Faith
As a school in the Catholic tradition, St Peter Chanel Primary School has much to be proud of with regards achievements in 2011. While in many respects this year has been very challenging for our parish with the removal of our parish priest in the middle of the year, our parish school has continued to grow in strength. Inspired by the person, lifestyle and teaching of Jesus the St Peter Chanel school community has continued to proclaim and live the Good News. Our theme for 2011 has been “Together as One”. We know that we are stronger and more effective as our community when we work together. A sense of belonging and a clear sense of purpose in life are essential for all humans and our theme this year is certainly promoted both for all members of our school community.

Religious Education curriculum has been a priority this year specifically in the area of curriculum planning from the syllabus documents and the modules. Curriculum planning days have been provided to the teachers to work with the APRE and CST to refine and develop their planning cycles. This process is also allowed a conference of scope and sequence of concepts and topics to be compiled. In support of the Religious Education curriculum budget provision has been made to purchase additional resources. We had also planned to work the parish priest on developing our understanding of liturgy however the circumstances in which we found ourselves throughout the year forced a change in these actions. Peter Olley from BCEO ran a workshop for teachers on liturgy focusing on prayer, music, gesture and multisensory prayer. Indeed the prayer and liturgical life of our school is going from strength to strength. Whole school celebrations have included school masses, feast days for Saints, our school feast day of celebration of church seasons including Ash Wednesday, Lent, Easter and Advent. Children also participate regularly parish masses. Our commitment to social justice has been strong in 2011 with support of Caritas, Catholic mission, St Vincent DePaul society, the Sisters of Charity and numerous local initiatives for flood and Cyclone appeals and a support of East Timor. Mr Tim Cotter is to be congratulated and affirmed in his religious leadership role in our school.

Our Year 7 Leaders have implemented our Chanel virtues this year; Charity, Hope, Acceptance, Nurture, Excellence and Love. These have been explicitly taught on assemblies and in classrooms and visual display of these virtues is planned in front of our new hall. We have also undertaken the process of naming our buildings after significant people or groups who have contributed to our school in order to promote our history and charism. Along with the promotion of our house names we are endeavouring to promote our story, particularly our faith history. Finally we acknowledge the significant contribution Fr Tuong has made in his short time with us. His very active involvement in our school and the support of our endeavours since his appointment first as caretaker priest and then as parish priest provide us all with much optimism as we look to the future.

Annual Review of Goals and Actions 2011
Learning and Teaching

Once again the children at St Peter Chanel school have made excellent academic progress this year and much of this can be attributed to the wonderfully dedicated, motivated, professional and hard-working staff in our school. A tremendous feature of our school is a positive relationship between families and teachers and this goes away to ensuring that we are successful in our work of teaching and learning. 2011 has been a year of tremendous change in curriculum with the introduction of the Australian curriculum and our efforts in schools for staff to familiarise themselves with these new documents and to begin the implementation phase. This year much of our energy has been focused on the Australian Curriculum Science and English and under the leadership of Mrs Joanne Stower (CST) and Mr Tim Cotter (APRE) our staff have readily approached this task with commitment and professionalism. The implementation of lead teachers in curriculum areas has been a positive one and a number of our teaching staff have undertaken these roles with gusto. Mrs Jan O'Brien has overseen implementation of Science particularly in the area of enquiry-based teaching and learning and the use of Primary Connections as a tool to implement our Science Program. Mrs Joanne Stower has led the way in the implementation and familiarisation with the new English curriculum and Mr Shane Fogarty and Mrs Kathryn Willis have begun the process of designing professional development forced teaching staff in the implementation of the Australian Curriculum Mathematics. All these efforts have been supported by our teachers and our children continue to enjoy a rich curriculum. We have been supported in our curriculum renewal by a number of support staff and consultants from Brisbane Catholic Education and we have made some very valuable links and networks with local Catholic schools. Curriculum renewal will be a constant feature of our efforts and work over the next five years.

Our Vision for Learning which was finalised in 2010 has been a very valuable touchstone against which we must test all our curriculum decisions. This vision for learning encompasses our deeply held beliefs in the purpose of school education and the characteristics of learners and teachers. This simple statement has great depth and its influence is significant on all curriculum decision-making and indeed the way we deliver both our formal and informal curriculum. The Vision for Learning has driven the successful implementation of the Whole School Spelling Program and is now a Whole School Science Program, both of which were designed by our teaching staff for our children.

Students have continued to engage actively with technology this year and it has been purposefully integrated into a range of classroom activities. We expect this integration to be enhanced in 2012. An unexpected resource grant from Brisbane Catholic education earlier this year has allowed us to increase the number of laptops for children and also to install the Cisco wireless network. There has been a further roll-out of iPads and interactive whiteboards this year and a computer lab has been established to be used in 2012. The challenge for schools in the area of technology is the provision of effective professional development for staff and increasing their capacity to embed technology into the curriculum. Mr Tim Cotter has made significant inroads into planning for professional development in the area of technology for staff and this will continue in 2012.

