



Mt St Patrick College

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

GENERAL INFORMATION

Faith and Mission

- Clientele
- Main Features
- Mission Statement
- Faith Development - Our Purpose
- Faith Experiences
- Religious Education Program
- Parish Involvement
- Community Involvement

Parent Involvement

- Parents' and Friends' Association
- Parent Information Meetings
- Parent Teacher Interview Evenings
other Meetings
- Have-A-Chat-Room
- HSC Parent Support Website
- Canteen
- Parent Assembly
- College Board

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

- School Certificate
- Higher School Certificate
- Literacy Report
- Numeracy Report
- National Benchmark

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND TEACHING STANDARDS

- Teacher Qualifications
- Professional Learning

TEACHER ATTENDANCE AND RETENTION

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND RETENTION

- Student Attendance
- Retention Years 10 – 11
- Retention Years 10 – 12

POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

ENROLMENT POLICY AND PROFILES

- Enrolment Policy
- Prerequisites for Continuing
Enrolment
- Student Profile
- Enrolment Statistics

COLLEGE POLICIES

- Welfare Policy
- The Merit System
- The Discipline System
- The Buy Back Scheme
- Complaint Policy and Procedures
- Full Text of Policies

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TARGETS

- Staff Goals for 2006
 - Faith Development
 - Curriculum Development
 - Community Development
- Evaluation of 2006 Goals

RESPECT AND RESPONSIBILITY

PARENT, STUDENT, TEACHER SATISFACTION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Principal's Message

2006 has been a year of extremes. Together we have celebrated the outstanding achievements of our community and unprecedented levels of College spirit but we have also endured tragedy, loss and feelings of deep sorrow during the year. The deaths of Year 9 student Kieran Thomas, and his brother Jordan of Year 5, deeply shocked and saddened both the school and local communities. Mr Dennis Gallagher died on the 4th November, following his retirement at the end of Term 2 and eighteen years of teaching at Mt St Patrick College. The thoughtfulness and care of students and staff on both these occasions was extraordinary and a source of great comfort and strength to the families involved.

One of the most outstanding achievements this year, and possibly in the history of the College, was to win the title of Australian Champions of the Secondary Schools' Social Science Division of the Tournament of Minds. The Mt St Patrick team qualified for the National Finals by winning the Queensland Championship. In the finals, Mt St Patrick competed against other State Champion Teams and a team from Singapore to win the Australian title.

The 80th anniversary of the College was celebrated on St Patrick's Day with the commissioning a new trophy called the St Patrick's Champion House Trophy. The trophy will be presented to the sporting house which earns the most points from sporting and non-sporting activities organised during the year. The trophy has had a significant impact on College spirit and has engendered renewed interest in house activities. The first recipient of the St Patrick's Champion House Trophy was Lucan House with House Leaders Megan Kelly-Fleeton and Ben Owens accepting the trophy at a Special Assembly.

In 2006, school maintenance and teaching resources benefited from extra spending. During the Christmas holidays, the outside of the O'Gorman and Nagle Wings were painted at a cost of \$12,000 thanks to the Parish Finance Council. \$16,800 was spent on the purchase of data projectors, screens and speakers for eight classrooms. Forty eight new computers were purchased at a cost of \$72,000. A new automatic three metre screen and data projector were installed in the Hall at a cost of \$9000. Three new photocopiers were purchased, one of which has the capacity to print in colour.

2006 saw a number of improvements in College documentation. The College produced its first Prospectus, an impressive twelve page colour booklet featuring some of the unique features of Mt St Patrick. Improvements were also made to the College Newsletter with the first and last pages now printed in colour. On the last page of the Newsletter, a new section was added consisting of coloured photos of College life. This section has made the Newsletter more student-friendly.

This year saw the inaugural Catholic Schools' Spectacular held at Salt Park during Catholic Schools' Week. Mt St Patrick College played a significant part in the Spectacular which involved nine Catholic schools from the local area. The formation of a Drumline group at the College attracted much interest from students. The group quickly gained the attention of

many at the Catholic Schools' Spectacular and other functions such as Speed on Tweed, Anzac Day and the Banana Festival.

The year began with an enrolment of 561 students, a decrease on the previous year's figure. Year 7 commenced with 93 students while Year 11 had an initial enrolment of 83 students. Four new staff took the total number of teaching staff to 46.

A new Anti-bullying Policy was implemented at the beginning of the year which outlined clear procedures to deal with bullying. Students in Years 7 to 10 attended performances titled "The Hurting Game", which role-played various issues facing teenagers. Robert Pereira worked with staff in this area and, as a result, they ran two one hour sessions in mixed and single sex groups on this topic.

In sport, Mt St Patrick has achieved outstanding performances at local, Diocesan and State levels in both individual and team sports. The Senior Girls Volleyball team won the Diocesan Championship while Mt St Patrick had Diocesan Champions in Cross Country, Athletics and Swimming. The College was also had representatives in Diocesan teams in girls and boys Touch Football, Rugby League and girl's and boy's Soccer. Reece Kennaugh of Year 11 was a member of the Lismore Diocesan Touch Football team that won the State Championship.

