

Our Story...

2005

Assisi Catholic College opened with 150 students (Prep – Year 3 and Year 8) and 29 full-time and part-time staff members. From the first day, Assisi was recognised as a college with the following interesting, exciting and unique features. (*more*)

- The first master-planned P – 12 Catholic, co-educational college on the Gold Coast
- The only non-government school on the coast to be selected as a phase-in school for the Preparatory year
- Is administered by Brisbane Catholic Education which is responsible for 136 schools in the Archdiocese of Brisbane
- Has a strong faith and pastoral link to the community of St. Mary's (Oxenford / Coomera)
- Is the only school in Queensland (possibly Australia) to be able to deliver recycled water to facilities blocks and for irrigation of the extensive green areas of the campus This will begin in 2008 when the Gold Coast City Council introduces the Pimpama / Coomera Water Futures Project
- Is characterised by a built environment reflecting a commitment to environmental sustainability with buildings maximising natural lighting and airflows for energy efficiency
- Is the only Australian school to win a 2005 International DesignShare / SCN Award for our Middle Years Technology Centre's (MYTEC) innovative architecture enhancing the delivery of connected curriculum in the Middle Years of schooling
- Won the Master Builders' Association awards for Best Educational Facility under \$10m and Best Educational Facility for the Queensland climate
- Is committed to the integrating ICT as part of the natural flow of teaching and learning with laptops and wireless connectivity providing flexibility of use in all classes from Prep onwards
- Is committed to "Building a Community as well as Building a School". The college is situated in one of the fastest growing population corridors in Australia. Consequently, our community features many young families for whom a sense of community is vital

2006

Our second year was a very exciting year of tremendous consolidation, growth and future planning. Enrolments more than doubled with 350 students (Prep – Year 4 and Years 8 and 9) and 45 staff members. Our achievements were: (*more*)

Highlights of Our Second Year: Community

- Tremendous involvement of parents and friends through the College Board, P & F, Class Contacts, Helping Hands, Families Matter
- Parents organised highly successful events - Assisi Picnic Day, Bush Dance, Working Bee, Franciscan Festival, Easter Raffle, Entertainment Books, Mothers and Fathers Day stalls, College Business Directory, Westfield Shop for your School, Community Cash for Caps

- Networked with St Mary's Parish and associated community groups especially St. Mary's Child Care Centre
- Held information sessions for Early Years' parents on Reading and Numeracy
- Held information nights for prospective parents
- Held Open Day as a celebration of college activities
- College exhibited at Independent Schools Expo
- Held inaugural Assisi Career Awareness Day to celebrate Literacy, Numeracy Week
- Established links with SCISCO Career Pathways organization
- Strengthened link with Coomera Chamber of Commerce
- Worked with local schools in sport and community projects to be awarded a Smart and Healthy Schools Grant
- Engaged in significant policy development processes to establish a number of Draft policies (Early, Junior, Middle and Senior Curriculum Frameworks, Excursions and Activities, Workplace Health and Safety, Information, Communications and Learning Technologies, Staff Dress Code, Responsible Behaviour)
- Finalised Senior Years Uniform
- Liaised with Centacare to ensure OSH Care provides quality before and after school care for Assisi families
- Improved the function of the student support services team (College Counsellor, Learning Support teachers, Campus Minister and Pastoral Care Co-ordinators)
- Expanded the services provided by the College Tuckshop and Uniform Shop
- Three staff members acknowledged locally and nationally for teaching excellence
- College acknowledged for high standards of Workplace Health and Safety processes and Child Protection strategies
- Consulted widely for Stage 2 and Stage 3 of the College Master Plan
- Finalised the 2007 / 2008 Fee Structure
- Celebrated the positive contribution of all members of our community with a number of Thank you functions

