Annual School Report 2013

St Francis Xavier

Catholic School Nauiyu Daly River

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Malak Malak people. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this community.

Our School’s History

St Francis Xavier School was established in 1956 by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, and is located in the picturesque Daly River region of the Northern Territory, approximately 220kms SW of Darwin. The Nauiyu Community at Daly River has approximately 500 residents from 10 different language groups.

The main traditional language spoken at Daly River is Ngungi Kurunggurr, with the traditional owners of the land being the Malak Malak people. Although traditional languages are still used, the dominant language spoken today is Aboriginal English.

Sharers of the Vision

Staff in Catholic schools, through their teaching and witness to faith, create a synthesis of culture and faith and synthesis of faith and life. (Catholic School. 37)

The staff of St Francis Xavier School will focus on developing our understanding and commitment to the document Shares of the Vision by highlighting the essence of this document in our staff meetings and in our daily professional practice.
Vision statement: (August 2103 Teaching and Learning Vision)

: Strong in Faith Strong in Culture Strong in Learning

Deme Nayin

Leadership at St Francis Xavier is focussed on Deme Nayin (leading gently). Good leadership is about holding people gently in the palm of their hands.

Leadership empowers, trusts, supports, empathises and respects.

Our Mission

As partners in Sharers of the Vision, we the school community of St Francis Xavier, believe that we are called to provide a quality Catholic education enriched by Indigenous culture to the children in our care.

We achieve this by

- Focusing our practise on Gospel values that continually call us to transform the lives of those we meet
• Focusing our attention on producing a high quality teaching and learning curriculum
• Engaging with the community to make our school a focus of positive energy for the community of Nauiyu

Principal’s Message and Reflections.

This annual report focuses on the activities that have taken place in order to help construct, St Francis Xavier, a school community that is focussed on renewal and vision.

The 2013 Academic Year commenced with the appointment of a new principal, Mrs Jenny Cole. Jenny’s enthusiasm for her role and her commitment to leading a teaching and learning community were at the forefront of her endeavours.

Early in the first term a community meeting was held in order for the Principal to table with the community her vision for school improvement and to hear from the community ways in which the school could enhance its approval and recognition within the community. The meeting was chaired by CILT member, Miriam Rose Baumman and also attended by Gerry McCarthy, Principals Consultant ICCS and the Parish Priest, Father Peter.

The meeting was very successful and allowed for much discussion and debate and concluded with an enjoyable supper.

From the meeting the following recommendations were made:

• In order to improve school attendance, the school conduct a bus run each morning
• The school introduce a more rigorous approach to sport
• The school look at how it could introduce the teaching of music and arts
• The school explore ways to be more welcoming of the community
• The school engage in a focus on student behaviour

The Principal, Jenny Cole should be accredited with the success of the meeting and for following through with the recommendations.

Other Staff Appointments

Other new staff appointments included a new Curriculum Coordinator, GOO and two Seniors Classroom Teachers. During the early part of the year the school experienced some unfortunate turnover of teaching staff which lead to some instability. A number of support mechanisms were put in place to encourage both existing and new staff to work within new
guidelines and expectations. The principal was very supportive and worked collaboratively with Catholic Education Northern Territory Consultants to support all staff.

**Positive School Behaviour Program**

The Positive School Behaviour Program (emanating from the desire of the community meeting) was launched in the second term. The entire staff attended workshops and adapted a school program that rewarded positive behaviour. The “Daly Dollar” and the School Shop together with a solid approach to structured student acceptable behaviour began to have a very positive impact particularly in senior and middle years. The program continues and has become an effective tool in turning around unacceptable student behaviour.