At State level, Tom Cordner of Year 12 was selected in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges' Open Soccer team. Brianna Malcolmson of Year 12 won the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges' Golf Championship and Rebecca Roach of Year 12 gained 2nd place in the over 17 years girls 200 metres event at the NSW Combined Catholic College's Athletics Carnival. Trent Richardson of Year 9 won the NSW Combined Catholic College's State Championship in the 15 years 50 metres backstroke and then went on to compete in the NSW All Schools' Swimming Championship at Homebush.

In terms of the academic curriculum, a new class structure was introduced into Year 7 based on literacy skills. One class consisted of students who are highly skilled in this area while the remaining classes were organised in a similar way to previous years. In Year 8 for the first time, students in each of the four classes were offered different learning experiences specifically targeted at the needs of the students in those particular classes.

Acceleration is an increasingly viable option for our students. This year nine Year 11 students sat for their Higher School Certificate in Chemistry and three Year 11 students and one Year 10 student sat for the Higher School Certificate in Mathematics. In Year 9, one student sat for their School Certificate Mathematics Exam, one year ahead of their cohort, while eighteen Year 9 students sat for their School Certificate Science Exam with Year 10 students.

In debating, the College again achieved extraordinary success by winning four of the five divisions in the Regional Debating Finals. The four teams travelled to Sydney to compete in the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges' Debating Finals where the Years 9 and 11 teams reached the semi-finals of the competition.

General Information

Faith and Mission

Clientele

Mt St Patrick College serves the Parishes of Mullumbimby and Murwillumbah with the majority of enrolments drawn from the two parish feeder schools of Mt St Patrick Primary, Murwillumbah and St Joseph's Primary, South Murwillumbah. The College also attracts enrolments from St John's Primary School, Mullumbimby. Students from other schools may be offered enrolment subject to the conditions specified in the Enrolment Policy.

Main Features of Mt St Patrick College

Mt St Patrick College is a Year 7 – 12 co-educational Catholic Secondary College established by the Sacred Heart Parish, Murwillumbah and the Presentation sisters in 1926. The sisters appointed members of their community to teaching and leadership positions until 1989, a period of 63 years. The College is now administered and staffed by lay teachers.

In 1966, the school changed its name to Mt St Patrick Regional High School and then to Mt St Patrick College in 1998 in response to structural and curriculum changes. The school began as a junior co-educational secondary high school and existed as such until 1992 when the first Year 11 students were enrolled. In 1993, the first Year 12 cohort sat for their Higher School Certificate Examinations.

The blessing and official opening of a four million dollar, eighteen month, building project was held on St Patrick's Day, 1998. The project included the conversion of the Convent to the College Administration Centre, new TAS, Music rooms and Science facilities as well as a new industrial kitchen, Music studios, Computer rooms, Art Workshop, Photography Laboratory, Life Skills Centre and renovations to existing learning spaces. In 2005, the Library and three computers rooms were air-conditioned.

The College is situated next to the Parish Church and has use of the Parish Hall for school purposes. The College is located within an easy walking distance of many local sporting facilities including the swimming pool, gym, tennis and netball courts as well as hockey, football and soccer fields.

Mission Statement

Our Vision

Embrace Life is our vision for Mt St Patrick College. It is inspired by the life and teachings of Christ encapsulated in John 10:10.

I have come so that you may have life, and have it to the full

This vision encourages us as a Christian community to see life as a gift to be enjoyed, celebrated and shared, through the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom.

Our Mission

As a Catholic Educational Community we are called to affirm Christ as the model for human life. We endeavour to encourage excellence, a love of learning and a passion for life. (extracts from Mt St Patrick College Mission Statement)

Faith Development - Our Purpose

Our purpose as a Catholic Educational Community is to:

- provide secondary education based on Christian principles and values.
- view life as a gift to be enjoyed, celebrated and shared, through the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom.
- encourage excellence, a love of learning and a passion for life.
- provide a varied curriculum that caters for the needs of a wide range of students.
- treat each person with dignity, fairness and compassion.

Faith Experiences

Colleges Masses: SRC Induction Mass, Year 12 Graduation Mass, Year 7 Mass, Feast of the Sacred Heart, Ash Wednesday, Feast of the Assumption.

College Liturgies: Year 10 Thanksgiving Liturgy, St Patrick's Day Liturgy, Holy Thursday Liturgy,

End of Year Liturgy, Liturgy for Pope John Paul II.

Staff Prayer: Staff Briefing, Staff Meeting, Weekly Staff Prayer, KLA Meetings.

Student Prayer: Morning Administration, College Assembly, Singing Practice.

Student Retreats: One Day Retreats for Years 7, 8, 9 and 11. Three Day Retreats for Years 10 and 12.

Social Justice in Action: Meals on Wheels, Riding for the Disabled, Red Cross Door Knock Appeal, Legacy Badges, St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal, Project Compassion. Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal, Daffodil Day.