Highlights of Our Second Year: Culture

- Celebrated our Inaugural Assisi Day
- Celebrated St Francis' feast day by our Blessing of the Animals ritual
- Bishop Joseph Oudeman (College Patron) led Opening/End of Year Mass
- Fr Gerry Hefferan (College Chaplain) led our Inaugural Family Team Masses
- Supported parish annual Peace Mass on Hiroshima Day
- Held Spirituality Days for Year 8/9 students
- Organised Inaugural Franciscan Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome in September 2007
- Established connections with Franciscan Federation of Schools
- Held inaugural Family Teams Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals
- Student Representative Council donated perpetual Family Team Trophies for Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics and Assisi Day Challenge
- Established Franciscan names for new buildings (Gubbio, Orvieto)
- Family team banners crafted by a community member
- Strengthened the role of family teams in college activities
- Developed interim student leadership structure
- All Year 9 students participated in Year 9 Leadership Camp
- Successfully competed in the Coomera Region Environmental Involvement competition
- Established St Vincent de Paul, Amnesty and Care For Animals (C4A) Clubs
- Raised funds for Project Compassion, Missions, Cancer Research and Jeans for Genes Day
- Established sister schools agreement with Hakata Girls High School, Fukuoka (Japan)
- Students commended for "welcoming" practices

- Tuckshop menu provided variety of healthy food
- Physical Education focused on student fitness and enjoyment of sport
- Students competed in a variety of competitions (Gold Coast Speech Language, Legacy and AB Paterson Public Speaking, Girls Solving it for Themselves)

Highlights of Our Second Year: Curriculum

Whole College:

- Further developed the P – 12 Career Education Program
- Expanded the use of ICT in classroom teaching and learning
- Integrated Program Achieve into curriculum plans
- Introduced Program Achieve awards to recognise student achievement
- Held Celebrations of Learning (Day of Distinguished, Carnivale, Space Plays, Alphabet Party, Space Ball) and Night of Excellence
- Increased the range of co-curricula for students (Karate, Dance, Music, Creative Arts, Chess)
- Encouraged reading through Library organised *Kingdom of Reading* Book Fair and *Book Now* Book Week
- Provided excursions to enhance learning (Movie World, Ngutani-Lui, Innovation House)
- Provided opportunities for future planning and staff professional development
- Established Homework Centre for student access

Early Years (Pre Year 1 – Year 3)

- Developed standards and reporting framework
- Consolidated student portfolios and process for reporting
- Implemented digital reports for Pre Year 1
- Identified the pedagogical needs and links between Prep and Year 1
- Provided professional training and development for future Prep staff
- Year 3 Literacy and Numeracy test
- Swimming programme provided (Terms 1 and 4)

Junior Years (Years 4 – 6)

- Implemented continuity in curriculum frameworks
- Focused on quality literacy and numeracy blocks
- Increased resource base for teaching and learning
- Swimming programme provided (Terms 1,4)
- Competed in Interschool Ball games and Athletics

Middle Years (Years 7 – 9)

- Implemented Multiple Intelligences methodology to strengthen learning and teaching
- Reviewed Year 8 connected units
- Developed Year 9 connected units
- Implemented new reports meeting national and state expectations
- Utilised developments in the Queensland Curriculum and Reporting Framework to inform assessment and reporting processes
- Held Parent Information and Interview evenings each term
- Students undertook career planning units to assist in future course and career selection
- Project Days provided for in depth units of study
- Lockers introduced to assist students organisational skills
- Futsal strengthened as a signature sport
- Interschool competition sports competition provided in Terms 2 and 3, Recreational Sport in Term 4

Senior Years (Years 10 – 12)

- Developed Year 10 Transition program offering Academic and Vocational pathways for Year 10 in 2007
- Assisi accredited as an RTO (Registered Training Organisation) to deliver Certificate 1 courses

2007

Our third year was another exciting year where we clearly established our identity and reputation as a contemporary, innovative, Catholic College. 50 staff members provided quality education and care for 465 students (Prep – Years 5 and Years 8 – 10). Our achievements were: *(more)*

Faith and Mission

This priority focuses on the religious and evangelising mission of the College.

