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South Thornlie Primary School Annual Report



▪ Learn ▪ Excellence ▪ Equity ▪ Care

Annual Report

This Annual Report for 2023 provides a summary of the school's performance and progress throughout the year. It presents details of student performance in both academic and non-academic areas as well as the school's performance in the focus areas of the School's Business Plan. It is important to note that the Annual Report is only one component of the total reporting process that the school undertakes. To contextualise the school's purpose and its operation, the Annual Report should be read in conjunction with other documents such as the Business Plan and information booklets and policies – all of which can be located on the school's website.

Additional information has been provided to the school community through newsletters, school displays, assemblies, notice boards, the school website, school's Facebook and Instagram, reports to the School Board and P & C. Further to this, information of a more individual nature has been reported or communicated to parents through school reports, Open Night, interviews, and Individual Education Plans (IEPs) when appropriate.

Our school delivers a unique and stimulating educational environment, where your child is valued, nurtured, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

WA EDUCATION
AWARDS 2022
EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT LEADERSHIP FINALIST

AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION
AWARDS 2023
BEST STUDENT WELLBEING PROGRAM FINALIST

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS
AWARDS 2023
SUSAN RYAN FAMILY ENGAGEMENT FINALIST



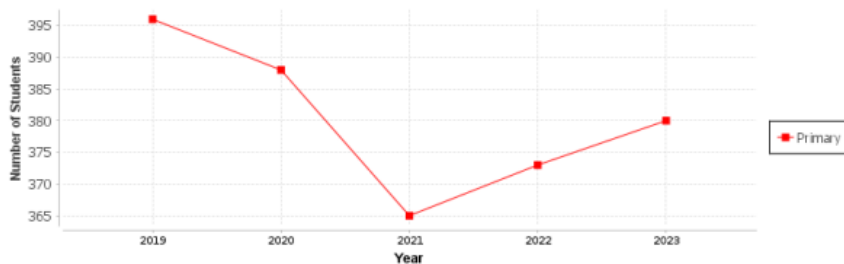
School Context

South Thornlie Primary School was first opened in 1976 and has since grown into a vibrant and diverse school with strong community links. South Thornlie Primary School became an Independent Public School in Term 3, 2020.

We currently have a campus of five teaching blocks accommodating Kindy, Pre-primary, Junior, Middle and Senior classes. Our grounds are well maintained with three large play areas including playgrounds and a sporting oval. There are two enclosed assembly areas, STEAM (Arts), Science and Music rooms, Library and a Computer lab. Our school runs a local dental health program and has a Dental Clinic and Outside School Hours care (OSH Club) located within the school grounds.

South Thornlie Primary provides specialist programs to its students including Languages Other Than English (LOTE) - Italian, Physical Education, Science, Health, and Music. We embrace technology and sustainability with a number of ICT and environmental support programs running at the school to enrich students' learning experiences. Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard or smart TV and has access to iPads and the computer lab.

Student Number Trends (based on 2023 Semester 2 Census Data)



This graph include only full-time students so exclude Kindy.

Our school currently has 434 students from Kindergarten to Year 6. We celebrate multiculturalism with approximately 36% of our students coming from a language background other than English and over 40 different languages spoken.

All staff are committed to helping students reach their full potential through the development of a curriculum that caters for the needs of all individuals. We believe parental support is critical if students are to reach their full potential. We actively promote our school in the wider community and encourage parental input into how our school operates. The school has an active School Board and a highly involved Parents and Citizens Association providing strong financial support for the school.

Our School's Vision

South Thornlie Primary School is a safe, happy and positive school, where all members of our community, staff, students and parents feel valued, listened to and supported to be their best, working to achieve excellence – together. Our vision is to provide a safe and caring environment in which we are constantly striving for excellence while preparing our students for the challenges of an ever-changing world.



Principal's Address



It is with great pleasure that I present the South Thornlie Primary School 2023 Annual Report. It is an opportunity for us to celebrate the successes which the children and the school have achieved this year. It has been an honour leading this exceptional school over the past four and a half years as we have continued to negotiate the complexities and challenges of an ever-changing world.

This is a school which is proud of its history and traditions, where the connection to the community is valued and celebrated, and where we look forward to an exciting future for each and every one of our students.