Special Feasts: The Feast of the Presentation, Mary Help of Christians, Blessed Mary MacKillop, St Patrick's Day, All Saints and All Souls Day, the Assumption.

Religious Education Program

The programme *To Know, Worship and Love* is taught in the junior school while the 1 Unit Board of Studies Approved *Studies of Religion* Course is a compulsory part of the Year 11 Preliminary HSC pattern of study for Stage 6 students. Those who wish to obtain a University Admissions Index (UAI) are required to continue their studies in this subject by enrolling in the HSC Course in *Studies of Religion* from the beginning of Term 4 Year 11. Students who do not require a UAI may choose to study either the HSC Course in *Studies of Religion* or *Faithful to God, Faithful to People* Stage 6 (or Catholic Studies) from the beginning of Term 4 Year 11.

Religious Education is allocated five lessons per fortnight in Years 9, 10 and 12 while Years 7, 8 and 11 receive four lessons per fortnight.

Parish Involvement

The College is involved in the Parish Tableau and Christmas Carnival as well as religious celebrations and groups like St Vincent de Paul, Youth Mass and Lenten Study Group.

Community Involvement

One hundred and twenty students and staff represented the College in this year's Murwillumbah Anzac Day March. The College Band led the march and provided the music for the commemoration service. The Drumline performed at the Dawn Service in Murwillumbah and were also part of the Murwillumbah Parade.

Students were involved in a number of community based activities in 2004 such as Red Shield Appeal, 40 Hour Famine, Project Compassion, Legacy Day, Daffodil Day, Christmas Appeal (St Vincent de Paul Conference) and the Winter Appeal (Sacred Heart Mass for St Vincent de Paul). Year 10 students assist with 'Meals on Wheels' while students in others years support the 'Riding for the Disabled' programme. Students are also involved in community environmental activities such as Clean Up Australia.

Mt St Patrick College has an active environmental group which is involved in fundraising, greenhouse management, recycling of paper and aluminium, composting a worm farm and frog pond project. Guest speakers address the group and it is involved in tree-planting projects with local land-care groups.

Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to become involved in the life of the College by either direct contact or by attending parent-orientated functions. They are invited to attend liturgies, Masses, sporting carnivals, Open Day and relevant meetings listed below.

Mt St Patrick College Parents' and Friends' Association

The Mt St Patrick College Parents' and Friends' Association meet twice a term on Monday of Week 3 and 7 beginning at 7.30pm at the College. At the Annual General Meeting of the Association held on Monday 27th February, 2006 office bearers were elected for the new school year. The executive positions for the 2006 school year are:

President	Mrs Maureen Reynolds
Vice President	Mrs Philomena Zambelli
Secretary	Mrs Judith Campbell
Treasurer	Mrs Anne-Louise Way

The main function of the Association is fund raising. Activities this year included the Parents' and Friend's Ball, hot cross bun drive, the Year 12 Formal and the sale of food and drink at the Swimming and Athletics Carnivals. The Association also gave approval for changes to the new girls blouse which will be introduced in 2007.

At the Parents' and Friends' Association meeting held on Monday 4th December, 2006 the Association presented a cheque for \$7632 to the College for the purchase of goods for Sport and Music. \$4132 will be spent on the replacement and purchase of sports uniforms while the remaining money will be spent on the purchase of a Sound Desk for the Music Department.

Parent Information Meetings

Parent Information Meetings are held for parents of Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 students and aim to provide specific information about the year ahead for each particular year group. Meetings were held on the following dates:

Year 10	Thursday 10th February	Year 11	Thursday 10th February
Year 7	Thursday 17th February	Year 9	Thursday 17th February

Reports

Student Reports are issued twice a year at the end of Terms 2 and 4. Students in Years 7 and 11 also receive a Progress Report which is issued at the end of Term 1.

Newsletter

The College Newsletter is published every fortnight and sent home on Thursday afternoons with the eldest member of the family. The Newsletter contains an article by the Principal, information from the Deputy Principal, Year Co-ordinators and KLA Co-ordinators as well as

a calendar of events, Assessment Calendar, sporting information and coloured pictures of College life and much more.

Parent Teacher Interview Evenings

Parents and teachers have an opportunity to meet on two occasions a year following the issuing of reports. The first interview evening is midyear and follows the Half Yearly Report.

Year 11 Parent Teacher Interview evening - Tuesday 11th April, 2006

Years 12 and 10 Parent Teacher Interview evening - Thursday 18th May, 2006

Year 9 Parent Teacher Interview evening - Thursday 22nd June, 2006

Year 8 Parent Teacher Interview evening - Thursday 29th June, 2006

Year 7 Parent Teacher Interview evening - Thursday 27th July, 2006

The second occasion is at the end of the year and follows the distribution of Yearly reports. The interview day was Tuesday 19th December, 2006.

