# Xavier Catholic College School Annual Report



854 Kerinaiua Highway Wurrumiyanga, Bathurst Island NT 0822

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# HISTORY

Xavier Catholic College, located in Wurrumiyanga on Bathurst Island, Northern Territory, is an Aboriginal Catholic Community Secondary School for young Tiwi people administered by Catholic Education Northern Territory (CENT). It was established by Bishop Francis Xavier Gsell MSC in 1932 and was originally a Boys' School but is now co-educational. Wurrumiyanga (formerly Nguiu) is the largest community on the Tiwi Islands and is located on the south-eastern coast of Bathurst Island. It is acknowledged as the 'capital' of the islands and houses the main administrative and finance divisions of the Tiwi Islands Local Government.



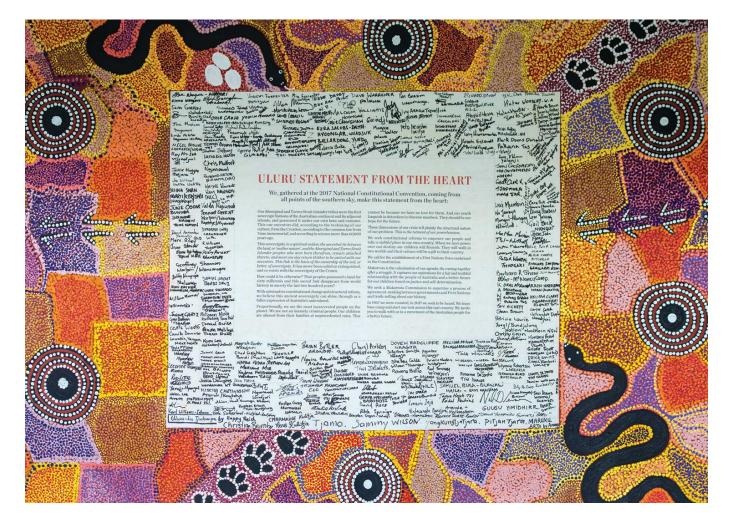
Together with Murrupurtiyanuwu Catholic Primary School (MCPS), the two schools form One Catholic Education Precinct and provide a quality Catholic Tiwi education for students from Preschool to Year 13. Xavier Catholic College works in partnership with the Wurrumiyanga community and with many other training providers and partners to grow the next generation of Tiwi leaders by equipping students with a strong sense of self-efficacy and a suite of tertiary and work-ready sets of skills. Xavier Catholic College has been extremely successful in achieving these aims, having produced 37 NTCET Graduates in the past nine years.



# SCHOOL VISION & VALUES

Xavier Catholic College is an Aboriginal Catholic Community School that provides a holistic education; one that develops the personal, social, spiritual, cultural, physical and intellectual capabilities of its students. It does so by recognising that these capabilities are grounded in community and culture and based on the inherent dignity of the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God.

By offering an education that synthesises Tiwi culture and spirituality, Catholic teachings and values, a robust and relevant curriculum; Xavier Catholic College can grow young Tiwi people who are strong in faith and culture. This allows them to be able to transform their homes, communities and this great nation. As the Uluru Statement from the Heart says, "When we have power over our destiny, our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country".



# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE & REFLECTION

The Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration enshrines Australia's vision for "A world class education system that encourages and supports every student to be the very best they can be, no matter where they live or what kind of learning challenges they may face."

In 2022, Xavier Catholic College Wurrumiyanga made significant progress towards this goal, achieving many of its targeted annual strategic priorities through the Schools Annual Improvement Plan. The Annual Improvement Plan continued to focus the school sharply around its three key drivers:

#### Strong in Faith · Strong in Culture · Strong in Learning

During the 2022 Routine Assessment for Registration, we reflected that our aim to be strong in faith, culture and learning over the course of the 2022 academic year, had actually been largely achieved. The most powerful growth was that staff now shared the beliefs and expectations that Xavier Catholic College students could achieve success in their learning and teachers could teach more confidently and expertly; helping each student achieve significant growth in Literacy and Numeracy as well as a suite of interpersonal social and cultural skills. We recognised and reflected up on the areas in which we need to improve. These include:

- Developing Tiwi staff capacity through the provision of relevant professional learning.
- Embedding an ecological perspective and practices (Laudato Si focus).
- Sustaining our Literacy and Numeracy initiatives and programs.
- Strengthening the Catholic formation of staff through participation in the Broken Bay Institute Program, Cornerstones.
- Embedding the Tiwi Wellbeing model into programming and planning.
- Strengthening the Senior Programs on offer in Stage 1 and 2, and in Vocational Education and Training (VET).
- Approving applications of contemporary upgrades to our school buildings and facilities.

I wish to highlight the commitment and work of local teachers and the Catholic Aboriginal Leadership Team (CALT) team; Bertram Tipungwuti, Casimira Tipiloura, and Angelo Orsto for continuing to ensure classroom learning is culturally appropriate and that students are engaged. Peter Orsto has shadowed the CALT team this year to build the capacity of the team and provide a positive succession plan going forward into 2023. The development of Tiwi staff remains a strategic priority for Xavier Catholic College and indeed, for all remote Catholic Schools. The emerging and strong leadership of younger Tiwi Teachers at Xavier Catholic College such as John Tipiloura, Simone Munkara, Marietta Puautjimi, Ephrianna Tipungwuti, Edmena Kantilla, Mara Munkara, and Raphael Poantimilui gives great hope for the future of Tiwi Leadership at Xavier Catholic College and in the wider Wurrumiyanga community.



All Xavier Catholic College teachers plan their lessons using the ACARA curriculum, but they do this in a way that is Tiwi appropriate and helps maximise student growth. What it looks like in the classroom is that teachers incorporate de-escalation routines into the start of their lessons. They use Visible Learning strategies such as Learning Intentions and Success Criteria, Word Walls, Bump It Up Walls and Anchor Charts. They use explicit teaching strategies, and they are utilising a Tiwi version of the Eight Ways of Aboriginal Knowing. Thanks to the steady guidance of our Curriculum Coordinator, Jodie Meares, Xavier Catholic College staff are now assessing student growth using a range of diagnostic tools for testing that are relevant and useful for young Tiwi. This includes MAI testing, PAT testing and regular 'Reading for Learning' activities. Teachers have been upskilled in using these assessments and as a result, it has been possible to capture and measure student growth in a very substantial manner. We are seeing learning growth across many areas of the curriculum and this is testament to the commitment of our staff to place students at the centre of everything that we do.

Throughout 2022, staff have undertaken professional learning in the Berry Street Education Model (BSEM). As a result, students in every classroom undertake a Ready to Learn session prior to the commencement of class to assist them to be in a head space commensurate with learning.

Clare Kearney has done well in leading Inclusion Support throughout 2022. Clare continued to increase teacher confidence in differentiation and personalisation of learning for students with diverse needs. The number of students at Xavier Catholic College who are part of Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) continues to grow under Clare's leadership and this means more students can access support with their learning needs. Sam De Sousa has served as our Inclusion Support Practitioner throughout 2022 and has done an excellent job utilising our Serenity Space, working with the students on a music project. Students have thoroughly enjoyed their time working with Sam and they have progressed their knowledge and skill level and become confident users of musical instruments and related equipment.

Xavier Catholic College remains a lighthouse school for producing NTCET graduates and this year Stanilisha Puautjimi, Jack Tipungwuti, and Tamsin Tipiloura-Kerinaiua join Xavier Catholic College's list of graduates. All three graduates aspire to attend University, a wonderful goal and one that I am certain will be achieved by these young Tiwi role models.



Community engagement this year included report nights held at the Nguiu Bistro. The school Facebook page had many weekly posts about students and their learning progress and character development. Our biggest issue remains school attendance and engagement, with numbers being dramatically affected by community upsets and tragedies. We work in partnership with a strong network of organisations including the Remote School Attendance Scheme (RSAS) Team (Yellow Shirts), Shane Ponter (Engagement Officer, Top End Remote Schools), the Community Spirit Foundation, the Wurrumiyanga Police and Julanimawu Health Centre to strengthen families' engagement with school and their sense of belonging.

