



# OLIVET CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



**ENCOURAGING...EQUIPPING... EMPOWERING**

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## College Background

Olivet Christian College was established in 1979 and offers a quality Christian-based education in a caring environment to the families of Castlemaine and surrounding regions.

Our students are learning in structured classrooms and encouraged to respect and care for one another.

As a Christian College, the school places emphasis on Bible-based values and the outworking, daily, of genuine faith. Our purpose is to help students discover all God made them to be, regardless of the future pathway that He may lead them on.

Individual learning styles and levels of ability and interests are catered for through a variety of teaching methods including the use of various thinking tools, individual and group work, explicit teaching, iPads, and computer labs. Handwriting, Phonics, Grammar, and times tables remain key foundational life skills and their value is reinforced throughout the school.

Learning takes place through a wide variety of activities, for example, discovery learning, lectures, and mastery learning. The key issue is not the method of delivery, but the overall effectiveness and efficiency of learning. Teaching can take place without learning and learning can take place without teaching. Research into pedagogy has revealed that the best learning takes place when the interest level of the child is maintained at a high level and the delivery is such that it meets the cognitive and experience levels of the child. Children are all at different cognitive and experience levels of learning and so they cannot learn effectively in a lock-step approach.

Olivet Christian College has proven itself over many years to be a school where young people are given the opportunity to develop in all areas of their lives. This includes their academic, physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. Supporting families who want their children educated in a Christian environment is paramount to our thinking, but we are open to enrolments from all families who are willing to remain within the ethos of the College.

## Principal's Report 2022

We began 2022 initially being unable to fill the Secondary English/Humanities vacancy. It was such an answer to prayer when, past teacher and assistant principal, Mrs. Cheryl Donaldson offered to come out of retirement to teach English/Humanities in the secondary classes until such time that we could fill that position. Once again God graciously provided when Miss Lydia Lawrence was appointed towards the end of March. Cheryl and Gordon have continued to bless the College with Cheryl coming in one day a week to help students who are achieving below level in English/Humanities as well as doing some CRT work. Gordon helps to keep the grounds one day a week. Tim Wilson, who was teaching Art across the school as well as Design Tech in Years 5-10, took up a position at another school at the beginning of Term Two. We appreciated Tim's work at Olivet over the five years that he was teaching part-time. Steven Nicholas picked up Design Tech for the secondary students for the remainder of the year and Amanda Bourdon taught Primary Art, doing an outstanding job. Unfortunately, we were unable to find a replacement Secondary Art teacher for the remainder of 2022.

Throughout term One, the students enjoyed several sporting activities including the swimming program, for both Primary and Secondary which culminated in the annual house swimming sports. The Year 3-6 students were able to participate in the Castlemaine and District Cross Country running event. Other significant events included F-2 end of term excursion to the Central Deborah Gold Mine, and the Year 4-10 end of term excursion to Jumpz in Bendigo.

During term two, students sat the annual NAPLAN. This was the first time that these tests were administered online. Last year's results put Olivet Year 5 at number 11 in the top 100 schools in the state. This placed us ahead of many large private schools in the state.

Also, during term two, Gordon Donaldson, also a previous teacher at Olivet, came and taught a very successful horticulture class during term one for our Secondary students. Year 4-10 students traveled by the College bus to Melbourne and enjoyed presentations from the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. The Secondary students also visited the Melbourne Immigration Museum, Year 4-6 students visited the Shrine of Remembrance. For our end of term excursions, the F-2 class went to Dream City at Docklands, where they had an opportunity to try their hand at different careers. During Term 2 and three all the Primary students had the opportunity to attend weekly Parkour/Gym classes. The Year 4-6 class went to the Bendigo Discovery Centre and the Secondary students went Ten Pin Bowling. At the end of the term, it was great to have families and friends join the staff for our end of semester presentation afternoon which was followed by afternoon tea together.

As part of the Term Three activities, we had an Ambulance Victoria incursion with sessions for each Secondary and Primary class. One of the presenters was one of our past students. The F-2 class participated in the district school's tabloid sports day. All the secondary students were involved in the annual Mt Alexander Chess Challenge. The school community prepared gift boxes for Operation Christmas Child, which is a mission outreach undertaken by Samaritan's Purse which facilitates the collection and the shipping of practical gifts for children in third world countries.

During Term Four, we had an incursion from Drug Free Lifestyle organisation who ran sessions for Years 4-6 and Years 7-10. Our annual student orientation mornings were held for students both new and existing. Year 4-10 students went to the Log Cabin Camp in Creswick for a three-day camp. This camp was funded by the state government's Positive Start Program. The Positive Start Program aims to re-engage primary and secondary students and to boost their physical and emotional health and wellbeing in the wake of the

coronavirus pandemic. The F-2 class visited Parky's Play Centre in Bendigo followed by lunch in the park for their end of term activity. The Year six students attended their graduation dinner at a Castlemaine restaurant and the Secondary students went out for lunch at a café in Newstead to mark the end of the year.

It was a blessing to be able to finish off the 2022 year by coming together, unrestricted by Covid limitations, for our end of year presentation and awards evening.

I would like to thank Mr. Jim Box, who stepped down from the Executive at the end of 2022. Jim, who has most recently served as our chairman, has been a valued member of the executive over many years. His wisdom, insight, leadership, and support will be greatly missed. We thank him for his faithfulness to the Lord and for his service to the College.

I would also like to recognise Mr. Geoff Treloar who retired at the end of 2022. Geoff taught at Olivet for twelve years and has been a great asset and has been very supportive in his roles at Olivet. Geoff taught Year 1-2 and Physical Education across the school for eleven years. In 2021 and 2022 Geoff taught PE and secondary Economics part time. During Geoff's time at Olivet, he displayed a servant and a caring heart.

Student numbers continue to be a concern and a challenge. Over the last two years, Covid has had a major impact on this as some families withdrew to homeschool and/or move interstate. We continue to promote our school in both local press and via our website and Facebook page. Word of mouth continues to be a significant factor in attracting new students.

The general shortage of teachers across our state and nation has, in some ways, made staffing more of a challenge, but we can be thankful that we were able to be innovative to meet the needs of the students enrolled at Olivet during 2022.

## Professional Learning 2022

Number of teachers participating in Professional learning activities: 100%

All teaching staff participated in ongoing learning throughout the year. Staff took the opportunity through peer support, research online and reading materials for professional development.

All teachers at Olivet Christian College are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.

Average expenditure per teacher on professional learning: \$63.00. This does not include 'in house professional learning, curriculum meetings, software programs.

## Teaching Staff Attendance

- Average attendance rate for teaching staff: 96.2%
- Average number of days absent for teaching staff: 10 days.

## Staff Retention

Proportion of teaching staff retained in a program from the previous year: 100%

Proportion of administration staff retained from the previous year 100%

## Teacher Qualifications

Masters/Degrees/Diplomas (or equivalent) 100%

## Student Attendances

Across the College, very few students have a significant number of absences from the College. The figures are affected quickly by students' absence as we are such a small school. Overall, the individual attendance is very high and very satisfactory

## Average number of days absent:

- All Primary Students: 11.8 days 6.8%
- All Secondary Students: 17 days 8.8%

Students who have difficulty with attendance are supported by their teachers and the principal. Thank you to all our parents who support the college by reinforcing to their children the importance of being at school each day and the high value of a good education. Student learning is greatly enhanced in those students who have a high personal attendance rate.

## Student Retention beyond Year 10.

Not applicable

# School Performance Information 2022

**NAPLAN** If less than 5 students complete the assessment the yellow dot specifically refers to each individual students ranking in this assessment against all students across the state.

The Herald Sun 30/5/23 and 22/2/23 compiled a list of the 20 top-performing private primary schools in Victoria, using average year 5 NAPLAN scores from 2021.

In the state's regions, Olivet Christian College in Campbells Creek and Ballarat Clarendon College ranked in the top 20, scoring 571.6 and 567.8 respectively.

In the same article it referred to the fact Olivet was second lowest total gross income school in 2021. Results are limited as there are no public records if a class has less than 5 students. We have had good results in other rooms that have not been made public.

In 2022 there were no students in Year 3.

## School Summary Report

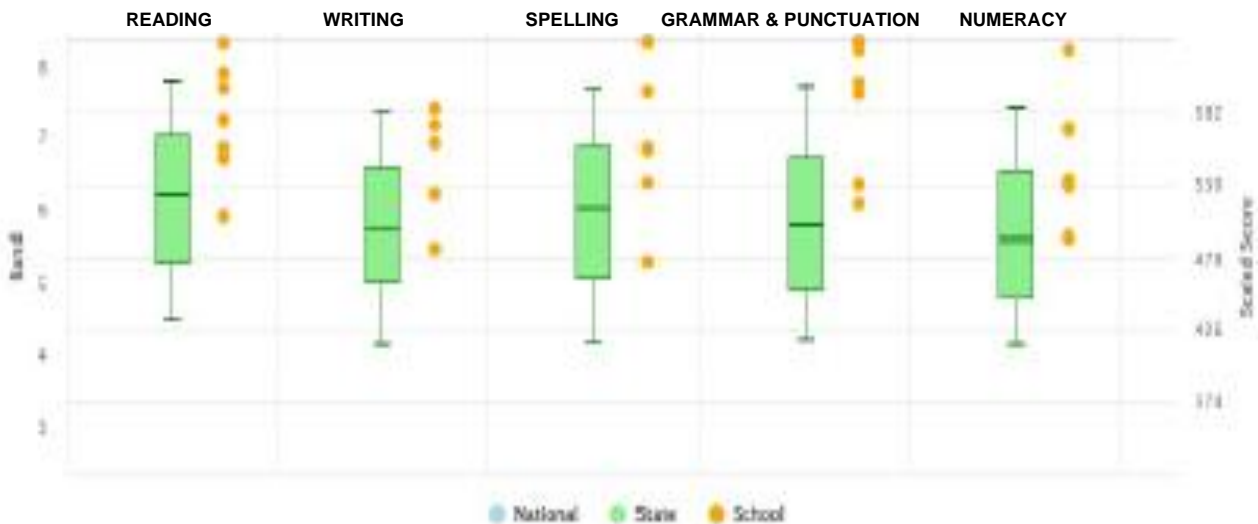
Olivet Christian College

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Tests 2022

2022 Year 5

Gender: All | LBOTE: All | ATSI: All

**7 students represented.**



# School Summary Report

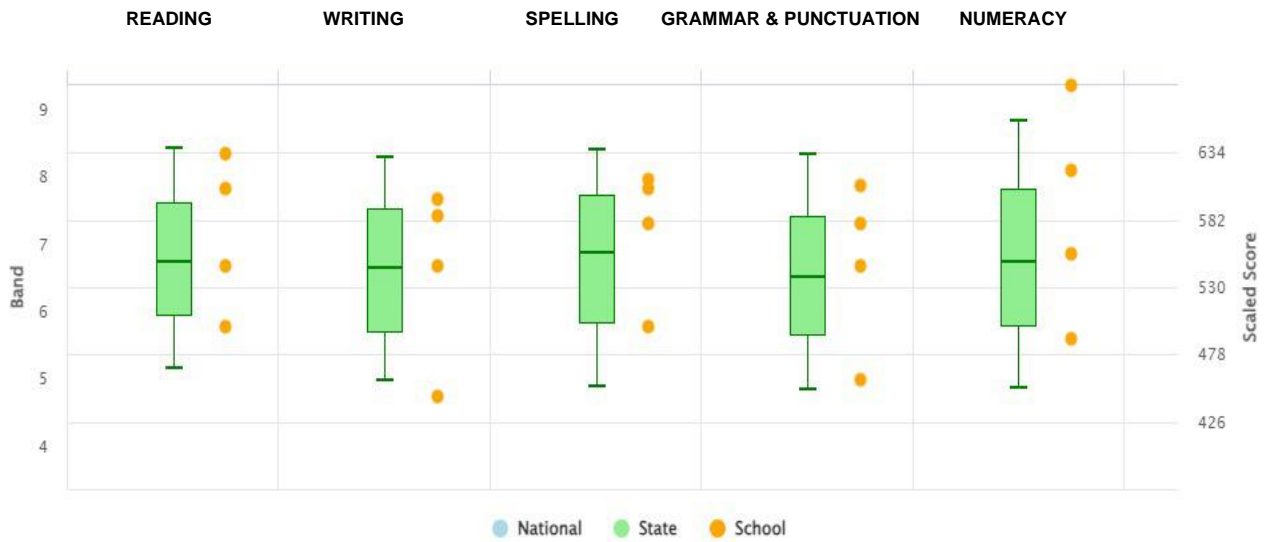
Olivet Christian College

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Tests 2022

2022 Year 7

Gender: All | LBOTE: All | ATSI: All

4 students results



# School Summary Report

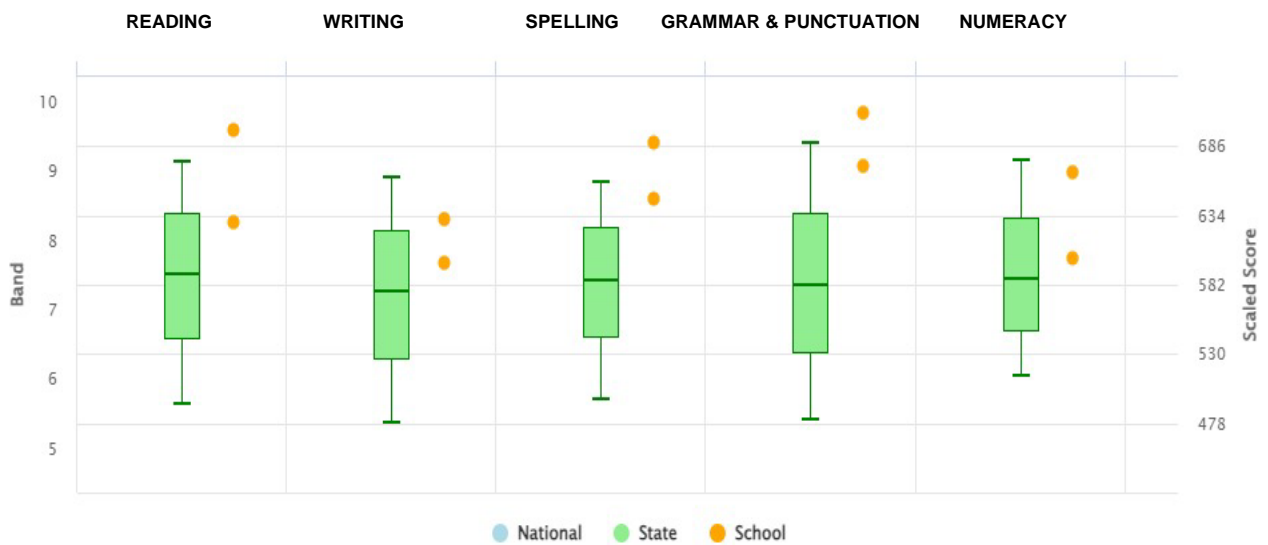
Olivet Christian College

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Tests 2022

2022 Year 9

Gender: All | LBOTE: All | ATSI: All

2 students results

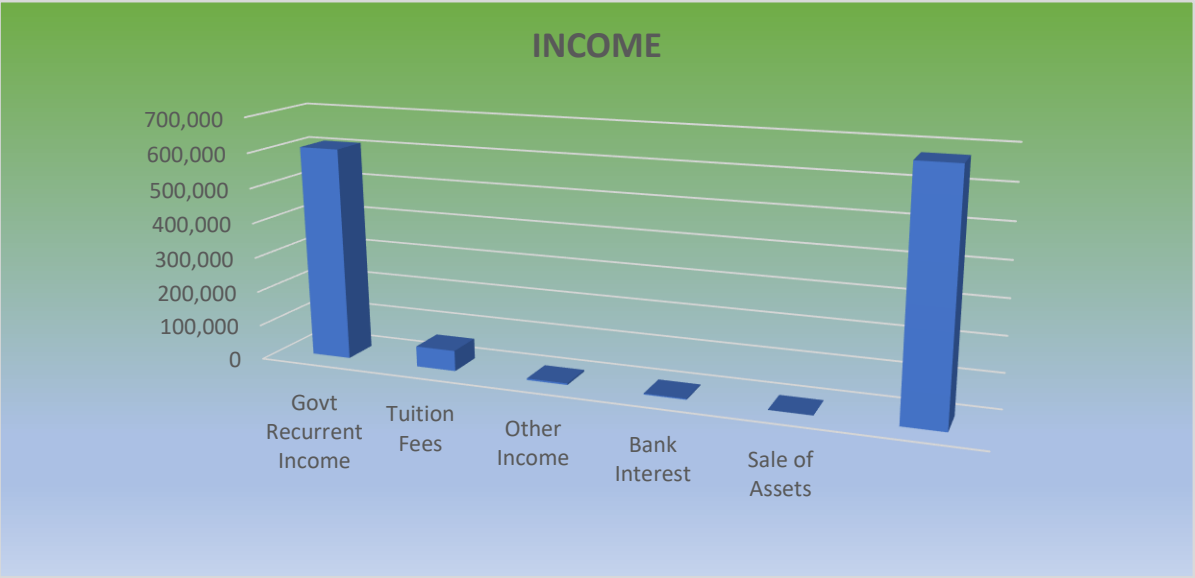






# Finance

**2022 Income \$675,589**



**2022 Expenditure 1,110,471**