Other Meetings

- Year 11 2007 Subject Selection Interviews - Thursday 8th June, 2006
- Year 11 2006 Assessment Meeting - Tuesday 24th October, 2006
- The Year 7 2007 Parent Information Evening - Tuesday 31st October, 2006

Have-A-Chat-Room.

The 'have-a-chat-room' began in October 2000 and aims to provide a safe, non-judgemental, confidential environment for students to drop in and have a chat during their lunch break. It is not a counselling programme but a means to provide a person who will listen with empathy and support without giving advice. The 'listeners' are volunteer parents or parishioners who give their time for the benefit of students.

HSC Parent Support Website

Parents of Year 12 students can access the HSC Parent Support website designed to offer parents ideas in their role of helping their son or daughter through the HSC. This is a Diocesan initiative from the Catholic Schools' Parent Forum. The site address is www.parentshc.lism.catholic.edu.au

Canteen

Parents are welcomed to volunteer to assist in the Canteen.

Parent Assembly

Mrs Maree Morgan and Mrs Philomena Zambelli represent the College on the Parent Assembly.

College Board

A parent representative holds a position on the College Board. The Board meets one a term to discuss the future development of the College, policies, the budget, welfare and current issues.

Student Performance in Statewide Examinations

School Certificate

The 2006 School Certificate results were very pleasing with the average mark for all subjects above the State average. The results in Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship were particularly pleasing with better than State Average marks achieved in all Bands. It is particularly pleasing that no students received a Band 1 or 2, the lowest bands, in a number of subjects.

Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship

- 15.09% of MSPC students received a Band 6 compared to 8.43% in the State.
- No students received a Band 1 or 2, the lowest two Bands.

Australian History, Civics and Citizenship

- 92.43% of MSPC students received a mark of 70 or above compared to 66.26% in the State.

Mathematics

- 48.56% of MSPC students received a Band 4, 5 or 6 compared with 40.69% of students in the State.

English

- 43.67% of MSPC students received a mark of 80 or above compared to 30.98% of students in the State.

Science

- 82.51% of MSPC students received a mark of 70 or above compared to 62.74% of students in the State.

Computer Skills

- 80% of MSPC students were rated as Highly Competent compared with 58% of students in the State.

School Certificate

The difference between the State and MSPC average marks

	2003	2004	2005	2006
English	4.19	2.75	3.95	3.84
Mathematics	3.18	1.14	3.65	1.99
Science	6.94	5.19	6.47	3.96
Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship	5.69	3.35	5.01	5.11
Australian History, Civics and Citizenship	5.69	2.48	4.06	6.05
Computer Skills	4.57	-	-	4.06

2006 Higher School Certificate

Mt St Patrick College received outstanding results in the 2006 Higher School Certificate. They were the best the College has ever received. The average mark in twenty two of the twenty four (92%) subjects was above the State average.

Twenty eight students were mentioned forty six times on the Board of Studies Distinguished Achievers List for receiving a mark of 90 or above in a subject. In other words, the College received 46 Band 6's. A remarkable result, considering there were only 76 candidates who sat for the 2006 HSC. The subjects that received Band 6's included Studies of Religion (7), PDHPE (7), Biology (6), Earth and Environmental (5), General Maths (4), Community and Family Studies (2), Drama (2), Information Processes and Technology (2), Hospitality (2), Maths (1), Exten 2 Math (3), English Exten 1 (1), Geography (1), Physics (1), Senior Science (1) and Visual Arts (1). Thirteen students earned a place in the top 10% in the State in the University Admissions Index (UAI).

Three students were mentioned in the Board of Studies Top Achievers List for being ranked in the top twenty places in the State in a subject. They were Rebecca Roach who was placed 19th in the State for General Mathematics, Gabrielle Mumford who was 16th in State for PDHPE and Nigel Holland who was second in the State for Earth and Environmental Science.

Nine Year 11 students sat the Higher School Certificate in Chemistry while three Year 11 students and one Year 10 student sat the Higher School Certificate Examination in Mathematics.

Percentage of HSC Subjects at MSPC about the State Average

2003	68%	(17/25)
2004	78%	(21/27)
2005	80%	(19/24)
2006	92%	(22/24*)

* Online Economics is included in this figure and has students enrolled from other schools throughout the State.

2006 is the final year of a four year programme which has focused on the academic curriculum and particularly the Higher School Certificate Course. The aim of the programme is to give students an early opportunity to experience the demands of the HSC so they could better cope with Year 12. These students sat for the School Certificate Science Exam in Year 9 and then sat for one subject in the HSC in Year 11, reducing the work load in Year 12 by one subject. The work ethic of these students has been of a very high calibre and this has had positive implications on the work ethic of their cohort.

Literacy Report 2006

Both Years 7 and 8 sat for the ELLA tests in 2006.

As a cohort and on the basis of gender, Year 7 students were above the State mean in Writing, Reading, Language and Literacy. 19 students rated High on all scales which included Writing, Reading, Language and Literacy.

44% of students were rated High in Writing, 40% in Reading, 35% in Language and 44% in Literacy. One student was rated Low in Writing and Language. 6% were Elementary in Writing, 7% in Language and 3% in Literacy. 6 students did not achieve the National Benchmark in Reading, while 2 students did not achieve the National Benchmark in Writing.