Several staff are leaving Xavier Catholic College this year; Anne-Maree Fewtrell, Clare Kearney, Cynthia Pereira, Kat Knapp, Darcy Direen, Georgia Irvine, Sam De Sousa, Leesa Pye and myself. Each has contributed their own gifts to the building up of this community and we thank them and wish everyone the very best as they go forward into the next chapter of their lives. I would like to thank and acknowledge the Leadership Team; Anne-Maree Fewtrell, Sr Monique Singh, Clare Kearney, Jodie Meares, Josh Leane, Angelo Orsto, Bertram Tipungwuti and Casimira Tipiloura for their unwavering commitment to making our school the best school it can be. I am grateful for the dedication of our new School Office Manager, Alison Dick, who has taken on the role in the later part of the school year. I would like to thank the staff of Xavier Catholic College who have supported our students and each other to make a difference every day in the lives of young Tiwi.

Thank you to my colleagues and line managers at CENT for supporting my work as Principal over the past 12 months. To Greg O-Mullane, Jacqui Langdon, Sr Catherine Mead, Dirk Botha, and my Principal Consultant, Geoff Perry, my sincere thanks. I know that Rhett Bowden, incoming Principal, will take the school onwards and upwards and I wish him all the happiness and fulfillment that I have received whilst in this position.



# CATHOLIC IDENTITY

Throughout the year, Xavier Catholic College has continued to invest in Catholic Identity and Spirituality. Shared liturgical celebrations with MPCS have included a One School Precinct Mass with Bishop Charles Gauci, Ash Wednesday Liturgy, All Souls Day and the One School Precinct Christmas Mass. Connections to the Parish and wider Church continue to be strengthened through invitations extended to assemblies, liturgies and cultural events, and visits from Bishop Gauci, Father Paulo and Father Nerin.

The prominence of Tiwi culture and spirituality is clearly visible in significant events in the school calendar. Events featured throughout 2022 include International Women's Day, where strong women from the community came to share stories with our students and undertake a weaving project. Remembrance Day highlighted the role of Matthias Ullungura, hence the service focused on local history and culture alongside honouring all who gave their lives for others in wars.



A variety of prayer and spirituality experiences continue to enrich the Xavier Catholic College community. Staff, student and wider community gatherings commence in prayer. Students and Tiwi staff are empowered to participate in and guide prayerful moments. Students are gaining confidence to deliver readings and in classroom prayers. This offers intercessions for a wide range of intentions, within the school community and broader societal needs.

Depending on the occasion and culturally appropriate norms, Tiwi staff may deliver the Welcome to Country at gatherings or other staff may offer the Acknowledgement of Country.

Retreat and formation experiences for staff and students have also featured throughout the year. Staff engaged in a combined precinct retreat day facilitated locally by both schools.

Tiwi culture and spirituality are deeply valued in both larger celebrations and in the classroom. The 'Tiwi 5 Ways' pedagogical framework has been developed further throughout the year and implemented with the collaboration

and consultation of the CALT teams across both MCPS and Xavier Catholic College. Using this as a reference point and guide, the integration of culture, faith and learning are grounded in culturally appropriate and accessible norms. Junior Religious Education (Years 7-9) followed the Aboriginal Catholic Community Schools (ACCS) program through the incorporation of the 'Tiwi 5 Ways' and sees the program delivered in a specifically contextualised way. CALT team planning and bilingual team teaching with Tiwi Teachers further connects the program to Tiwi culture and spirituality. The Year 10-12 students continued to engage with the Christian Ministry and Theology (CMT) course, which has been adapted to the local context.

Both staff and students continue to be involved in community service and outreach. Involvement included volunteering at MCPS, running of the community café, as well as connections with the clinic and aged care staff, and regular community recycling.

