

*Esperance Christian  
Primary School*

*2 Blake Street  
Esperance WA 6450*

**2009**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

# SCHOOL OVERVIEW

## GOALS OF ESPERANCE CHRISTIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

The primary goal of the Esperance Christian Primary School is to promote a redemptive relationship between each student and Jesus Christ. Each teacher facilitates spiritual growth through the provision of an environment in which Christian nurture may take place.

The following goals are extensions of the school's mission:

### SPIRITUAL

- ❖ The school intends to conform to and maintain the Biblical standards of Christianity in behaviour, teachings and lifestyle.
- ❖ The Esperance Seventh-day Adventist Church Minister, along with other local ministers, is engaged in the school's program as the school's chaplain. He is available to all associated with the school, including, students, staff, volunteers and parents
- ❖ Worship, prayer and Bible study periods are held daily in the school.
- ❖ To be a community built on *acceptance* and *tolerance*, where all are treated with *respect* and *dignity*.
- ❖ To provide an environment in which the students can come to know *Jesus* and *model* their lives on Him.

### MENTAL

- ❖ To develop in students a *desire to learn* and achieve standards of excellence in all areas.
- ❖ To develop in students an understanding of the impact a *healthylife* can have on academic, social and spiritual development.
- ❖ To assist students in developing talents and gifts God has given them, in an environment which allows *individualcreativity*.

### PHYSICAL

- ❖ The school endeavours to develop a balanced program where each student receives the benefit of an alert mind and a sound body. Daily exercises and sporting activities, with free and organised play are programmed into the curriculum.
- ❖ The school provides a balanced health program, emphasising the benefits of a healthy body and mind.
- ❖ Parents are encouraged to provide adequate nutritious school lunches. We prefer that students eat only fruit at recess time. Please note that our school is a *nut free zone*.

### SOCIAL

- ❖ The school operates a 'Pastoral Care House System' where each child and their family are placed within a faction. Each House meets regularly to share and celebrate successes and encourage overcoming weaknesses. Younger girls and boys have an older 'buddy'. This buddy system fosters leadership, friendship and stability. Students learn to treat each other with respect and to respect God.
- ❖ Students feel comfortable in the classroom and playground environment. This fosters learning and meaningful social interaction.
- ❖ To provide experience that will assist in the choice and development of a *well-balanced* lifestyle.
- ❖ To develop in students appropriate *life skills* that will be of benefit to themselves and the community.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Esperance Christian Primary School exists to provide a caring, nurturing environment where students are educated for a life of service to both God and the community.

ECPS encourages excellence through the balanced development of the mental, physical and social domains of each child. Encompassing this is a focus on the strengthening of Christian character.

## VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the ECPS is to provide a holistic Christian based educational service that is valued by the community.

## VALUES STATEMENT

Esperance Christian Primary School values:

- Service
- Responsibility
- Integrity
- Safety
- Co-operation
- Thoughtfulness
- Sportsmanship
- Fun
- Commitment
- A personal relationship with Jesus.

## Our Motto

We Learn  
We Serve  
We Pray  
We Believe



## REPORT TO PARENTS - SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION 2009

In accordance with Federal Government reporting requirements, the following information outlines our school's performance in specified criteria for 2009. The information is to assist parents to understand how our school performed in 2009. This material can be used in conjunction with the *My Schools* Website. Any further questions regarding this material can be directed to the Principal, Mrs Anne Tonkin.

### Contextual Information

Esperance Christian Primary School (ECPS) is an Independent, co-educational primary school catering for Kindergarten to year 7. ECPS is part of a worldwide Christian Education system (Adventist Christian Schools).

The school was initially established in 1979 as a single teacher school with an enrolment of only 9 students. As at the August, 2009 Census, the school had an enrolment of 72 students.

### Special Character:

Esperance Christian Primary School is supported by a strong parent body and School Council, which provide a strong sense of community and inclusivity. Permeating each teaching and learning activity is a Biblical world-view. This means that ECPS is a place where students, teachers and parents work together to develop the positive values based on the Christian faith - values of respect and care for God, others and themselves. The educational activities are designed to provide effective learning and teaching strategies to ensure each child is working at or toward their individual potential intellectually, spiritually, socially and physically and with the understanding that they are valuable to a loving and caring God.