As a cohort and on the basis of gender, Year 8 students were above the State mean in Writing, Reading, Language and Literacy. 58% of students were rated High in Writing, 71% in Reading, 46% in Language and 63% in Literacy. One student was rated Low in Reading, Language and Literacy. 1% of students were Elementary in Writing, 3% in Reading, 4% in Language and 2% in Literacy. All students met both the Reading and Writing National Benchmarks.

Of the 86 students who attempted ELLA as Year 7's in 2005 and as Year 8's in 2006, 47 achieved a growth of 2.0 or above in Writing; 48 in Reading; 37 in Language and 46 in Literacy.

Students who were assessed as having poor literacy skills in Year 7 were withdrawn for explicit literacy instruction and support one period per week; while Year 8 students were identified and placed in an English class where their needs could be met through a modified curriculum. Literacy was addressed by all KLAs using material in the Teaching Strategies Booklet.

Comparisons with State Wide Performance (ELLA)

	Writing	Reading	Language	Literacy
State Mean	88.8	88.9	88.8	88.8
MSPC Mean	90.7	90.9	89.6	90.5

Numeracy Report

Overall, the 2006 SNAP test results shows that MSPC students were above the State average in the High and Proficient categories and below the State average in the Elementary and Low categories. Generally these results were reflected across the five areas of testing although Measurement, Space and Data were slightly below the State average in the High category. The boys' results were slightly above that of the girls in most areas.

Seventeen or 19% of students did not reach the National Numeracy Benchmark in 2006 compared to seven student or 8% in 2005.

The Year 7 results showed a need for further work in primary school as well as at the College. The timing of the SNAP Tests meant that students were tested on these topics based on primary school knowledge, having not covered the topics in Year 7 prior to the test.

Eighty nine students sat for the Year 8 SNAP Test with all students above the National Numeracy Benchmark. In 56 of the 94 questions examined, MSPC students were 10% or more above the State average.

Percentages by Achievement Levels - Year 7, 2006

	Overall	Number	Measurement	Space	Data	Pattern/ Algebra
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High MSPC	28	34	24	23	24	29
State	24	28	25	26	26	25
Difference	4	6	-1	-3	-2	4

Proficient MSPC	48	40	43	40	50	40
State	39	37	33	33	36	34
Difference	9	3	10	7	14	6

Elementary MSPC	24	24	27	37	24	30
State	30	27	31	35	28	28
Difference	-6	-3	-4	2	-4	2

Low MSPC	0	1	6	0	1	1
State	7	8	11	7	10	12
Difference	-7	-7	-5	-7	-9	-11

2006 Numeracy Results – Year 8

	Overall Numeracy	
	MSPC	State
All students	91.5	87.2
Boys	92.4	87.4
Girls	90.8	87.0
High	54%	34%
Proficient	38%	38%
Elementary	8%	23%
Low	0%	5%

Achieved National Benchmark

	2005		2006	
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 7	Year 8
Reading	100%	100%	93.5%	100%
Writing	97%	100%	98%	100%
Numeracy	92% (79/86)		81% (73/90)	100%

Professional Learning and Teacher Standards

Teacher Qualifications

All teaching staff have teaching qualifications from a recognized higher education institution within Australia. Eighty four percent (38/45) of the teaching staff are four or more years trained with five staff graduates at Master's level.

Professional Learning

Staff Professional Development Days

On Monday 30th January, staff from the Mt St Patrick College, Mt St Patrick Primary and St Joseph's Primary Schools worked with representatives from the Catholic Education Office, Lismore to develop closer links within the Parish School community.

On Tuesday 31st January, Mt St Patrick College staff revisited our purpose as a Catholic school, reviewed our Strategic Plan, set goals for the year and attended KLA planning meetings.

A Staff Professional Development Day was held on Thursday, 13th April 2006, the last day of Term 1 to investigate strategies to develop resilience against bullying. The day was convened by Robert Pereira.

On Monday 16th October, 2006, the first day of Term 4, Dr Toni Noble, a senior University lecturer in Education and Psychology at the Australian Catholic University, worked with staff on differentiating the curriculum using multiple intelligences and Bloom's revised taxonomy.

Inservice Activities

- **Principal**

- **2006 APCSSA Fourth National Conference**

The Principal attended a four day conference in Sydney during the September – October holidays, organised by the Association of Principals of Catholic Secondary Schools of Australia. The theme of the Conference was *Nurturing Faith – An Aussie Accent* and included keynote addresses from the Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes; Bishop Chris Toohey; Sr Mary Cresp, a former Congregational Leader of the Sisters of St Joseph; Dr Anthony Kelly, a Redemptorist priest and Professor of Theology at the Australian Catholic University and Ms Louise Campbell, a Aboriginal Education Advisor.

