



# Divine Mercy Annual Report

2018

Zanne Spadoni



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## 2018

### From the Principal

It is my pleasure to present the Divine Mercy College Annual Report for 2018. This document provides an overview of DMC's performance for the past 12 months. It forms part of our review and accountability processes, containing information about student academic achievement, performance in external exams, a range of school programs and learning areas, student services, finances and staffing. A brief overview of the school community survey is also included which demonstrates staff, student and parent satisfaction levels.

As you will read, the past year has been another highly successful one for our school. Academically, the year 12 students have produced excellent results with a median ATAR of 82.45, which is above the state average, 89% of students achieving their WACE certificate and 100% of year 12 students who were enrolled into a VET course, completing that Certificate, not to mention NAPLAN results that reflect Divine Mercy College being above average or substantially above average in ALL categories (compared with all Australian Schools).

Divine Mercy College is committed to providing an excellent education to all students and is committed to assisting those with EALD backgrounds or with Learning Support difficulties. Our Learning Support Centre is fast gaining a reputation for their achievements in supporting those with diverse learning needs.

Divine Mercy had a strong focus on strategic direction in 2018 with many strategies focusing on Student Learning and Engagement improvements, with the hard work in meeting these goals showing in our student results. A large proportion of enrolments at Divine Mercy are from students with a non-English speaking background and this will certainly be an area of improvement for 2019 along with a strong focus on student wellbeing.

All staff are working hard to implement goals as outlined in the 2018 – 2021 Business Plan for the school. The clear Strategic Direction outlines timelines for improvement which will only lead to greater improvement in all areas of the school, Catholic Faith, Student Learning, Productivity, Engagement and Wellbeing.

Teachers are also growing extra-curricular opportunities for our students with sustainability has been a welcomed edition into our Integrated Science program with whole school initiatives commencing in 2019. Community engagement has also grown with many of our Sport and Recreation Certificate I & II students assisting in local events, particularly sporting events at local primary schools.

Religious education has again been a focal point for 2018, this fits our strategic vision to empower students to achieve their potential, as our gift to God. At DMC we encourage

students to attain the beliefs, values, attitudes, knowledge, skills and practices which will enable them to achieve their full potential as human persons.

During 2018 Divine Mercy College added additional VET courses in year 11 & 12 to the existing Certificate 1 & 2 in Sports and Recreation and Certificate 1 & 2 Information Communications Technology. The new Certificates – Business 1 & 2 were extremely popular and successful. This expansion of the VET program is very beneficial for students and has given them more flexibility in their subject selection.

The School's NAPLAN results were again very pleasing as teachers' high level of teaching was confirmed by the results, with all areas being above the national average, with many areas being substantially higher than the national average. DMC consistently outperforms schools in close proximity in most year groups.

Divine Mercy College has very minimal staff turnover from year to year, with only 1 teacher leaving at the end of 2018. Throughout the year we have seen numerous teachers reach 10 years of service with our year 1 teacher, taking long service leave during term 4.

Looking forward, Divine Mercy College will focus on continual change and growth being led by the School Leadership Team to implement the School Business Plan 2018 – 2021. An area of focus for 2019 will be continued improvement in both data analysis and teacher development.

On a personal note, I wish to thank all staff, students, parents and the whole school community for praying and supporting me through my illness. I feel honoured and blessed to be a part of such a wonderful school community that is supporting and guiding our young students to reach their own potential in life..

## **1. Mission Statement**

Divine Mercy College strives to provide a well - balanced curriculum focusing on academic, spiritual, physical and moral values. We are passionate about following our call from God to provide affordable Catholic Education for our community and to build a stronger dynamic Australia through raising academic excellence and opportunity.

Priority is given to systematic and structured education following West Australian Curriculum. We believe every child is a valued member of the school's community and deserves the very best in all areas of human development.

Divine Mercy College is proud to follow and promote our Catholic values and traditions. Christ is the beginning and the end in all of our endeavours. The prime focus of the school is to give all students the best possible opportunities in their further education and to provide a solid moral/spiritual base before they enter the wider community as young adults.

