Annual School Report: 2011

Vision Statement

Growing in Wisdom; Learning to Love.

Principal's Statement

Sattler Christian College, formerly Litchfield Christian School, is a campus of NT Christian Schools and strives to live out its motto: Growing in Wisdom; Learning to Love. As a Christian school community, we endeavour to nurture children as learners in many ways, always striving to open them up to life, to loving, to serving, to understanding, as God would have us do. Some of these aspects of the life of our school are difficult to measure. This review is only part of the picture.

Sattler Christian College offers quality educational facilities in a spacious and attractive natural bushland environment. The school is uniquely placed to take advantage of its rural location in both academic and extra-curricular activities. The nearby Fred's Pass recreation and sporting facilities provide additional and easy to access outdoor fields and ovals.

The College has developed rich and creative curriculum options over its history in response to the NTCF and now the national Australian Curriculum. An NTCS curriculum initiative, Essential Learnings, outlines how the College seeks to provide Biblically-focussed curriculum for all its students, from Transition to Year 9. Our curriculum includes a strong focus on core learning areas in addition to the development of a full range of skills and capacities across all modes of learning.

The school is currently in a period of steady growth, as families in the rural area of outer Darwin are attracted to the unique look and feel of the school environment and the strong sense of community engendered in the activities and programs offered by the college. The College is looking forward to moving into new Middle School classrooms by mid-year 2012. Sattler Christian College also offers parents an Early Learning Centre which provides early childhood learning and care for 3 and 4 year olds.

A strong feature of the school is the common mind and perspective on learning shared by all staff. Sattler Christian College has been an integral part of the wider rural community for more than 15 years and will continue to have a positive impact and significant presence into the future. The vision of the college is to develop in all its students the same qualities observed in Jesus at a young age: Growing in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and people.

Colin Smith
Principal
School Profile

The class structure for 2011 was as follows:

Transition/Grade 1
Grade 1/2
Grade 2/3
Grade 4/5
Grade 5/6
Year 7
Year 8
Year 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>MALE</th>
<th>FEMALE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transition</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 2011, the school continued to build on the solid foundation of Biblically-based curriculum units already in place. At every level, teachers designed curriculum materials based on the NT Curriculum Framework and the NTCSA Essential Learnings overview, and also began to seriously engage with the national Australian Curriculum’s planned roll-out from mid-2012. This process of planning and collaboration ensured that relevant and age appropriate curriculum was presented to all our students and also that curriculum was designed with a clear Christian perspective in mind.

The development of core learning skills across the curriculum continued to be an important focus in all classrooms and at all levels. The many different types of literacy and numeracy learning, the acquisition of important social and interactional skills and the further growth of a service-to-others perspective formed the basis of curriculum initiatives throughout the year.

Additional programs, including A Sound Way literacy program, Mathletics and Accelerated Reader, were part of a rich curriculum mix. Students with special needs were catered for and supported by the programs coordinated by our Special Ed Department which included the valuable work of our teacher aides. Programs used included Toe-By-Toe, EasyRead computer program, and Fitzroy Reading Scheme.

Through the NTCSA System Office, a framework for School Improvement and Renewal (SIRF), created by the Catholic Ed System Office, was adopted for use in all NTCSA schools. This framework incorporates elements of school leadership review and reflection and outlines the different people involved in decision-making within the school including School Council members, school staff, teachers, parents and students.
The following is a list of the capital improvements made to the school during 2011:

- Chicken pen and run
- Junior Primary Sand pit and Sensory Garden including pathways and seating
- Bush land cleaned up and all dangerous/threatening trees removed
- Eating area for Middle School Students with dedicated seating
- New classrooms for Middle School begun
- Shelter belt planting along one main boundary
- Development and upgrade of school gardens

The following is a list of the capital improvements planned for 2012:

- Completion of new Middle School classrooms by mid-year
- Landscaping around new Middle School classrooms
- Additional planting and development of school gardens and bushland areas
- Construction of additional playground facilities
- Addition of security fencing around playground areas
- Addition of signage in various locations around the school – direction signs, word lists, painted games, front entrance wall design

The condition of school buildings and facilities is very good. During the year repairs were carried out to doors, locks and floor coverings. Air conditioners in all rooms were serviced and in a number of cases replaced. Irrigation facilities were repaired, upgraded and extended.

During Term 1, 2011, the College undertook a DET Routine Assessment. The College was found to be compliant with registration requirements and conditions of registration. The assessment panel made the following summary comment:

“The Principal and the Governing Body are to be commended for the way the school is being managed and operated, and for their vision – planning by using information gathered from various sources – parents, previous audits and Self-evaluations to plan for both the short and long term future of the school.”

