

»» QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER ««

CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION



WELCOME

»» As the year comes to an end, The Catholic Education Foundation would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our Corporate and Community partners, From the Heart Giving Program contributors, and donors for their unwavering support throughout the 2024 school year.

We had a fantastic end to the year in Term 4 by hosting our inaugural CEF Women for Catholic Education Giving Circle luncheon, featuring Guest Speaker Christina Trimble (Executive Director of Schools Diocese of Bathurst). During the event, the ladies in the Circle voted to determine which CEF female Bursary student should be supported by the pooled donations.

Thanks to your support, we were able to provide 7,900 students with a CEF Bursary in 2024. Their families, who faced financial, social, or cultural hardships, deeply appreciated the assistance. This represents a 10.7% increase from last year

Together, we have accomplished great things this year, and we look forward to continuing our partnership in 2025 to create even more educational opportunities for our students.

Wishing you all a wonderful year ahead.

Kathleen Dominica and Janet

Bursary Type	Number
Foster Bursary	158
Indigenous Bursary	1394
Refugee Bursary	873
Full Financial Bursary	500
Partial Financial Bursary	4845

NEW CORPORATE DONORS

Welcome to the below organizations that have joined in partnership with the Catholic Education Foundation! We are so excited to have you on our journey in creating "Opportunities for All".

All Trades
Platinum Electricians
Brightwood

BURSARY STUDENT STORY

➤➤➤ This short story is about a lovely young lady who attended Year 8 in 2024 and received a CEF Foster Bursary.

She has two younger brothers who also attend Sydney Catholic Schools.

She spent some time with a previous foster mother who had recently relinquished her and her siblings, as well as another young girl who attends the same College and is in Year 10.

Homelife had become untenable since the death of their foster father. This young girl particularly missed her "sibling" in Year 10 who was relinquished earlier than her and had to move schools.

There was much grieving over the separation.

This student and her brothers have recently moved into another foster situation with a young local family that also has three young children of their own. They are starting to settle in and feel a sense of belonging.

The College Principal feels that there is a sense that this family will make a success of caring for her.

She receives frequent merits for school spirit and application and her achievement levels have been steadily improving whilst attending one of our Sydney Catholic Schools.

She is a lovely young lady with great potential, who would not be attending this school without the CEF Foster Bursary.

CEF WALK FOR A FOSTER BURSARY STUDENT

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A heartfelt thank you to all the staff at Sydney Catholic Schools Head Office who supported the CEF Walk for a Foster Bursary Student.

Thanks to your generosity, a total of \$11,640.48 was raised to help create a brighter future for the 133 students in the program!

EVENTS



>>> CEF WOMEN FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION GIVING CIRCLE LUNCHEON

The CEF was so excited to hold our inaugural Women's for Catholic Education Giving Circle Luncheon!

We thank our guest speaker, Christina Trimble, Executive Director of Schools Diocese of Bathurst. Christina touched on "While we have made significant strides over the past decades, challenges remain, particularly for Indigenous girls, girls from low-income families including migrants and refugees, and those with disabilities. These groups often face systemic barriers that affect their educational opportunities and outcomes. We can help them to overcome these barriers with the support of the Foundation."

Our network of values-led women who share a passion for female's receiving a Catholic education joined together to read stories of some of our Bursary Students which included young girls from different social backgrounds.

Their hearts were touched when reading about foster, refugee, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and financially disadvantaged female students.

These faith driven and like-minded women committed to providing education opportunities to girls in need, decided to pool their donations and support a young lady who has been awarded a CEF Foster Bursary!

If you would like further information or to join our mission of supporting female students, please visit this [link](#)



>>> END OF YEAR THANK YOU FUNCTION

Partners, Principals and Staff were invited to the Central Office to celebrate the CEF End of the Year Event and listen to guest speakers.

Mary Colagrossi, Principal at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Enfield, shared the inspiring story of a Foster Grandmother and how the bursary had significantly supported her family.

Additionally, one of our beautiful refugee alumni students, Nancy from All Saints Catholic College Liverpool, shared her journey. She spoke about how the Refugee Bursary supported her family and created an opportunity for her to pursue higher education and attend university.

The CEF celebrated the fabulous year of 2024 and thanked all in attendance, especially our Corporate Partners, for going above and beyond their financial contributions in creating "Opportunities for All".



>>> A VISIT TO ST CHARLES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, WAVERLEY

We sincerely thank Winc Australia and LJ Harper for their generous support of a family at St Charles Primary School Waverley.

Our partners have provided essential school resources for 2025. This kind gesture perfectly reflects the Catholic Education Foundation's mission in creating "Opportunities for All."



>>> PARTNER OPPORTUNITY

Sydney Catholic Schools Finance Team held a Business Managers Workshop where the CEF invited all partner to join for an opportunity to mingle and speak about their offerings to schools.

We thank all those that attended and hope beneficial connections were made! .

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The Catholic Education Foundation is committed to helping Catholic families to access a Catholic education for their children in one of our 150 primary and secondary Sydney Catholic schools.

Our Vision is that every child from a Catholic family has access to an education in a Sydney Catholic school, and no child is denied this opportunity due to genuine financial, cultural or social hardship.

Our Mission is to raise sufficient funds to sustain our school fee support program to assist Catholic families in educating their children in a Sydney Catholic school.

We would like to thank all of the Catholic Education Foundation's Corporate and Community Donors for their continued generous support of our vision and mission

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