**St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School**

St Joseph’s School is a co-educational Catholic Primary school located in Rosebery, an isolated mining town situated in the stunningly beautiful West Coast region of Tasmania. St Joseph’s Catholic School has provided a Catholic education to children from Zeehan, Rosebery and Tullah since it was established by the Sisters of St Joseph in 1958. We are proud that the missionary spirit and charism of Saint Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St. Joseph is perpetuated in the work of the dedicated teachers and support staff of St. Joseph’s School.

The School caters for students from Kindergarten to Year Six. Enrolment in classes K - 6 at the 6 August Census was 78. Of this number, 38 were boys, 40 were girls. 8 are of aboriginal ancestry. Classes are arranged as Kindergarten, Prep/Grade One, Grade Two / Three, Grade Three/Four and Grade Five/Six.

**Catholic Life and Mission**

The education offered at St. Joseph’s is an invitation for each student to develop to his/her full potential. The education program is delivered in a faith context and is therefore an invitation to a relationship with God.

The School’s Catholic identity is expressed in various ways: through class and whole school prayer, liturgical celebrations, religious symbols, the Religious Education Program, community service and the manifestation of Gospel values in the day to day happenings and interactions of the school community.

Each week begins with a Prayer Assembly led by students from the upper grades. The Prayer Assemblies help students and staff begin each week as a community united in prayer.

Father Amal has been appointed as Parish Priest for the West Coast. Fr Amal lives in Queenstown and travels to Rosebery each week to celebrate Mass with us.

Students and their teachers regularly prepare liturgies, masses and prayer services. These are most often led by Fr Amal. It has been wonderful to see parents/careers and friends attend these celebrations.

Always well attended by members of the school community, and indeed, the wider community are the St. Joseph’s School Holy Week Reflection and the Christmas Nativity Presentation. The staff and students play a very special part in bringing the life and message of Jesus to the community.

Of significance importance for our school was the Canonisation for Mary MacKillop during October 2010. It is charism and ethos of St Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph that inform the Vision and Mission of our school. Her motto: ‘never see a need without doing something about it’ led Mary MacKillop to minister in many different ways with those who were poor and pushed to the margins. In reverencing the dignity of each person and sharing with them her vision of a new world, she created new opportunities for those she served, responding to needs in the new Australian colonies: educating the poor, caring for the sick and providing shelter for women and children.

Religious Education is the foundation of our school and is an integral part of our Curriculum. The formal Religious Education Program is drawn from the Curriculum Framework for Religious Education, ’Good News for Living’. Under the guidance of Mr McBain, and the Religious Education Consultant from the Catholic Education Office, Mrs Gwenda Gregson, our teachers implemented the program with a high level of success throughout 2016.

Each year, the Grade Five/Six students participate in the ‘Making Jesus Real Program’ designed to promote Christian leadership and to foster a relationship with Jesus that is real to the students and applicable to their daily lives. The program was originally developed by Mr Peter Mitchell from the Catholic Education Office and is now coordinated by Mr Marty Ogle who has visited St. Joseph's each term.

In 2014 we saw a move of our Parish Mass/Liturgy times to 10.00am each second and fourth Thursday morning throughout the school year. This has continued with Fr Amal attending St Joseph’s each second and fourth Thursday. The fourth Thursday Mass is a whole school mass celebrating times of significant or themes that related our children’s experiences. The second Thursday Mass is a class Masses celebrated by Fr Amal with one grade attending. Students, staff and parishioners take an active role in this liturgy and its preparation. The Thursday morning
Mass/Liturgy at St. Joseph’s Rosebery takes the place of Sunday Mass.

In 2016, Mr McBain, working with parents, prepared a number of our students for the Sacraments of Confirmation, First Eucharist and Reconciliation. Six students celebrated with Archbishop Julian Porteous receiving the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation in November at St Joseph’s Rosebery. Sacramental programs are now coordinated by the Parish and supported by our school. This program is conducted every two years consequently our next program will be conducted in 2018.

Over the last few years our school has undertaken an extensive renovation of our Church. Internal plaster walls were replaced and painted, sections of the outside walls were repaired and also repainted while our Church Cross was replaced thanks to the generous donation by Mr Royce Radford. Heating was also improved while during 2016 Christmas holidays the roof and front wall has been repaired and repainted. These renovations have greatly enhanced the look and atmosphere within our church. We are proud that our Parish Church stands in the middle of our school both physically and spiritually providing an important and significant religious dimension to our school.

