



# 2023 Annual Report



**Kerry Street**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL



# WELCOME

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Welcome to the Kerry Street Community School Annual Report.

This Annual Report provides parents and association members of the wider community with information about the events, activities and performance of Kerry Street Community School during the period January – December 2023.

This report also outlines the school's successes and strengths and makes recommendations for future improvement.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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## **Kaya, Wanjoo Whadjuk Boodja**

We take a moment today, to stop and remember how we are connected to our school. It's land; the animals from the Kookaburra's to the Bobtails; the plants, our Native Gums, wattle bushes and bush tucker garden; and the people.

At Kerry Street Community School, we acknowledge the Whadjuk Nyungar people as the Traditional Owners of the Land on which our school is built.

We also acknowledge the strength, resilience and survival of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We recognise their status as Traditional Custodians of the vast and beautiful lands and seas across Australia, the sovereignty of which was never ceded.

Kerry Street Community School stands in support with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples against intergenerational injustices and impacts upon Land, cultures, languages, families and rights.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, and we thank them for sharing and caring from the land we learn, enjoy and play on.

We promise to care for this land.

**Together we all stand.**

# 2023



# OUR SCHOOL

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Kerry Street Community School is a progressive educational environment, inspiring collaborative, creative and authentic learning, in order to provide a unique educational experience for children and their families.

Our school fosters a hands-on approach to education, favouring exploration, interaction and projects that are relevant to real life, which is an approach that aims to keep students engaged and passionate throughout their learning journeys. An ever-developing variety of opportunities and resources are provided, through which children can discover their own interests and strengths.

We believe that finding a way for children to feel inspired about learning so they can fulfil their individual potential is vital, and is a key component of our school's educational philosophy.



# MISSION STATEMENT

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To be an active, accessible community for nurturing and inspiring authentic learning and living.

# VALUES

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# DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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As I reflect on the remarkable journey of 2023, I am filled with gratitude and a profound sense of pride in our collective accomplishments. Stepping into the role of Acting Principal for Term 4 was an absolute privilege, and I am immensely thankful for the opportunity and trust placed in me.

Our commitment to the school's four core values have guided our actions throughout the year. It was been heartening to witness how our community has embraced these values, fostering an environment where every member feels empowered to contribute and grow.

In 2023, we celebrated academic achievements and the spirit of togetherness and resilience that defines Kerry Street Community School. Our whole school camp to Wooditjup in Margaret River, set against the backdrop of Wadandi Boodja, stood out as a commitment to experiential learning and connecting with the land and each other. It was more than a school camp—it was a collective exploration of nature, learning, and unity.

Harmony Day celebrations, the heartwarming welcome extended to new staff, the mesmerising Drama and Music Productions, and the recognition of Tom's 25 years of dedicated service to Kerry Street are all milestones that showcase our commitment to excellence and the growth of wonder and wisdom within our community.

The success of our Open Day, with its bustling market stalls crafted by the skilful hands of our students, was a display to the vitality of our school community. The laughter, creativity, and genuine connections that permeated the event spoke volumes about the spirit that defines us.

Our dedication to care and love, both within our school community and in the broader global context, manifested in events such as the Nature Disco hosted by Year 1/2, the Year 3/4 incursion with the City of Cockburn Rangers, the Year 5/6 excursion to Parliament House and the Supreme Court House in Perth, and the enriching Remida Art incursion. These endeavours underscore our belief that education transcends textbooks and classrooms; it is about nurturing compassionate, globally aware citizens.

The brilliance of Science Week, the meaningful observance of National Reconciliation Week, and our participation in the Australasian Democratic Education Community (ADEC) Conference in Victoria were not just events but expressions of our commitment to holistic education. Each experience, from the wonders of science to the rich history of Indigenous culture, showcased our dedication to fostering well-rounded individuals deeply connected to the world around them.

Thank you for a year filled with shared joys, challenges overcome, and countless cherished moments. Here's to the ongoing learning journey, growing, and thriving together.



*Taylah Griffin*

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**



# 2023 ACHIEVEMENTS

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In 2023, Kerry Street Community School focused on embedding its school values into everyday practice. This work was shared within our school and the wider community through our newsletter, social media and website. It was a huge achievement and something we have been working towards for many years!



Some of our key achievements within our school values in 2023 were:

## **We act with trust, honesty, integrity and courage:**

- Increased enrolments
- Whole School Camp in Margaret River
- Year 5/6 Leadership positions taking action across school.