Achievements in 2007

- Devised a Sacramental support program as a component of Faith Education
- Made explicit the links between the Assisi story and our structures and practices
- Strengthened and enhanced the Campus Ministry team
- Encouraged the formation of students, staff and parents in our Franciscan ethos
- Implemented the Spiritual Formation Framework
- Prepared our students for the celebration of World Youth Day 2008
- Strengthened the celebration of family team masses
- Celebrated a highly successful inaugural Franciscan pilgrimage to Assisi/Rome in September 2007
- Introduced the “Franciscan Five” to encourage contemplation
- Provided resources to enhance the religious life of the college
- Implemented our Christian Service and Christian Ministry programs
- Raised funds for Project Compassion, SVDP Winter and Christmas Appeals
- Assisted with organisation and participated in Inaugural Conference of Franciscan Schools of Australia
- Voluntary staff retreat attended by most staff
- Middle and Senior Years students participated in Student Spirituality Days
- Celebrations included Assisi Day, Blessing of the Animals for St. Francis’ Feast Day, Franciscan Festival, College Masses, Family Team Masses and meaningful liturgies
- Revised College Mission Statement

Teaching and Learning

This priority focuses on student learning outcomes and information, communication and learning technologies.

Achievements in 2007

- Strengthened Middle school practices
- Developed Senior years approaches to teaching and learning
- Introduced Dimensions of Learning as a whole school curriculum framework
- Strengthened the use of Multiple Intelligence methodology to accommodate different student learning styles
- Further developed P – 12 Career Education program

- Utilised QCAR frameworks to inform assessment and reporting processes
- Expanded our scope of registration for VET courses
- Explored Senior virtual schooling opportunities for Years 11 and 12
- Established an innovative P – 1 approach to learning
- Expanded the use of the ICLTs
- Introduced interactive whiteboards for the delivery of effective learning practices
- Development and guidance of pre-service teachers
- Provided opportunities for exhibition and sharing of learnings at community events eg Tropicarnival
- Interschool sporting events eg Year 5 Sport, Athletics Carnival
- College Vocational Education and Training (VET) staff commended for highly successful External Audit of AQTF Certificate courses offered by the College as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO)
- Early/Junior Years teachers involved in collegial, collaborative, co-operative curriculum planning
- Knowledge and expertise of College staff shared with wider community: BCE workshops and curriculum conferences
- MP1 (Monitoring Prep/Year 1) tool introduced
- Reports across all precincts aligned to 5 point scale as required by national legislation
- Students achieved well in national competitions for Mathematics and Science

Pastoral Care

This priority focuses on student support, staff support, partnerships and relationships.

- **Achievements in 2007**
- Strengthened family teams through a variety of activities
- Began training of Year 5 students who will become Peer Mediators in 2008
- Established annual goal setting all staff
- In partnership with parents/carers strengthened strategies that address student protection and developed responsible student behaviour standards
- Continued to support parent groups in building community at Assisi
- Provided increasing opportunities for student leadership in clubs, committees, sport and community service activities
- Initiated and hosted Religious Education Professional Development for Gold Coast region
- Extended opportunities for student participation in school social activities: Easter Hat Parade, Book Week, whole school Social, Year 10 Social
- Expanded the Assisi Music Program and other co-curricular programs: Art and Craft, Karate, Chess, Dance
- Provided opportunities for students to participate in Gold Coast Eisteddfod verse speaking and interschool debating and public speaking
- Formalised the Middle and Senior Years student leadership structure with the election of College Captains and student leaders of each Family Team (Francis, Clare, Agnes and Rufino) and committee leaders (Environment, Sport, cultural and Social)
- Established the Senior SRC with elected Middle and Senior Years student representatives from each family team
- Senior student leaders participated in a College and national workshop to develop leadership awareness and skills
- Developed a Draft Personal and Social Development P – 12 Framework
- Provided Parent workshops to develop skills in assisting their children with reading and mathematics

- Provided new staff with various orientation and induction workshops
- Strengthened our sporting reputation by achieving great success in interschool competitions for Futsal, Touch Football, Rugby and Netball
- Extended involvement by Junior students in Catholic interschool sport competitions
- Successfully held Family Team Carnivals for swimming, cross country and athletics
- Worked closely with a very supportive P & F Association and College Board
- Met regularly with Tuckshop Committee to ensure healthy focus and excellent service provided by Tuckshop
- E reporting system established to enable students to report confidentially any cases of bullying or harassment from peers

Organisation, Administration and Renewal

This priority focuses on resourcing Assisi Catholic College and accountability through renewal and quality assurance processes.

