St Anthony's School community works collaboratively to teach and live the values of Christ. While respecting tradition, and to meet the demands of a rapidly changing society, it strives to educate our children to reach their full potential.

Vision Statement

The school crest reflects the vision statement of the school, the life of the patron saint and the heritage of the local area. The open book represents the Bible, and the Greek letters, Alpha and Omega, the belief that God is with us from the beginning to the end of our life. The Latin at the bottom translates as, ‘A light beneath our feet' and carries the message that God's word is the guiding light of our life. The open book and the lily are traditional representations of Saint Anthony of Padua, who was known as a great teacher and a good man. The kangaroo paw is the symbol of the City of Wanneroo and serves to place our school as part of the local community.
It is my great pleasure to be here celebrating 80 years of St Anthony’s School — eighty years of quality Catholic education, service and dedication to the families of Wanneroo.

Not long after the original St Anthony’s Church was built in the early 1930s, it became evident that there was a need for a Catholic education for children in the slowly developing suburbs north of the city including those of the Yugoslav and Italian families who were moving into and settling the area.

In 1935 four vision filled Mercy Sisters travelled to Wanneroo from the West Perth Convent to a school that was built by the families in the Parish. At the time this was considered a long journey and was down what was then a plank road that took significant time, energy and effort to traverse. You can imagine the determination of these sisters to get a Catholic education to Wanneroo. The original staff consisted of Principal Sr Stanislaus, and assistant teachers Sr Claver, Sr Brendan and Sr Berchmans. One of the Mercy Mottos is “We carry out the mission of mercy guided by prayerful consideration of the needs of our time.” They clearly saw the needs of the time and brought Catholic education to the region regardless of the difficulty and challenges. The school opened with three classrooms and was the beginning of today’s modern school.

The school experienced much growth over time and buildings were added to accommodate the growing population. The Servites became involved in the school and Parish in the 1950s bringing further strong spiritual development to the school and Parish. Some setbacks occurred including a fire in 1985 that caused extensive damage and required many buildings to be repaired and replaced. This didn’t deter the community and the old school was again alive due to the hands and efforts of many. In 2000, the school relocated to the rear of the original site and next to the new church building. Further development began in 2007 and was completed in 2012 to incorporate a Second Stream into the school, with the school full double stream from 2013. St Anthony’s School is very proud of the fact that it has been built by the parents of the Parish and of its Mercy and Servite links. In recognition of these religious orders and the founders, the school renamed the school factions to reflect this history. Gold became Servite, Green became Peregrine, Red became McAuley and Blue became Mercy.

Today we live under and promote the motto Lucerna Pedibus Meis - A light beneath our feet. God’s word is the light beneath our feet and in our interactions with each other we aspire to be a light beneath the feet of others. Our recently developed values empower us to create a school which will continue to maintain the development of the child in a faith community at the core of what we do.

Every member of our community - Families, Parishioners, Staff and Students respect the 80 years that have built our foundations and we are called to live our school values listed below:

We will each give our personal best
We will each model faith in action
We will embrace diversity and difference
We will be united
We will appreciate and respect each person equally

Today, St Anthony’s School is a thriving Catholic community with supportive parents, an encouraging Parish, a dedicated and committed staff and caring students, who are presented with many opportunities to excel on a daily basis. The future for St Anthony’s School looks very bright and I am proud to share in the St Anthony’s story with every individual here.

I would like to thank Fr John and the Parish, the School Board, the P&F Executive, our staff, our parents and our students for their contributions to St Anthony’s School in 2015.

Mark Marando

Principal
What a year 2015 has been. This year we celebrated 80 wonderful years of St Anthony's Wanneroo and what a celebration it has been. We must thank Ruth Barker and Rachel Sinagra for their hard work in ensuring that this celebration was one to remember. A Mass and morning tea were held on Friday 4th September which saw many dignitaries, ex-staff and students return to remember the past 80 years of history and to recall many stories and memories, especially those of our Servite and Mercy heritage. Friday 30th October also saw a whole school celebration with a Bush Dance and Family Fun Night.

2015 has yet again been a busy and prosperous one for the school and its Board. Thank you to all of the Board Members for volunteering your time to make St Anthony’s the great school that it is; your efforts are very much appreciated. This year we welcomed Rachel Sinagra onto the Board and also Laura Stumpers as our P & F Representative. Thank you also to Anthony Parker, our Treasurer, Gabrielle Murphy, our Parish Representative, Ruth Barker, our Secretary, Darryl Hodgson and Amanda Hamilton. Also, thank you to Mark Marando, Fr John Daly and our Assistant Principals John Topliiss, Dee Johnston and Nic Gaglia for completing our Board.

This year we will farewell Darryl Hodgson, Anthony Parker and myself. Darryl has contributed to the Board of St Anthony’s for some 9 years, which is an amazing effort, and we thank you for everything that you have done. Anthony has worked tirelessly over the past 4 years as Treasurer and we are forever in your debt for your time and efforts. We wish you both all the best in the future.

