is a huge vote of confidence from parents.”



The Blessing and Opening of Stage 1 of MacKillop Catholic College was a wonderful celebration for our College Community. Our new school set high on the hill, surrounded by the natural bush land, looking both toward the rising and the setting sun this is truly a place God has created for us. “We are very blessed to have such a wonderful place in which to fan the flames of learning in our students.”... Bishop Eugene Hurley 2013

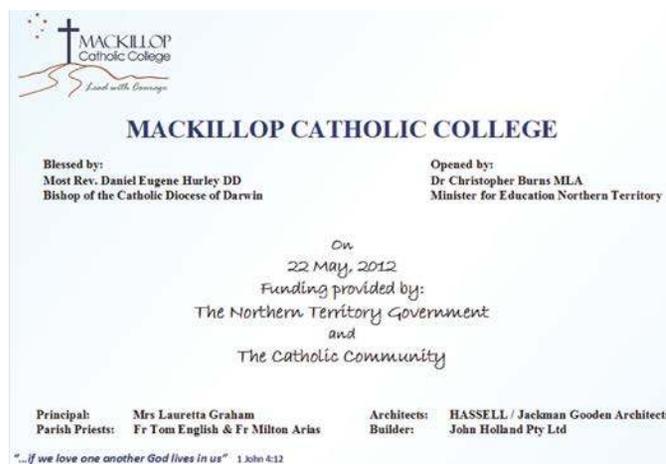
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A note from our Architect: REUBEN BOURKE



The natural attributes of the site have been a core design driver of the design direction. This site has wonderful natural attributes, including its elevation, position at the gateway to Johnston, and adjoining land such as the natural heritage area and Larakia Sacred Site. There will be opportunities for the natural heritage area – in collaboration with the NT Government - a unique learning resource in itself. The Sacred & Heritage sites have a significant role in imbuing the design with spirituality that supports the strong Catholic Tradition this College will have from day one.

In the early design phase, the seed of the local kapok tree found on the site became a powerful metaphor to help describe a design approach that contrasted a clearly defined exterior with a softer, richer interior that emphasises a strong sense of community and belonging. Circulation around the school responds to this idea, following strong and simple building lines, easing supervision, and giving a common focus of individual school components back to a shared Whole. The design grows out of the natural contours of the land, maximising views to and from the school buildings, and using the existing tree line to inspire the alignment of the top of the roof design. Clear building forms guide sight lines to and from the site, and strong floating horizontal roof planes emphasise the site topography as the building undulates down the hill side. The design considers issues such as locating the sporting field to distance buildings from road noise, appropriate solar orientation & location of site entry points. Noisy & serviced areas have been located to minimise impact on the rest of the school while being an embedded part of the learning facilities. Where possible, planning has provided opportunities for flexible use, such as indoor to outdoor learning connections from activity areas to verandahs. Master planning future performing arts opening onto the recreation area gives a range of different operating configurations. More civic spaces, such as the two storey library & administration grow out the hillside expressing a strong, community ‘beacon’ that projects an image to the wider community while forming a clearly visible entry point. Learning spaces are contained within a simple & connected linear form that helps to blur the distinctions between different learning spaces, curriculum activities, the interior and the exterior. Connections and lines of sight help utilise and join the spaces between the buildings, for example linking the main entry through the heart of the school to the covered recreation area and sporting field beyond. Level changes required by the site have been used to create gathering points, informal learning opportunities and view opportunities. A key element is the ‘Great Steps’; broad bleachers that manage site level changes while providing a focal point or community heart in the centre of the school. Activities that surround this area include place for liturgical celebrations, cafeteria, performing arts, covered recreation area, learning spaces & the future performing arts precinct.



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MacKillop Catholic College – a brief design history from David Gulland

In 2000, the Northern Territory Catholic Education Office (CEO) was seeking to construct a new Secondary College to serve the rapidly expanding Palmerston and outer Darwin area. HASSELL (formerly Spowers) entered and won a design competition for the project, however the project was put on hold due pending funding approval. In June 2009, the CEO approached HASSELL to discuss the possibility of the project re-starting. HASSELL were very appreciative of the support of Greg O'Mullane in particular in tracking down the original competition design winning team, now split between Perth and Darwin. A key briefing workshop was held 15 June 2009 with the design team and some key members of CEO, including; Michael Avery, Mary Ascione; John Fong, Lester Lemke; Andy McCracken, Greg Omullane and Stephanie Veness.

Funding and land became available in 2010 and the HASSELL team continued to develop a new design approach in collaboration with the CEO, revising the original design approach for a standalone middle school into a staged years 7 to 12 College. The CEO prepared an extensive Educational Brief for the project in June 2010 that encapsulated the Vision Statement and Statements of Principle for the project. The document included sections on issues such as supporting 21st century teaching and learning pedagogy, curriculum implementation and pastoral care.

The design was driven by the site, adjoining land including Heritage and Larrakia sacred sites, and the opportunity to express a sense of spirituality within the school and to the wider community. The seed of the local kapok tree found on the site became a powerful metaphor for a design approach that contrasted a strong, protective exterior with a softer, rich interior to emphasise a sense of community and belonging. The design process used physical and computer modelling of the site contours to develop a design that grows out of the natural topography. The existing Heritage tree-line inspired the alignment of the roof, with strong building forms to guide sightlines to and from the site culminating in the library “beacon” announcing the school to the surrounding district.

The appointment of Laretta Graham as foundation Principal in October 2011 provided the opportunity to develop areas of detailed design and connect with her growing staff team. Her ongoing focus has been central to the schools broader sustainability as a community asset. Multi-use facilities, storage spaces that cater for local groups, master planning for future facilities and linkages to the adjoining Heritage and Larrakia sacred sites emphasise the school as an integrated part of its community.