All staff are committed to providing the best possible education programs for all children, encouraging them to achieve academic excellence and become responsible citizens. Our focus to provide an education that caters for the requirements of each individual child remains our highest priority. We pride ourselves on providing an inclusive learning environment that caters for the diversity of the students in our care. We actively form and foster partnerships to support us in achieving this objective.

This year has been a busy and successful year. We maintained and built upon past achievements and continued our focus on improving school performance with the flexibilities afforded us through our status as an Independent Public School. Building strong partnerships between the community and the school was further enhanced with the support of the School Board.

During 2022 and 2023 we were privileged to have our school's efforts and achievements acknowledged through our selection as finalists in three awards. Our first recognition was the WA Education Awards for Excellence in Student Leadership. This award celebrates schools and teams taking an inclusive approach to leadership where shared responsibility and a focus on collective impact rather than individual achievement is encouraged. In 2023 our school also made finalists in the Australian Education Awards for Best Student Wellbeing. This award recognises the most outstanding program or initiative developed by a school in Australia to improve student health and wellbeing. Following on from this we were finalists in the Australian State Council Organisation Awards for the Susan Ryan Family Engagement Award. This prestigious award celebrates government schools and communities that have successfully integrated family involvement as a crucial element in fostering student success. Although we did not win the overall awards, we were very humbled to have been judged, in a competitive field, as a school that makes positive change for our students through our dedication, innovation, and collaboration.

2023 saw our school learning community continue to strive to achieve excellence as we continued our progress towards our Business Plan targets. The collaboration between our outstanding teachers, highly skilled support staff and our supportive parents and care givers enabled us to maintain an unwavering focus on improving our performance and our students' outcomes.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our P & C and School Board members for their time and commitment in meeting student and school needs. I would also like to acknowledge our many volunteers, both parents and community members, who without their support we would not be able to run school events such as year 6 camp11 and school disco and additional programs such as Support a Reader, Craft Club and Robotics. These programs are highly valued by students, staff and parents.

I look forward to 2024 and the further success we can achieve through a strong focus on working together and aspiring to providing a dynamic school, innovative students, and a nurturing community – ***Achieving Excellence Together.***

Please read the report, celebrate our many successes and work with us to achieve our future goals.

Megan Barnett – Principal

Our School Values

Learning, Excellence, Equity and Care are our school values and the guiding principles of our school culture.

Learning

We believe:

- all students have the capacity to learn.
- quality teaching is the key to learning achievement.
- a whole school approach to all curriculum areas is the best way to achieve positive outcomes.
- sustainability and ICT should be imbedded in our teaching and learning practices.
- using quality data to drive school planning helps improve student achievement.

Excellence

We believe in:

- setting high expectations for staff in all areas of teaching and learning.
- setting high expectations for students to strive to achieve the very best academic and social outcomes.
- all parents having a responsibility to support teachers and students in their pursuit of excellence.
- embracing innovative practices to enrich teaching and learning at our school.
- a planning, teaching and assessment cycle.
- celebrating the achievements of our students.

Care

We believe in:

- providing a safe and supportive environment that is respectful, honest and friendly, and that instils a sense of pride in our school.
- working in a collaborative manner across the school community to make the most of individual strengths and help every child achieve.
- fostering clear and open lines of communication between parents, students and teachers to break down barriers and provide better outcomes for everyone.

Equity

We believe:

- an equitable school is one that respects the individuality of all children and adapts teaching to their needs.
- in celebrating the rich environment of our culturally diverse school, and allowing all voices to be heard with respect.
- always following the professional standards in our Staff Code of Conduct.
- in abiding by the Student Code of Conduct at all times.
- in fostering positive relationships and partnerships that enable our school community to achieve the very best.



Message from the School Board



It is my pleasure to present the 2023 South Thornlie Primary School Board Chair Report.

The Board focuses on the long-term goals of the school, and the members of the Board have strategic oversight of the school's achievement targets, finance, and overall direction. We do this by endorsing the annual school report, contributions and fees, marketing plan, school policies, and student performance targets and achievements. As well as supporting and promotion of the Board in the School and the community.