# PASTORAL CARE & WELLBEING

2022 was a very successful year in terms of improving student outcomes across all areas of the school and there have been many highlights in Pastoral Care and Wellbeing. Xavier Catholic College students were involved again in the making of the Red Dust video and the Annual School Bush Camp at Tarntipi. Both events strengthened school spirit and made students feel proud, both as young Tiwi and as Xavier students. Students enjoyed a range of cultural activities on camp, which was held for the first time on the beach at Tarntipi. Many cultural activities occurred on camp including team building activities and students were able to relax and learn in a beautiful, peaceful environment.

Students attended a significant number of camps in Darwin throughout the year; NTSDE's Stage 1 and 2 Study Camp, the Santos Science Camp, Bidjipidji Camp, two Aspire Camps at Charles Darwin University and the Year 12 IYMP Camp. Through the Community Spirit

Foundation, the Stage 1 and 2 students were able to complete work experience at Voyages Resort at Uluru. This proved to be an exciting and rewarding event for many of the Tiwi students as very few had been to the Red Centre. In addition, four students from each of the grade levels in the school attended camps in Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra for one week. These camps offered significant learning opportunities for our students because they opened connections to community, education, and career pathways; helping our students formulate aspirations and goals for life-long learning.







In Term 2, Xavier Catholic College in partnership with the Remote Schools Attendance Strategy (RSAS) team hosted a Careers Future Expo with over thirty-five exhibitors on the school basketball court. Schools from both Melville and Bathurst Island attended this worthwhile community networking event. The event was so successful that there have been requests to hold another again in 2023. This event demonstrated that successful partnerships can be created by schools and community organisations working together. In Child Safety Week, a family day was organised for both the Xavier Catholic College and MCPS students. This was a combined event and was supported by the RSAS team, providing a meal for all the families and students. Throughout the day a range of fun activities were undertaken that both adults and students were able to participate in together.



Fortnightly, Catholic Care and the Wurrumiyanga Women's Centre completed Pastoral Care sessions with the male and female students. The male students completed activities and lessons learning about the responsible use of alcohol and marijuana, domestic violence and managing mental health issues and looking at what support is available in these areas.

The female students' lessons focused on respectful relationships using the Love Bites program. A result of the program, two Tiwi women are going to be trained in the program. The female students also had two sessions with the Remote Sexual Health Coordinator on consent and responsible sexual relationships.

Several students also enrolled in the Drive Safe Program and obtained their Learner Permits and Provisional Licenses, and completed their First Aid Certificates.

# NTRAI PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

The effective teaching of Aboriginal and Islander students in our school has been promoted by targeted support from Education Officers based at the Catholic Education Office. Teachers, Tiwi Teachers and other school staff have participated in whole school and smaller group professional learning to develop teacher practice in Literacy and Numeracy. This has included Literacy, supporting English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) learners, Numeracy and Mathematics Assessment Interview. Individual support for teachers has been available as required. There has also been support for the inclusion and assessment of students with hearing and learning difficulties, as well as for meaningful and positive learning pathways for students including VET in schools (secondary schools only). This targeted support is part of the CENT Better Outcomes Initiatives and has been made possible through the National Partnership on Northern Territory Remote Aboriginal Investment.

More specifically, the NTRAI Partnership founded the Aboriginal and Island Workforce Coordinator, a Numeracy Teacher and the Program Leader for Culture this year.

## INDIGENOUS ADVANCEMENT STRATEGY - SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM



The school and community greatly benefit from the School Nutrition Program (SNP) that provides breakfast, morning tea and lunch to all students attending school each day. The program contributes to both attendance and community health, with approved attentiveness and less student behaviour issues.

The SNP provides an average of 120 student meals a day, including breakfast, morning tea and lunch.

## LEADERSHIP

Xavier Catholic College would like to acknowledge the work of Anne-Maree Fewtrell throughout her time as Deputy Principal. Her influence on the Pastoral Care and Wellbeing program and framework has been a pivotal point for the school, which created a more holistic education for our young Tiwi students.

John Marks continues to support our Leadership and Middle Leadership teams through coaching meetings online throughout the year. With his guidance, as a team and as individuals, we were able to focus on our successes and challenges to form actions to better support staff in their roles.

