St Jerome's Primary School Advisory Council

Chair Report 2026

On behalf of the St Jermoes Primary School Advisory Council I am pleased to present the 2026 Chair's report.

I would like to start by thanking all members of the School Advisory Council for their ongoing support during the year. The composition of the Council for this year included: Alison Franchina (Treasurer), Christy Hosie (Secretary), Georgina Bowler, Shane Reilly, Beth Jinks (P&F Representative), Antonia Monastra (Parish Representative), Fr Navis and Fr Bebin Caston, who are joined by Chris Cully, Susannah Robinson and Creed York. In addition, special thanks also needs to be extended to Angie Grant, Vicki Harvey and the other members of the school administration team who assist and support the Council in our roles.

The Advisory Council has continued to support our school in the following key areas:

- Strategic Direction
- Planning for the Future
- Financial Stewardship
- Building and strengthening community partnerships

Faith and the Catholic Identity remain at the heart of St Jeromes. We are lucky to have a strong parish connection led by our parish priest Fr Navis. This year we have seen many special and inspiring events undertaken in collaboration with the parish including Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation as well as liturgy services including Easter mass, Mother's Day mass, Grandparents Day mass, house masses and many more.

The members of the Advisory Council have been privileged to be involved in numerous discussions regarding key decisions and directions proposed for St Jeromes that will continue to support our student's wellbeing and success. In 2026 these have included:

- School community survey participation and key outcomes. The survey highlighted the strong and valued connection to faith present at St Jeromes together with recognising the dedication of teaching staff to supporting students.
- Student wellbeing survey run by Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA) assessing wellbeing in education.
- Community awareness and communication to further promote St Jeromes within our local area. Activities and events undertaken by the staff and leadership team have included:
    - Establishment of a St Jeromes working party bringing together staff committed to promoting St Jeromes as a school of choice. 12 staff members have volunteered to assist with the working party which comprises 4 focus groups.
    - Strengthening connections with local childcare centres as well as hosting a mums and bubs playgroup
    - Hosting a St Jeromes Primary School display at the Manning Spring Fair
    - Increasing social media engagement highlighting the opportunities provided at St Jermoes which can be viewed by the wider community

- Fogarty EDvance program involvement to build leadership capability and increase the effectiveness of schools to improve educational outcomes. This has included Classroom Mastery coaching focusing on developing consistent classroom routines with the intention to create greater automaticity for students and increasingly calm, safe and orderly classrooms in which learning time is maximised.
- Transformation of the school library into a contemporary learning hub to better support learning and collaborative activities.
- Year 4 and 5 iPad out of school hours usage trail, initially involving a parent survey followed by trail implementation of modified access permissions supporting reduced access to apps on the device in the evenings.
- Extra curricular opportunities led and supported by the school staff including numero club, chess club, running club, maths club, reading club, amongst others.

As outlined within the Treasurers Report 2026 has been another year of sound financial management for St Jerome's Primary School, with the school maintaining a stable financial position while operating within the financial parameters established by CEWA. Student enrolments have remained steady, providing a solid foundation for the school's ongoing financial sustainability. The financial priorities for 2027 will be to maintain financial sustainability, closely monitor expenditure, support educational excellence and continue pursuing enrolment growth through increased community engagement and promotion of the school's strengths.

The St Jeromes Primary School Parents and Friends Association (P&F) has continued to support the school community, strengthening connection and creating opportunities that benefit our students through social events, community initiatives and fundraising. In 2026 the P&F fundraising allowed teacher wish lists to be filled and provided additional school resources which have included volleyball nets, outdoor play equipment, sports balls for all classes, compost tumbler to support sustainability education, mini trampolines for pre-primary, amongst many other items. Special thanks must be provided to Stephanie McLernon, in addition to the other P&F members for their dedication and support.

Finally I would also like to acknowledge and thank the St Jeromes staff for their hard work and decision ensuring that our children are provided with a nurturing and supportive school environment. This includes our leadership team, teaching staff, support staff, administration officers, grounds staff, canteen staff and volunteers.

On behalf of the School Advisory Council we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas.

Kristen Watts
Chair
St Jerome's Primary School Advisory Council