2015 has been quite a busy year with many improvements made around the school. Some of these include:

New staff laptops, new signage around the school and classrooms, updated notice boards, flooring repairs to the undercover area, roofing repairs to the Kindergarten block, new school security system including cameras and laser beams, air conditioning upgrades to the Canteen, Staffroom, Office Block and Junior Primary, ongoing website upgrades, the Kindergarten kitchen was replaced, improved lighting to the car park and bin area and nature playground plans.

Ongoing initiatives in the school include:

The EMU program continues to assist children in Year 2 with their Mathematical development. Reading Recovery, now in its ninth year, has once again assisted many children. The Early Childhood Speech and Language Program continues to be of great benefit to the children in our Kindergarten in identifying speech and OT needs. Our Performing Arts program again shone this year. Our Mathematics programme continued to grow, with this being a major school focus in years to come. LOTE, Drama and Singing continued.

The Board would also like to mention the P & F for once again funding smaller classroom initiatives, and notably funding for the upcoming Nature Playground, all of which benefit the students greatly.

To our Year 6 students who are about to head into their High School adventure, we wish you well and hope all your dreams and aspirations come true.

The Board would like to thank the following people for their efforts in 2015:

Gabrielle Murphy and Christine Susac, for once again running the school Uniform Shop. Thank you for your time and effort.

The P & F, most notably the P & F Executive, Melissa Matta, Alison Van Beek and Gill Gauntlett, for their continued support of the teachers and whole school community with fundraising and community events.

Our front office staff, Jan Williams, Donna Geddes, Linda Jolliffe and Kylie Warnock. Thank you for all of your assistance throughout the year.

Our wonderful teaching staff, who always go above and beyond for all the students and families of St Anthony’s. This year has seen many changes to staff, probably too many to mention, as I am sure I may miss someone. To those new to St Anthony’s, we welcome you and hope you enjoy your journey at our school and to those who have moved on, we wish you the best in your future endeavors and hope to keep in touch.

John Topliiss, Dee Johnston and Nic Gaglia for your invaluable contributions as Assistant Principals.

Finally our Principal, Mr. Mark Marando. I am sure the whole school community will realise how blessed we are to have Mark as our Principal, guiding our children through their primary school journey. Mark has introduced many initiatives that will continue to improve and compliment St Anthony’s in the years to come.

Lastly, from myself, Dane, Holly and Andrew, I personally would like to thank the community, teaching staff, Parish, CEO and everyone else who has made our life one to remember at St Anthony’s. From our first day back in 2005 until today, we have felt nothing but welcome and hope that every family involved in St Anthony’s gets to feel this on their journey. It has been a privilege to be a parent, member of the P & F Executive and Board Member, and I urge all parents to get involved with your child’s education, as it is truly rewarding. To St Anthony’s as a whole, I hope you continue to prosper and shine for another 80 memorable years.

Once again thank you and God Bless,

Lisa Carter

School Board Chair 2015
Our third and final year as the current P&F is nearly at an end!

Firstly, thank you again to our Secretary, Alison Van Beek and Treasurer, Gill Gauntlett, for their help and support this year and thank you to all our Class Reps, some of whom have given us ongoing support over our three years and some of whom are new. We are also grateful to those people (you know who you are!) who, although not reps, are always on hand to provide much needed help at events. Thank you also to all the parents who have supported us by attending meetings or helped in any way.

This year, communication using our Facebook page has continued to be a valuable tool and has helped to keep up the positive school community, as has the For Sale page and Business Directory.

The majority of our fundraising this year has been through holding events, including Bunnings BBQs, the Fun Run and Entertainment Books. Our main focus this year has been to raise funds for the up and coming Naturescape, which all the children will be able to use and benefit from during their time at St Anthony's.

We held a disco for the younger years in Term 1, hosted by our lovely Melanie from Bop Till You Drop and the older years had a movie night instead, which proved to be a hit with them. Mother's Day High Tea was again a great success, with our usual number of around 100 mums attending. Again, another lucky mum won the much envied Thermomix raffle prize along with many other great prizes being won on the day. It is always such a lovely afternoon. Father's Night was enjoyed by many again this year. Many congratulations to the lucky dads who walked away with some great prizes.

Our Principal, Mark Marando, had his first full year in the role this year. I think we all agree we are very lucky to have him and we thank him for his support again this year. Thank you also to Jan, Kylie, Linda and Donna in the office. Donna is currently on maternity leave and we congratulate her and her husband on the safe arrival of their son.

I would personally like to thank everyone for their continued support and for making my time as President an enjoyable experience. It is wonderful to see that everyone's time and support has made an impact on the school and it's community spirit.

Have a safe and happy Christmas break and I'm sure 2016 will prove to be another great year for St Anthony's School!

Melissa Matta

P&F President