**Pastoral Care:** Esperance Christian Primary School provides a strong pastoral care program for students, staff and family members associated with the school. The school is provided with funds from the National Chaplaincy Program which allowed us to engage the services of a part-time Chaplain, Pr. Anthony Manu.

In 2009 Pr Manu focused on resiliency building by assisting students to build a strong sense of empathy for others. This was manifest by his implementation of service projects such as the HOPE (Helping Other People Eat) garden and developing teamwork and leadership skills during his interaction with sport programs and programs within the classrooms.

**Curriculum:** The Esperance Christian Primary School plans and implements teaching and learning activities with the aim of meeting the outcomes of the Western Australian Curriculum Framework. A Whole School Scheme has been implemented to ensure that a good cross-section of the outcomes are addressed over a three year period in all learning areas.

French is offered for the LOTE program.

Choir and drama play a major role in our music program. In 2009 students participated in the Esperance Music Festival schools' choir. At the end of the year a major musical drama was presented to the local community at the Esperance Civic Centre.

ECPS acknowledges the importance of a healthy lifestyle and integrates this concept throughout the learning areas. At least two hours of physical activity per week is included in the school program and personal health education programs are part of the whole school scheme.

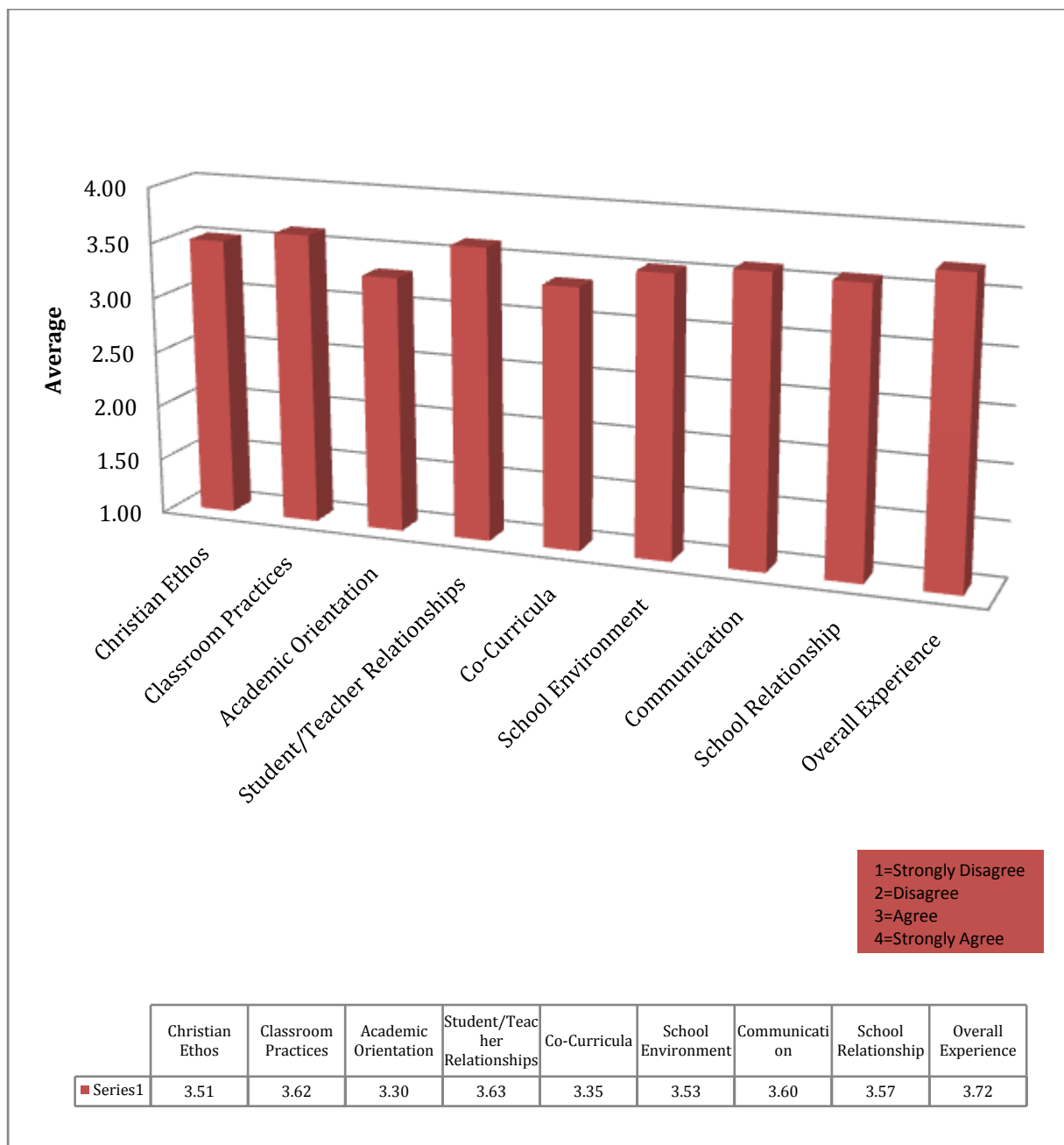
**Parent Body:** The ECPS values the involvement of parents in their children's education. In 2009 parents welcomed to be involved in many different areas. These included:

- Assisting with reading and other in-class activities on a regular basis

- Assisting with concert productions
- Participation in Home & School and fundraising
- Participating in and helping with school excursions
- Assisting with the planning and preparation of sport carnivals

### Parent Survey Results:

Following is a graph which shows the results of the 2009 Parent satisfaction survey. This graph indicates that our parents are generally pleased with the way our school operates.



### Things you like about the school are:

- Friendly, family atmosphere
- Love having a male principal. Plus male teachers. Not keen on a particular relief teacher but I understand they are hard to find
- Supportive parents and Christian community. Friends that our children make. Personalised learning programs. Opportunities for our kids to learn more about Jesus. Children are a part of the school program. The vision, 100 days
- The extremely positive and enthusiastic environment which is created by all teachers and administration staff. The children receive an interesting and varied range of education. It is extremely difficult to get them to come home
- Excellent facilities-particularly ICT, then interactive whiteboards are amazing
- Caring and committed staff
- The school is like being part of a family-everyone looks out for each other and knows each other
- It is small, friendly and community focus. It encourages and reflects Christian values. Each child is treated as an individual and encourages to try their best and persist so as they may reach their full potential
- The school itself looks like a school not how it looked 4 years ago
- Caring environment, friendly, teachers are passionate about what they do
- Close, caring, safe
- Safe, friendly atmosphere. I feel the school for my children is really a home away from home
- The school teaches kids to be responsible
- Excellent value teaching, bible based education, love of God in the school atmosphere. Peer relationships are strong. Children are greatly loved and teachers look for their best
- The teaching/admin and pastoral team are exceptional. A well oiled machine it is a part of God's kingdom that is lovingly and forcefully advancing! Exciting stuff
- The caring environment, the fact uniqueness is encouraged. The modern facilities. Exceptional teachers
- The teachers. The principal-the focus on faith based education. The care the children are shown by the staff
- The passion for Christ and the school by all staff and adult pastoral representatives. I also like the curriculum material and tools used by the school. They seem to be effective

### Improvements you would like to see in the school:

- All is good. Maybe try and give the principal more time off in the principal role
- More computers-1 per child in the computer room. Better ways to retain the new staff. More digital equipment-cameras, video cameras. Upgrade playground and more car parking. Bigger sports shed
- Visits by an educational psychologist. Parents with 'difficult' children are attracted to the school because their children fall through the gaps of the public system. Teachers are being overwhelmed with a high percentage of children who take more resources and need avenues for more special ed assistants.
- Rubber soft-fall surface around the playground to replace the sand
- I would like to see more support staff to individually assist students in areas that require extra attention
- More notice give for important events, especially those that involve payment
- Going thru many at this time but nothing at this time
- Looking forward to seeing the new building completed
- Teach that money is not real, it is merely a convenience not a god
- One (at the most two) consistent teacher(s) in 5-7 class. I believe this problem is being rectified
- Punishments for the students; sometimes seem extreme
- More excursions-more variety in the curriculum
- A more positive and godly system of keeping students behavioural accountability towards students relationships between each other

## STAFF INFORMATION

All teaching staff at ECPS are registered with the Western Australian College of Teaching (WACOT). Staff roles and qualifications are as follows:

Teacher Name	Position	Qualification
Shannon Quick	Principal Teacher Yrs 6 & 7 Full Time	B.Bus; B. Ed
Kelly Quick	Teacher Kindy & Pre-Primary Full Time	B.Ed. Prim
Rhianna Watts	Teacher Yrs 1 – 3 Full Time	B.Ed. Prim
Jared Watts	Teacher Yrs 4 & 5 Full Time	B.Ed. Prim
Susan Thomason	Teacher Part time relief	B.Ed. Prim
Misty Trezise	Teacher Full time (Feb 2009 – July 2009)	B.Ed. Prim
Pr Anthony Manu	Chaplain 0.6	B.Div
Raylee Pittard	Administrative Assistant 0.8	
Michelle Clark	Teacher Assistant 0.7	
Lee-anne Chambers	Teacher Assistant 0.7	
Elizabeth Bell	Teacher Assistant 0.4	
Jodie McGill	Cleaner 0.4	
John Phillips	Gardener/Groundsman 0.1 approx	

The number of days taken by full time staff for sick, bereavement and personal leave during 2009 was 34 days. This gives the staff an approximate 95% attendance.

Six staff members were new employees in 2008. The remaining staff members were retained from the previous year/s.



**Staff 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 Development each year. In 2009 staff participated in and attended Professional Learning seminars that were conducted by Adventist Christian Schools (WA), School Drug Education and Road Aware, Association of Independent Schools (WA). Some of the learning areas which were covered in these seminars and workshops were:

- Health – Drug Education and Road Aware
- Resiliency
- Numeracy
- Literacy
- Inclusive Education
- Bible Curriculum
- Interactive White Board Tuition
- Mathematics
- NAPLAN testing
- Dealing with people in Education
- Early Years Learning Framework
- Adding the Special Character of Christianity in all areas of education

**KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES****Student Attendance**

In accordance with Government requirements, the school maintains records of student attendance. During 2009 the attendance rate was approximately 93%.

Regular school attendance is actively encouraged by teachers and administration. When a child is absent from school and the school has not been notified, a phone call to the parents/guardians is made. This is to ensure that the student is absent with parent/guardian knowledge. A note or phone call from parents is required, and if this is not received a follow up note or phone call from the school will ensue.

## National Assessments Program in Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN) results for 2009

### Year 3 (9 students)

Area	Australia mean	WA mean	School mean	% above MS
READING	410	398	419	89%
WRITING	406	403	382	78%
SPELLING	405	392	375	78%
GRAMMAR	421	400	429	78%
NUMERACY	395	381	427	89%

### Year 5 (12 students)

Area	Australia mean	WA mean	School mean	% above MS
READING	493	483	506	83%
WRITING	481	479	461	83%
SPELLING	488	478	472	92%
GRAMMAR	502	484	491	92%
NUMERACY	488	475	503	100

### Year 7 (7 students)

Area	Australia mean	WA mean	School mean	% above MS
READING	541	536	553	100%
WRITING	533	531	540	86%
SPELLING	540	530	559	86%
GRAMMAR	540	531	570	100%
NUMERACY	544	538	606	100%

### WHOLE SCHOOL (28 students)

Area	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7	% above MS
READING	Above AUST and WA	Above Aust and WA	Above Aust and WA	91%
WRITING	Below AUST and WA	Below Aust and WA	Above Aust and WA	82%
SPELLING	Below Aust and WA	Below Aust and WA	Above Aust and WA	85%
GRAMMAR	Above Aust and WA	Below Aust. Abv WA	Above Aust and WA	90%
NUMERACY	Above Aust and WA	Above Aust and WA	Above Aust and WA	96%

ECPS scored better than the state and national averages in 10 of the 15 areas. The greatest statistical success can be found in Reading, Grammar and Numeracy. The statistical results of Writing and Spelling are not as high.

Due to Privacy Laws, the individual classroom results cannot be shown, as the class sizes are too small. It would be too easy to determine which child has swung the result and this may cause embarrassment.

## Note from the 2010 Principal

I hope you have enjoyed reading this Annual Report. It has been a pleasure coming into this school and enjoying the fruits of the hard work of so many people, including staff, students, parents and community members. You have all contributed to the success of the school. I have been particularly impressed by the happy spirit that exists among the children, and the strong sense of community. It is a pleasure and a privilege to be part of such a vibrant and dynamic place of learning. I am confident that Esperance Christian Primary School will move from strength to strength as we all work together with the common goal of educating our children, *preparing lives for tomorrow* as.....

*We Learn*

*We Serve*

*We Pray*

*We Believe.*

Anne Tonkin  
Principal - Esperance Christian Primary School  
2010