## **2. School Background**

Divine Mercy is one of only two West Australian Roman Catholic Independent schools. Our school is centrally located near the dynamic Cockburn Central, 5 minutes from freeway exits and Gateways Shopping Centre. Well established bus routes and a shopping complex are within walking distance of the school and are utilised by many of our students. Our school is surrounded by beautiful native Australian bush and the Beeliar Lake and we are situated beside The Montessori Day Care Centre and Mater Christi Catholic Parish. Divine Mercy moved to Yangebup in April 2004 with a small number of students. Our school has undergone rapid growth and at present (December 2018) there are 416 students. Completion of our Early Childhood Learning Centre, including Kindy and Pre Primary was ahead of schedule which allowed for the centre to be operational for the 2017 school year.

### 3. Workforce

DMC currently has employed 1 Principal, 31 teachers, 4 Education Assistant, 3 administration staff, 1 librarian, 1 bursar, 1 laboratory assistant, 1 computer technician (who is also a VET teacher), 1 uniform coordinator, 1 Learning Support Coordinator, 1 VET Coordinator / Registration Officer, 2 VET teachers, 1 groundsman, 2 Canteen Staff. There is also a small group of teachers who have taken on additional Coordinator roles in addition to teaching, this group along with the VET Coordinator / Registration Officer, Learning Support Coordinator as well as Mr and Mrs Zydek form the schools Leadership Team. with a small number of teachers also taking on leadership roles (in addition to teaching). All employees are well qualified and competent with appropriate degrees: teachers are highly qualified and registered with TRB and teach only within their area of expertise. Many of our teachers offer a wealth of professional experience from Australia and other countries. At the end of 2018 two staff members left DMC, one is taking maternity leave and the other resigned. One EA is also going on Maternity Leave within the first few weeks of Term 1, 2019. There is scope for an additional teacher in 2019 for support EALD.

### 4. Workforce composition:

For 2018 of the 36 academic staff and 12 non-teaching staff, there were 7 males and 41 females. There were no Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander employees, however the teachers at DMC do come from a wide diversity of countries. Collectively the qualifications held by staffs were:

Bachelor in Education.	29
Graduate Diploma in Education	2
Diploma in Special Needs Education.	2
Bachelor of Physical Education.	3
Graduate Certificate of Early Childhood Education.	3
Master of Education.	6
Doctorate.	4

### 5. Student Attendance:

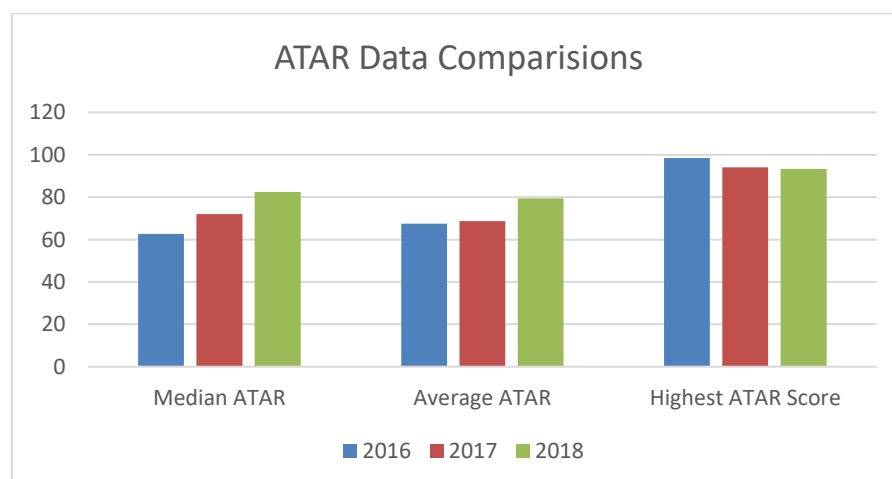
Our students attended school on average 93.83 of the time last year, which was a decrease of 2% from 2017.

