

Annual Report 2023



The following report is prepared according to the School's Annual Reporting Policy and the NSW Government's Education Act. It provides general information to the community about the School's ethos and character and its performance in Academic and Financial terms. More specific information can be obtained by contacting the school directly.

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Theme 1: Our Context

From the Head Teacher: Mrs Paula French

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School for the year 2023. It was a year of growth, change and some wonderful achievements. With community support and encouragement, our Jarjums have excelled.



Enrolment and Community Engagement

Our School has experienced continued and sustained growth throughout 2023. With some media advertisement, word-of-mouth and hard work by our parent/carer community, Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School has increased in number with 22 students by the end of 2023. We have encouraged community engagement, by hosting family BBQs, visiting musicians, attending other School's functions we have fostered partnerships between all stakeholders to create a vibrant school which regularly engages with the parent body.

Cultural Engagement and Extracurricular Activities

In 2023, Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School was a part of many cultural and community events. Years 3 to 6 attended their first School Camp at Coffs Coast Adventure Centre. They participated in a Landcare Koala food planting initiative and participated in a gymnastics program for sport. We also established staff worship in Gulgangali area, inviting members of our school community to join us for worship. We had our first graduation for Year 6 students at the end of 2023 with 3 of our students transitioning to Pacific Coast Christian School for Year 7 in 2024. Our End-of-Year Celebration event was a huge success for the students at Area 51 in Brisbane.

Alongside our day-to-day learning, students engaged in the Junior Rangers Program each Monday for K-2 and Tuesday for Year 3-6. Every Friday the students engaged in Biren Dance, a local dance group that taught our students traditional dance and some basic Bundjalung language.

Some of our senior students were involved in the Bangarra Dance workshops held at Pacific Coast Christian School during the mid-term school holidays. They had to listen to local Elders stories and then create a dance for the stories told. They performed for their community and visiting nursing home residents with pride and excellence.

Students also enjoyed many other excursions. These excursions, known as our 'on Country' days, included visits to the Tweed Regional Museum, local parks, the Science Museum in Brisbane and Tweed Regional Art Gallery. Years K-2 have been fortunate enough to attend a local Aged Care facility to entertain guests with singing and dancing and made gifts for the residents. Years 3-6 had the opportunity to attend the SWELL Beach Art Sculpture Festival with the Junior Rangers Program. The students have appreciated the opportunities given to them at Gulgangali

which allowed them to learn beyond the confines of the classroom. We are thankful to all our staff who worked hard to plan, organise, and facilitate these excursions. The high teacher-student ratio ensured that the experiences were fun and safe.

The K-2 students attended learn to swim lessons each Friday as part of their sport program and have gained confidence in their own abilities and swimming skills that they will use outside of school.

We held a Mother's Day Pamper morning with morning tea for our K-2 students and their mums. The mums and grandmothers had a relaxing time being pampered by their children and grandchildren.

Professional Development

Throughout the year, our staff engaged in professional development to enhance their teaching practices. We were continually thankful for the support received from the Pacific Group of Christian Schools. Our Teacher's Aides have engaged in Special Education Training with Pacific Hope Christian School at the Tweed Campus. We have one Teacher's Aide who has now begun her teacher training with Morling College. It is exciting to see our Aides gain further skills to enhance their learning. Teaching staff have been engaged in Autism training and teaching resilience and well-being for our students.

We are now into our 2nd year of MultiLIT's 'Close the Gap' initiative, which provided whole-staff training, course materials, resources, and student materials. We are continually training staff members in the program. Student's academic achievements through the MultiLIT program have been evident in the data collected each Semester.

Our staff continue to learn. Most recently, our staff developed their understanding of implementing Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Behaviour Support Plans. We have been engaged in learning new curriculum and implementing it into our programs.

Events

During Term 4 Gulgangali held a community outreach afternoon event. We invited 'The Voice' singer Joel Wiggins to perform and share his testimony. We enjoyed dinner together and had face painting for the students. The feedback from parents was very positive as well as feedback from community members that came along.

We celebrated NAIDOC Day with the Tweed campus, and our students were involved with many activities throughout the day, from making Jonny cakes, to learning how to throw a boomerang.

I am honoured to serve the staff, students, and their families of Gulgangali and I look forward to celebrating the achievements of the school together with our families and the community.

On behalf of the Pacific Group of Christian Schools Board: Dr E J Boyce

This School for Aboriginal students has continued to grow in numbers and in quality of the provision of Christian education. One of the continued aspects of this growth has been student attendance which has risen to more than 90%.



Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School (PGJCS) is a community within a wider community and the local Aboriginal leaders are extremely supportive of the place of this School in the wider society.

The staff of this School continue to do an excellent job in educating the children but also creating cultural awareness.

About our School

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is a trans-denominational Christian School that has been in operation since 2022 at 3a Acacia Street, Tweed Heads South, NSW.

