Vision Statement

Araluen Christian College partners with families guiding each child’s journey of living and learning, providing hope, in Christ, for their future.

Principal's Message

The College has a growing committed staff of Christian teachers and support staff who work well as a team. The number of students has grown especially in the Primary area in 2011. This community of learners is characterized by people who care, connect and celebrate together. Our community is positive, inclusive and oriented towards others in service and growth. It is a privilege to be part of the journey in the community that is Araluen Christian College.

Cate Garwood

School Profile

The number of students increased in 2011 to a maximum enrolment of 175 from an enrolment of 157 in 2010.

Gender profiles of students in the August Census 2011.
At Araluen Christian College the Northern Territory Curriculum Framework that extends across all Key Learning Areas is the basis for all learning programs. As a member school of the Northern Territory Christian Schools Association, the College uses the NTCSA EsseNTial Learnings which have been adapted to reflect a Christian perspective/worldview.

The College is a member of the Northern Territory Christian Schools Association (NTCSA), and as such employs Christian staff. The NTCSA governs the College through its board and CEO who delegate local authority to the Principal and the elected College Council.

The College elections are held in March each year. In 2011 Mrs Steph Perry was again elected as the Council Chair with Mr Andrew McAllan elected as Secretary. Other Council members were Mrs Barby Rothwell, Pastor Sam Swadling and newly elected and Mrs Gwen Gouviea.

The most significant Capital improvement to the College in 2011 was the building and completion of a General Purpose Learning Area/Classroom for the Middle School students provided for by the Block Grant Authority.

At the end of 2011 an oval upgrade project funded by the college was begun to improve the surface of the playing area and to enhance the appearance of the college aesthetically.

At the beginning of 2012 the oval upgrade will be completed and the opening of the General purpose learning area/classroom will take place. An application was made to the Block Grant Authority for a drainage project to be completed in 2012.

Other minor maintenance work on the buildings was undertaken throughout 2011. The current condition of the school buildings and facilities overall is very good. The addition of a new classroom and further technology have enhanced the facilities.

There were no reportable incidents at Araluen Christian College in 2012.

The staff continue to be a dedicated team. During 2011 there was some staff turnover throughout the year, for a variety of reasons, including the movement of families from Alice Springs to other locations. This affected both the Middle years and Primary years of the College.

At the commencement of 2011 the Araluen Christian College staff was:

Cate Garwood 1.00 Principal
Lynn Rachel Sinon 1.00 Primary
Pushpa Dieckelmann 1.00 Primary
Lisa Tijerina 1.00 Primary
Nicola Smith 1.00 Primary
Annette Uldrich 1.00 Primary
Rupert Croutz 1.00 Primary
Jenny McAllan 1.00 Middle School
There were 14 teachers including part-time teachers, the Principal and 4 support staff. All teaching staff are registered with the Northern Territory Teacher Registration Board. Almost all teachers have a four year qualification. One part time teacher was completing their 4th year to extend their qualification and had an authority to teach.

One of the foci of professional learning activities was on wellbeing. Teachers were trained in Component 1 of ‘Kidsmatter’ training due to staff turnover. They also participated in component 2 of ‘Kidsmatter’ and The Peer Support Program training. Various other professional learning activities were undertaken in 2011.

**Expenditure on Professional Development:** Over $10,000 was expended, with most of this sum contributing to the expenses of the Over the Top Conference in Darwin. Staff also attended a range of locally presented Professional Development opportunities that came at a variety of costs. All Early Childhood teachers attended the Early Childhood Association Meetings in Alice Springs which were a combination of networking opportunities and Professional Development. Our learning support teacher also took part in cross town meeting opportunities to network and gain professional learning.

**Highlights**

Throughout 2011, the students at Araluen Christian College were offered a variety of opportunities to experience a comprehensive education and to develop their faith. The focus of learning was on the core curriculum areas while it was enriched with valuable extra curricula educational experiences including:

- The completion of the General purpose learning area/classroom
- The Active After School Communities program continued to be successful in 2011
- Significant community events including a welcome BBQ, an international dinner, our annual open day and a celebration evening at the end of the year
- The camping and excursion program
- The continuation of ICT programs
- Various incursions of performing arts and scientific exploration Programs
• The successful implementation and completion of the ‘Peer Support Program.’

Student Welfare

Student Leadership was further developed through the College Captains and Sport Captains of the College in 2011. In addition to the Captains & Sport Captains and Student Representative Council (SRC) was formed to encourage further representation of the students in school matters.