This year the Board, staff and administration have been delighted to share in the school's success as finalist in the WA Education Awards for Excellence in School Leadership in 2022, finalist in the Australian Education Awards for Best Student Wellbeing Program in 2023 and finalist for the Susan Ryan Engagement Award.

Our Board focus this year has been reviewing the reports presented by the principal and staff on the progress towards achieving the targets of the current Business Plan, and how these contribute to the reporting requirements for our upcoming school review at the end of Term 3. The Board has been very satisfied with the planning, implementation and execution of the various strategies set out in the school's Business Plan and remains on target to continue to achieve the targets and milestones in 2024 and looks forward with keen anticipation to our School Review.

I would like to thank our Board members Kristen Thackrey, Robert Fuller, Brooke Dickson, Kylie Taylor, Tess Panomarenko, Neetha Talam, Jeong-Eun Jeong, Paula Vardy, Merranie Beal, Jacqueline Bell, Lorraine Hams, Megan Barnett and Nick Mortimer, for your enthusiastic support of the board's endeavours, and for your positive contributions to our meeting discussions. I would like to farewell with gratitude our exiting representatives of 2022 and 2023 Michelle Murray, and Kevin Saunders. Members of the Board generously give their time and I thank you all for your efforts and dedication.

Special thanks as to teaching staff, support staff, administration, cleaners, gardener and our P&C and other parent volunteers for their continued efforts in 2023. It is a privilege working with you to create better outcomes for our school, students, and community.

Carina Brown - Chairperson School Board ,South Thornlie Primary School



Our School Community

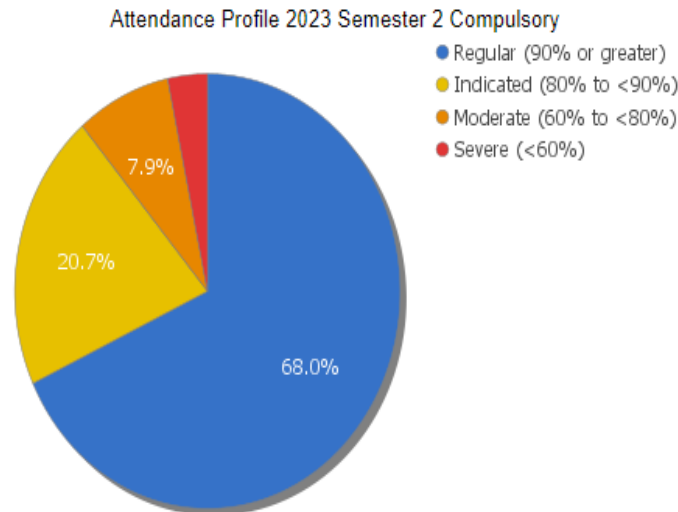


Student Numbers and Attendance

Student Numbers as at end of Semester 2, 2023 NB: The actual number of students enrolled as at 11 October, 2023 was 438 students and 2024 projected enrolments is 441.

Primary	Kin	PPR	Y01	Y02	Y03	Y04	Y05	Y06	Total
Full Time	(29)	47	57	45	53	54	60	64	409
Part Time	57								

While the overall attendance rate of our students has remained relatively steady, and is still above both 'Like Schools' and 'WA Public Schools',



	Attendance is excellent and conducive to best academic results.
90 -100%	Attendance is classified as being as REGULAR
80 – 89%	Attendance is classified as being at INDICATED RISK
60 -79%	Attendance is classified at being at MODERATE RISK
0 – 59%	Attendance is classified as being at SEVERE RISK

Every Day Counts

The Education Department of WA defines regular attendance as being above 90%. Consistent attendance and participation are essential factor in achieving social and academic learning outcomes. Student attendance of less than 90% will have an impact on a child’s opportunity to achieve their potential. Attendance is monitored on an individual basis and partnerships with parents are developed to improve attendance rates where required.