- **Diocesan Priests' and Principals' Conference**

Priests and Principals of the Diocese attended a combined three day Conference at Coffs Harbour from August 21 - 23, 2006. The Conference focused on the Theology of the Body and included keynote addresses by Bishop Fisher of the Sydney Archdiocese and Fr. Elliott.

- **Staff Inservice Courses**

- Legal Studies Examination Committee Meeting
- PEEL Training
- Special Education Conference
- ELLA Marking
- Extension 1 Mathematics Inservice
- Literacy Numeracy Meeting
- Science Conference

Teacher Attendance and Retention

The average attendance rate of teachers across the reporting period is 96.47%. The number of permanent teachers retained from the 2005 school year was 95% (39/41). During the year, Ms Angela Barnes replaced Mrs Christine Miro who was on a temporary twelve month contract.

The College received a staffing allocation of 43.7 teachers for the 2006 school year based on an enrolment of 560 students. Five teachers worked part-time including Mrs Kath Swift (0.5), Mrs Majella MacPhail (0.5), Mrs Janet O'Callaghan (0.74), Miss Shellae John (0.39) and Mrs Rosemary Ross (0.26). A total of forty five teachers were employed in either full-time or part-time positions. Twenty of the forty five teaching staff are male. Two staff, Mrs Narelle Chaffer and Mrs Llewelyn Richards resigned from their permanent position at the end of 2005 while Ms Angela Barnes (replacing Mrs Christine Miro), Ms Sarah Robin (replacing Mrs Llewelyn Richards), Mr Allan Singh (replacing Mr Dennis Gallagher), Mr Caleb Sandercoc (replacing Mrs Louise shields) and part-time teachers Miss Avalon Schembri (replacing Mrs Janet OGallaghan), Mr Simon Lewis (replacing Mrs Louise Shields) and Mrs Helen Clothier (replacing Mrs Stephanie Carroll-Bennett) completed their contract at the end of 2005 school year. Four new staff were employed at the beginning of the 2006 school year including Mrs Kathy Cristini, (Life Skills Co-ordinator), Miss Rychelle Vines (Science, Earth and

Environmental Science), Miss Shellae John (English, RE, Photography) and Mrs Jacqueline Tilsley (Science and Biology).

Mr Dennis Gallagher returned to a full time position in 2006 after 12 months Sick Leave. Mrs Louise Shields and Mrs Stepahie Carroll-Bennett were on maternity leave during 2006. Mrs Janet O'Callaghan chose to work on a part time basis for the 2006 school year. Mrs Kath Swift and Mrs Majella McPhail continued their job share arrangements.

Student Attendance and Retention Rates

Student Attendance

The average student attendance rate for 2006 is 92%.

Retention Rates - Year 10/12

	Year 10 SC	Year 12 HSC	Retention Rate (%)
2002	101	63	
2003	99	80	
2004	106	69	68% (69/101)
2005	103	77	78% (77/99)
2006	106	75	71% (75/106)

Retention Rates - Year 10/11

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Year 10 (Aug. Census)	108	104	101	107	103	109
Year 11 (Feb. Census)	93	91	84	85	87	83
% Retention Rate		84%	81%	84%	81%	81%

Post School Destinations

Seventy five students sat for the Higher School Certificate in 2006 of which 65 applied for a University Admission Index. Thirteen students received entry to Southern Cross University under the STAR Entry Scheme. Twelve students accepted offers to Griffith University, eight to the University of Queensland, one to James Cook University, three to the Queensland University of Technology and one to Brisbane TAFE. Six students have deferred their University offer for twelve months.

University	37
TAFE	1
Deferred University	6
Unknown	31
Total	75

Enrolment Policy and Profiles

Enrolment Policy (an extract)

The priorities outlined in the Enrolment Policy shall be applied by the Principal when considering applications for enrolment. The Principal has the discretion, in consultation with the Parish Priest if necessary, to accept or reject any application for enrolment after considering the applicants commitment to and support of the Catholic faith, their school reports, school recommendations and the enrolment interview. All student enrolments will be provisional on the basis of their completion of the appropriate Student Agreement Form.

Prerequisites for Continuing Enrolment

(an extract from the Mt St Patrick College Acceptance of Enrolment Form)

.....acceptance of enrolment imposes certain obligations on every member of the community. These obligations include:

- Support of the Catholic ethos of Mt St Patrick College. Attendance at retreats is compulsory.
- Agreement with the rules and regulations of the College.
- Financial commitment to meet facilities and maintenance levy, tuition fees, resource levy and elective fees.