Achievements in 2007

- Consulted widely on a range of matters regarding policy and school renewal issues
- Completed Stage 2 and continued to work towards the completion of Stage 3
- Continued to engage in significant policy development processes
- Refined College website and intranet
- Strengthened the College as a safe, productive and healthy environment
- Clearly established our identity and reputation on the Gold Coast as a contemporary, quality, Catholic College
- Completed construction of Multipurpose Courts with funding from the P & F Association
- Completed construction of Stage 2 Outside School Hours Care facility for future use
- Middle and Senior Years teachers commended for achievements in c-operative learning and Middle Schooling pedagogy by researchers from University of Queensland and Central Queensland
- Positive response to the introduction of the Senior uniform with commendations to the Uniform Shop Convenor for the quality service provided to the community
- Risk Management Strategy developed
- A variety of College policies were developed by the Board and distributed for feedback from staff and parents
- Staff engaged in a wide variety of professional development activities: ICLT, Health and Fitness, Dimensions of Learning, Workplace Health and Safety, First Aid
- Finance sub committee of College Board met regularly to monitor all aspects of College finances
- Reviewed role of Business Manager at the College with commendations to our current Business Manager of her significant contribution to the development of the College

2008

Our fourth year was a year of tremendous growth and achievements for the Assisi Catholic College community. There were 75 staff members and 685 students (Prep – Year 6 and Years 8 – 11). *(more)*

Our achievements were:

- Supported members of our community involved in the sacramental program and RCIA
- Students and staff members enthusiastically participated in all aspects of World Youth Day 2008
- Introduced class masses

- Welcomed and farewelled Fr. Patrick Lim to our community
- Welcomed Father Adrian Sharp (Parish Priest of St. Mary's) to our community
- Strengthened community support for Assisi Day, Blessing of the Animals, St. Francis Feast Day, Franciscan Festival, College Masses and various liturgies for Easter, Mothers and Fathers Days, Anzac Day, etc.
- Organised successful spirituality days for students in Junior / Middle / Senior Years
- Strengthened our Christian Service and Ministry programs
- Extended the community's understanding of the significance of names for new facilities: Bonaventure, Chiara and Perugia
- Most members of the College community know the College Prayer
- Shared stories of the 2007 Franciscan Pilgrimage to Rome / Assisi and began the journey for those participating in the 2009 Franciscan Pilgrimage
- Strengthened our goal of creating a "giving community" through Project Compassion, SVDP Winter and Christmas Appeals
- Strengthened and raised the profile of our Campus Minister
- Celebrated the success of our "Franciscan Five" as a significant aspect of the religious life of our community
- Members of the College community displayed great compassion in supporting those challenged by tragic deaths, health and personal challenges
- Engaged students, staff and wider community in environmental projects especially water wise educational units
- Strengthened Middle school practices adding Year 7 units to the Middle Years Framework
- Accepted our first Japanese exchange student in Term 2 and sent a our first Year 10 student on an exchange program with our sister school in Fukuoka, Japan
- Continued to support staff in using Multiple Intelligence methodology to accommodate different student learning styles
- Developed a Year 7 curriculum framework to complete the Middle Years Curriculum Framework
- Further developed Senior Years approaches to teaching and learning
- Introduced Italian Cultural literacy to all students in Prep – Year 6
- Explored learning opportunities for Junior Years' students using newly completed JYTEC (Junior Years Technology Centre)
- Further developed the role of Curriculum Support Teacher (CST) for Early Years and Junior Years
- Completed Year 3, 5 and 9 National Tests (NAPLAN)
- Continued to implement the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework (QCAR) standards as our Reporting standards
- Participated in the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) monitoring process for Year 11
- Began development of a whole school approach to literacy and numeracy Prep – Year 12 through Literacy Committee
- Developed a whole school approach to incorporate a Franciscan pedagogy across all subjects and precincts
- Strengthened Dimensions of Learning (DOL) as a whole school curriculum framework
- Finalised the Student Guide to Learning Handbook
- Finalised the writing and accreditation of Senior work programs for QSA Authority, Authority Registered and VET subjects
- Developed Chiara as a hub of learning and information services for students and staff
- Provided staff with professional development to facilitate use of new IMACs and IBooks leased by the College
- Year 10 students achieved extremely well in the Australian finals of Science / Engineering competition