**Highlights of 2013**

- During the induction week the staff were welcomed to Country and received a blessing at Butterfly Creek
- Saint Francis Xavier has a strong Growing Our Own cohort and the 2013 GOO Launch was featured on the ABC 7.30 Report
- The Merrepen Arts Festival was an excellent opportunity for the school to showcase student artwork and the staff conducted a “sausage sizzle" and raised funds for the school.
- A community reading program was introduced where the entire school and some community members gather to share reading and the joy of literacy
- Key staff introduced a structured swimming program
- At the end of Term 2 the school conducted a family BBQ where school reports were distributed
- Strong links were established with the parish. Fr Peter regularly visits classrooms. Bishop Eugene celebrated Confirmation with the community
- The students of SFX participated in Cricket and Football Carnivals and were rewarded by being named Champion School of both codes in the knock out competitions they entered
Professional Development

- Positive School Behaviour - whole school 2 day workshop Term 2 and participation in the Brisbane PSB for selected staff.
- Numeracy: Whole school Count Me in Too Workshop: Selected staff 3 day First Steps
- Rainbow Reading
- Trauma and Bullying (whole school Menzies Health)
- Elio Capra the Sacraments (two day)
- Literacy Guided Reading (whole school 1 day)
- Information Technology (whole school 1 day)

The Growth of CILT

A significant boost in staff morale has been achieved by the support provided by members of CILT and their growing presence in the school particularly in times of challenge. Not only have CILT members been providing cultural and community support they have also been present in the classroom, assisting with children and families who are experiencing angst, providing support for classroom teachers when Assistant Teachers are absent and encouraging community members to come and visit the school.
**Changing Leadership and School Review**

At the conclusion of Term 3 the Principal Jenny Cole resigned and the school undertook a Pastoral Care and Well Being Audit conducted by The Deputy Director of Teaching and Learning, Sharon Duong and a co opted committee member, Mr John Cowan DP Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Wadeye. (The findings and actions of this audit are the subject of another report.)

In Term 4 Gerry McCarthy, Principal Consultant ICCS was appointed as Acting Principal of St Francis Xavier.

In the fourth term the staff and school community worked

- Solidly on maintaining the good progress already made on the Positive School Behaviour Program.
- Religiously engaging in meaningful and celebratory children’s liturgies
- Collegially networking with Teaching and Learning consultants from CE NT
- Creatively constructing a community garden
- Enthusiastically celebrating a school concert and Christmas party with over 200 community attendees.
- Senior students visited the Skills Expo in Katherine
- Four students attended the Catholic Youth Festival in Melbourne

**Miriam Rose Foundation Launch**

A feature of the fourth term was nearly the entire compliment of school students arrive at school at 7.00 AM on the morning of the Miriam Rose Foundation Launch (in Darwin). Not only did the students arrive promptly for the 2/3 hour bus drive into Darwin, but they all wore school uniform. It was a very proud day indeed and the students were well rewarded by a fine lunch at St Mary’s and a good splash in the Parap Pool before the tiring drive back to Daly.

**Staff**

The staff at SFX are experienced, enthusiastic and committed to achieving the vision and mission of the school. The staff have shown a great deal of resilience in addressing issues that are not always of the schools making and in doing so have been earning the admiration of much of the community.
As in all schools there are continuing issues to address, SFX is very fortunate to have a staff that have been steadfast in their commitment to address these issues and provide a caring and creative learning environment for the children of the Daly.

Gerry McCarthy
Principal Consultant ICCS
Rachael Walsh and Julie Leonard
Acting Co Principals
St Francis Xavier School Naiyu

School Profile

Indigenous Enrolment 98%
Average Attendance 64.48%
Students with Disability 25%
Finances (report finance department)

FTE = Full Time Equivalent 7.5
## Teacher qualifications

**Masters:** 2  

**Bachelor of Education:** 7
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Below Minimum Standard</th>
<th>At National Minimum Standard</th>
<th>Above National Minimum Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band 1</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20% of Australian Students</td>
<td>80% of Australian Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 2</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20% of Australian Students</td>
<td>80% of Australian Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 3</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20% of Australian Students</td>
<td>80% of Australian Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 4</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20% of Australian Students</td>
<td>80% of Australian Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 5</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20% of Australian Students</td>
<td>80% of Australian Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band 6</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20% of Australian Students</td>
<td>80% of Australian Students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Spelling Year 3
NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 414
All NT Schools Mean: 326
Your School Mean: 240

Below

At national minimum standard

Above

Band 1
Band 2
Band 3
Band 4
Band 5
Band 6

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
20% of Australian Students

Your School
0%

Your School
100%

0%

LM
HM
TC
TC
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Grammar & Punctuation Year 3
NAPLAN
All Australian Schools Mean: 430
All NT Schools Mean: 337
Your School Mean: 300

