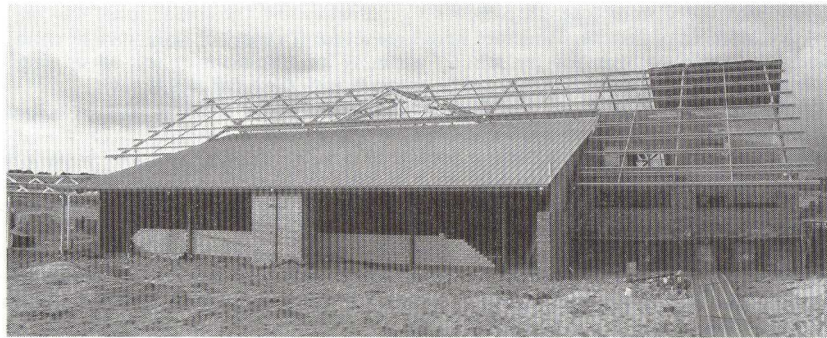


HISTORY



In 1982 a steering committee was formed to plan for a new Catholic primary school in Bateman. In 1985, Yidarra first opened its doors to two classes of pre-primary students and four primary classes. Since then, the school has developed into a two-streamed primary school with modern facilities such as a multi-purpose room, canteen, learning technologies centre, kindergarten and pre-primary centres. Planning is ongoing by the school board to meet the future needs of the school community.



The Junior Atrium at Yidarra, 1984.

YIDARRA - A CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

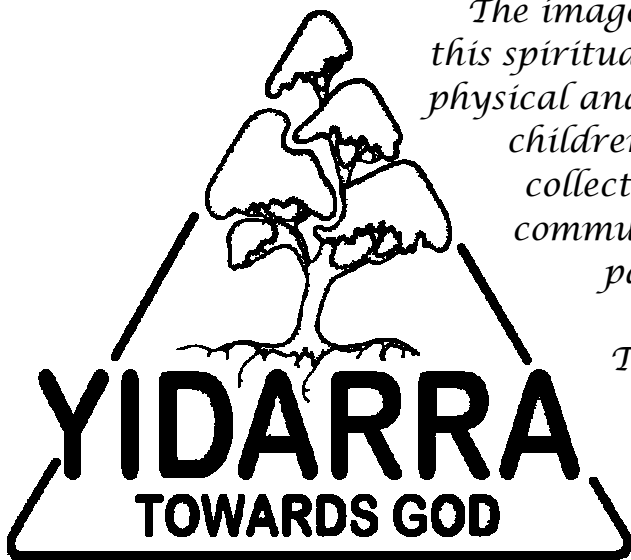
At Yidarra, we believe that a Catholic School is a Christian Community with a common vision which is centred on the person of Jesus and his teachings. Christian values should be evident in the relationships among all who make up the school community - students, staff, parents and parish.

In a Catholic School the atmosphere and the programmes provide for the total growth of the child - educational, social, emotional, physical and spiritual. In such an environment it is hoped each student will come to believe in his/her worth as an individual and as a child of God.



Yidarra enjoys a close, cooperative relationship with the St Thomas More Parish in Bateman, participating in school liturgies and Masses conducted by the parish priests.

Yidarra (pronounced like Pinjarra) is a word from the language of the Noongah Aboriginal people, the original inhabitants of the South West of Western Australia, which loosely translated, means "in the act of going upward". The name of the school is linked directly to its motto Towards God" in its reference to the central place which spiritual growth has in the life of the school.



The image of the tree is a fitting symbol of this spiritual growth. It also represents the physical and intellectual development of our children, as well as the personal and collective growth of the whole school community teachers, children, parents, parish and wider community.

The triangle in which the school crest is set represents the Holy Trinity, and illustrates the strength of God's presence in the school.

The name of the school was suggested by Noel Morich, a local Catholic Aboriginal educator and a member of the Noongah community.