Our vision is to provide a Christian educational community as a centre of teaching, learning and serving excellence, founded on Biblically based beliefs, values and behaviour.

We are committed to authentic Christianity, to excellence in education and to genuine community.

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is an exciting place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children can learn about their culture and receive a quality curriculum-based education.

Our focus is on young people proudly embracing their age-old history and cultural identity whilst, at the same time, developing the skills they will need in their adult life to excel in careers of their choice.

Another feature of our School is the close relationship we have with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community of this region. We were established by the local Bundjalung elders and Tweed Action Group, in partnership with a community which has over four decades of experience in education, the Pacific Christian Schools Group.

Characteristics of our student body

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School is an exciting place where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can learn about their culture and receive a quality curriculum-based education. During 2023 the school catered for Years Kindergarten to Year 6. The school is non-denominational providing 3 composite classes, Years K-2, Years 3-6, and Years 5-6. The students are almost evenly matched with gender numbers and enjoy learning in their tailored groups within the composite classes.

Our young Jarjums proudly embrace their age-old history and cultural identity. The students are keenly involved with the Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council Ranger Program

embracing the wisdom of the local elders. The Jarjums are proud to represent their school and enjoy building their identity foundations with community members each visit.

Every Friday the Jarjums engaged in Biren Dance, a local dance group that taught our students traditional dance and some basic Bundjalung language.

As every student would, our student body embraces their learning with obvious improvements in their work being celebrated and displayed proudly throughout each school term. Partnership with the MultiLIT's 'Close the Gap' initiative has provided a great opportunity for the Jarjums to excel at learning. Fortnightly monitoring reflects their improvement and encourages them to keep moving forward.

Apart of the Jarjums' culture is to celebrate their Creator every morning, the students consistently and willingly participate in morning devotion and prayers. Often mentioning personal prayer points and volunteering to pray for them.

Priority Areas for School Improvement

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

TEACHING: Teaching as a relational activity that engages a school community to know God and His Word.

- Develop a culture of respect while demonstrating a passion for teaching and pastoral care
- Analyse qualitative and quantitative measures to grow students in wisdom and knowledge encompassing student feedback, assessment of performance and approaches for diverse learners
- Develop quality teaching programs in response to curriculum reform with Christian perspectives and literacy as priority areas
- Provide staffing to support curriculum reform

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

LEARNING: Further develop learning as a lifelong process informed by research data, personal testimonies, feedback, various modes of communication and the Bible.

- Further develop the use of blended learning underpinned by Biblical beliefs and values
- Provide opportunity for Aboriginal education and cultural awareness
- Continue to implement strategies for academic improvement
- Introduce and implement online learning across the Pacific Group of Christian Schools

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

SERVING: Further develop serving as an expression of the gifts given by our community (locally, nationally and globally).

- Provide opportunities for people to use their gifts to serve through Christian Education Development Program (CEDP), musicals, fairs, mission, community service, and/or open days
- Develop and implement a schoolwide parent communication strategy that uses The Alpha School System (TASS) and associated software applications
- Expand the provision of Christian Educational Communities through the Pacific Group of Christian Schools

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER IN COMMUNITY: Further develop the Christian character of each member of the community as an act that glorifies God.

- Engage the staff in personal Christian formation in community
- Develop the spiritual formation of each community
- Engage with the Pacific Group of Christian Schools, Sister Schools and other Christian communities to build our culture of community service
- Consistently monitor the stewardship of our resources utilising environmentally sustainable practices, innovative strategies and respect for our community

Our Initiatives Promoting Respect and Responsibility

One of the ways PGJCS tries to promote respect and responsibility in our classrooms is by pairing younger students with older students to provide guidance, support, and positive role models. We also integrate lessons on respect and responsibility as well as other core values into the school curriculum. During class time teachers use stories, discussions, and role-plays to teach values. Throughout PGJCS we recognise and reward students who consistently demonstrate respect and responsibility. PGJCS partner with a local Aged Care facility. They participate in singing, sharing scripture and exchanging gifts in their visit to the facility twice a year. The classrooms have clear behavioural expectations, and they are explicitly taught consistently over the year to promote and reward positive behaviour.

Theme 2: Our Outcomes and Results:

Student outcomes in standardised national literacy and numeracy testing

National literacy results are not available for our students as a school's Naplan test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate for a comparison to be available.

Our students did participate and complete the full scope of Naplan testing under provision of students with a disability. The number of students who participated are as follows: 3 x Year 3 students and 1 Year 5 student

Theme 3: Our Staffing

Accreditation status

All teachers at Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School have tertiary qualifications to teach in NSW.

Level of accreditation	Number of Teachers
Provisional Teacher	1
Proficient Teacher	3

Summary of qualifications

Batchelor of Teaching	3
Batchelor of Teaching, Batchelor of Arts	1
Batchelor of Education	1

Workforce composition

The staff of Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School exhibits typical diversity of age, gender, and ethnicity. National backgrounds include Anglo-Saxon, Aboriginal and Samoan.