If a child misses...	that equals... (Days missed per year)	that equals... (Years missed during school career PP-12)	Which is the same as attending until:
1 day per fortnight = 90% attendance	20	Nearly 1.5 years	Part-way through Year 11
1 day per week = 80% attendance	40	Over 2.5 years	Part-way though Year 10
2 days per week = 60% attendance	80	Over 5 years	The end of Year 7
3 days per week = 40% attendance	120	Nearly 8 years	The end of Year 4

Monitoring and Strategies for Improvement (from STPS 2021– 2024 Business Plan)

- **Individual and whole school approach** – Attendance processes and strategies are implemented both for individual students and a whole school approach.
- **Monitoring and interventions** – Teachers and administrators monitor and put intervention strategies in place for students with low attendance rates.
- **Case management** – Implement case management processes for at risk students.
- **Whole school and class incentives** – Class incentives to be given based on average attendance and punctuality.
- **Regular attendance** – Regular attendance is consistently promoted on our school web page, newsletter and semester reward program.
- **Attendance Officer** – To follow up with parents/caregivers for all unexplained absences.

Tracking Our Progress - NAPLAN

South Thornlie Primary School's ICSEA (Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage) is 994 and a national decile rank of 5. When "like schools" comparisons are referred to, they are made to schools with similar ICSEA. The average ICSEA across Australia is 1000.

South Thornlie Primary School Comparison against 'Like' WA Public Schools

Numeracy

Year	Y03		Y05	
	School	Like Schools	School	Like Schools
2023	410	385	492	464

Reading

Year	Y03		Y05	
	School	Like Schools	School	Like Schools
2023	392	379	493	477

Writing

Year	Y03		Y05	
	School	Like Schools	School	Like Schools
2023	406	399	484	464

Spelling

Year	Y03		Y05	
	School	Like Schools	School	Like Schools
2023	396	390	503	480

Grammar & Punctuation

Year	Y03		Y05	
	School	Like Schools	School	Like Schools
2023	418	385	499	470

Curriculum

English

English continues to be an area of high focus at South Thornlie Primary school. We have continued to collaboratively develop, implement and embed whole school approaches to teaching English, supported by the team-teaching program implemented throughout the year. English targets are identified each term, supported by professional learning, agreed strategies, resources and planning tools to assist teachers to implement best practice in this important curriculum area.

The Early Childhood focus areas for 2023 have included:

National Quality Standards, catering for students with learning difficulties or disabilities, building phonemic awareness and PLD and Heggerty program.

The Year 1-6 focus areas for 2023 have included:

Writing strategies in narratives and persuasives, reading fluency and comprehension, grammar and punctuation, vocabulary and PLD.

Many support programs are implemented throughout the school to benefit students within the context of the English curriculum. MiniLit, MacqLit have continued as targeted support programs for individual and small groups to improve and develop literacy skills. The English TAP (Targeted Achievement Program) and EAL/D TAP (English as an Additional Language or Dialect) continued for students from Years 1-6 requiring support to learn some specific skills in reading, writing or spelling. These programs are provided by Education Assistants who withdraw students from class for targeted intervention supported by classroom teachers.

Our implementation of PLD a whole school approach based on Diana Rigg PLD Spelling and Phonics from Kindy through to year 6. In addition, this year we prioritised reading fluency. Feedback from staff has been that these two programmes have had a positive impact on student's progress in the areas of reading and spelling.

English as an Additional Language or Dialect - EAL/D

Students who are English as an Additional Language or Dialect are identified on enrolment through an interview process with their families. The students are recorded on either stage 1 and/or 2 depending on their prior level of studies/if any in an Australian school. Stages 1 and 2 EAL/D students have continued to be provided with extra support at South Thornlie Primary School with an EAL/D Targeted Achievement Program (TAP) to further develop their language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

The focus of the EAL/D program is to scaffold English language development for students to achieve a specific identified English language acquisition target. Students are allocated small group-time with the EAL/D Education Assistant who is running the program. EAL/D teacher specialists support classroom teachers with coordinating, training, resources, timetabling, assessing and programming.

South Thornlie Primary School has invested in a wide range of EAL/D resources that is accessible to all staff and utilised in various targeted achievement and support programs across the school. The school continually updates and invests in new resources.

Mathematics

Mathematics has continued to remain a priority area in the school for 2023. The staff have strived to further improve our teaching practices and continued to maintain and further develop whole school approaches to areas such as word problems and problem solving.

