Our Core Values

Belonging from Care
Mastery and Success
Generous Fun
Independence by Choice
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School Profile

Emmaus Christian School is located in the inner north Canberra suburb of Dickson. We provide quality Christian education from Pre-School through Year 10. We are single stream to Year 4. In 2014, we had two Year 5 classes, and a large Year 6 group who operated as a single class, with two teachers for core subjects. The Year 7 and 8 classes were double streamed in 2014, as the Secondary School continues to build toward double streaming all year levels.

The school is governed by the Board, elected by the parent members of the school association, the North Canberra Christian Education Association. The Board also oversees operation of Emmaus Christian Preschool.

Emmaus Christian School endeavours to provide an excellent academic education in a caring, Christian environment. Our dedicated staff looks to build partnerships with families as we seek to equip our students for service to God and their communities.

Events in 2014

Highlights of 2014 included our participation in the “Active Afters” program. Special thanks go to Miss Michelle Dempsey, who worked many extra hours to provide supervision for sporting activities two afternoons a week, and helped to organise special events such as the basketball clinic attended by some of our Year 5 students.

Colin Buchanan visited in a great community event organised by 2014’s Community Liaison officer, Mrs Samantha Thirkettle.
We welcomed new staff in 2014, including Mrs Sun Min Cho, our Korean teacher, Mr Mark Searle in IT support, Mrs Samantha Thirkettle in Community Development and Mrs Angela Breeze in Year 2.

Mr Terence Lynch was on staff for 2014, before moving away. He organised the Primary School Band as well as teaching music in the Secondary School, and kicked off the Secondary Band Program.

The Vocational Training Program in the Secondary School saw two students earn competencies toward trade qualifications in cooking.

Other highlights included our sporting carnivals, fun days, and our Primary and Secondary Productions.

“The Prince and the Pauper”, Emmaus Primary School Production 2014
Enrolments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Section</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Total</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Total</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Total</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary and Secondary</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Emmaus Christian School is a multi-cultural community, with one quarter of our students and one quarter of teachers having been born overseas. Amongst our parents and student body, more than thirty languages are spoken at home. 2% of our student body are Indigenous Australians.

We experienced record high enrolments in 2014, with particularly notable growth in the Secondary School as we build toward a double-streamed secondary. This is being supported by allowing for the possibility of larger classes and double streaming in the upper primary classes, with two Year 5 classes and a large Year 6 cohort in 2014.

The average class size in Primary school in 2014 was 25 students. In Secondary, year levels averaged 32 students, while subject class sizes were kept to approximately 18 students.

Students with Additional Needs

Our teaching staff members are ably assisted by the Learning Assistance team in identifying and supporting students with additional learning needs. Students are identified by parents or teachers, and a range of testing is undertaken to determine the best strategies to assist the student. Assistance can take the form of small group help, one-on-one extra teaching, or materials provided by the Learning Assistance team for use in the classroom. The LA team consisted of two teachers and two learning assistants in 2014.

Attendance

There were a total of 3604 student absences in 2014. Primary classes had an average attendance rate of 90.1% and Secondary classes had an average attendance rate of 84.5%. Parents are notified by SMS of any absence by 10 am, and are required to provide an explanation for the absence.
National Testing Results

NAPLAN 2014 results indicate that our students are performing well against ACT averages, which are the highest in the country. In several areas, students also out-performed the average of ACT Independent schools. It is important to remember in a small school that we are looking at small sample sizes and the difference from one year’s cohort of students to the next can be quite variable.

Congratulations must go to the Year 9 maths class of 2014, who worked hard with their teacher to achieve an average score ranking 2nd in the ACT, just one point behind the top score. We were also identified as having achieved well above the average growth in scores between Year 7 and Year 9 in Mathematics.

Student Achievement Graphs
NAPLAN Scores by Year Level

**Year 3 2014**

- **Reading**: ECS 420, AIS 440, ACT 460
- **Writing**: ECS 410, AIS 430, ACT 450
- **Spelling**: ECS 420, AIS 440, ACT 460
- **Grammar and Punctuation**: ECS 420, AIS 440, ACT 460
- **Numeracy**: ECS 420, AIS 440, ACT 460

**Year 5 2014**

- **Reading**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Writing**: ECS 480, AIS 530, ACT 580
- **Spelling**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Grammar and Punctuation**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Numeracy**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600

**Year 7 2014**

- **Reading**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Writing**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Spelling**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Grammar and Punctuation**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Numeracy**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600

**Year 9 2014**

- **Reading**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Writing**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Spelling**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Grammar and Punctuation**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
- **Numeracy**: ECS 500, AIS 550, ACT 600
Staffing

Emmaus Christian School employs qualified teachers. In 2014, all of our teachers held a Bachelor’s Degree or higher and were accredited by the Teacher Quality Institute of the ACT.

**Staffing Profile 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Full Time Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Staff</td>
<td>Principal, Primary and Secondary Coordinators</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Staff</td>
<td>Classroom Teachers, Learning Assistance Teachers</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Assistants</td>
<td>People providing extra assistance in the classroom</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Staff</td>
<td>Bursar, receptionist, enrolments, accounts, IT, cleaning, maintenance, After School Care, website maintenance, library</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
<td><strong>36.05</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During 2014, all staff completed a minimum 20 hours each of Professional Learning. This included whole-school Professional Learning based on school priorities, other PL based on teachers’ individual professional goals, a peer observation program, and a Christian Education National staff retreat in the July holidays. A first aid course was made available to staff who needed to renew their certification and allergy and anaphylaxis training was provided to all staff at the beginning of the year.

**Staff Attendance**

We had a full-time equivalent of 36.05 staff members, giving a total of 6849.5 days of attendance at school. The staff took a combined 292 days of leave, for reasons including illness and family obligations. This is an overall attendance rate of 96%.
Financial Information

INCOME 2014

- Grants & Subsidy: $2,806,291.64
- Fee Income: $1,714,104.56
- Other Income (including trading income): $169,359.48

Total Income: $4,689,755.68

EXPENSES 2014

- Staffing Expenses: 70%
- Tuition Expenses: 6%
- Governance & Admin Expenses: 16%
- Facilities (including Depreciation): 8%

Total Expenses: $4,689,755.68
EXPENSES 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staffing Expenses</td>
<td>$3,239,915.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition Expenses</td>
<td>$397,511.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governance &amp; Admin Expenses</td>
<td>$279,248.41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities (including Depreciation)</td>
<td>$730,864.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,647,539.82</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The main capital expenditure items for 2014 included:

- 55 x iPads
- Replace roller shutter doors in gym
- 4 x Tubas for Music
- Upgrade current and purchase extra projectors
- Primary Lockers
- Finalise demountable building works
- Roller door for front entry
- Carpet Year 7 & Corner room in Secondary

Satisfaction Data

A parent survey was conducted in 2014 to which we received 70 replies, 42 from primary school and 28 from secondary school. 95.7% of parents indicated that they were satisfied with the school’s performance.

Of the limited number of students surveyed in 2014, 85% indicated that they were satisfied with the teaching they received at school. A more comprehensive survey of the student body is being undertaken in 2015.

14 members of staff completed surveys in 2014, with all of them reporting satisfaction with their jobs.

Conclusion

2014 was a year of record student enrolments at Emmaus Christian School. We thank God for His faithfulness over the 17 years of the school’s journey, and look to the future with excitement. Goals for the future include double streaming of the Secondary School and new buildings on site to house the extra students. I would like to thank the Board, staff, parents
and students for making Emmaus Christian School such a unique place to learn and grow together in community.