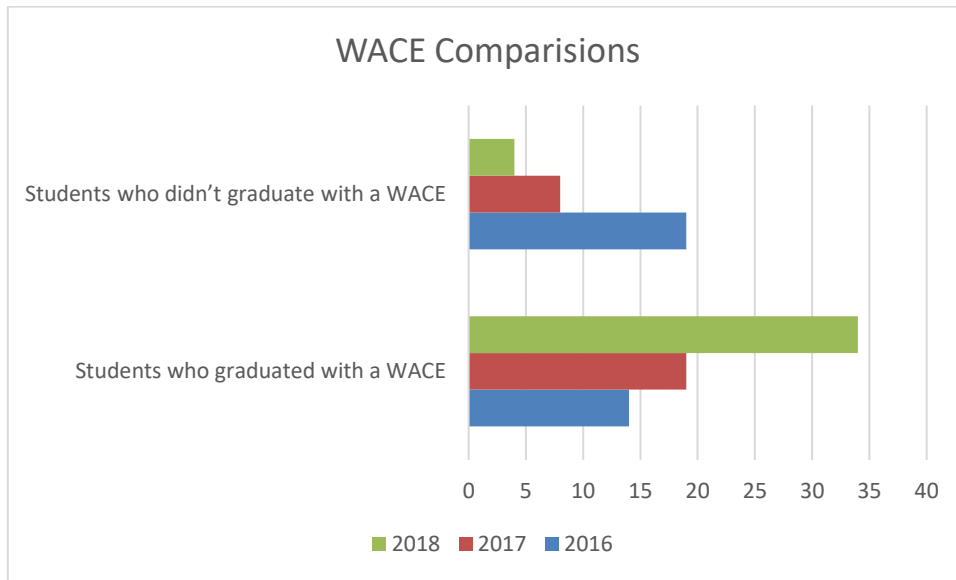
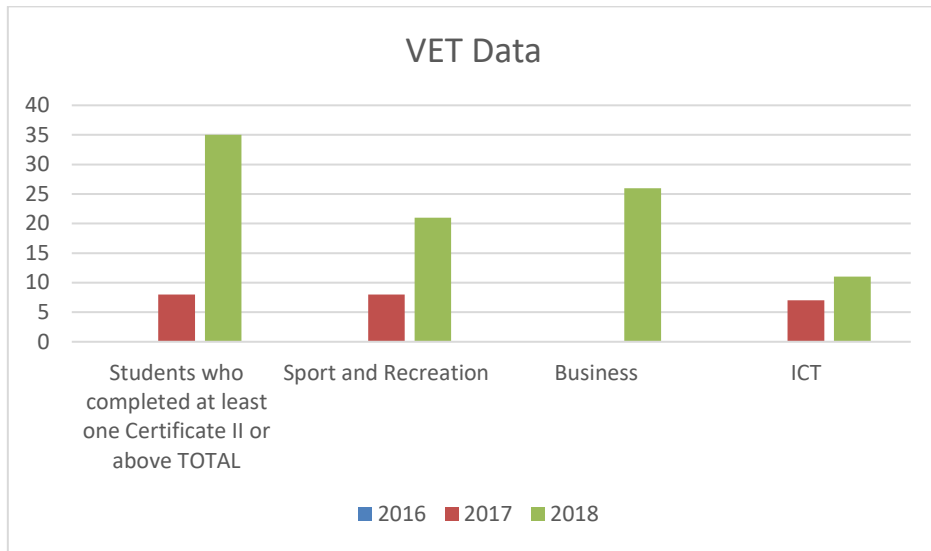
The attendance rate percentages for each year level were:

<b>Year 1:</b>	93.59%	<b>Year 6:</b>	91.57%
<b>Year 2:</b>	93.98%	<b>Year 7:</b>	96.96%
<b>Year 3:</b>	94.31%	<b>Year 8:</b>	94.51%
<b>Year 4:</b>	95.77%	<b>Year 9:</b>	91.51%
<b>Year 5:</b>	96.98%	<b>Year 10:</b>	91.53%

