



## 2017 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### School sector:

Redeemer Lutheran College, Biloela is an Independent Christian College located in the rural mining community of Biloela, Central Queensland. Redeemer is one of 85 Lutheran Schools in the Australian Lutheran Education System. Opened in 1978 Redeemer has completed its 40<sup>th</sup> year of providing primary education in the Callide Valley and with the opening of its Middle School Campus in 2014 its fourth year of secondary education with Year 7 – 10.

#### College's Address:

##### Location:

2 Collard Street  
Biloela, Qld. 4715

##### Postal:

P.O. Box 325  
Biloela, Qld. 4715

##### Phone:

07 49921813

##### Email:

redeemer@rlcb.qld.edu.au

#### Total enrolments:

Redeemer Lutheran College, Biloela recorded a total enrolment of 254 students in 2017.

#### Year levels offered:

Redeemer Lutheran College, Biloela is a coeducational single stream Educational facility offering one class of each year level from Preparatory to Year Ten.

#### Distinctive Curriculum offerings:

Redeemer Lutheran College, Biloela uses the Australian Curriculum to develop its own school programs in Mathematics, English, History, Science, Geography, The Arts, Design Technologies (Manual Arts and Home Economics) and Physical Education. For the primary sector the College has developed a P-6 Spelling Program with an aligned P-4 Junior Primary Phonics program, a P-4 Sight Word Recognition program and a 1-5 Number Fact Recall program. These are all aligned with the Australian Curriculum. Along with these Key Learning areas Redeemer teaches Christian Studies using the Lutheran Education Christian Studies Framework. **Christian Studies** is taught for 1 1/2 hours each week and is integrated with English and The Arts in the primary school. Each Wednesday and Friday morning from 8:45am to 9:15am students in Secondary 7-10 and students in Primary P-6 respectively meet for **Worship in the Chapel**. In 2017 worship focussed on

the stories of the Old Testament. The Spiritual Theme for the school year was “Hearts of Kindness” Be kind to one another, tenderheart, forgiving one another as. God in Christ forgave you  
Ephesians 4:32

In 2017 learning was supported at both ends of the continua with differentiated programming being required in all teachers’ programs. Along with engaging units of work with creative assessment tasks that allow for all students to demonstrate their individual talents multiple opportunities were given to participate in extra activities that extend and enrich the students’ learning. One Fulltime and one parttime Educational Support teacher allowed for extra support in literacy blocks in the Junior and Senior Primary School daily and supported Middle School students.

The fifteen - fulltime teachers were also supported by parttime **Specialist Teachers** in Science and Library Fulltime Teachers Assistants were employed for Prep, Year One, Year Two and Year Three and two other Teacher Assistants supported the remaining classes.

An **Instrumental Music** program was run in the College with the Instrumental Music Teacher teaching 35 students. Students who have reached a particular level of skill participate in the Primary Band or Middle School Ensemble. These groups met weekly before school and performed well at the local Eisteddfod and Grandparents Day. The band and ensemble also performed regularly at School Assemblies and Awards Night.

**Junior Primary, Senior Primary and Middle School Choir** met weekly in lunch hours to develop their Choral skills. They successfully competed in the local Eisteddfod, sang at Carols by Candlelight. **Eisteddfod participation** was again maximised in 2017 with students representing the College in individual and group speaking, bible reading, choral and instrumental events.

#### **Extra-curricular activities:**

[Our annual College Yearbook is added as an appendix and provides an extensive overview of the College’s life over the 2017 school year.](#)

#### **Social climate:**

The College mission of “Student Focussed Learning for LIFE” articulates what we aim to do. Staff actively work in partnership with parents to provide for the academic, social, spiritual and physical needs of students. Our Christian beliefs underpin our Behaviour Education Policy. Our policy has clearly stated agreed values (REACH: Respect, Effort, Appreciation, Christlikeness and Humility) and College expectations. Conflict is resolved using a **Restorative Justice Process**, actively teaching students conflict resolution processes and involvement in applying consequences.

Year 6 and Middle School students are offered many opportunities to develop their **leadership skills** and demonstrate their sense of responsibility by nominating for College and Sports House Captains, Student Representative Council and Library Monitors. **The SRC committee** was very active throughout the year running regular Fifty Cent Food Days, selling Icy Cups and holding their annual Disco and a Pyjama Day to raise funds. They were able to donate to a number of charities.