A key focus of leadership this year was developing the Aboriginal Workforce and improving their capacity and confidence to teach within the classroom and around the school community. Thank you to the work of Darcy Direen for his dedication to the Indigenous Workforce Coordinator role and his efforts in helping the Tiwi Teachers in reaching their potential at Xavier Catholic College. This is an ongoing and important role that ensures the Tiwi Teachers are those at Xavier Catholic College who are likely to continue their work here for many years and have strong roots in the community.

Xavier Catholic College has provided opportunities for our Tiwi staff to continue their professional development. Marietta Puautjimi and Ephrianna Tipungwuti participated in a Functional Literacy course in Darwin this year. Our Tiwi team undertook first-aid training.

Sr Monique Singh and Clare Kearney were part of The Brown Collective's Leading from Within (Middle Leadership) Program, and each developed a Professional Leadership project as part of this study. The four main stages of the program include self-reflection, peer collaboration, coaching and mentoring and direct application of learning through action research.

This year, we have seen an increase in student leadership both senior and junior students as they are willing to participate and lead assemblies and house activities. We have introduced a 'Random Act of Kindness' award to recognise the efforts of students and provide them a chance to showcase their leadership ability around the school without explicit direction from staff.



# CULTURE

The Culture Program continued to flourish this year with attention being given to collecting and responding to feedback from Tiwi Teachers and students. Students learnt about ways that traditional contemporary Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal understandings for land and land ownership can differ. The students visited the museum and were able to identify the changes that have occurred on the Tiwi Islands and how this has impacted on country. Students are being exposed to Tiwi written language as many of the students are fluent speakers but struggle to read written Tiwi.





Students were able to attend several excursions to Front Beach, Ranku and Tarntipi, to hunt and collect traditional bush tucker and seafood. The Strong Women came weekly and shared different Dreaming stories, songs and dances belonging to the different clan groups of the Tiwi Islands. They also taught the girls how to make baskets, earrings and armlets using traditional pandanus materials.



The female students with Strong Women did a performance at the local childcare centre. The Strong Women also shared a project funded by Northern Territory Health in which they have been involved in using talking posters to provide health messages to the community. The presentation highlighted the effects of alcohol on a baby in the womb and post-natal depression. One of the major benefits working with the Strong Women allowed students who displayed strong cultural knowledge to excel. Many of the Strong Women had experienced the passing of family members and the interaction with the young women each week lifted their spirits.



The Tiwi Rangers did a presentation on the work they are doing in relation to fire management, feral cat controls and how they work with scientists locating endangered animal species. The male students have been involved in a Malani project which is a traditional

Tiwi structure being built in the Xavier Catholic College grounds which will be used for the Yoyi dancing and singing sessions for both male and female students. The project is in conjunction with the Tiwi Island Training and Employment Board workers, many who were past students at Xavier Catholic College.

One of the final events of the year was the launching of the 'Murli La' book which has the songs and stories of the Tiwi Islands. All the female students attended the launch, and many family members were present to celebrate this wonderful history and join in recognising the work of the Strong Women in the community.



# **TEACHING & LEARNING**

2022 saw the consolidation of the Xavier Catholic College Reading Program, a synthetic, systematic reading program with decodable readers set on the Tiwi Islands. Accompanied by the Xavier Reading Assessment, this program has its foundations in the Science of Reading, focusing on upskilling students' abilities in decoding and comprehending texts. Students and teachers have been engaging with our program in an exciting way and our students' reading abilities have increased drastically as a result.



The need for data-informed Teaching and

Learning cycle was also extremely evident in junior maths. The teaching team work on a very collaborative approach to teaching mathematics this year, using MAI data to group students based on their point of need and research driven practices to immerse students in rich mathematical lessons. Again, this data-driven approach has been vital in the continued growth of our students' Numeracy skills throughout the year.

Teachers have been working collaboratively to build a positive culture of confidence, being unafraid to make mistakes, collaborative team teaching and visible learning. We are very proud of the way that our students are now approaching their learning and making significant progress as a result.

