



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

20 June 2024

### **MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR MILESTONE FOR SCHOOLS IN BROKEN BAY DIOCESE**

An extensive multi-million dollar refurbishment program for Catholic schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay launched yesterday is designed to enhance learning environments.

Newly refurbished facilities at St Thomas Catholic Primary School, Willoughby were officially opened and blessed by Most Rev Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay.

Celebrating the completion of the \$2.8 million capital works project, the primary school is one of many which will benefit from the extensive building program.

The event was attended by Jerome Laxale, MP, Federal Member for Bennelong; Dallas McInerney CEO, Catholic Schools NSW; Danny Casey Director of Schools CSBB; school leadership, staff, and the school's very excited young student cohort.

Bishop Anthony Randazzo blessed the school facilities saying "Today marks an important moment for our school community. It symbolises not only our commitment to academic excellence but also our dedication to delivering a high-quality, faith-based education, ensuring that our students come to know Christ, love learning and be the very best they can be.

"We are grateful for the support from the government and the collaborative efforts of all involved in bringing this project to fruition."

The extensive refurbishment included updated classrooms, library space, Covered Outdoor Learning Area, staff and student amenities.

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The Director of Schools, Danny Casey, praised the project, stating, "This significant investment in St Thomas Catholic Primary School is a testament to our dedication to providing quality education. This project, along with many others is transforming the learning spaces to better support our students and those who serve in our schools.

Dallas McInerney, the CEO of CSNSW congratulated Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) on the successful delivery of the upgraded facilities and the rigorous planning in place to enhance facilities across many CSBB schools.

He said, "CSBB is applying sound planning practices coupled with rigorous project management. Accessing the support of the Capital Block Grant Authority, CSBB has an ambitious program to refurbish and develop new facilities that will greatly enhance the learning experience for our students."

Bishop Anthony said the building program is a positive example of collaboration between the Diocese, government, teachers and dedicated parents who want their children to be the best they can be during the school years.

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