## 6. Year 12 results- ATAR & WACE:

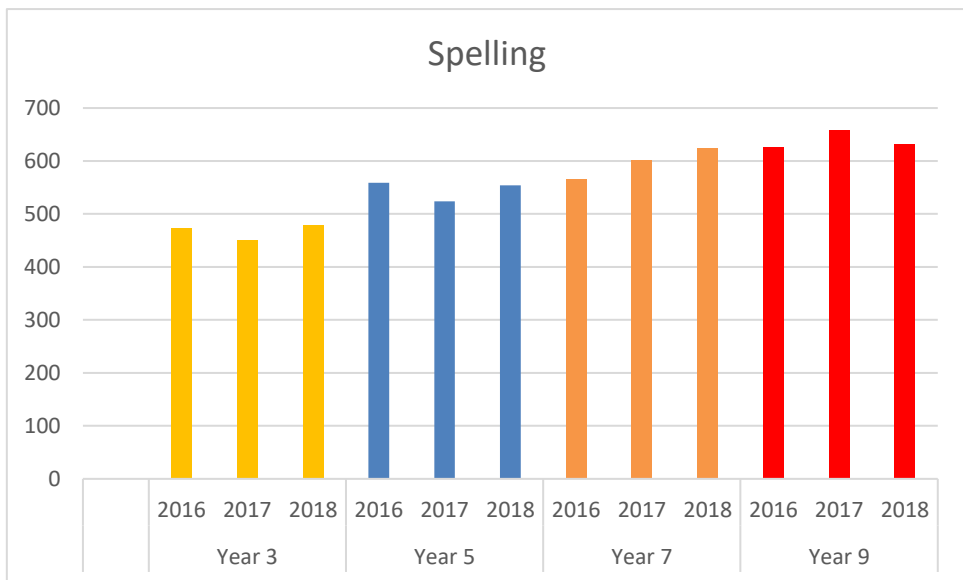
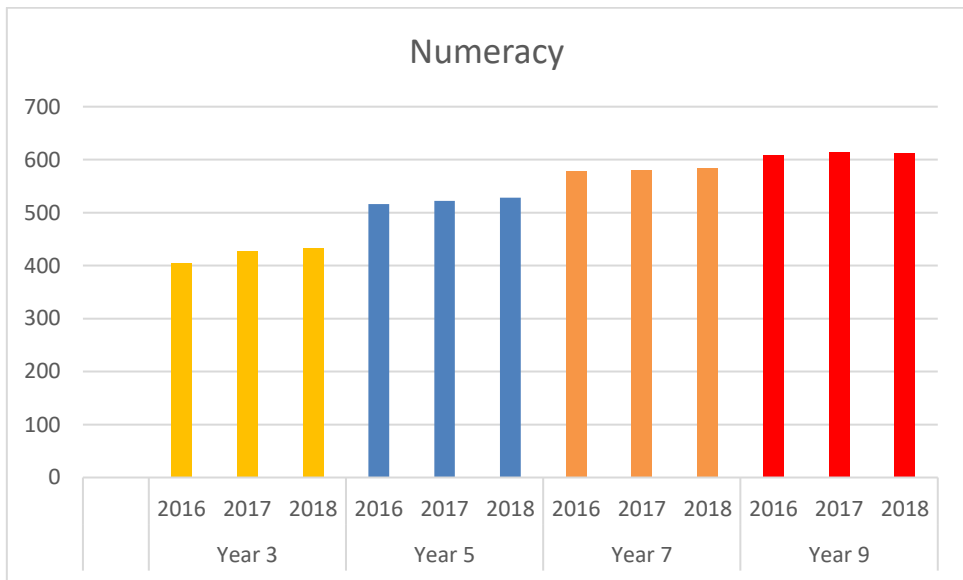
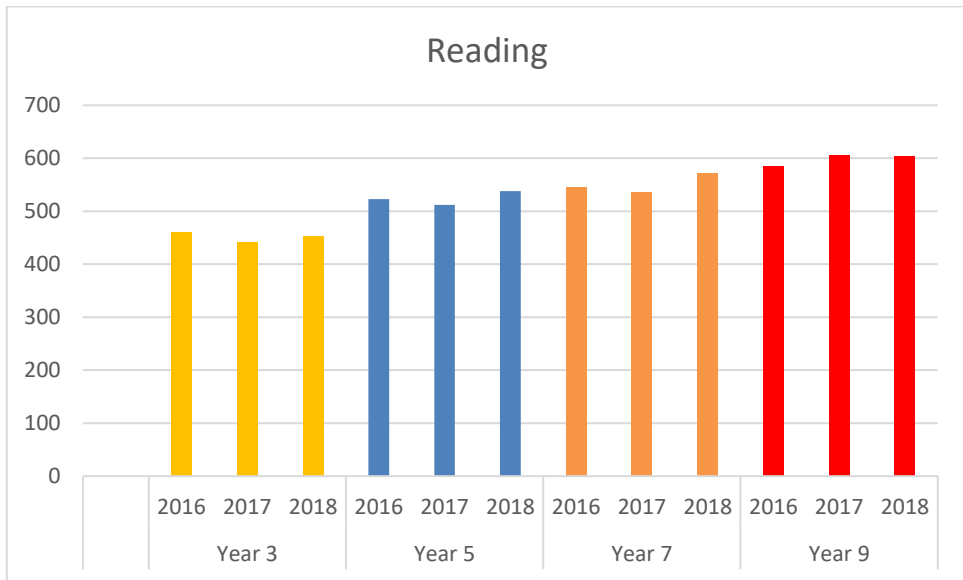
Number of Students:	38
Number of ATAR Pathway	13 (34%)
Number of General/ Cert Pathway	25 (66%)
School Median ATAR	82.45
State Median ATAR	81.80
Median ATAR of the students who applied (School)	81.50
Media ATAR of the Students who applied (State)	83.05
Number of students with a 1 <sup>st</sup> preference (includes students without an ATAR) – TOTAL:19	
- Curtin	11
- ECU	0
- Murdoch	6
- UWA	2
School Average ATAR	79.35
Highest ATAR Result	96.30
Lowest ATAR Result	60.40
% of WACE Certificate	89
& of Certificate Achievement	
- Cert 2 Business	100%
- Cert 2 ICT	100%
- Cert 2 Sports and Recreations	100%