The project is a testament to a lot of commitment, vision and hard work from the CEO, key design sub consultants and the builder, John Holland. The architectural design team had a lot of input from a large number of people but some of the key individuals included Col Browne, Eleni Gogos, David Gulland, Chris Pratt, Ros Warnken, and in particular Reuben Bourke - who “lived the project” over a long period of time.



David Gulland Principal
Registered Architect: 1631

HASSELL Architecture Interior Design Landscape Architecture Planning Urban Design, Australia China Hong Kong SAR Singapore Thailand United Kingdom

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Congratulations and thank you to :

- Our Bishop, Rev Bishop Eugene Hurley, Bishop of Darwin, our Parish Priest Fr Tom English, Fr Milton Arias Parish Priest of Humpty doo, other Priests and Religious and Diocesan support staff.
- Catholic Education Office personnel under the leadership of our Director Michael Avery and his team: Greg O'Mullane – Deputy Director, School Services; Sharon Duong – Deputy Director, Teaching & Learning; Margaret Hughes – Leader of Catholic Identity; Mary Cutjar – Senior Education Consultant (Urban & Regional Schools); John Fong - Infrastructure Manager; Tom Pearse – General Manager Finance; Ross Prout – Education Officer; School Improvement & renewal, Richard Keys – ICT Manager; Linda Smith - Occupation Health & Safety, Tony O'Brien – Projects Coordinator; Kate Roach – Middle School Consultant; Robyn Craig – Religious Education Consultant; Michelle Soohoo – Marketing & Design; Wendy Gilpin – Promotions Officer; Barry Dawson – ICT Support.
- Our Feeder Schools: Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School – principals, staff and students.
- Our College Board under the leadership of Geraldine Mulvahil and our Parents and Friends' Association under the leadership of Dennis Matthews (2012), and Peter Wallis (2013), and members of the Board Sub-committees.
- Our Builders - John Holland Group, Architects – Hassell, Engineers, Tradesmen & women.
- Charles Darwin University, Palmerston Campus.



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Congratulations and thank you to our Foundation Staff:

Mrs Michelle Chambers—Business Manager; Mrs Linda Swaddle—College Secretary; Mr John Katal – Swimming Coach; Mrs Raelene Whiting — Library Assistant; Sr Sharon Teresa – Inclusion Support Officer; Mr David Graham — Instrumental Music Coordinator; Mrs Marie Butt – APRE; Mrs Rosie Morgan – English & SOSE Coordinator; Mr Paul Dimmick - Industrial Arts and Year Coordinator; Mr Keiren Lines - Sports and Year Coordinator; Mrs Sonja Elsegood, Mrs Vanaja Arakkal – ICT Manager; Miss Erin McCann; and Mrs Vicki Dorgelo – Science Coordinator.



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Value Added:

- **Scope of extra-curricular programs**

MacKillop Catholic College offers: modern language studies in Japanese and Indonesian; an extensive music & performing arts programme; and, a wide range of sporting opportunities including the use of a well-equipped gymnasium. Our curriculum is complemented by the extensive use of technology to enhance curriculum delivery.

- **Specific programmes in relation to student welfare**

Our social emotional learning programmes embedded in the pastoral care programme provides life skills education to students through building student mental health and well-being. These programmes encourage individuals to develop Christian wholeness; they nurture wellbeing, invigorate learning and develop cultures of connectedness. The pastoral care programme is supported by the APRE, year level coordinators, home form teachers, a student counsellor from Catholic Care and a college chaplain.

- **Specialist programmes showing improved outcomes for students with disabilities and those who need learning support**

Students benefit from caring, dedicated and specialised staff focusing on the individual needs of students. Special needs & learning support programmes are organised to provide support to all students in need across the college from Year 7 to Year 9, developing through to year 12.

Community Satisfaction:

The College has an active Parents & Friends' Association and a College Board. Parents are welcome in the classrooms as helpers and in the Library and Canteen. Parents and teachers are encouraged to maintain honest and open communication with each other.

The School Strategic Plan is under development. This Plan will be developed through consultation with the community in line with the Catholic Education Office priorities and school specific requirements. Overall community satisfaction can be measured by the rapid growth of the College from 87 students in 2012 to 225 students, in 2013.

MacKillop Catholic College has developed an inclusive enrolment policy and a commitment to meeting the educational and diverse needs of all students from Palmerston and the surrounding rural areas. MacKillop offers a new standard of education where students are encouraged to become the best they can be through living the values of: Respect; Compassion; Inclusivity; Integrity, and Courage. Each student has a valued and rightful place at our College and they remind us that diversity is a gift to be celebrated. We are a College that is new and innovative extending the boundaries of conventional learning and teaching. The College Vision Statement supports: the involvement of the wider community. The teachings of Christ permeate all aspects of life at MacKillop.



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Future Statement:

As a Catholic College, we are committed to a particular value system, that is – Christian Values in the Catholic tradition, based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our hope is to provide students with a clearly defined set of values and principles by which to lead their lives and a sense of service and giving. Through their involvement in this Catholic faith community, students will be able to reach their full potential, through the enhancement of their educational, personal and spiritual dimensions. Our College calls each person to be the person that Jesus would want them to be. As a result of such a calling, our students will enrich the world when they enter it as adults. We ask them not to accept the world as it is, but to work for the world that could be.

...*“If we love one another, Christ lives in us”* (1 John 4:12).



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Endorsement

College Principal

Name: Laretta Elizabeth Graham

Signature: _____ date: / / 2013

College Board Chairperson

Name: Geraldine Mulvahil

Signature: _____ date: / / 2013

Director of Catholic Education

Name: Michael Avery

Signature: _____ date: / / 2013



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