2016 saw the finalisation of a ten year, five stage, building program. Stage Five (the last stage) mainly focused on improvements with the school hall, eating area and playground. 2016 mainly saw the establishment of synthetic grass in the playground. This has greatly improved the playground with the ability to use this area throughout the four terms not just term one and four as has been the case in the past.

**Our Learning Community**

St. Joseph’s Catholic School has always been committed to providing the best possible education for its students. The School aims to develop the whole child, spiritually, intellectually, physically, socially, emotionally and morally. In 2016 St. Joseph’s School provided music with Mrs Oriel McGee as our Music and Drama teacher and Indonesian with Mrs Westley as our teacher of Indonesian language and culture. These specialist teachers have provided enrichment and breadth to the core curriculum and have made the education of 'the whole child' more a reality at St. Joseph's. In 2016 Ms Natasha Jones provided a quality Physical Education Program for all from Kinder to Grade 6 students.

Improving Literacy and Numeracy is always a high priority goal at St. Joseph’s School. Building the knowledge, understanding, skill and effectiveness of teachers is the best way to improve the literacy and numeracy outcomes of the students.

Throughout the year we continued our implementation of the new Australian Curriculum. This was conducted at Network Meetings and Professional Learning sessions with Mrs Leean Medwin our Regional Education Consultant.

Teachers attended weekly professional development sessions after school. These sessions focused on the introduction of the Australian Curriculum and Teacher Planning for the delivery of the Curriculum. Planning sessions focused on the methodology titled UBD (Understanding By Design)

Further to our work on Curriculum our Professional Learning also focused on the teaching of Phonological Awareness in the lower grades and reading for understanding in the upper Grades. Led by Mrs McGee we have incorporated a new and exciting Phonics program titled Get Reading Right in our Early Childhood Education classes.

All teachers participated in Professional Learning centered on the use of whole school and interschool Moderation to enhance teaching and also A-E assessment in each subject. Our teachers gained knowledge and confidence in being able to determine the achievement levels of students comparable with those achieved in other schools.

In 2016, St. Joseph's School was assisted by visiting North West Catholic Schools’ Educational Consultant Mrs Leean Medwin. Mrs Medwin has proved a highly valuable resource in helping our school improve literacy outcomes.

2016 also saw the development of the synthetic phonics program titled Get Reading Right. This Australian developed program will greatly enhance the development of reading throughout our school.
**Synthetic phonics** Teaching students explicitly to convert letters into sounds (phonemes) and then blend the sounds to form recognizable words.)

Small group work is an essential strategy in meeting the diverse literacy and numeracy needs in the composite classes at St. Joseph’s School. Two Teacher Assistants – Mrs Emma Cleaver and Mrs Stephanie Whittle worked in the junior primary classes where foundation learning is so important.

Teacher Assistant Mrs Michelle Coleman has been trained to administer speech programs devised by our speech pathologist, Ms Catherine Wood. The funding enabling the services of Catherine Wood (Speech Pathologist) come from both Federal Government grants and school resources.

### Parents as Partners

St. Joseph’s Catholic School seeks to build this partnership. Apart from keeping parents informed about every aspect of their child’s learning and the life of the school, we have worked to improve literacy standards by hosting sessions to teach parents about early childhood language development and how they can enhance this development. Speech Pathologist, Catherine Woods and North West Catholic Education Office Curriculum Consultant, Mrs Judy Pakinga, have both conducted very worthwhile sessions on this theme.

Our Kindergarten experience is based on the Australian Early Years Framework.

In 2016, there was a pleasing representation in parent participation at school functions, school and class masses and in classroom based activities. This reflected one of the 2015/16 goals in the Annual School plan for St. Joseph’s School.

### Assessment and Reporting

Fundamental to improving student outcomes is determining where students are and monitoring their progress carefully. At St. Joseph’s School, a whole school literacy and numeracy assessment timetable is maintained in conjunction with the Catholic Education Office testing program using the ACER PAT tests. The use of both our own assessments plus those of the CEO result in a more coordinated approach to the identification and diagnosis of learning needs enabled appropriate early intervention strategies and programs to be put in place to assist students in their literacy development.