NAPLAN continues to dominate considerable discussion in a community and indeed in the national media. Our results at St Peter Chanel School in this testing regime continue to improve and this year we received a congratulatory letter from the Premier of Queensland on a consistently strong efforts in these tests and indeed on the significant improvement for this year. These results we should be very proud of. The content of these tests is meant to be representative of the National Statements for Learning and are designed to assess the skills of Australian students in literacy and numeracy with the specific purpose being collection of data from a population of a year 3, 5,7 and 9 cohorts of students. While these tests provide a valuable snapshot in a particular form of assessment, our continuous assessment regime delivered by teachers against the learning programs they have been implemented in classrooms remain the most valid form of assessment of student progress. This year we have implemented a new format for written reports which was designed in response to parent and staff feedback with the intent to provide rich information about children's progress. While we have experienced some technical difficulties with formatting, the intent and principle of these written reports is largely positive and effective. Further refinements to this process will continue into 2012.

The reorganisation and provision of learning support structures in our school to improve the learning outcomes for all children has been a focus for 2012 and always the intent is to increase the capacity of and ensure adequate support for classroom teachers to cater for the vast diversity in our classrooms. The identification, assessment and intervention for students requiring additional support in their learning and functioning at school is an ongoing priority at St Peter Chanel and an area in which we must continue to improve and focus our energies. A clear need has been identified in the area of intervention for children who are experiencing some difficulties with learning. A vast majority of the students with learning difficulties do not have an impairment which would lead to verification and additional resources. These children do require additional support nonetheless and provisions have been made in our staffing schedule to employ an additional person in the learning support area and Mrs Helena King will take up a role in 2012. Ms Sandii Foxcroft will continue to support students verified with a disability along with coordination of gifted and talented programs and competitions in the teaching of technology. A whole school assessment regime for point in time benchmarking and data collection has been established however will be refined in 2012 to ensure it is not onerous on teachers. Overall we have identified a need to improve the way we support student learning and specifically the structures which will allow us to do that effectively.

The classroom teacher remains the most influential and important influence on student learning. Our efforts, energies and resources must be directed to improving the capacity of all of our classroom teachers to cater effectively for diversity of students and to ensure access to the curriculum for all.
Partnerships

Much has been achieved this year to enhance our position within the broader community and indeed to build on our sense of community. The value of effective communication can never be underestimated when it comes to developing positive partnerships and enhancing community. This year we have endeavoured to complete our website upgrade and to review and restructure the content layout and distribution of our school newsletters. Added to this has been a refinement of parent teacher meetings and information nights and the refining of our written report. Open, honest and positive communication is an important feature of an effective school and one which we continue to work on.

A number of successful events have helped both maintain and enhance our sense of community St Peter Chanel school. These have included Cafe Chanel, working bees, our school Fair, Bush Dance, Parents and Friends Association gatherings and social events, school and class celebrations and liturgy. We enjoy the support of a very active Parents and Friends Association at St Peter Chanel who have contributed significantly to the building up of community and to the provision of resources in our school. This year the Parents and Friends Association have purchased 30 laptops, have financed the reinstatement of a tennis court and a new adventure playground among other endeavours. Our thanks go to the executive, committee and supporters of this very valuable body in our school.

This year we have seen the formation of our School Board. This group will begin their work in strategic planning in 2012 and will focus on areas including policy, financial management and capital investment. A healthy school is one in which there is genuine consultation with all those involved in the delivery of quality Catholic education and our School Board and Parents and Friends Association provide valuable insights into the administration of our school.

We continue to develop relationships with the wider community including our elected representatives in Local, State and Commonwealth Governments, with local schools and sporting organisations and community groups. Specifically we have continued to develop relationships with local kindergartens and early education centres and we have endeavoured to promote our school as a viable option for those parents seeking education for their children. A priority for 2011 has been the strengthening of our relationship with our parish groups and we played an active part in the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Expo and in the renewal of parish life. Regular meetings are being held with Parish Priest and with staff from Mater Dei, our other parish school.

A review of our efforts to strengthen partnerships in our school cannot ignore the tremendous collegiality among the staff at St Peter Chanel and indeed the commitment to the building up in sustaining of a professional learning community. Our staff are committed to ongoing professional development and learning and constant the improvement and refinement of their roles.

Organisation

2011 has been a year of sound responsible financial management of the school resources and funds and consolidating the successes of significant renewal in 2010. Staffing provision has been maintained while ensuring that funds are available for resource enhancement. Class numbers are now approaching a sustainable level and significant maintenance undertakings have been completed. The completion of the P 21 Building the Education Revolution program was a significant undertaking this year and are now enjoy the benefits of refurbished classrooms and facilities along with a new multipurpose building. These have certainly added to our ability to provide quality Catholic education in our school. We have also undertaken a significant investment in our technology network and have installed a Cisco wireless network along with fibre optic cabling in all buildings. These technology enhancements have been supported by an increase in the number of PCs and interactive whiteboards available to teachers and children. The senior toilets in A block are undergoing refurbishment at the end of the school year and a revised master plan for capital investment and facilities maintenance will be completed in Semester One 2012. An increasing collection rate in the building fund has ensured we are able to borrow additional funds to complete the toilet block refurbishment however further increases in collection rates will be necessary in 2012 in order to cover our loan repayment commitments. These areas will be the focus of the School Board in 2012.

We had intended to conduct a wide review of our behaviour support structures at St Peter Chanel however during 2011 Brisbane Catholic Education informed all schools that they were to review the guidelines early in 2012. Our review therefore will be delayed until these guidelines have been published to ensure alignment.

Overall 2011 has been a very successful year in enhancing resources and establishing effective procedures relating to the organisation, financial management and strategic planning in our school.