

Catholic schools in harmony

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HAPPY CLAPPERS: Primary students at the Festival of the Sacred. Photo: ANDREW PERRYMAN

MORE than 800 students from Catholic primary schools in the Sandhurst Diocese joined together in song in the Sacred Heart Cathedral this week for the annual Festival of the Sacred.

All grade five and six students from the 16 Catholic primary schools in the Western Deanery took part in a massed choir spectacular led by a3 – Australian Arts Alive, a branch of the Australian School of Performing Arts. Director of Catholic Education Sandhurst, Ms Phil Billington, said industry and diocesan partnerships were critical to the success of the arts, which she said were an essential part of the curriculum. “This is a wonderful way in which to awaken within students and teachers their God-given gifts and to celebrate these gifts,” Ms Billington said.

The festival, in its third year, was part of the Diocesan Arts strategy for the Sandhurst Diocese and highlights an important partnership between Catholic Education Sandhurst and the Australian School of Performing Arts who deliver high quality performing arts experiences for young people throughout the country.