A variety of assessment tools, tests and screeners are used. Assessment in the early grades is now comprehensive and includes:

- Auditory Processing Assessment.
- Phonological Awareness Screen.
- P.I.P.S.
- Kindergarten Developmental Checklist.
- Get Reading Right

Reading Comprehension and Mathematics are tested regularly at all levels. The assessment includes both teacher developed assessment tasks as well as standardised tests. The program for assessment stands in addition to the most reliable and insightful assessment, which is teacher judgment.

St. Joseph's School formally reports to parents twice a year using an A - E rating to report achievement of its students. This form of reporting is in accordance with a mandate of the Australian Government. A Term One Interim Report is also issued but does not report achievement.

Parents are formally invited by the School to attend Parent/Teacher Interviews following the issue of the Term One Interim Report and the Mid-Year and End of Year Achievement Reports.

Kindergarten students are assessed at the end of Term Two and at end of the year using the Kindergarten Checklist Indicators in order to determine progress in the broad domains of their development.

Students in Prep Class began and finished the year with Performance Indicators in Primary School (P.I.P.S.) screening to assess progress in their first formal year of schooling. The 2016 results showed St. Joseph's students to be at national average in both reading and numeracy at the commencement of the year and well above average at the end of year screening. We were delighted at the improvement shown by every child in their Prep year.

National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is conducted within our school. NAPLAN is administered to all Australian
students in Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9 in May each year.

**NAPLAN** - St. Joseph's School 2016:

Percentage of St. Joseph's **Grade Three Students** at or above National Minimum Standard

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Students:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of St Joseph's **Grade Five Students** at or above National Minimum Standard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Students:</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading:</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling:</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation:</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

St Joseph's attempts to make the experiences enjoyed by our children such as visiting artists, excursions and special programs for example Dance Fever and excursions varied and available to all. We strive to ensure that our students receive experiences that are similar to those experiences by students in larger city schools. In 2016 we had the pleasure of watching and joining with Meerkat Productions – Picture Book of the Year presentation. The musical play for 2016 was based on the short-listed book Mr Huff. A major undertaking was 'Dance Fever'. A professional dance instructor visited St Joseph's each Tuesday afternoons throughout term two to lead all students into a number of Dance Routines including Hip-Hop. The children thoroughly enjoy each lesson and at the end put on a fabulous performance for parents demonstrating their wonderful newly found skills in dance.

Just before the start of the Christmas Holiday we put on a Christmas Concert for parents, relations and members of our community. For the size of the school this is a magnificent production. From the story of the Three Wise Men, portraying the well known poem of the Night Before Christmas, a Father Christmas ‘production line’ and the cutest Nativity scene all children showed to those present their developing artistes skills.

All classes went on excursions throughout the West and North West coast to places such as the Makers Ware house, Wings Wild Life Park or Wynyard for the day.

We had a number of visits to our school from artist and specialists who also greatly enhance the learning of our students while presented to them exciting and enjoyable experience.

Our students were able to participate in the Interschool Athletics and the Interschool Cross Country Carnivals held on the North West Coast.

Students also took part in the ANZAC Day ceremonies and All Schools Dance event.

The very successful 2016 annual camp for Grade Five / Six involved a four day camp based Camp Clayton, Turners Beach near Ulverstone. The Camp provided excellent opportunities for outdoor activities based at the camp site. A particular highlight was the Flying Fox and Giant Swing, while a visit to Launceston proved most popular. The Camp program was researched and very well
organised by Mrs McGee, our Grade Five/Six teacher while, Mrs Grundy, Ms Jones and Mr Bailey provided support throughout the time away.

Physical Education has always been an important part of the curriculum at St. Joseph’s School. In 2016, St. Joseph's School conducted an Austswim Learn to Swim Program at the Rosebery Swimming Pool, an annual Athletics Carnival and a Cross Country Running Event. As well St Joseph’s participated in the North West Region Catholic Schools Athletics Carnival and Cross Country Carnival.

During the year the students greatly benefited from their participation in a visiting basketball clinic and joined with Rosebery District School for AUSKICK football training.

