

VICTORIA PARK CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



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School Overview



Victoria Park Christian School is a Christ centred school community that strives to equip our students with an excellent education through a Christian world view. We want our children to experience God's love through their academic education and social interaction with their peers.

We believe that God's nature provides children with an opportunity to experience school life in a unique and inspiring way and nature is incorporated throughout our school with outdoor classrooms and nature play spaces. Nature spaces provide students with a unique outdoor environment for unstructured play and discovery, nature-based sensory experiences and exploration, which is endlessly re-inventible and sustainable.

Our small school community allows the students and teachers to be closely connected. This is an intentional and important aspect of our student leadership program which focuses on caring and supporting younger children, and fostering relationships between children of all ages. The school also has a structured buddy program that supports the children academically and socially, within and outside the classroom.

Our values program supports children to see love and respect for each other as integral to their interaction with others. Our strong multicultural community is valued and celebrated. Weekly Chapel services are a celebration of what we value and an opportunity for children to share their talents in arts and display their learning to the greater school community.



History

The School was established in 1927 as a single teacher school and was situated in McMillan Street, Victoria Park at this stage. In 1945 the school transferred to Hordern Street just around the corner from its current location. In 1963 new rooms were built on the current site of 27 Colombo Street, to cater for the Primary School while the Hordern Street site housed the High School.

During the 1980s the Junior High School outgrew the Hordern Street premises and was amalgamated with the Senior High School at Carmel.

During 2013, the school extended the Kindergarten class to include Pre-Kindergarten to cater for 3 year olds. At the same time, the Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten classroom operated separately to the Pre-Primary class. The Pre-Primary class moved into and operated from Room 3. The remaining three classrooms operated as multigrade classrooms. In 2014, the school operated as a Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6 school.

In 2015, the school saw its name change from Riverside Community School to Victoria Park Christian School. At this time, the Home and School made the decision to upgrade the sports uniform from its former green to the current blue and grey to match the colours of the school's new logo.



Highlights

Registration

Victoria Park Christian School went through the registration process during May of 2015. Later in the year, news was received that the school received a registration period of 4 years – this was excellent news indeed. As a result of the registration process the school was required to fix some minor issues, one of which was to replace one side of the school's fencing. This was completed and has greatly improved the look of the school.

Marketing Program – NEW NAME for School

The Health Audit, which was conducted in 2014, allowed us to gain valuable information as to how well known our school was in the broader community, which under the name of Riverside Community School, was very low.

The name Riverside Community School did not service the school well, nor did it identify with who we are and what we are seeking to do. We are a Christian school in Victoria Park serving a broad region including the Perth CBD and South Perth.

The new name identifies with where we are and who we are seeking to serve and will give us a greater opportunity to engage families to consider sending their children to their local Christian school, Victoria Park Christian School.

The name change will also enable the school to engage the local Victoria Park business and broader community that we are their local Christian School.

Our new branding will be in alignment with the national approach to Adventist Schools and has seen the introduction of new stationery, signage and proposed website.

Cricket Nets

The school was fortunate to be on the receiving end of unwanted cricket nets from Landsdale Christian School. Students in Years 4, 5 & 6 supported Mr van Moorsel in digging holes and preparing the area for the installation of the nets. Fundraising allowed the pouring of the concrete and the very arduous task of putting together the pieces of the jigsaw puzzle was left up to Mr van Moorsel and Mr Gooden – two of the school’s teachers. Those students who were avid cricket fans watched and waited, offered encouragement and pushed the teachers along as they anxiously anticipated their first game of cricket.



Service

One of the many highlights of 2015 was the service project that started halfway through the year. All students from Kindy to Year 6 participated in painting A3 pieces of paper that were later made into gift bags by Year 4, 5 & 6 students. These bags were then filled with pencils, student-made Christmas tree pads, balloons, student-made playdough, colouring pages etc... The destination for these gifts was Princess Margaret Hospital – and the children who would need to stay in hospital during the Christmas period. Our 2015 prefects, went above and beyond their call of duty by returning to school, event after it had closed for the year, to deliver over 200 gift bags to Princess Margaret Hospital.