School Staff	
Teaching staff	3
Full-time Equivalent teaching staff	1.6
Non-teaching staff	6
Full-time equivalent non-teaching staff	4.8

Theme 4: Our Student Attendance

Student attendance rates per year level and whole school

Year	No of Students at census date	Total %
Kinder	1	39.85%
1	5	68.55%
2	4	87.46%
3	3	81.38%
4	3	60.32%
5	1	90.73%
6	4	73.19%
2023	Whole School	68.24%

Description of how school manages student non-attendance.

Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School adopts an attitude of close liaison with families in managing student attendance. Absences are noted and followed up both by phone and by written correspondence along with visits in person from Ps William Dumas (our Aboriginal liaison officer). Long term unexplained absences are processed under the Schools Attendance and Course Completion policy which requires, at the Head Teacher's discretion, chronic non-attendance to result in the de-enrolment of the student and referral to the DET Home-School Liaison Officer for the area.

Theme 5: Our School Policies

The purpose of Pacific Group of Christian Schools is to provide a Christian educational community as a centre of teaching, learning and serving excellence, founded on Biblically based beliefs, values and behaviour.

Enrolment policy

[Student Enrolment Policy and Procedures](#)

Child Protection Policy

[Child Protection](#) please click this link, tap on the child protection button, and view individual policies as required.

Anti-bullying policy

[Bullying Prevention and Intervention](#)

Discipline policy

[Student Discipline Policy and Procedures](#)

Complaints policy

[Complaints Handling Policy](#)

Theme 6: Our Community Satisfaction

Parent satisfaction

A warm environment is cultivated at Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School, as parents believe the key strengths of the school include a Christ-centred community, Kinship culture and a nurturing environment. The majority of Parents believe the school is characterised by our hard-working staff who motivate the Jarjums to learn and are committed to building hope, personal success and a culture of respect.

Student satisfaction

Based on a recent survey, the Jarjums expressed their genuine appreciation for their teachers and report that they enjoy learning maths, reading, art, music, sport. Their favourite thing to do at school is to interact with their friends during activities on the oval and that they love to create with Lego.

Teacher satisfaction

The qualified teaching staff are supportive and well equipped to holistically grow the students. In most circumstances students are provided with necessary small group support, depending on the ability of each teacher aide and literal space to carry out the small group. Regular team building afternoons are encouraged and enjoyed by all staff. All staff foster a genuine welcoming community.

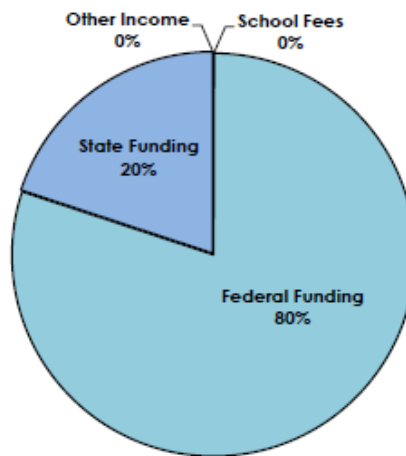
Theme 7: Summary of our Financial Information

Recurrent/Capital Income

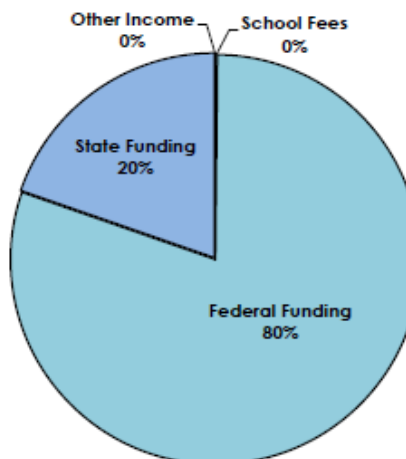
Pacific Gulgangali Jarjums Christian School Income Expenditure Graphs

INCOME SOURCES

2023



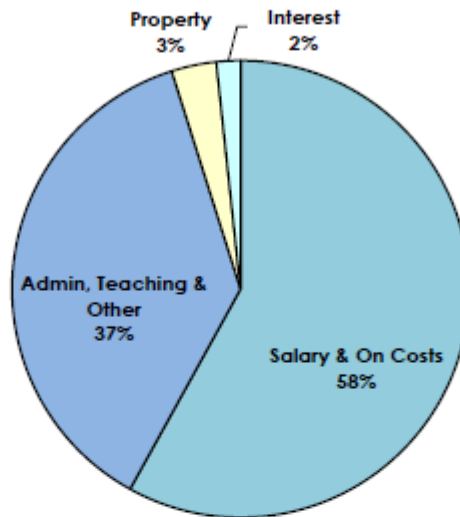
2022



Recurrent/Capital Expenditure

EXPENDITURE AREAS

2023



2022