Student Profile

Enrolment Statistics

1. Male Verses Female (as per February Census Date)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Male	290 (50.5%)	295 (50.5%)	310 (50.5%)	305 (49%)	326 (51.5%)	324 (53%)
Female	282 (49.5%)	288 (49.5%)	304 (49.5%)	318 (51%)	306 (48.5%)	290 (47%)
Total	572	583	614	623	632	614

	2005	2006
Male	296 (51.0%)	272 (49%)
Female	282 (48.7%)	288 (51%)
Total	578	560

2. Primary Feeder Schools

YEAR 7 ENROLMENT STATISTICS

Catholic Primary Schools	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	TOTAL
Mt St Patrick Primary, Murwillumbah	35	45	53	33	37	48	251
St John's Primary, Mullumbimby	9	12	9	8	5	10	53
St Joseph's Primary, Sth Murwillumbah	19	24	18	18	22	23	124
Others	2	3	2	3	1	2	13
TOTAL	65	84	82	62	65	83	
% of total Enrolment	52%	72%	72%	66%	77%	70%	
Non Catholic Primary Schools							
Banora Point Primary	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Bilambil Primary	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Bogangar Public	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Brunswick Heads Primary	7	2	1	2	0	0	12
Burringbar Public	5	6	1	1	2	3	18
Byron Community School	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Cape Byron Rudolph Steiner	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Chillingham Primary	3	0	1	0	1	0	5
Condong Primary	1	1	2	0	1	0	5
Crabbes Creek Primary	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
Crystal Creek Primary	2	3	1	0	6	6	18
Dungay Primary	2	1	2	5	2	1	13
Durangbah Primary	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kaivalya School of Human Values	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Kingscliff Primary	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Lindisfarne College	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Mullumbimby Public	1	1	0	1	0	0	3
Mullumbimby Christian College	0	0	0	1	3	2	6
Murwillumbah Christian College	1	0	1	0	0	1	3
Murwillumbah East Primary	5	3	1	4	1	0	14
Murwillumbah High School (Yr7)	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Murwillumbah Primary	8	3	6	2	5	3	27
Ocean Shores Public	6	1	4	1	1	2	15
Pottsville Primary	1	0	1	0	0	1	3
Sathya Sai School	2	0	0	5	0	4	11
Stokers Siding Public	2	0	2	1	0	2	7
Terranora Primary	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
The Pocket Primary	2	3	0	0	0	0	5
Tumbulgum Primary	0	2	0	0	0	1	3
Tyalgum Primary	0	1	0	3	0	1	5
Uki Public	5	5	7	3	1	1	22
Wilsons Creek Primary	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Others	1	0	1	2	2	2	8
% of total Enrolment	48%	28%	28%	35%	32%	28%	
Catholics from Catholic Schools	54	62	55	34	49	44	298
Non Catholics from Catholic Schools+A31	12	21	28	28	16	40	145
Catholics from Government Schools	21	14	10	12	10	9	76
Non Catholics from Government Schools	39	20	22	21	20	25	147
% of Catholic students	59%	65%	57%	49%	62%	43%	
% Catholic Schools and Catholics from State Schools	59%	84%	82%	79%	79%	77%	
TOTAL ENROLMENT	127	117	114	95	95	118	

School Policies

Welfare Policy

An integral part of the College is the Student Welfare Policy. This policy is concerned with the spiritual, social, physical and academic growth of individual students. Pastoral care and discipline are two key aspects of Mt St Patrick's Student Welfare Policy, which is based on the gospel values of justice, compassion and forgiveness.

The Mt St Patrick Student Welfare Policy aims to:

Develop a caring and just environment where all students:

- have a sense of belonging
- are enabled to reach their full potential
- show mutual respect for each member of the College community.

Provide the students with an environment that:

- is conducive to learning
- encourages self-discipline
- is safe and secure
- develops self-esteem
- recognises the special gifts of all students.

The Merit System

Rewarding positive behaviour is a way of encouraging its recurrence. Teachers issue a Merit Stamp or Certificate for the recognition of good work, community spirit, excellent results, College spirit and a variety of behaviours that express a positive attitude and contribution in the school environment. Merits accumulate towards the receipt of Co-ordinator's, Principal's and, ultimately, College Awards.

The Discipline System

A structured discipline system is in place as a consequence of students who make inappropriate choices or behave in ways contrary to classroom, uniform and playground expectations. The system includes the use of the student's diary, extra work sessions, detention, Parent Notification Forms and counselling at various levels.

Buy Back Scheme

Students are encouraged to be more responsible for amending their behaviour by entering into a contract with their year Co-ordinator. After a period of three weeks without repeats of targeted behaviour the number of recorded detentions is reduced.

Complaint Policy and Procedures

Occasionally there may be a need for parents and/or guardians to raise concerns about practice or policy at Mt St Patrick College. These concerns are generally addressed to all parties' satisfaction at the local level through informal means. Where this is not the case and a more formal structure is needed. This is detailed in the Policy available from the College. The procedure aims to expeditiously resolve the complaint, whilst ensuring that parents and students are not victimised and that the rights of teachers are not prejudiced. The objective of this policy is to resolve complaints as quickly as possible. If the complaint relates to Child Sexual Assault or Abuse, Principals are obliged to follow the procedures for the mandatory notification to the Department of Community Services.

Full Text of Policies

The full text of the Welfare Policy and the Complaints and Grievances Policy is available from the College or on the College website.