Active service in the community is encouraged with Year Seven students regularly visiting the Wahroonga Retirement Village as part of its **PALS** (Pupils Adopting Loving Seniors) program.

The **School Care Fund** is a special way that we care for our own College Community. This fund is compiled of donations received from parents and friends and is distributed when families are identified as needing help. Our offerings from weekly worship support our World Vision sponsor child and classes communicate regularly with Jacqueline.

### **Parental involvement:**

Parents of Redeemer are encouraged to be active partners in their child's educational process. At Interview and Orientation Day parents are invited to become members of the Parents and Friends Committee (PFC). The PFC conduct various fundraising activities throughout the year to provide extra resources for students. In 2017 the PFC raised enough funds to allow the construction of a wet dry creek in the Preparatory play area and were successful in a community gaming application to add extra play equipment to the Junior Playground and still have funds left for 2018 goals. A significant part of these funds are generated from the Uniform shop which is fully operated by volunteers.

A "Meet the Teacher Evening" is conducted in Week Three of Term One. Staff relish this opportunity to begin building relationships with parents, introducing their classroom practices and expectations and informing parents of avenues of participation. Parents regularly assist with literacy and numeracy groups, sporting events and scheduled working bees.

Parents are invited to attend Father's night, Grandparents Day, Harvey's Birthday, Sports Days and other class celebrations and presentations as well as weekly Chapel worship.

A Thanksgiving Chapel was held in Term Three to personally thank parent volunteers for their support.

### **Presentation of Information:**

Information regarding Redeemer College is available at [www.redeemer.qld.edu.au](http://www.redeemer.qld.edu.au) as well the Redeemer Lutheran College Facebook Page and App. These locations allow parents to access fortnightly newsletters, Term Planners, current notes and forms as well as various College policies.

A number of publications are available from Administration for Parents including:

Prospectus: School Introduction and Overview

Yearly Parent Handbook: Important policies and Overview of current year.

Annual College Yearbook

### **STAFFING INFORMATION**

#### **Qualifications of all teachers:**

100% of Redeemer's teaching staff hold a Bachelor Degree

Julie Turner *BEd (Early Childhood)*

Monique Woods *BEd (Primary)*

Megan D'Arsie *BEd (Primary)*

Wendy Walker *BEd*

Samantha Fulcher *BEd (Primary)*

Morgan Woolston *BEd (Primary)*

Clara Busch *BEd (Primary)*

Gemma Blair *BEd (Primary)*

Sue Appel *BEd*

Nicole Fielke *BEd*

Lucy Harris *BEd*

Sam Eldridge *BEd*

Sandra Wass *BEd (Early Childhood)*

Rebekah Scott *BEd (Primary)*

Rebecca Wall *BEd*

Kate Victor *BEd*

Joshua Scott *BEd (Primary)*

Jurie Verster (*BEd*)

John Harker (*Dip Teach*)  
Kylie Pocklington *BEd*  
Cale Peake *BEd*  
Michelle Collocott *BEd*  
Megan Worthington *BEd*

**Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development:**

The Professional Development budget for fulltime teachers was set at \$2,025 per year per person. Part time staff received a reduced budget according to the ratio of days worked per week. Redeemer College has a policy of shared knowledge therefore staff attending seminars and conferences share their learning with other staff to maximize professional development opportunities.

Our whole of College Professional development focus for 2107 was Assessment and Project Based Learning. The majority of our weekly staff meetings are dedicated to Professional Learning activities.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2017 was almost \$36,000. The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2017 was 100%

**Average staff attendance for the school, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave periods of up to 5 days:**

Staff attendance rates continued to be high with teachers demonstrating their commitment to their vocational role. The average staff attendance rate increased to 95.4% in 2017.

**Proportion of teaching staff retained from the previous year:**

Our teaching staff retention rate from 2016 to 2017 was 97%. Increasing our total staff we welcomed Ms Julie Turner and Mrs Megan D’Arsie in to our Primary teaching staff and Mr Jurie Verster into our Secondary teaching team.

**KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES**

**Student Attendance:**

Student attendance is recorded daily. Absences are noted and the Office informed. Unexplained absences are followed up by 9:30am each day with a call to parents. Parents are encouraged to inform teachers or Administration of student absences as early as possible. The average total attendance rate for students in 2017 was 94%.

Student Attendance Rate Per Year Level	
Prep	93.55%
Year One	93.67%
Year Two	94.59%
Year Three	95.26%
Year Four	95.37%
Year Five	95.18%
Year Six	94.03%

Year Seven	94.02%
Year Eight	93.09%
Year Nine	93.97%
Year Ten	91.77%

**Reading, writing and numeracy benchmark results for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9**

<b>Reading</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2014</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2015</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2016</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2017</b>
<b>Three</b>	92.6%	100%	95%	96.4%
<b>Five</b>	83.3%	100%	93.1%	100%
<b>Seven</b>	94.7%	100%	93.3%	92.9%
<b>Nine</b>		100%	100%	86.7%

<b>Writing</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2014</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2015</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2016</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2017</b>
<b>Three</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Five</b>	91.7%	87%	93.1%	90%
<b>Seven</b>	89.5%	100%	94.7%	92.9%
<b>Nine</b>		70%	75%	86.7%

<b>Spelling</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2014</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2015</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2016</b>	<b>% Above National Minimum Standard 2017</b>
<b>Three</b>	92.6%	100%	95%	100%
<b>Five</b>	87.5%	91.3%	93.1%	96.7%
<b>Seven</b>	84.2%	93.3%	94.4%	85.7%
<b>Nine</b>		80%	87.5%	100%

Grammar and Punctuation				
Year	% Above National Minimum Standard 2014	% Above National Minimum Standard 2015	% Above National Minimum Standard 2016	% Above National Minimum Standard 2017
Three	100%	100%	95%	96.4%
Five	91.7%	91.3%	93.1%	90%
Seven	78.9%	100%	94.4%	100%
Nine		100%	87.5%	93.3%

Numeracy				
Year	% Above National Minimum Standard 2014	% Above National Minimum Standard 2015	% Above National Minimum Standard 2016	% Above National Minimum Standard 2017
Three	96.3%	96.1%	100%	96.4%
Five	95.8%	100%	93.1%	93.3%
Seven	100%	100%	86.7%	100%
Nine		100%	87.5%	100%

### Value Added:

All students in Preparatory are assessed in Term One and Four using the ***Performance Indicators in Primary Schools (PIPs) assessment***. This assessment identifies students' strengths and weaknesses in Literacy and Numeracy in Term One and evaluates their development again in Term Four. The information is used to cater for the individual needs of students as they enter the formal learning of Year One.

As a part of our commitment to catering for students' needs and informing parents of student progress Redeemer has a set policy of ***Standardised Testing***.

Junior Primary School: P-3

Reading : PM Benchmarks

Diagnostic Reading Assessment DRA

Spelling : Australian Spelling Program Assessment

Maths : I Can do Maths & PAT Maths

Senior Primary School: 4-6

Reading: Diagnostic Reading Assessment DRA

Spelling : Australian Spelling Program Assessment

Maths : Math Pathways Diagnostic

Middle School: 7-9

Reading: PROBE Reading Assessment

## Maths: Math Pathways Diagnostic

Selections of students in Year 3 to 10 participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (**ICAS**) *assessments*.

Our annual College Yearbook is added as an appendix and provides an extensive overview of the College's life over the 2017 school year demonstrating the many ways the College value adds to the core curriculum.

### **Parent, student and teacher satisfaction:**

Parent Satisfaction was gauged by general feedback and Parent Review Survey distributed in Term One. 68% families responded. From parent feedback goals have been set to

- Increasing social capacity in the Middle School.
- Provide workshops for Parents re Maths Pathways

### **How computers are used to assist learning:**

**Information Communication Technology (ICT)** continued to be a focus for the College with each teaching space having an Interactive Whiteboard, Data Projector and Sound System along with pods of laptops throughout the school. Laptops have been provided for student use within their natural learning environments rather than computer laboratories. In 2016 we began a new lease term with 150 laptops continuing our 1:2 ratio of laptops to students.

ICT is used extensively throughout the school in all Key Learning Areas. As well as laptops students in Prep to Year 3 have pods of 10 iPad in their room, students in Year 4-6 are working on a 1 to 1 iPad program and students in Year 7-10 require a laptop as part of their stationery items. Staff use the abundance of online digital resources available in the creation of learning pathways for their students. Onenote is used by both Staff and students for the creation of digital workbooks. Students in year 1-4 have access to Mathletics, an online Mathematics program that allows students to access differentiated practice activities 24/7 and students from Year 4 to Year 10 use Math Pathways, an individually differentiated Mathematics Program.

Since 2013 a fulltime ICT technician and consultant has been a member of the Redeemer staff. His expertise and enthusiasm has been invaluable.