All Saints Catholic Primary School Board
Chairperson’s Report 2014

The 2014 School Board

Helen Ward       Principal
Helen Thompson   Deputy Principal
Nick McDermott   Teacher Representative
Stewart Lawrie   Parish Representative
Rainer Bartl     Finance Officer
Catherine Kennedy Chairperson/Parent Representative
Andree Brown     Secretary/Parent Representative
Garry Herdegen   Treasurer/Parent Representative
Chris Hanna      Parent Representative
Sherrie Close    Parent Representative
Tanya Galbraith  Parent Representative
Deb Wilton       P and F Representative

What a year! 2014 was a busy year for the All Saints Board and I thank all who have given their time freely to participate in this essential leadership role.

The 2014 Board was described as ‘dynamic’, a descriptor I fully agree with and I hope that all the members can reflect on the year with satisfaction. We have all played a vital role in the continued faith centred community that is All Saints. Thank you to our retiring elected members: Andree Brown, Sherrie Close and Tanya Galbraith. Your commitment to All Saints and its development is very much appreciated.

At the end of last year, we farewelled our Principal of many years, Mrs Helen Ward. Helen was pivotal to many changes at All Saints, not least amongst them our submersion into the Reggio Emilia philosophy. All Saints is highly regarded for its work using this approach to learning and the Board is very proud to be supporting staff in 2015 to travel to Reggio Emilia in Northern Italy to further deepen their understanding.

Helen’s passion for learning, development, the environment and a deeper faith meant All Saints was highly regarded within the Catholic primary schools sector. Because of this the Principal’s position was a highly sought after one. On a personal note it was a great privilege to represent the Board and the All Saints wider community on the recruitment panel for our new Principal and I welcome Justin Cavuoto to our school and wish him every success.

Dr Rachele Tuillio formally resigned from her position as Assistant Principal, Religious Identity and Mission (APRIM) after a number of months on extended personal leave. Mrs Kate Turner was successful in her application for the position and the Board was very pleased to welcome her to the leadership team in September.

It was with great excitement that late in 2014, we learnt of our success in gaining funding for our building redevelopment and environment enhancement. This was very timely as our enrolments continue to increase and we are fast running out of learning spaces! The funding received was only a small proportion of what was requested so the planning phase will bring many challenges to using the funding wisely while maintaining the integrity of our Reggio Emilia approach.
In closing I reflect on the three aspects of a GREAT organisation – operations, people and leadership.

- **OPERATIONS**: The systems, policies and procedures that are measured by our strategic direction, the registration process and financial transparency. Although at times dull, these are the checks and balances that keep us ticking along.

- **PEOPLE**: Children, their families and the wider community are the glue that keeps us together. Children are our lifeblood, our purpose and we are accountable to them.

- **LEADERSHIP**: Educators, the leadership team and the Board - we all have an important role in navigating the ship. Your continued advocacy for, and support of our shared goals of education in faith will leave a lasting impression.

And so finally to 2015 – may we continue to be passionate about the Catholic education sector and make our passion evident in everything we do. We all play a part: children, parents, carers, educators and leaders working together to provide exceptional care, nurturing and education that is highly regarded within our community.

**Catherine Kennedy**  
**CHAIRPERSON**