School and Wider Community Events

2015 was a very busy year in forming new relations with our wider community and maintaining former relations with our school community. The school took part in the following events in the wider community:

- Church services at Victoria Park and Belmont Seventh-day Adventist churches
- Free Coffee Friday
- Car Boot Sale
- Moreton Bay Fig Festival
- Food Circus
- School visit to Rossmoyne Retirement Village
- Sonshine FM

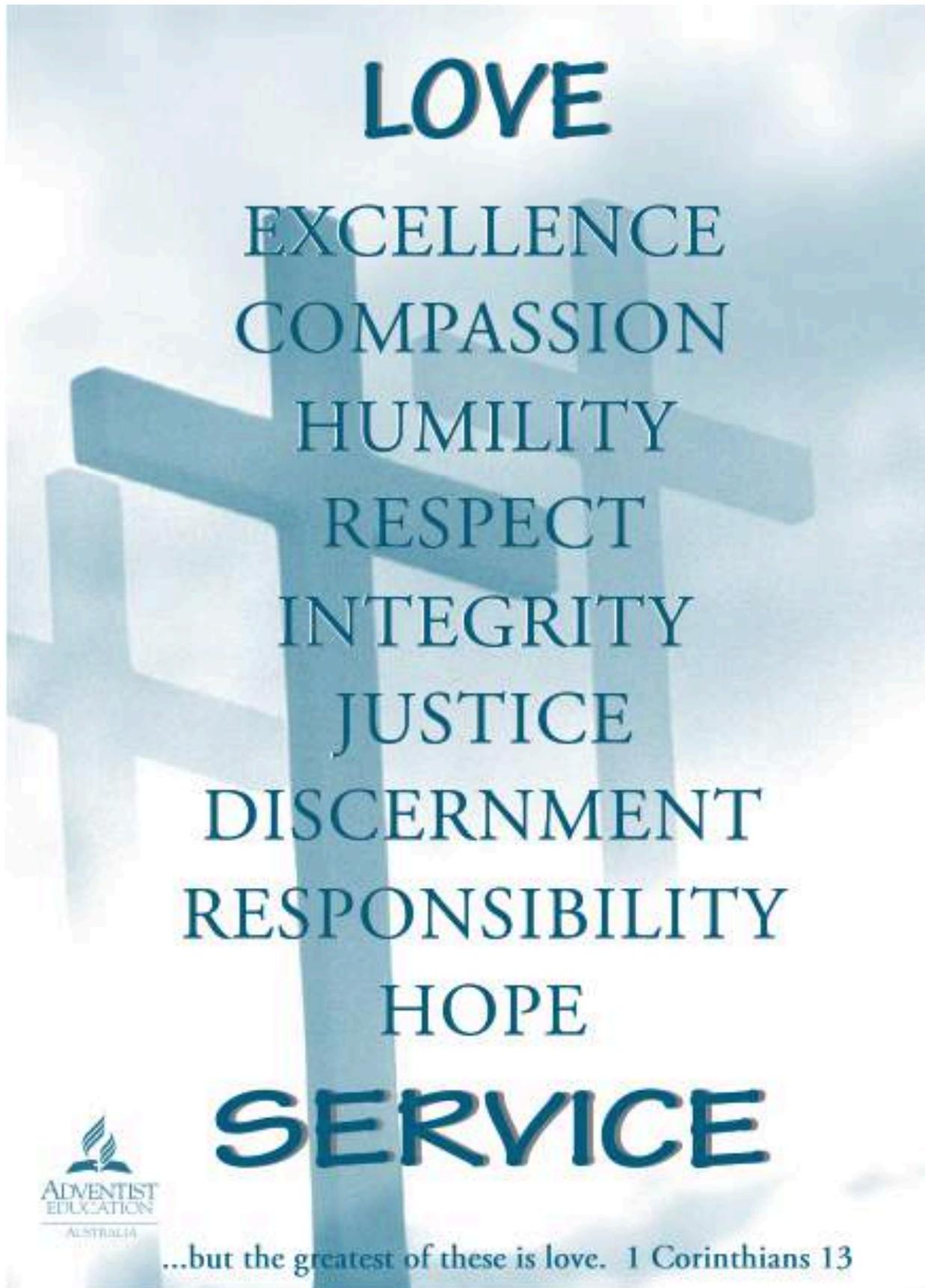


For the school community, the school ran these events:

- Week of Worship
- Working bees
- International Dinner
- Book Week
- Fathers's Day Breakfast
- School Concert
- Early Years Dinner
- Remembrance Day
- Fun Run



Our School Values



...but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13

Professional Engagement

Staff Qualifications - 2015

All staff are TRBWA registered. Their qualifications and years of service at Victoria Park Christian School are as follows:

Name	Role	Qualification	Years at Victoria Park	Teaching Experience	TRBWA
Megan Sketchley	Principal	M.Ed Primary B.Ed Primary	3	14	33087280
Roy van Moorsel	Educator Year 5/6	B.Ed Primary	4	7	32055063
Dayle Mauga	Educator Year 3/4	B.Ed Primary	3	9	33063151
Lachlan Gooden	Educator Year 1/2	B.Ed Early Childhood	1.25	1	33082097
Shuchi Sharma	Educator Pre-Primary	Dip.T	1	1	33092453
Gee Gee Yeap	Educator Kindergarten	B.Ed Early Childhood	2.5	2.5	33088845
Jannine Ellis	Educator Librarian (PT)	B.Ed Primary	8	11 FT + PT	32061894
Jamie Chan	Educator Language (PT)	B.Arts Dip.Ed	2.5	6	33087196
Sharyn Macri	Education Assistant	Certificate III	3	N/A	N/A
Francene Whyte	Education Assistant	Certificate III – EA & Children's Services	9	N/A	N/A
Sal Coote	Education Assistant (PT)	Diploma of Education Assistant	6	N/A	N/A
Moses Depaz	Chaplain (PT)		2	2	N/A
Samantha McCutcheon	Receptionist (PT)		3.5	N/A	N/A

PT – Part Time

Staff Changes in 2015

The following staff changes occurred for the commencement of the 2015 school year:

- Mrs Shuchi Sharma replacing Mrs Tanya Hort on Pre-Primary



Participation in Professional Development

To assist in enhancing student achievement of outcomes and educational development in the classroom, each teacher is encouraged and expected to participate in Professional Learning Seminars each year.

In 2015 staff participated in the following Professional Learning Seminars that were, in part, conducted by Adventist Christian Schools (WA), ECU and AISWA.

- National Quality Standards – Refresher Training (AISWA)
- PRIME Maths
- Distinctives and Systems Day
- First Aid Training
- Asthma Training
- Leadership Training
- SEQTA Training
- Early Years Learning Framework – Years 1 & 2 (AISWA)
- Kindy/Pre-Primary Networking Meetings
- Educator Impact – Peer Observation and Feedback (AISWA)
- Teacher Capacity (AISWA)
- Nature Play Spaces (AISWA)
 - Claire Warden – building on from the Scotland Experience
- Marketing Schools – Endeavour
- Keeping Safe – Child Protection for Leaders
- Stories of Place (AISWA)
- Technology Curriculum (AISWA)
- Literature Bites (AISWA)
- On Entry Assessment (AISWA)
- Students with Disability (AISWA)
- Creating Safer Independent Schools (AISWA)
- Big Write
- STEM
- EALD Training (AISWA)
- QAS
- Achievement Standards and Task Design (AISWA)



Key Student Outcomes

School Enrolments

	Pre-Kindy	Kindy	Pre-Primary	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Total
2009		5	6	12	14	11	11	11	4	5	79
2010		9	9	9	12	16	13	11	9	3	91
2011		11	11	10	8	12	12	11	11	5	91
2012		18	9	13	9	10	11	12	10	8	100
2013	11	12	18	5	13	13	6	9	6	5	98
2014	16	17	13	18	5	11	10	3	8		101
2015	18	19	13	13	16	5	8	9	3		104

Pre-Kindy students attend classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Kindy students attend on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with the option of attending five days.

Student Attendance Data in 2015

2015	PP	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance %	93%	91%	95%	87%	94%	97%	87%

Temporary Overseas Students

Victoria Park Christian School was again visited by temporary overseas students in 2015, with 12 coming from Japan and 5 from China.

NAPLAN

Year 3	Numeracy			Reading			Writing			Spelling			Grammar/Punctuation		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Nation	397	402	398	419	419	426	416	402	416	411	412	409	428	426	433
State	388	392	388	406	407	413	405	397	408	400	403	400	415	413	424
School	399	415	401	441	432	456	395	409	404	451	421	443	459	445	415
2015	Numeracy			Reading			Writing			Spelling			Grammar/Punctuation		
Below	0%			0%			0%			0%			0%		
At	0%			0%			0%			0%			25%		
Above	100%			100%			100%			100%			75%		

Year 3 Participation Rates:

- 1 student was withdrawn from all assessment tasks
- 1 student absent for Numeracy

Year 5	Numeracy			Reading			Writing			Spelling			Grammar/Punctuation		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2104	2015	2013	2014	2015
Nation	486	487	492	502	501	498	478	468	478	494	504	498	501	504	504
State	478	480	485	496	492	489	470	465	471	487	498	493	495	495	496
School	539	465	492	533	473	510	501	455	441	555	492	530	554	495	517

2015	Numeracy	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar/Punctuation
Below	0%	0%	25%	0%	25%
At	37.5%	25%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%
Above	62.5%	75%	62.5%	87.5%	62.5%

Year 5 Participation Rates:

- 1 student was withdrawn from all assessment tasks

School Events

Throughout 2015 students in Pre-Kindy to Year 6 were involved in numerous incursions and excursions that extended their knowledge and understanding of key learning areas, and included the following:

- Year 6 Camp – Boshack Outback
- Perth Zoo
- Constable Care Program
- Sci-Tech
- Better Beginnings
- Intensive Swimming Program
- Gymnastics
- Athletics
- Tennis
- Combined Schools Sports Carnival
- The Great Escape
- NED Show
- Financial Literacy
- Perth Museum
- Bell Tower
- Perth Mint
- Creec
- Farm on Wheels
- Perth Wildcats
- WACA
- Community Health Nurse – Talks on Puberty
- The Lost City
- Sustainability Centre
- Herdsman Lake
- AQWA
- Year 6 Farewell Dinner
- Waterslide

Students were also allocated to a Home Group and a teacher. The Home Groups commenced from a need to build stronger relationships between the younger and older students and to also develop leadership skills. Home Groups meet once a fortnight and participated in team building activities, service projects and games or craft activities. The students enjoyed this special time and within their groups they have built dens, decorated biscuits to give to other students, developed resilience, developed skills in being a better team player and made cards for others etc... Students are encouraged to run the home groups by discussing what activities they would like to do at each meeting.

Pastoral Care and Student Welfare

Pastor Moses Depaz (Pastor Mo) continued as Chaplain of the school in 2015, working 2.5 days per week.

Pastor Moses was able to build on the relationships that he had developed in 2014 with staff, students and families. He maintained contact with families both during and outside of school terms for prayer requests and visitations.

Pastor Moses was instrumental in his pastoral care support of students who were experiencing personal issues, and he was able to encourage them to think positively and respond appropriately in various situations by teaching them strategies in being resilient. All students appreciated the time and effort that Pastor Moses afforded them on his days at school.

Pastor Moses continued to focus on the nine Adventist Values in his weekly Chapels and classroom visits to reinforce good character and to further develop character building. Teachers also reinforced these values during their worship program and class time.

Pastor Moses organised the following school events during 2015:

- Funky Hair Day – to raise awareness of others in need and to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation
- 40 Hour Famine – to raise the awareness of cultural differences and servicing the needs of others and to raise money for those in need
- Kindy students visiting the elderly at Rossmoyne Retirement Village
- Fathers' Day Breakfast and Chapel program
- Green Hair Day

Our Week of Worship was held in Term 1 with a focus on Getting to know who God is; how he wants to be our friend. Students participated in the daily program, and as a result, many students wanted to know more about God through studies with Pastor Moses.

The Annual School Evangelism Survey again showed that parents appreciated the support given to their child through the pastoral care/Chaplaincy program.



School Community

During 2015, the school formed a Community Relations Committee to be instrumental in developing positive relations between the school and the wider community; to improve perceptions of the school and for the wider community to know that the school exists.

During 2015, the Community Relations Committee was active in the following promotional activities:

1. Community Websites and noticeboards updated eg Google Maps and Bing Business
2. Flyer drop announcing the name change to local Victoria Park businesses
3. Updated existing website to reflect rebranding. Ongoing development of new website content
4. Print Ad – The Parents Paper (Nov 2015 – Jan 2016)
5. DL Promotional Flyers printed
6. Shopping Centre displays (Oct-Nov2015) – Banner, photos, work samples etc.
 - i. Waterford Plaza
 - ii. The Park Centre
 - iii. Victoria Park Central
 - iv. Belmont Forum
7. School poetry display in local libraries – Nov 2015
 - i. Victoria Park Library
 - ii. Cannington Library
8. Development of Sonshine FM relationship
 - i. Nov 2016 - Fundraising for 98five Heart for Christmas (Icy-poles). Announcer visited classroom, footage posted on 98five Facebook page. Students participated in a live cross.
 - ii. Nov 2016 – Small group visit to studio - created a broadcast package which was played on air.
 - iii. Use of Sonshine Diary to promote events – Car Boot Sale & Open Day
9. Cake Stall at Moreton Bay Fig Festival, Victoria Park (Oct 2015) upright banner & flyers circulated
10. Participation in Food Circus event at The Park Centre (Nov 2015) upright banner display & flyers circulated
11. Outdoor School Banner (horizontal) printed and placed in community locations (Nov 2015 –Jan 2016)
12. Early Years Dinner held November 2015
13. Newswest articles published

School Improvement

During 2015, staff at Victoria Park Christian School spent time reviewing five components of the Quality Adventist Schools Framework to determine areas of strength and weakness. Staff chose their area of interest and lead the discussions, taking note of recommendations for school improvements.

Components reviewed in 2015: Pastoral Care; Professional Learning; Curriculum; Students and their Families; Wider Community.

School Income

Income for Victoria Park Christian School was received via the following breakdown:

