MAR NARSAI ASSYRIAN COLLEGE
GREENFIELD PARK

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT 2007

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ABN: ABN 099 666 716
Message from Key School Bodies

Principal

The year 2007 was a year of strategic planning and development at Mar Narsai Assyrian College.

In our second year of operation, we had two year 7 classes and two year 8 classes. This meant that we were required to hire new qualified teachers who needed to deliver the curriculum.

Mar Narsai Assyrian College continues to grow and build an excellent reputation as a Christian School serving the Community in the western area of Sydney. Reasons for the success of our college as highlighted by parents of our students are:

- Implementing Christian values and our Church’s Ethos
- Qualified Teachers and commitment of College staff
- Student welfare and discipline policy

Mar Narsai Assyrian College operates on the same site as St Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School which is the major feeder school for Mar Narsai. Towards the second half of 2007 both schools went through a restructuring phase where the two schools operated under one administration. Promotional positions were created according to the needs of both schools in Curriculum, Administration and Christian values.

The advertised positions were:

- Infants Coordinator
- Primary Curriculum Coordinator
- Primary Administration Coordinator
- Stage 3 Coordinator
- Stage 4 Coordinator
- Student Welfare Coordinator
- School Chaplain
- Both schools share a Sports Coordinator

The personnel who were appointed to these positions will be members of an Executive Committee and work with the management team in order to meet the needs of our students and parents in our community and hopefully make our schools a better place for our students.

John Haskal
Principal
P&F Committee Report

Our committee commenced in March 2007 and has been involved in many fundraising events since then.

The committee consists of dedicated and vibrant parents and friends who are always willing to assist in each function and work together as a team. We have also worked very well with the canteen staff on many occasions and have often had help from other parents who also volunteer themselves for certain events.

Some highlight events have been Parent Luncheons, Parent Picnics, Easter Raffles, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day stalls, Assyrian New Year Celebrations and ANZAC Day Ceremonies.

The committee is frequently approached to assist with preparing morning tea and luncheons for teachers and visitors who attend our schools and also for the Swimming Carnival, Athletics Carnival and other sporting events.

Parents are also constantly approaching the ladies to organise more picnics and luncheons as these have been proven successful and very enjoyable for the mums getting together on outings without the kids.

To date, all of our functions have proved successful and we intend on continuing with this success for the future.

The committee is very pleased with their progress to date and we have many more planned functions to look forward to. The committee always works extremely hard in delivering their services to the best of their ability for our children.

Christine Selimovic
President
Student Leaders/SRC

Student Representative Council

Throughout the year, members of the Student Representative Council (SRC) meet on a regular basis with the supervising teacher, Mrs Hormoz. During these meetings, the students discuss current issues of concern which have been brought to their attention by their peers. They also brainstorm different fundraising activities, and suggest ways to implement these ideas.

Activities that SRC students are continually involved in include monitoring of the stairwells, maintaining the school sign, volunteering on fundraising days, helping at sports carnivals, helping with the canteen and distribution of sports equipment at lunchtime.

This year, the SRC played an integral role in the success of Mar Narsai Assyrian College’s first Jersey Day, by selling items to students. They will also play an active role in the Healthy Breakfast Program which will take place in Terms 3 and 4 this year.

The SRC is comprised of class captains, class prefects and sports house captains, all of which have been elected by their peers.

Mrs Hormoz
School as Part of the Parish and Diocesan Life

Christian Identity

Mar Narsai Assyrian College was founded on the traditions of the Holy Catholic Apostolic Assyrian Church of the East. The Patriarch of the Church is His Holiness Mar Dinkha. The Church in Australia is headed by His Grace Mar Meelis Zaia (pictured).

The majority of students attending this school belong to this Church.

Mar Narsai Assyrian College is located on the same site as the St. Hurmizd Cathedral, where many of our students/parents and school staff attend mass on each Sunday. The school community regularly attends mass and other religious events.

His Grace Mar Meelis Zaia our Diocesan Bishop is a frequent visitor to the school and plays a great role in the development of faith to our staff and students. His Grace attends school assemblies and often addresses the assembly.

Teaching of Religion

Religion is a compulsory subject at Mar Narsai. The Religion Coordinator and a team of Religion teachers form a committee whose role is to design and implement the religion program in the school.

The content of the Religion program is based on the teachings of the Holy Catholic Apostolic Assyrian Church of the East. Prayer is a fundamental part of the program.

All Religion programs aim to develop each student’s knowledge and understanding of their faith including its beliefs, history, traditions and practices. The Christian values and commitment instilled in the students encourage them to treat all members of the community with dignity and respect.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is the responsibility of all staff to assist in the promotion of the dignity, self worth, safety and security of all students.

The Pastoral Care Team comprises of homeroom teachers, the Religion Team, The School Counsellor and School Executives headed by the School Principal and his Deputy.

Mar Narsai provides a happy and productive environment as evidenced and reflected by the students, parents and staff’s positive feedback and the on-going support provided by the general community.
Cultural Achievements

At Mar Narsai Assyrian College we have regular assemblies and combined assemblies with St Hurmizd Assyrian Primary School. We often have special guests to address our assemblies especially our Bishop, His Grace Mar Meelis Zaia. During an assembly, our school community will say the Lord’s Prayer in the Aramaic Language. The choir will sing the National Anthem. The choir has over 24 members and is voluntary for students who wish to join. They have performed at school assemblies, official functions and during school masses. All students are encouraged to find and develop their individual, creative and musical talents. Students perform a drama and ethnic dances for the Assyrian New Year celebrations and school feast days.

To assist students with learning more about Australian history and life, excursions have been organised to the Sydney City area. Students have experienced the Hyde Park Barracks Museum, the Australian Museum, The Powerhouse Museum, and The Sydney Observatory. The array of sites has allowed students to learn about Australia from the historic settlement to the modern society it is today.

Sporting Achievements

Students at Mar Narsai are involved in a variety of sporting activities including basketball, soccer, swimming, athletics, cross country running and cricket. Our students joined in many sporting events competing against students from a large number of Christian Schools. We have had representatives from Mar Narsai College in Athletics, swimming, cross country and soccer. The physical education program focuses on developing children’s skills in a large range of sporting activities.
Student Achievements - Academic

Literacy and Numeracy
The levels of achievements in Numeracy and Literacy the Mar Narsai Assyrian College for the 2007 year 7 and year 8 cohorts are best understood when factors, such as language background and ESL classification are taken into account for our current student population.

In 2007, all of the year 7 and 8 students come from background where a language other than English is spoken at home (LBOTE) compared with the state level of 26%. The ESL classification also shows a disproportionate number of our students in this category when compared with the state. Such factors would significantly impact on students’ performance in both literacy and numeracy in meeting the National Benchmark. Our results indicate, when these factors of the language barrier are considered, that our students performed comparatively well against the state. Results also indicate that literacy intervention programs at our school have enhanced student performances across all aspects of literacy.

ELLA and SNAP Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% High</th>
<th>% Proficient</th>
<th>% Elementary</th>
<th>% Low</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>84.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>89</td>
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Year 7 2007 ELLA Results: Levels of Achievements- State versus School (Overall Literacy)
Year 7 2007 SNAP Results: Levels of Achievements- State versus School (Overall Numeracy)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% High</th>
<th>% Proficient</th>
<th>% Elementary</th>
<th>% Low</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>79.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>85.1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

49 Students

Year 8 2007 ELLA Results: Levels of Achievements- State versus School (Overall Literacy)
Mean Difference between 2006 (Yr7) and 2007 (Yr8) Literacy: +5.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% High</th>
<th>% Proficient</th>
<th>% Elementary</th>
<th>% Low</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>85.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>90.9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Mar Narsai Assyrian College
Annual Report 2007
Year 8 2007 SNAP Results: Levels of Achievements - State versus School (Overall Numeracy)

Mean Difference between 2006 (Yr7) and 2007 (Yr8) Numeracy: + 6.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% High</th>
<th>% Proficient</th>
<th>% Elementary</th>
<th>% Low</th>
<th>Mean</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>79.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>87.8</td>
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</table>

![Overall Numeracy SNAP Year 8 Mean](image)
Policies

Mar Narsai Assyrian College has a comprehensive range of written Policies and Procedures to ensure that students are given the best possible education and that all activities comply with the NSW Board of Studies requirements.

Policies and Procedures include Student Welfare/ Discipline, Anti-Bullying, Child Protection, OH&S, Medication, Enrolment, Grievance, Critical Incident and Evacuation.

All Policies and Procedures are made available to parents through the Parent Handbook and during information/parent teacher meetings held throughout the year or simply the stakeholders may contact the school’s office for a copy of the desired policy. All Policies and Procedures have been sent to the NSW Board of Studies as part of the registration and accreditation process.

All staff has been supplied with a Staff Handbook which incorporates the School’s Policies and Procedures. All staff receives regular training in these procedures and they are regularly reviewed to ensure currency and best practice.
Welfare and Discipline Policy - An Overview
This policy encourages and rewards positive behaviour from students. Our aim is to prevent negative behaviour through acknowledging positive behaviour and making role models of students and specific behaviour.

**Merit Awards**
Awarded to students on a frequent basis for: good behaviour, completion of class/home work, demonstrating Christian values and attitudes, care for the environment, showing initiative to promote the name of the school.

**Academic Awards**
Awarded to students on a regular basis for: improvement in class/home work, producing work of a good, high, and excellent standard, gaining 1st, 2nd, & 3rd places in major assessment tasks, gaining 1st place in topic/spelling tests.

**Assembly Award**
Awarded to students who demonstrate initiatives that promote the good name of the College, students who make a positive contribution to the Christian life of the College, students who receive 5 Merits.

**Curriculum Award**
Students who demonstrate excellent levels of achievement in formal assessment tasks, students who show initiative in an academic field, students who earn 5 Academic awards.

**Principal’s Award**
Students who make a positive contribution in ways that benefit the College community and the Assyrian Church community in general. Students who have earned either 5 Assembly or 5 Curriculum Awards.

**College Medallion**
Awarded to students who earn 5 Principal’s Awards during their time at the College.
Staff
All teachers at Mar Narsai Assyrian College are members of the Teacher’s Institute of New South Wales.

Teacher Qualifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers who have teaching qualifications from a higher education institution within Australia or as recognized within the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) Guidelines</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers who have qualifications as a graduate from a higher education institution within Australia or one recognised within the AEI-NOOSR Guidelines but lack formal teacher education qualifications</td>
<td>1 – Teacher has enrolled in University of Western Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers who do not have qualifications as described in (a) and (b) but relevant to the teaching context</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional Development
Mar Narsai Assyrian College has an extensive professional development program for staff. All staff are involved in school based training in regular staff meetings and specific training sessions each term.
In 2007 staff received training in Child Protection, OH&S, Evacuation, Curriculum Development including designing teaching programs, assessment procedures and evaluation.
Staff have also been involved in in-services organised by the Australian Independent Schools Association. These have included Special Needs, HSIE and English as a Second Language.
The focus of all training has been to assist the staff in developing skills to identify children’s needs and to provide students with a quality teaching and learning experience.
Through professional development teachers will experiences in programming to enhance their understanding of the curriculum requirements, performance and job satisfaction and better meet the needs of the students and school’s expectations.

Teacher Attendance
Teacher attendance for 2007 stands at 98.4 %

Teacher Retention
One teacher left at the end of 2007 seeking employment other than teaching
Enrolments

Enrolled Students 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Enrolments in Year 7- 2007

Year 7- 2007

- 56% Female
- 44% Male

Student Enrolments in Year 8- 2007

Year 8- 2007

- 50% Female
- 50% Male
Student Retention
Student retention stands at 99%

Student Attendance
Student attendance for 2007 was 94% on average

School Priorities
As a newly established school we are constantly looking for improvement in all aspects of education;

- We will offer elective subject in 2007 for our new year 9 students
- We continue our registration and accreditation process as we need to apply for year 10 cohort
- Appoint qualified teachers to deliver the expanded curriculum which will include School Certificate in 2009
- Training program for our new teachers in OH&S and in Child Protection Policies and Procedures
- Continue to offer educational programs for parents in our community in use of Computers and Assyrian Language
- Purchase of equipment relevant to the new elective course

Community Satisfaction
The evaluation and development of the Assyrian Schools is an ongoing process. Through our regular communication and contact with parents, we hear positive and constructive comments regarding our Schools. Our ways of communication/contact include:

- Newsletter once a fortnight
- Parent Information Nights
- Students School Reports
- Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Coordinator information letters to parents once a term
- Parent Survey
- P&F flyers to parents
- School Sign Board
## Financial Statement

**Summary of Income - 2007**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$252,285.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRANTS</td>
<td>$1,076,662.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations &amp; Fundrais</td>
<td>$11,170.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Fees Collected</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bookshop Trading</td>
<td>$9,949.81</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,350,288.35</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost of Sales</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discounts</td>
<td>$27,178.82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Exp.</td>
<td>$125,808.26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freight</td>
<td>$48.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Tuition Exp.</td>
<td>$257.96</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cost of Sales</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gross Profit</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross Profit</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,196,894.91</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchases for Resale</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
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<td>Depreciation</td>
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<td>Administration Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accou. &amp; Audit. Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dues &amp; Subscriptions</td>
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<td>Bank Charges</td>
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<td>Late Fees Paid</td>
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<td>License Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts &amp; Trophies</td>
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<td>Machines Services</td>
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<td>Employment Expenses</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<td>Travel &amp; Excursions</td>
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<td>Services</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Profit</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Profit / (Loss)</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Profit / (Loss)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,691.99</strong></td>
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Summary of Cost of Sales- 2007

Summary of Expenses- 2007

**Concluding Comment**

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the staff of Mar Narsai Assyrian College for the time and effort they have put into their teaching practice and caring for their students. I also congratulate them on the way they have carried out their duties as true professionals in their daily routines. I especially thank the executive team for their leadership and support during the year.