As a learning community, St. Joseph’s School seeks to continue the education of staff. Staff Professional Development focused on the introduction of the Australian Curriculum with a focus of the Mathematics. One day per term each classroom teacher attended a Network Meeting to focus on the teaching of Mathematics. Teachers also attended meetings and Professional Learning in a number of areas such as ICT, Religious Education, Aboriginal Studies and Early Years Education.

Student effort and success is acknowledged with ‘Caught You Being Good Certificates’ at the Monday morning Prayer Assembly. Group and class achievements are published in the newsletter. Each class group is given an opportunity to regularly showcase its learning in class newsletters and class assemblies.

St. Joseph's School makes every effort to communicate with, and keep informed, parents as partners through the weekly newsletter, class newletters, special letters home, homework diaries, the Annual School Report, the enrolment package, teacher/parent contact, parent information sessions, report interviews and collaborative plan meetings initiated by school or parents.

Programs designed to meet pastoral care needs of the students included the Making Jesus Real Program, the Buddy Program, Health and Well-Being Units, daily fitness.

Celebrations as a school community build our positive school climate and culture. Significant school community celebrations included, St Joseph’s Day, school and Class Masses, Prayer Assemblies, Book Week celebrations, Catholic Education Week activities and the end of year Thanksgiving Mass and Presentation / Graduation Ceremony.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is a high priority within the community of St. Joseph’s School where the personal and social well being of every individual is promoted. A climate of mutual respect and tolerance based on the teachings of Jesus is explicit at our school and implicit in all undertakings. Caring, responsible behaviour and self discipline are encouraged at all times.

St. Joseph's recognises that relationships are very important. Relationships between older and younger students have been fostered this year through regular sessions with buddy classes. The students looked forward to these regular sessions during which communication and social skills were a focus.

The student leadership structure comprising four leaders from the Grade Five/Six class emphasises a leadership team approach. Younger students know they can approach these leaders and opportunities are provided in which they can get to know them.

Highlights of the Year

2016 saw the introduction of the ‘4 Bees’ program to support our self esteem and behaviour management program. The 4 Bees represent our 4 areas of focus within our school. Be Responsible, Be A Learner, Be Respectful, and Be Safe.

Bushwahzee, a folk band from Victoria visited our school towards the end of Term 1. The thee members of the Band worked with all classes throughout the day teaching songs and dances on the theme of Pirates. Parents and children were invited to a BBQ that night followed by the children excitedly presenting the songs and dances learnt throughout the day.

Mrs Joanne Dooner visited us in term two. Joanne is a very well known presenter on the topic of synthetic phonics. Joanne is also the author of the well known Synthetic Phonic program titled “Get Reading Right.”
Our Sacramental program was a great highlight for the year. Six children received the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation in a lovely ceremony led by Archbishop Julian Porteous.

A visit to our school by their school band was also a great highlight for all children. It was marvellous to see these talented young teenagers perform so beautifully.

Our very successful Fete was a great highlight in term four. Organised by our Parent and Friends the day was full of excitement and enjoyment by all.

School Board and Parents and Friends

The St. Joseph's School Board works in collaboration with the principal in the planning for and bringing to reality improvements in all areas of function at St. Joseph's School. The Parents and Friends very successfully ran school Discos and very popular 'School Lunch' activities throughout the year.

Strategic Planning

The School Improvement Process commenced in 2009 with the administering of a school performance survey seeking feedback from the school community in the following areas of the school's function:

Catholic Culture and Ethos
Leadership
Learning Environment
Curriculum and Pedagogy
Student Learning and Achievement

The Annual School Plan for 2016 directed the strategic operation of the school. The Operational Goals were, on the whole, met successfully.

Professional Development

In 2016, $10,000 was put aside and used for staff professional development mainly in the areas of literacy, numeracy, Religious Education, the Australian Curriculum/ Persuasive Texts and I.C.T.

Building Program:

A major undertaking in 2016 was the finalisation of the removal of the pine bark in the 'equipment' play area and replaced with synthetic grass. This has greatly enhanced the use of this play area. When considering the climate of the West Coast with significant number of wet days the ability for the play area to quickly dry has meant the student use has increased by fifty percent.

The school hall has received new glass windows and doors to bring light from the outside while opening up the hall.

The Kindergarten Play area will in 2017 receive plastic blinds to shelter students from the harsh winter weather.