Each term incorporates a different Mathematics focus area. These areas are carefully selected by staff to reflect the needs of the students. At the start of each term, classroom teachers engage in professional development in the chosen focus area. During these sessions teachers are provided with curriculum information, a range of strategies, mathematical vocabulary, resources and time within year levels to collaboratively plan lessons and assessments. In addition to this, collaborative meetings are held three times

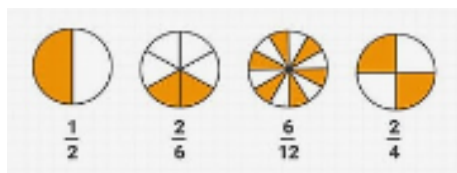
a term to further support teachers in the class and provide them with another opportunity to work collaboratively, all of which helps to better meet the students' needs.

The Early Childhood focus areas for 2023 have included:

Hands on and outdoor Maths and technology and early childhood

The Year 1-6 focus areas for 2023 have included:

Place value, time, fractions and 3D shapes



Science

This year our specialist Science teacher continued the delivery of the Science curriculum with a specific focus on Science Inquiry Skills. From the beginning of the year, using whole school frameworks, students worked to develop effective skills in planning, conducting, and evaluating a scientific investigation. The aim of this was to increase students' interest in learning Science by focusing on discovery learning using a hands on, inquiry-based approach, and by doing so, improve their Science knowledge and understanding. We have developed programs that link into the National Curriculum and cover the four main areas of Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth & Space. These programs cover this content whilst focusing on the Science Inquiry Skills the students require. The students experienced Science through a wide range of experiments and investigations that relate Science to their everyday lives. The instruction builds on the knowledge they have obtained in previous years.

Staff Update and Profile

2023 has seen us welcome new staff and say goodbye to others.

Long standing and very valued staff member, Margaret Knott, our school librarian has retired this year. Margaret has worked with the students in our school for the last 19 years sharing her love of reading and running our school library. Also moving on, Mrs Tess Panomarenko. Tess has been a long-standing member of our staff working just over fourteen years with us at STPS. Finishing up her year five teaching for 2023, she will join the staff at Banksia Park Primary School in 2024. We wish her all the very best at her new school. Tiana Schmitt Kramlund, our pre-primary teacher went on maternity leave this year celebrating the birth of her first child.

We would like to welcome the following new staff members who joined us this year Janhwi Tiwari, Madelynne Divitini and Abigail King.

Staff Profile	
Total teaching staff	29
Total non-teaching staff	25

School Events, Highlights and Celebrations

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Principal's Morning Tea (Term 1-4) Aussie of the Month (Term 1-4) ANZAC Poetry Competition Choir (Term 1-4) Mega Play (Term 1-3) Parent teacher interviews AQWA Camp Year 6 WA Football visit Summer Interschool Carnival Harmony Day School Disco WA Symphony Orchestra Incursion Pizza Lunch Australian Education Awards	ANZAC Day Ceremony Running Club Treasure Hunters Program (term 2-4) Robotics Club Pirate Day Ukulele Group (Term 2-4) Pizza Lunch Winter Interschool Carnival NAIDOC Week Talent Show Sci Tech Family Fundraiser Lego Club (Term 2-4) Interschool Music Festival School Photos Faction Cross Country Kindy Mother's Day	Carnival Fun Day Yr 6 Fundraiser Interschool Cross Country Pizza Lunch Year 6 Dare Adventure Camp Jumps and Throws Carnival Parent Open Night Book Week Dress Up and Book Fair Science Week Education Interactive Science & Science Alive Inc Kindy Father's Day Celebration PP Hospital Incursion Australian Maths Competition ATCO Kitchen Excursion Faction Athletics Carnival Susan Ryan Engagement Award Finalist P and C Pyjama Day Farmyard Incursion ECE One Big Voice Concert P and C Milo Munch Day St John's First Aid Incursion Yr 4 Kings Park Excursion Great Aussie Crunch	Infinite Limits Dance Lessons Kindy Dance Lessons Kindy Orientation Music Assembly Pizza Lunch Yr 6 AQWA Excursion St John First Aid Incursion ATCO Kitchen Excursion End of Year Rewards Day Book Awards Thank You Morning Tea 2023 Student Leaders announced Senior Robotics Competition End of Year Concert Swimming Lessons Graduation Assembly and Dinner Bell Ceremony



