



## **2024 End-of-Year School Advisory Council Leadership Report**

The 2024 academic year has been one of celebration, joy, challenge, and innovation.

We began the year by welcoming Fr. Jake Mudge and Fr. Henry Onyirioha to our parish and school community with a combined Mass with St. Francis of the Field staff. This beautiful celebration set the tone for an outstanding year of collaboration between parish and school.

St. Therese's Primary School continues to be held in high regard within the greater Bendigo community, with exceptional enrolment numbers for Foundation in 2025, as well as over twenty new students joining our learning groups throughout the year. Many of these students have come from overseas, bringing a new dimension to our already diverse population. Their presence has fostered inclusivity, acceptance, and a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by our newly arrived families.

As a staff, we set the goal of ensuring consistent practices from Foundation to Year 6 across all facets of Catholic school life in 2022. In 2024, we continued to build on this goal through the implementation of our Instructional Model for lesson delivery across all year levels, consistent planning documents, shared pedagogical understandings, and the intentional use of both formative and summative assessment tasks. These efforts have strengthened the integrity of our data analysis and response to student progress.

This ongoing work has placed us in an excellent position to adopt the Catholic Education Sandhurst Limit Magnify Project in 2025, as many of the new initiatives align with and build on our current practices.

2024 has been a year of remarkable achievements for the students of St. Therese's. Our Foundation literacy data is the strongest it has been in many years. Our NAPLAN results also reflected strong performance, particularly in Year 3 and Year 5 reading. Several of our students were selected for state representative teams in their chosen sports, and we have seen much success in a range of SSV competitions, including cricket, soccer, and netball.

The parent community at St. Therese's continues to be a strong and supportive unit. Our parents have played an essential role in running the Brew House Café each Friday, organising social and fundraising events throughout the year, assisting at sporting carnivals, and actively promoting our school. We also extend our thanks to the parents who organise our Energy Breakthrough teams, handling everything

from logistics to mechanical breakdowns. Their dedication to their children's experiences and this important event is truly commendable.

A highlight of 2024 for both our parent and student community was the installation of the new junior playground. This initiative was entirely funded through the efforts of our parent community in 2022 and 2023. The final landscaping will be completed in the coming months, providing a beautiful entrance to our school from the Lowndes Street gates.

The School Advisory Council plays an important role in supporting our school leadership and representing the school community. We are grateful to Michael Carney for his leadership as Chairperson and to each Council member for their time, commitment, and contributions to St. Therese's Primary School.

Finally, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff of St. Therese's for their unwavering support, work ethic, resilience, and professionalism. Their dedication is invaluable and deeply appreciated.

I wish everyone a holy, relaxing, and safe Christmas and holiday period.

**Petra Teggelove**

Principal