Science and Technology have been an important focus for 2022, with Smart Skills becoming more integrated with Science learning, multiple opportunities for hands on science throughout the year, including visits from Menzies Health Lab, Year 9 & 10 Santos Science Camp and inclusion of STEAM challenges in maths class, and Science Activities Week at the end of Term 3. Students are building their capacity in thinking creatively and innovatively, as well as their curiosity about how things work.



Throughout 2022, the Stage I and 2 students at Xavier Catholic College have had a successful year developing their academic skills and engaging with study and university camps in Darwin, as well as community engagement opportunities with local employers and organisations on the Tiwi Islands.

In Term 3, our Stage 1 and 2 students had the opportunity to experience university life in Darwin by attending the Charles Darwin University, Bidjipidji camp. The camp allowed students to discover university paths of interest and included a variety of experiences that



nurtured the leadership, growth and development of students through culturally relevant, fun, and engaging activities.

Our three graduates, Stanilisha, Jack and Tamsin worked extremely hard throughout the year to achieve their NTCET and were strong role models for the Xavier Catholic College community.

All three students maintained high attendance and worked hard during after school study sessions to complete all the required tasks for their Stage 2 subjects. Through ongoing determination, the Stage 1 & 2 students are gaining the skills and knowledge to become future leaders on the Tiwi Islands and beyond.

# VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING (VET) PROGRAM

The VET program has undergone some changes in 2022. Xavier staff have collaborated in planning throughout the year to present a truly integrated, capabilities-based curriculum to VET students. A large element of this integrated curriculum is the planning and undertaking of major projects.

Attendance in the VET Program has been supported through the introduction of a re-engagement program. Students, along with their families and Xavier staff negotiate adjusted days for students who have been away from school for an extended period. This program allows students to experience success as they reintegrate back into school and has improved the attendance and wellbeing of VET students.

Students have also spent time getting job-ready, developing an understanding of their personal skills and qualities and how they would translate to a work environment. Students have been writing and formatting their own resumes, even updating them with new qualifications that they achieved during the year.



# NAPLAN RESULTS

Under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 (Section 60, Division 3 Part 5), schools are required to report information annually including student results in NAPLAN. 2022 was Xavier Catholic College's second year of rolling out NAPLAN as a digital test, following the cancellation of NAPLAN in 2022 due to COVID.



Xavier mean score is higher than mean score of similar schools Xavier mean score is within +/-5 compared to mean score of similar schools Xavier mean score is lower than similar schools

|      | Year 7                    | Reading | Writing | Spelling | Grammar | Numeracy |
|------|---------------------------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
|      | Xavier                    | 363     | 317     | 357      | 352     | 364      |
| 2022 | Similar Schools           | 383     | 333     | 377      | 365     | 367      |
|      | Australia Wide            | 543     | 530     | 547      | 533     | 546      |
|      | Xavier                    | 370     | 329     | 376      | 317     | 363      |
| 2021 | Similar Schools           | 377     | 335     | 389      | 336     | 336      |
|      | Australia Wide            | 542     | 522     | 548      | 533     | 550      |
| 2020 | Cancelled due to pandemic |         |         |          |         |          |
|      | Xavier                    | 423     | 300     | 384      | 361     | 447      |
| 2019 | Similar Schools           | 439     | 341     | 404      | 390     | 448      |
|      | Australia Wide            | 546     | 513     | 546      | 542     | 554      |
|      | Xavier                    | 376     | 284     | 427      | 371     | 429      |
| 2018 | Similar Schools           | 334     | 248     | 378      | 310     | 401      |
|      | Australia Wide            | 542     | 505     | 545      | 544     | 548      |
| 2017 | Xavier                    | 346     | 293     | 345      | 304     | 394      |
|      | Similar Schools           | 331     | 268     | 342      | 311     | 384      |
|      | Australia Wide            | 545     | 513     | 550      | 542     | 554      |