School Improvement Targets

Staff Goals - 2006

Aim: To Implement the recommendations of the School Strategic Plan
(School Renewal 2006 -2010)

Faith Development

Goal 1: *To reflect Gospel values in everyday activities.*

Curriculum Development

Goal 2: *To encourage excellence.*

Goal 3: *To increase the number of Band 6's in the HSC.*

Community Development

Goal 4: *To promote and encourage the correct use of the College Diary*

Goal 5: *To improve consistency in the application of the College Welfare System*

Goal 6: *To implement the Anti-Bullying Policy*

Evaluation of 2006 Staff Goals

Staff evaluated the 2006 Staff Goals at the end of 2006 by ranking their achievement on a scale from not achieved as 1 to achieved as 5.

	1	2	3	4	5
GOAL 1			15%	55%	30%
GOAL 2			13%	68%	19%
GOAL 3				10%	90%
GOAL 4	9%	22%	44%	25%	
GOAL 5	3%	15%	27%	49%	6%
GOAL 6			36%	45%	19%

Evaluation Summary

1. Goal 3 - To increase the number of Band 6's in the HSC – all staff said it was achieved.
2. Goal 2 - To encourage excellence – 87% of staff said it was achieved
3. Goal 1 - To reflect Gospel values in everyday activities - 80% achieved
4. Goal 6 - To implement the Anti-Bullying Policy – 64% achieved
5. Goal 5 - To improve consistency in the application of the College Welfare System - 59% achieved
6. Goal 4 - To promote and encourage the correct use of the College Diary – 25 % achieved

Goals that failed to receive an 80% achievable rating have been included in Staff Goals for 2007.

Respect and Responsibility

Respect and Responsibility

An aim of Mt St Patrick College, as stated in the College Mission Statement, is to nurture 'a culture of friendliness, respect and hope' in our community and develop 'a sense of responsibility for the common good'. In 2006, the College implemented a new Anti-Bully Policy based on a Staff Professional Development Day convened by Dr Ken Rigby, a leading Australian researcher on school bullying. Dr Rigby worked with Year Co-ordinators and staff on an anti-bullying approach called 'shared concern'. The College incorporated this approach into its new policy.

In 2006, students in Year 7 – 10 attended a production by The Hurting Game. The role plays focused on a number of bullying scenarios and how to react in such situations.

Students are reminded by their homeroom teachers and class teachers of their responsibilities and their need for respect of others, themselves and property. These values are reinforced at Year Meetings and College Assemblies when Year Coordinators, the Deputy Principal and Principal address students.

Community Involvement

One hundred and twenty students and staff represented the College in this year's Murwillumbah Anzac Day March. The College Band led the march and provided the music for the commemoration service.

Students were involved in a number of other community-based activities in 2006 including the Red Shield Appeal, 40 Hour Famine, Project Compassion, Legacy Day, Daffodil Day, Christmas Appeal (St Vincent de Paul Conference), and the Winter Appeal (Poor Persons Mass for St Vincent de Paul). Year 10 students assisted with 'Meals on Wheels' while students in other years supported the 'Riding for the Disabled' programme. Students were also involved in community environmental activities such as Clean Up Australia and Dune Care.

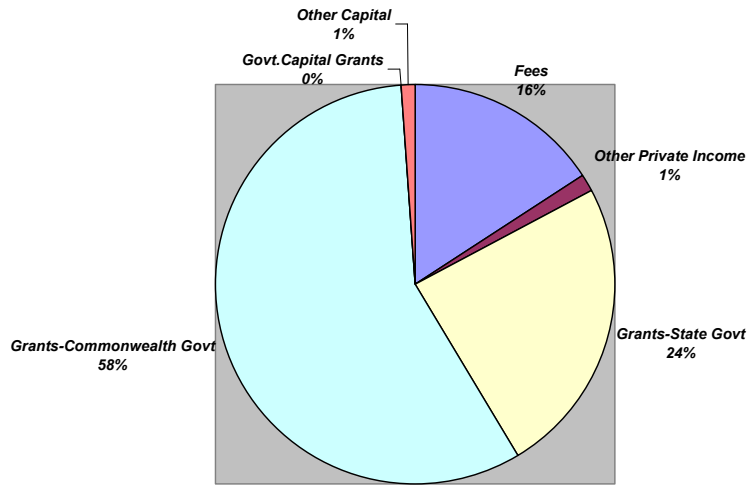
Mt St Patrick College has an active environmental group which is involved in fundraising, greenhouse management, recycling of paper and aluminium, composting a worm farm and garden project. Guest speakers address the group and it is involved in tree-planting projects with local land-care groups.

Parent, Student, Teacher Satisfaction

2006 is the first time for many years that student enrolments have increased during the school year indicating a level of satisfaction with the College. Numbers increased from the February Census to the August Census in a majority of the years.

Parents are invited at the Parent Information Evening to contact the College at any time with any concerns they may have. Often the College receives letters from the community congratulating or thanking the College on various matters.

2006 Income - Mount St Patrick College - MURWILLUMBAH



2006 Expenditure - Mount St Patrick College - MURWILLUMBAH