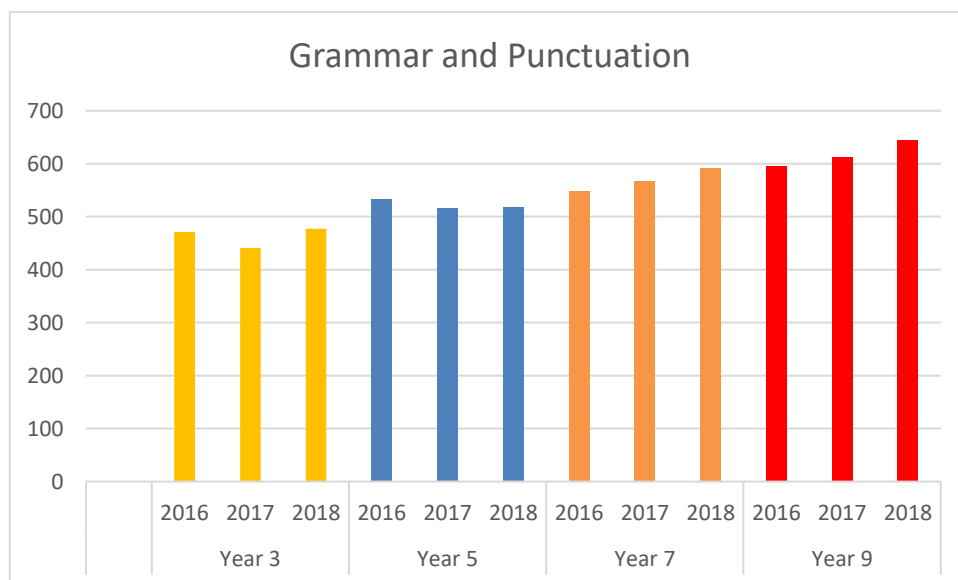
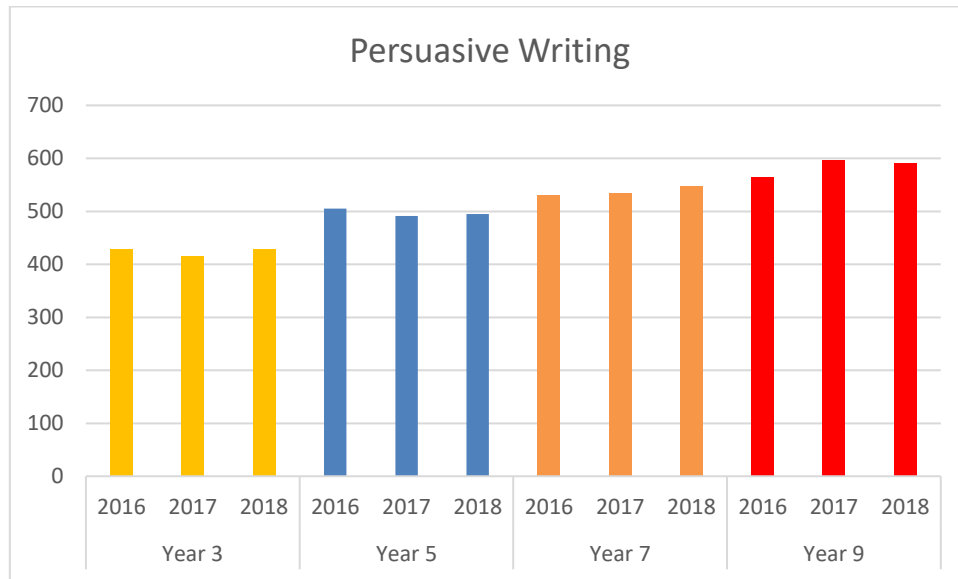




## 7. Student Outcomes in Standardised National Testing (Naplan 2018 – School Mean).

	Reading	Persuasive	Spelling	Grammar and Punctuation	Numeracy
	Writing				
Year 3	454	429	479	478	434
Year 5	539	495	554	519	528
Year 7	573	548	624	593	586
Year 9	603	591	632	645	612
	Substantially above National Average. (by 15%)				
	Above National Average.				
	Close to National Average				





## 8. Parent, Student and Teachers Satisfaction with the School

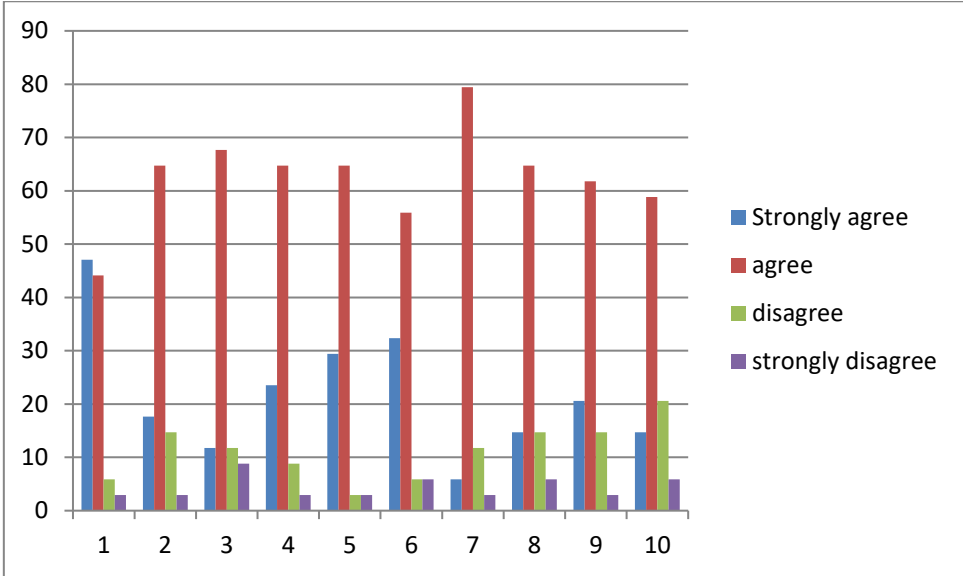
Divine Mercy College conducts a survey every year in order to ensure the satisfaction of many school stakeholders, especially parents, students and teachers. The 2018 results of the parent survey were as follows;

### 2018 Parent Survey Results

1) Teachers at this school expect my child to do his or her best.
2) Teachers at this school provide my child with useful feedback about his or her school work.
3) Teachers at this school treat students fairly.
4) This school is well maintained.
5) My child feels safe at this school.



- 6) I can talk to my child's teachers about my concerns and works with me to support my child's learning.
- 7) Student behaviour is well managed at this school.
- 8) This school looks for ways to improve.
- 9) My child is making good progress at this school.
- 10) My child's learning needs are being met at this school.



**9. School Income:**

Divine Mercy College has been funded from the following measures: (2018)

	Total \$	Per Student \$
Australian Government Recurrent Funding	3,327,997	7,886
State/Territory government recurrent funding	1,266,966	3,002
Fees, charge and parent contributions	982,757	2,329
Other private sources	77,437	183

**10. Communication with the School Community**

Divine Mercy College maintains the communication with the school community by the following methods:

- School newsletters are published fortnightly and emailed to parents
- General assemblies are held twice per term
- Daily prayers are held for Primary School and High School separately

- School Calendar is now published
- “Parent Teacher’ nights are held 2 times per year
- School reports are produced 2 times per year at the end of both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester
- The interim reports are produced at the end of term 1
- Additional letters and emails are sent when required
- Parent teacher meetings are also held when required

## 11. Special Programs

Beside the core programs required by the Western Australian Department of Education, Divine Mercy College also offers

- LOTE – Japanese
- Media
- Music
- Dance
- EALD (59% students are EALD: Source My Schools Website)
- G&T
- Interschool Sports

## 12. Community Spirit and Partnerships

At Divine Mercy, we enjoy many partnerships with our families which help create wonderful experiences for our students and foster not only the Catholic Faith but also community spirit at our school.

These include:

- Weekly Masses
- Morning Chapel
- Canteen.
- Uniform Shop.
- Book Club.
- Sports Clubs
- Reading Rosters.
- Liturgical Celebrations
- Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation with support from Mater Christi Catholic Parish.
- Fundraising
- Parents & Friends
- Legion of Mary- weekly program. Involves apostolic work in the spirit of faith and in union with Mary.

We have also developed a strong partnership with the Non-Government School Psychology Service and utilise their services to provide quality testing and guidance to enable us to provide education plans for students experiencing difficulties.

### **13. Parents and Friends**

The Parents & Friends Association has been actively involved in the life of the DMC community. Their participation, fund raising efforts and practical advice and suggestions are greatly appreciated. Our P&F is a member of the State Federation of P&F Associations, approved by catholic Business Australia. Divine Mercy College P&F regularly reports to the school community on their activities and copies of their minutes are available to all parents.

### **14. Charitable Projects**

The school community live out their Vision and School Ethos by raising substantial funding from board members, families and staff of the College for several Charities in India, Vietnam and Nigeria, these are;

- Orphanages – 6 in Vietnam and 1 in India.
- A school for mentally ill children in India
- Funding for a hospital to be built in Nigeria (currently under construction)
- Funding for a group of doctors in Vietnam. These doctors use our funds to buy medicine and organise monthly trips to the remote regions or orphanage houses in Vietnam to do free medical health check.