|      | Year 9          | Reading | Writing       | Spelling | Grammar | Numeracy |
|------|-----------------|---------|---------------|----------|---------|----------|
|      | Xavier          | 364     | 331           | 433      | 372     | 472      |
| 2022 | Similar Schools | 399     | 341           | 444      | 386     | 467      |
|      | Australia Wide  | 578     | 560           | 577      | 573     | 584      |
|      | Xavier          | 399     | 391           | 446      | 407     | 466      |
| 2021 | Similar Schools | 419     | 388           | 455      | 411     | 470      |
|      | Australia Wide  | 577     | 551           | 580      | 573     | 588      |
| 2020 |                 | Can     | celled due to | pandemic |         |          |
|      | Xavier          | 474     | 369           | 435      | 416     | 499      |
| 2019 | Similar Schools | 467     | 390           | 465      | 436     | 500      |
|      | Australia Wide  | 581     | 549           | 582      | 574     | 592      |
|      | Xavier          | 398     | 362           | 429      | 370     | 481      |
| 2018 | Similar Schools | 396     | 263           | 424      | 389     | 478      |
|      | Australia Wide  | 584     | 542           | 583      | 581     | 596      |
| 2017 | Xavier          | 420     | 331           | 415      | 396     | 494      |
|      | Similar Schools | 327     | 260           | 388      | 275     | 453      |
|      | Australia Wide  | 581     | 552           | 581      | 574     | 592      |

# DATA INFORMED PRACTICES

Fully aware of both the need to embed data informed practices across the school and the vastly differing needs of our junior students compared to the senior students, 2022 saw the implementation of a data informed program, partnering with Der Selena Fisk and Catholic Education Northern Territory (CENT). Key leadership staff, including the Principal and Curriculum Coordinator at Xavier were upskilled in taking running records and Professional Learning Community sessions on developing a data plan and implementing actions in the data plan across subject areas. Through this collection of data, we have been able to start a Case Management approach to improve academic outcomes for 'at risk' students. While this has been in its trial phases for 2022, we are noticing positive improvements in students who have received these interventions.

# REPORT DISTRIBUTION

In 2022, Xavier Catholic College continued to develop the end of semester report distribution afternoons that were initiated and established in 2019. Semester 1 saw Xavier Teachers set up tables at the local bistro, and the event in Semester 2 was also held at the Nguiu Club Bistro. Both events saw many families come and sit with Xavier staff and discuss the achievements and next steps for students in their learning. Each event has had a warm and welcoming air to them, and each event has seen a steady increase in the number of families coming to discuss their child's learning.

# COMMUNITY & PARENT FEEDBACK

Feedback on the school's performance was sought from the community through many different mechanisms including informal home visits, community meetings, parent/family teacher catch-up meetings and report afternoons. Parent/family surveys were conducted at our two report afternoons and families were very happy to let us know what was going well for them at the school and what needed improvement. The feedback was largely positive and included the following very useful suggestions:

- Help parents to get teenagers to school and to manage phone and internet usage.
- Build stronger partnerships with the local community and significant elders.
- Showcase school activities in the heart of the town centre.
- Offer sexual health and drug education at school.

The regular school newsletter, very active school Facebook site and school YouTube channel all inform and report to parents and the community about successful activities and learning outcomes.



We have received many positive comments about these various social engagement platforms, and we invite parent feedback across all these platforms.

# STAFFING INFORMATION

|               | Staff | Full time equivalent |
|---------------|-------|----------------------|
| Teaching:     | 13    | 12.8                 |
| Non-Teaching: | 19    | 18.8                 |

#### Qualifications

Our Teaching Staff have all completed a Bachelor degree in either Education or Teaching, with a number of staff having gone on to achieve a Masters degree. We have a combination of both primary, middle and senior teachers, with supporting degrees and certificates in their chosen specialities. Xavier EAL/D students have been well supported through their language journey with the specific help from our primary trained literacy teachers, who specialise in teaching core knowledge and understanding of the English language.