Middle School Students had the opportunity to train and participate as junior assistants in the Active After School Communities Program.

The Primary Peer Support program was delivered as a professional development to staff. The Year 5 & 6 students were trained as leaders and in Term 3 led the peer support program to all of the primary classes.

Students at Araluen are regularly recognized positively for their educational and personal and community successes through awards both in our assemblies and from the wider community. We held a celebration service at the end of year to applaud our students once more in 2011.

Pastoral Care developed significantly in 2011. This included the strong relationships built within classroom between students and with their teachers to the highly successful cross college buddy program. This program was initiated by teaching staff between classes. Each week classes met together to participate in fun activities. The students developed lasting relationships with each other that enabled them to have connections in the playground as well as through their interaction at buddy class time.

Teachers work collaboratively at the college and this enables them to pastorally care for a range of students through sporting opportunities, team teaching, learning support or when in need of assistance in the office. All students are known to the principal by name allowing the opportunity for many informal conversations to take place and to enhance the pastoral care for the students.
Teaching and Learning: Student Outcomes

Enrolment numbers were 135 in the Primary and 40 in the Middle Years. The Average attendance was 93.3% in the Primary and 90% in the Middle Years. The overall average attendance at the College was 94.9%.

![Graph showing enrolment and attendance data]

**Enrolment and Attendance data from the August 2011 student census**

The Table below shows the proportion of students meeting national literacy and numeracy benchmarks for their year at 3, 5, 7 and 9 in 2010 and 2011. 2010 was the first year of Year 9 students at the College. It is important to note that all students who attend Araluen Christian College sit the NAPLAN tests including those identified as having special needs.

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<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>Reading</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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**Changes in benchmark results from previous year**

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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>+5%</td>
<td>+11%</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>-30%</td>
<td>+15%</td>
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</table>
It needs to be noted that results, where cohorts of students are small, are dependent on the ability of the individuals in those cohorts. At Araluen, a year level cohort may consist of 8 to 20 students. In larger schools a cohort may consist of 100 students therefore results may more readily allow for extremes to be accommodated.

**Early Learning Centre (where applicable)**

N/A

**Preschools (where applicable)**

N/A

**Student Retention**

Araluen Christian College is registered to Year 9 so retention to Year 12 is not applicable.

**Policy Development and Review**

**NTCSA System Wide Policies Developed and Reviewed in 2011**

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
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.

At the Araluen Christian College level our existing policies are:

• ACC Code of Conduct Policy
  • Uniform Policy
  • ACC Evacuation Procedure (Reviewed in 2011)
• Staff Dress Code Policy
• ACC Cyber Safety Policy (Reviewed in 2011)
• Use of College Facilities Policy
• Parent Helper Policy
• ACC Pet Policy
• ACC Enrolment Policy
• Drug Education and the Management of Drug Related Incidents Policy (to be reviewed in 2012)
  • ACC Fundraising Policy
  • ACC Fees Policy (Reviewed 2011)
• ACC Cash Handling Policy (Reviewed in 2011)
• ACC Business Advertising through the College Policy (Reviewed in 2011)
• ACC Extreme Temperatures Policy (Reviewed in 2011)

At the College level policies are sent to parents whenever they are reviewed. All policies are available from the College upon request.

Parent Involvement

Parents are involved in the College in a number of ways. This encompasses volunteer assistance in the classrooms, library and in the canteen. Parents
also provide specific assistance for community events such as cooking on the BBQ or selling drinks or donating goods. Parents also bring their vocational skills to the College where they share from their expertise and experience as the students learn about particular topics.

**Financial Summary**

- **Private:** $392,431
- **Recurrent:** $1,578,478
- **Capital:** $315,813

**School Self Assessment Commendations**

2011 saw Araluen Christian College begin the process of School Improvement. The two areas chosen to review were Pastoral Care / Wellbeing and Teaching & Learning. The staff and parent council were briefed about the process and were surveyed in the areas of review. This process is an on-going one at the College.

**Future Priorities**

In 2012 the Self Improvement Renewal Framework will continue to analyse and reflect on the two areas of Pastoral Care / Wellbeing and Teaching & Learning. Commendations and recommendations will future priorities for the year ahead.

Other strategic priorities include consolidating the structure of 1 class per year level from Transition to Year 9 which was the goal to work towards at the end of 2011. With the growth of student numbers this looks like a viable priority for the future.

Working hard to maintain our integrated technology in the Middle School is also a priority.
Mrs Cate Garwood
Principal

Mr Geoff Bateman
Chief Executive Officer

25 May 2012
Date