**Staffing Information**

During 2011 Sattler Christian College staff consisted of the following:

- Brenton Bartsch
- Janice Bartsch
- Mitchell Bateman
- Crystal Briscoe
- Linda Broad
- Serena Annis-Brown
- Yurika Castle
- Rebecca Cholmondeley
- Stephanie Crawford
- Kayley Fry
- Joanne Hardy
- Katrina Harley
- Dianne Jackson
- Ashlee Kirkham
- Cat Klinkenberg
- Chris Kleefisman

Annual School Report 2011
All teachers employed at Sattler Christian College during 2011 are registered with the Northern Territory Teacher Registration Board NTTRB. Every teacher has the required qualifications for their registration with a minimum of a 4 year teaching degree.

On average, each teacher attended 8 days of professional training and development. On average non-teaching staff attended 3 days of professional training and development. Some of these included: Asthma training, Kids Matter training, PeaceWise, Developing Leaders’ Conference, ASD on-line training, Differentiated Curriculum and EPICT training course. The Christian Schools National/International Conference in July also provided stimulating input from a wide selection of speakers.

On average, $1,050 was spent per teacher on professional development during 2011

**Highlights**

2011 was an exciting year for Sattler Christian College. Changing the name of the school from Litchfield Christian School to Sattler Christian College was a significant step towards more clearly identifying the school with the Bees Creek/rural area rather than with Litchfield National Park. The College continued its best efforts towards creating a school culture of inclusion, acceptance, community and discovery in all aspects of its life and service.

Some of the many highlights for our school were as follows:

- The name change from Litchfield to Sattler was introduced.
- The official opening of the new Library and the beginning of building the new Middle School classrooms.
- Evening Rural Christmas Market event hosting over 60 stall holders catering for nearly 1000 shoppers.
- Athletics Carnival – fantastic day for our entire school. ELC – Year 9 students walked to the local Fred’s Pass oval and competed in many different events over the day. A huge portion of our parents involved themselves in both assisting with the events and being spectators.
• Swimming Carnival – A huge percentage of our parents and families attended this day time event in November. We enjoyed cheering and chanting as a whole community as we appreciated watching the skills the children had recently learnt from their swimming lessons at the beginning of Term 4.
• The Music Aviva program was again a huge success with the students enjoying the genre of Irish music.
• Community events also included the Family Breakfast, end-of-year Celebration Evenings, the highly entertaining Middle School Production of Wind in the Willows, the School Quiz Night and the Year 6 and Year 9 Graduation Dinners.
• The camping program saw Year 3/4 spend time at the Territory Wildlife Park, Year 5/6 at Kakadu, Year 7 at Wallaroo, Year 8 in Melbourne for a week, and Year 9 camping in Litchfield National Park.
• Sporting activities included clinics in AFL, ARL, Cricket, Baseball and Basketball as well as PARCS events such as AFL, Netball, Athletics, Soccer and Swimming.
• Questacon Science Circus, the Super Atomic Chemistry Show, Brightsparks and CSIRO classroom visits were also highlights for the students.
• Sattler Christian College students marched in the Arafura Games opening ceremony carrying banners they had designed and painted.

Student Welfare

During 2011, Sattler Christian College had a Student Representative Council that met once a week. This group was made up 12 students, 2 from each year, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9.

Buddy program – Year 6 students were partnered with a student from the Transition class. They met in a formal setting once a week with a structured program and also made themselves available to one another during recess and lunch times.

A mixture of students from Years 6 – 9 met each Tuesday lunch time and had a short Bible study together and a time of sharing.

Sattler Christian College offered incentive awards to all students from ELC – Year 9 throughout 2011.
• 5 mini classroom merits gave students the thrill of visiting the Principal and then to receive a ‘Principal’s Award’ at assembly.
• “IVI Awards” I’m Very Impressed, were awarded by the Principal for particularly impressive, behaviour, work or attitude.

At the end of 2011 the local community and Government groups offered sponsorship of a range of literacy, mathematical, sports, and encouragement awards. These were awarded at our end of year celebration evening.

The SRC are an active group of leaders within the school community and take on many roles throughout the year.
• Day to day chores, emptying bins, feeding the chickens, assisting with lunch time library club etc.
• Working with teachers and leading small groups of younger children.
• Leading assemblies
• Organizing and running fundraising events
Teaching and Learning: Student Outcomes

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>ENROLMENTS</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEB</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>95.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>90.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>91.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>96.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCT</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>92.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOV</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>88.3%</td>
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Naplan results expressed as percentages of students above the national minimum standard benchmarks in Reading, Writing and Numeracy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yr 3</th>
<th>Yr 5</th>
<th>Yr 7</th>
<th>Yr 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Early Learning Centre (where applicable)

The Sattler Christian College Early Learning Centre provides long day-care hours, catering for children aged between 3 and 5 years old from 7am – 5.30 Monday to Friday. During 2011, 10 children were enrolled full time and 27 were enrolled on a part time basis.