Below
Band 1
Band 2
Band 3
Band 4
Band 5
Band 6

At national minimum standard

Above

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
20% of Australian Students

Your School 0%
Your School 25%
Your School 75%

243
268
293
318
343
368
393
418
443
468
493
518
543
568
593

TC
TM
HM
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Numeracy Year 3
NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 401
All NT Schools Mean: 331
Your School Mean: 144

Below minimum standard

At national minimum standard

Above national minimum standard

Band 1
Band 2
Band 3
Band 4
Band 5
Band 6

LM TC TC

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
100% of Australian Students
Your School 0%
Your School 0%
Your School 100%

243
268
293
318
343
368
393
418
443
468
493
518
543
568
593
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Reading Year 5
NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 502
All NT Schools Mean: 437
Your School Mean: 330

Below

At national minimum standard

Below

Band 3

Band 4

Band 5

Band 6

Band 7

Band 8

Above

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
20% of Australian Students

Your School
0%
0%
100%

EG
NB
TG
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Spelling Year 5 NAPLAN
All Australian Schools Mean: 494
All NT Schools Mean: 411
Your School Mean: 291

Below

At national minimum standard

Above

Band 3
Band 4
Band 5
Band 6
Band 7
Band 8

KO TG EG NB

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
20% of Australian Students

Your School 0%
Your School 0%
Your School 100%

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
20% of Australian Students

Your School 0%
Your School 0%
Your School 100%

KO TG EG NB
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Numeracy Year 5
NAPLAN
All Australian Schools Mean: 486
All NT Schools Mean: 421
Your School Mean: 370

Below
At national minimum standard
Band 3
Band 4
Band 5
Band 6
Band 7
Band 8

Above

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
80% of Australian Students
90% of Australian Students
100% of Australian Students

Your School
0%
100%
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Reading Year 7
NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 540
All NT Schools Mean: 467
Your School Mean: 361

Below
SW
JJ

Above

At national minimum standard
Band 4
Band 5
Band 6
Band 7
Band 8
Band 9

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
Your School 0%
Your School 100%

399
424
449
474
574
699
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Writing Year 7
NAPLAN
All Australian Schools Mean: 520
All NT Schools Mean: 417
Your School Mean: 280

Below
At national minimum standard
Above

Band 4
Band 5
Band 6
Band 7
Band 8
Band 9

JJ SW
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Grammar & Punctuation Year 7
NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 534
All NT Schools Mean: 441
Your School Mean: 378

Below
Band 4
Band 3
Band 2
Band 1

Above
Band 9
Band 8
Band 7
Band 6
Band 5
Band 4

At national minimum standard

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
100% of Australian Students

Your School
0%
20%
100%

SW
JJ
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Numeracy Year 7 NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 543
All NT Schools Mean: 475
Your School Mean: 369

Below Minimum Standard
Band 4

At national minimum standard
Band 5
Band 6
Band 7

Above
Band 8
Band 9

20% of Australian Students

60% of Australian Students

Your School

100%
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Writing Year 9
NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 661
All NT Schools Mean: 487
Your School Mean: 0

Below Minimum Standard
At National Standard
Band 5
Band 6
Band 7
Band 8
Band 9
Band 10

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
20% of Australian Students

Your School
Your School
Your School

0%
0%
0%
St Francis Xavier Catholic School
2013 Grammar & Punctuation Year 9
NAPLAN

All Australian Schools Mean: 574
All NT Schools Mean: 494
Your School Mean: 365
2013 Numeracy Year 9 NAPLAN

- All Australian Schools Mean: 585
- All NT Schools Mean: 520
- Your School Mean: 0

Below Above minimum standard Band 5 Band 6 Band 7 Band 8 Band 9 Band 10

451 476 501 526 551 576 601 626 651 676 701 726

20% of Australian Students
60% of Australian Students
20% of Australian Students

Your School

0%
The Principal Consultant ICCS recommends to the Director of Catholic Education NT that the 2013 Annual Report be accepted

**Recommendation**

Gerry McCarthy  
Principal Consultant ICCS

Signed _____________________________  Date__________________________

**Approval**

Michael Avery  
Director CEO

Note here any changes required

Signed_____________________________  Date__________________________