2023 School Improvements

At South Thornlie Primary School, we always aim to improve our school environment based on staff, parent and communication feedback and an identified need. We are constantly improving areas around our school. 2023 has been busy! We have upgraded the following;

Undercover Area stage & walls painted	New Gym Mats	New paving and cubby refurbishments in Pre Primary
A Block Toilet were renovated	Dental Clinic Upgrades	Pirate Ships & Path in Tiny Town
Giant outdoor games purchased	Sports trolley purchased	Decodable readers for PP, Year 1 and Year 2
New Pathway up to Kindy	New Pigeonholes for A Block	Staff Room Upgrades – Toilets and Water Filter
Sensory Garden in Pre Primary	Moveable Whiteboards	NOLA Garden Message stick signs and Noongar Map
New keyboards for iPads	New Shade Sails A Block play area	IT Upgrades – new WAPs
Therapy room resources updated	Garden bed make overs	Tiny Town Signs
Computer Room renovated	Whiteboards for all students	Path and Bus Stop added to Tiny Town
New Carpet in C2 and C4 Classes	New soccer goals for our Oval	Wood chips to all gardens
Softfall added to Kindy & oval area	Library upgrade to Ipad stands and new tables	New bench purchased – Reflection Table
New bikes for Kindy and Pre Primary	Cozy Kindy reading chairs we purchased	New LED lights throughout the school



Financial Summary

INCOME - Dec 2023 (Verified Dec Cash)		
	Current Budget (\$)	Actual YTD (\$)
Carry Forward (Cash)	182,159	182,159
Carry Forward (Salary)	434,850	434,850
STUDENT-CENTRED FUNDING		
Per Student	3,560,531	3,560,531
School and Student Characteristics	939,370	939,370
Disability Adjustments	36,227	36,227
Targeted Initiatives	259,496	259,496
Operational Response Allocation	11,811	11,811
Total Funds:	4,807,435	4,807,435
TRANSFERS AND ADJUSTMENTS		
Regional Allocation	0	0
Transition Adjustment	0	0
School Transfers – Salary	(340,530)	(340,530)
School Transfers - Cash	333,660	333,660
Department Adjustments	0	0
Total Funds:	(6,870)	(6,870)
LOCALLY RAISED FUNDS (REVENUE)		
Voluntary Contributions	17,569	17,558
Charges and Fees	80,294	78,652
Fees from Facilities Hire	58,636	58,636
Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships	37,036	36,917
Commonwealth Govt Revenues	0	0
Other State Govt/Local Govt Revenues	0	0
Revenue from CO, Regional Office and Other scho	2,486	2,486
Other Revenues	39,330	39,331
Transfer from Reserve or DGR	0	0
Residential Accommodation	0	0
Farm Revenue (Ag and Farm Schools only)	0	0
Camp School Fees (Camp Schools only)	0	0
Total Funds:	235,351	233,580
TOTAL	5,652,925	5,651,154

EXPENDITURE - Dec 2023 (Verified Dec Cash)

	Current Budget (\$)	Actual YTD (\$)
SALARIES		
Appointed Staff	3,935,694	3,935,694
New Appointments	0	0
Casual Payments	381,505	381,505
Other Salary Expenditure	848	848
Total Funds:	4,318,047	4,318,047
GOODS AND SERVICES (CASH EXPENDITURE)		
Administration	46,843	31,977
Lease Payments	0	0
Utilities, Facilities and Maintenance	132,462	126,370
Buildings, Property and Equipment	133,920	105,497
Curriculum and Student Services	251,183	214,064
Professional Development	11,390	11,390
Transfer to Reserve	155,200	155,200
Other Expenditure	47,073	31,600
Payment to CO, Regional Office and Other schools	0	0
Residential Operations	0	0
Residential Boarding Fees to CO (Ag Colleges only)	0	0
Farm Operations (Ag and Farm Schools only)	0	0
Farm Revenue to CO (Ag and Farm Schools only)	0	0
Camp School Fees to CO (Camp Schools only)	0	0
Total Funds:	778,071	676,098
TOTAL	5,096,118	4,994,145