- Co-ordinated “Even Start” program to assist small number of students identified with Literacy / Numeracy needs
- Implemented Peer Mediation with Year 6 students
- Introduced a Junior Years student leadership structure through the Junior Student Representative Council
- Further strengthened the role of Support Services Team
- Further developed the student leadership structure and opportunities for student leadership in a variety of College activities
- Implemented Draft Personal and Social Development Framework after consulting widely with staff, students and parents
- Further developed the College’s Responsible Student Behaviour Framework in line with the Responsible Thinking Program, Restorative Justice principles and Franciscan values
- Further expanded co-curricular opportunities for Early and Junior Years students to include Speech and Drama and public speaking
- Increased opportunities for musical performances by students: bands and ensembles
- College Musical “Annie” rehearsals commenced for 2009 performance
- Organised leadership and life skills camps for Year 6, Year 9 and Year 11 students
- Increased the number of students socials: whole school discos, Year 11 Fancy Dress Boat Cruise
- Continued to provide orientation, induction and support sessions for new staff members
- Continued to encourage parent involvement through Class Contacts, Helping Hands and the Tuckshop committees
- Strengthened Family Teams through a variety of activities
- Offered Student Protection workshops for parent volunteers
- Hosted Religious Education Professional Development workshops for Gold Coast
- Provided parent workshops to assist parents’ skills’ development
- Strengthened our sporting reputation by success in Futsal, Netball, Touch Football and Aussie Rules
- Successfully held Family Teams Carnivals for swimming, cross country and athletics
- Worked closely with a very supportive P & F Association and College Board
- Successfully applied for \$1.5m grant to establish a Hospitality Trade Training Centre at Assisi (only 34 successful applications Australia wide)
- Consulted widely for Stage 4 Master Plan
- Closely consulted for design of Hospitality Trade Training Centre
- Refined College website and intranet
- Continued to develop Draft Staff Handbook
- Increased the number / variety of environmental projects
- Survived the completion of Stage 3 of our Master Plan (despite extraordinary obstacles) given the anticipated delays in practical completion dates
- Continued to work with Brisbane Catholic Education and Gold Coast City Council to resolve the erosion issue and silt problem in Lake Trasimeno
- Resourced the new facilities to provide the best possible innovative learning opportunities for staff and students
- Continued to purchase ICLT resources to enhance learning and teaching in the new year levels (Year 6 and Year 11)
- Developed exam and assessment policies and practices in the Senior Years consistent with QSA requirements
- Continued to develop College policies and codes of practice consistent with our Franciscan values and goals of high quality schooling
- Strengthened the role of staff holding Positions of Added Responsibility in supporting the College Senior Leadership Team

- With Brisbane Catholic Education, continued to support the development of the role of Head of Campus as an integral role in the College Senior Leadership Team
- Encouraged parents to take their concerns to the most appropriate staff member to most effectively assist them in resolving the matter
- Strengthened the College's record as a safe, productive and healthy environment
- Managed the increasing enrolment demand by interviewing 500 prospective students
- Finance subcommittee of the College Board continued to monitor all aspects of College finances
- College fees for 2009 – 2010 ratified by College Board