These improvements are providing significant benefits to our students especially during our recess and lunch times and while using the hall.
Staffing

Serving the St. Joseph's School Community in 2016 were:

Parish Priest of the West Coast: Fr Amal
Principal: Mr Peter McBain
Religious Education Coordinator: Mr Peter McBain
Learning and Teaching Coordinator: Mrs Oriel McGee
ICT Coordinator: Miss Natasha Jones

Teaching Staff 2016
Mrs Jocelyn Seamer Kindergarten
Miss Jenni Hughes Prep / Grade 1
Miss Rochelle Haneveer Grades 1/2
Miss Natasha Jones Grades 3/4
Mrs Oriel McGee Grade 5/6

Teacher’s Undertaking Specialty Roles:
Mrs Oriel McGee Assistant to the Principal: Teaching and Learning:
Music / Dance / Drama Teacher
Mrs Jocelyn Seamer Special Learning Needs
Mrs Kylie Westley Indonesian
Ms Natasha Jones Physical Education

Administration:
Administration Officer Mrs Mary Grundy
Administration Assistant Mrs Theresea Jarvis

Library Assistant: Mrs Tara Jenkins

Cleaning: Mrs Emma Cleaver Mr Mark Bailey

Bus Drivers:
Mr Shane McLean
Mr Mark Bailey

St. Joseph’s School Board 2016:
Chairperson Mr Darren Hay
Secretary Mrs Kelly Keating
Finance Officer Mr Darren Hay

Ex-Officio Board Members 2016:
Principal Mr Peter McBain
Parish Priest Fr Amal

Parents and Friends Executive 2016:
At our Annual General Meeting of our Parents and Friends association a new Executive was elected consisting of:
President Mr Phil Micale
Secretary Mrs Chloe Antonioli
Treasurer Mrs Chloe Antonioli

Staff Qualifications:
St. Joseph’s School has been able to attract well qualified professional staff members.
The qualifications of professional staff in 2016 included:
Bachelor of Education 6
Master of Education 1

Farewells:
At the end of 2016 we said Farewell to Miss Rochelle Haneveer. Miss Haneveer has moved to King Island to continue her teaching career there.

At the end of Term 3 Mrs Seamer moved with her family to the Northern territory to take up a teaching principal position there.

We extend our best wishes to these two teachers.

**Student Enrolment:**

Student numbers fluctuated in 2016, yet still meeting the predicted enrolment of 78 students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gr P - 6</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>68</td>
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Of the school population 4 boys and 6 girls identified as indigenous.

Of the St Joseph's student population, approximately 64% reside in Rosebery, 28% in Zeehan and 8% in Tullah.

**Community Involvement**

St. Joseph's School prides itself on its community involvement. Our students participated in the North West Primary Schools Athletics, Swimming Carnivals and Annual Cross Country Event.

At a more local level, our students participated in Anzac Day Ceremonies in both Rosebery, Christmas Parade in Rosebery and Tree Planting.

The St. Joseph's School outreach program includes caring for communities across the world, through Caritas Project Compassion and locally and the Archbishop's Samaritan Fund.

St. Joseph's is a school held in high regard in the local communities of Rosebery, Zeehan and Tullah and is generously supported by individuals, groups and families within the community who may or may not have past or present links with the school. The generosity and support is made manifest in the many annual prizes and bursaries provided for our students by these people.

St. Joseph's School continues to serve the community with pride. In 2016, our many achievements would not have been possible without the involvement, support, loyalty and solid work given by members of the school community.

**This Report was prepared by:**

Peter McBain
Principal

Signed: _____________________________

Date: ___________________
ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
ROSEBERY
SOURCES OF INCOME 2016
Total Income $1.8 million

- Commonwealth Grants - Recurrent, 66.5%
- State Grants - Recurrent, 17.9%
- School Income, 14.9%

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
ROSEBERY
EXPENDITURE 2016
Total Expenditure $1.6 million

- Salaries & Related Costs, 61.2%
- Education Specific Costs, 4.4%
- Debt Servicing, 10.9%
- Maintenance, 2.3%
- Staff Training, 2.2%
- Library, 0.7%
- Capital - Buildings, 9.0%
- Capital Levies, 0.6%
- Capital Loans & Grants, 0.0%