At the Sattler Christian College Early Learning Centre we believe that every child has worth regardless of ability or background. As God’s image bearer every child is given opportunity and support to develop their uniqueness. Children are encouraged to reach their God-given potential. Children are taught to respect and value themselves and others.

Policy Development and Review

Policies, guidelines and supporting documents for the Association are developed within the NTCSA System Office. NTCSA Policy documents inform and sit alongside individual school policies.

NTCSA Policies in existence in 2011

Policy Development Policy
Unpaid Leave Policy
Paid Personal and Carer’s Leave Policy
Long Service Leave Policy

Annual School Report 2011
Parental Leave Policy
Appraisal – Teaching and Capacity Building Process
Occupational Health and Safety Policy
Child Protection Policy
Mandatory Reporting Policy
Conflict Resolution Policy
Students with a Disability Policy
Fee Billing and Collection Policy
Smoking and NTCSA Schools Policy
(Draft) Library Policy
Teaching of Creation Policy

NTCSA Policies that were developed and approved by the Board in 2011

Conflict Resolution Policy
Students with a Disability Policy
Occupational Health and Safety Policy

NTCSA Policies that were developed during 2011 but were approved by the Board in early 2012

Child Protection Policy
Mandatory Reporting Policy

Existing NTCSA Policies that are currently under review

(Draft) Library Policy
Teaching of Creation Policy
Appraisal – Teaching and Capacity Building Process
Fee Billing and Collection Policy
Smoking and NTCSA Schools Policy
Guideline – Camps and Excursions Duty of Care

Current Board Policies are available to all staff via the NTCSA Intranet. At this moment in time NTCSA policies are not made generally available to the public, though after this current process of policy development and review has concluded appropriate policies will be made available more generally. All policies are made available within the community and to the public on request.

Sattler Christian College policies under review during 2011 included:

Behaviour Policy
Uniform Policy
Learning Policy
OH&S Policy

Parent Involvement

Parental involvement was evident in a number of ways throughout the year. Participation through School Council, involvement in the Fund-raising ventures and other special interest groups and committees, volunteering to help in the classroom or to attend excursions and camps, participating in school sporting and cultural events were some of the ways in which parents contributed to the life of the school.
Feedback from parents and students through anecdotal means or by letter or email, in response to school surveys, at parent/teacher interviews, and by participating in the life of the school, indicated a largely positive view of the school and its service to families.

Financial Summary

Private Income: $474,448
Recurrent Government Income: $1,131,238
Capital Grants: $761,947

School Self Assessment Commendations

During 2011, the College gave particular focus to the areas of Community & Culture and Finance, facilities & resources. In relation to these aspects of school life, we engaged with the framework of Kids Matter as a way of building positive community spirit, parental engagement and staff commitment. Professional development and completion of Kids Matter training for all staff and School Council provided great impetus to these initiatives.

During the year, a genuine attempt was made to bridge the observed gap in teaching resources especially in areas involving reading, support for students with learning needs and hands-on learning equipment. Spending was directed towards providing more resources in these particular areas.

The development of grounds and gardens was also identified as an area of need and spending was accordingly directed towards enhancing this aspect of the school. The results of parent working bees, Student Planting Days, especially one sponsored and supported by Bunnings, and the volunteer involvement of a team from Victoria, were appreciated by all members of the school community.

School Self Assessment Recommendations

The recommendations derived from the self-assessment process, including the successful completion of the Routine Assessment in Term 1, were to continue to enhance the learning of all students by creating diverse opportunities within a creative and well-resourced curriculum. Along with this, it was decided that processes by which students’ needs are identified and responded to should be clearly understood by all teachers and such processes should be enacted consistently to ensure growth in learning.

Future Priorities

The priorities for the future development of the school relate to the continued pursuit of creating a learning environment that fully realizes the potential of all students. In this regard, creating a culture of well-being is seen as essential so that establishing a pleasant outdoor environment or providing stimulating lessons with appropriate teaching resources are seen as of equal importance. Having a culture of care and sensitivity is also seen to be of prime importance, so staff development and learning to work together towards a common goal are worthy aims.

Sattler Christian College seeks to build God’s Kingdom on earth where its families and its staff are blessed accordingly. This is our highest priority – to serve God in love; everything else follows on.
The information in this report has been verified and the priorities endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer of NTCSA

Mr Colin Smith
Principal

Mr Geoff Bateman
Chief Executive Officer

25 May 2012
Date