All staff, including those in supporting roles throughout the school hold a current Ochre card through the screening process of the Northern Territory Government.

| Year  | Term 1 | Term 2      | Term 3 | Term 4 | Annual<br>Attendance<br>Percentage |
|-------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|------------------------------------|
| 7     | 62%    | 58%         | 53%    | 62%    | 58%                                |
| 8     | 51%    | 43%         | 41%    | 49%    | 46%                                |
| 9     | 48%    | 42%         | 43%    | 59%    | 48%                                |
| 10    | 31%    | 35%         | 45%    | 46%    | 39%                                |
| 11    | 29%    | 25%         | 30%    | 37%    | 30%                                |
| 12    | 34%    | 24%         | 38%    | 30%    | 31%                                |
| Total | 45%    | <b>41</b> % | 44%    | 50%    | 45%                                |

#### STUDENT DATA

# ROUTINE ASSESSMENT FOR REGISTRATION

In 2023, as a requirement of the Northern Territory Department of Education, Xavier Catholic College underwent a Routine Assessment for Registration. George Zapcev, Director Management Consulting Alliance, was the lead assessor and worked closely with the Leadership Team of Xavier Catholic College to oversee compliance requirements for registration. The entire process went smoothly and we remain a registered school.

# FINANCE, FACILITIES & RESOURCES

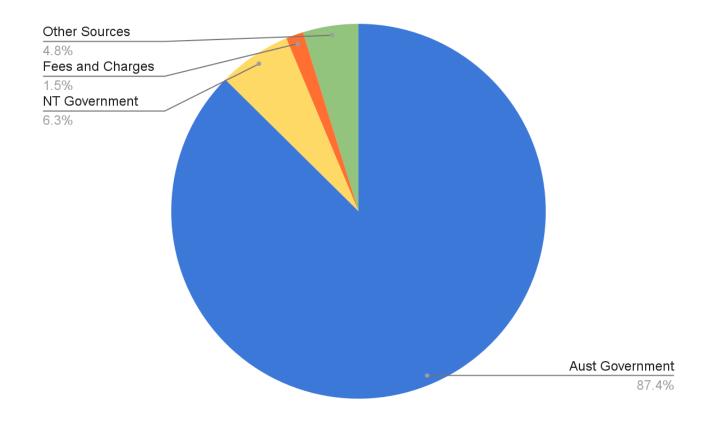
Xavier Catholic College has immaculately presented grounds and shared areas and classrooms that are uncluttered and tidy. There is a consistency in the presentation of the school that was commended by the Routine Assessment panel. This is largely due to the exceptional work by our groundsmen Marc Matuguina, William (Bill) Andrews, Jordan Nelson and our cleaner, Abasi Kyemo Walumona.

Xavier Catholic College is in a strong financial position and in partnership with CENT, developed a Master Plan in 2020. This has helped guide the upgrading of facilities and external areas of the College. Planned capital works for 2022 included:

- Building additional staff accommodation.
- Refurbishing toilet and shower block for Xavier students and schools on immersions.
- Upgrade of the Visual Arts room.

| Source                        | Amount      | Proportion |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Australian Government         | \$4,815,108 | 87.4%      |
| Northern Territory Government | \$348,207   | 6.3%       |
| Fees and Charges              | \$84.847    | 1.5%       |
| Other Sources                 | \$262,058   | 4.8%       |
| Total                         | \$5,510,219 | 100%       |





\* Note: All figures based on school income (excludes system allocations)

# CONCLUSION

Although we have experienced an increase in student attendance in 2022, we know that this is an area of challenge and opportunity going forward into 2023. Xavier Catholic College will continue to explore innovative ways of increasing community engagement in the life of the school. We will also continue to ensure that our Tiwi and non-Tiwi staff are able to flourish and develop to their fullest potential and that classroom pedagogy and practice are highly effective; teachers routinely examine their impact and changing pedagogy and practice to support growth in student outcomes.

## **RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL**

The Principal of Xavier Catholic College Wurrumiyanga recommends to the Director of Catholic Education NT, the 2022 School Annual Report.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Rhett Bowden Principal, Xavier Catholic College

RB-d-

Date: 26 April 2023

#### APPROVAL

Paul Greaves Director, Catholic Education Northern Territory



Date: 5th May 2023



#### Xavier Catholic College Wurrumiyanga

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