## **We encourage excellence and foster the growth of wonder and wisdom:**

- National Reconciliation Action Week
- Whole staff Professional Learning focused on Numeracy delivery and resources
- IT resourcing including laptops and iPads
- Drama and Music production
- Intervention Specialist Teacher
- Acting Principal and Chair attended the Australasian Democratic Education Community Conference.

## **We are a community that contributes to the daily life and future of our school:**

- Installation of the new watercourse in the playground
- Designed Makerspace
- Natural light solutions (skylights)
- Groundskeeper role.

## **We act with care and love, mindful of our place in the wider world:**

- Whole school events including Graduation, Tom's 25-year anniversary, National Reconciliation Week, Sorry Day, Book Week, Harmony Day, Nature Disco
- Whole school excursions/incursions including Spare Parts Puppet Theatre, Perth Zoo, Parliament House, City of Cockburn and author visits.



# STAFFING 2023

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## LEADERSHIP

Melissa Kennedy - Principal  
Taylah Griffin - Deputy of Teaching and Learning; Acting Principal in Term 4

## TEACHERS

Jessica Forth  
Misty Daszkiewicz  
Jacey Long  
Cindy May  
Amy Gatchell  
Mim Stephens  
Taylah Griffin  
David Exham  
Stacey Huff  
Caroline Colliss - Visual Arts Teacher  
Jamie-Lee Hughes - Auslan Teacher  
Eylish Hodgins - Drama, Music Teacher  
Sarah Weaving - Intervention Specialist Teacher

## STAFFING COMPOSITION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander: 0%

**All teachers hold relevant WA-based qualifications and are registered with the Teacher's Registration Board of Western Australia.**



## EDUCATION ASSISTANTS

Belinda Allen  
Natalie Bobojcov  
Caroline Colliss  
Tom Francas  
Simonne Hamman  
Claire Holland  
Elizabeth Lee  
Carolyn MacDonald  
Asha McGlew  
Kisani Weldon  
Sarah Weaving  
Carly Wills

## NON-TEACHING STAFF

Lisa Farrell- Wellbeing Coordinator  
Jacqueline Gratton - Bursar  
Linda Green - Administration Assistant  
Robyn Williams - Temp Admin Assistant  
Gary Allen - Groundskeeper

## STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- First Aid
- Emergency Response Warden Training
- Mandatory Reporting
- Brendan McKeague - Staff Building
- Quality Improvement Plan Review
- Supporting students with additional needs
- Courageous Conversations
- Whole School Mathematics Review
- Assessment and Moderation
- Individual PL related to school programs and needs.



# STUDENTS 2023

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2023 saw KSCS start with 83 students and finish the year with 70 students. Our students come from culturally diverse backgrounds including:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander: 2%
- Languages other than English: 9%.

We had a class of 12 students graduate from Year 6 and transition to the following local high schools:

- Kennedy Baptist College
- Fremantle Christian School
- Portschoo
- Home School.

# ATTENDANCE

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## 2023 Attendance

Year Group	K	PP	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Attendance % 2023	88.9%	84.3%	84.1%	88.2%	84.3%	83.3%	83.4%	87.5%
% increase / decrease	+8.9%	+6.3%	-0.9%	+2.2%	+0.3%	+5.3%	+0.4%	+6.5%
<b>Whole school average attendance: 85.5%</b> <b>Overall 3.59% increase in attendance</b>								

In 2023, we observed a notable increase in overall school attendance, with a rise of 3.59% compared to 2022. Kindergarten saw a remarkable surge in attendance, improving by 8.9%, the highest among all year levels. Some of the data display was impacted by individual students with significant absences. Nevertheless, we attained promising attendance rates across the board.

In 2024, some strategies we plan to implement to support increased attendance include:

- Ongoing communication about the importance of school attendance
- Newsletter article/s from Wellbeing Coordinator focused on school start times and consistent attendance
- Implementation of reviewed attendance procedures including 'Prolonged Absences and Consistently Low Attendance' procedure
- Provision of access to Curriculum offsite materials through an Alternative Attendance Plan.

Our focus in 2024 will be on late arrivals.

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

A School Improvement Plan and Assessment collection and analysis cycle was introduced in 2021. Staff analyse data biannually and set achievement targets for six—or 12-month periods. This information is reported to the Board biannually.

## NAPLAN

NAPLAN no longer assess against a minimum standard. For 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards with four proficiency levels for each assessment area at each year level. The NAPLAN measurement scales and time series have also been reset.

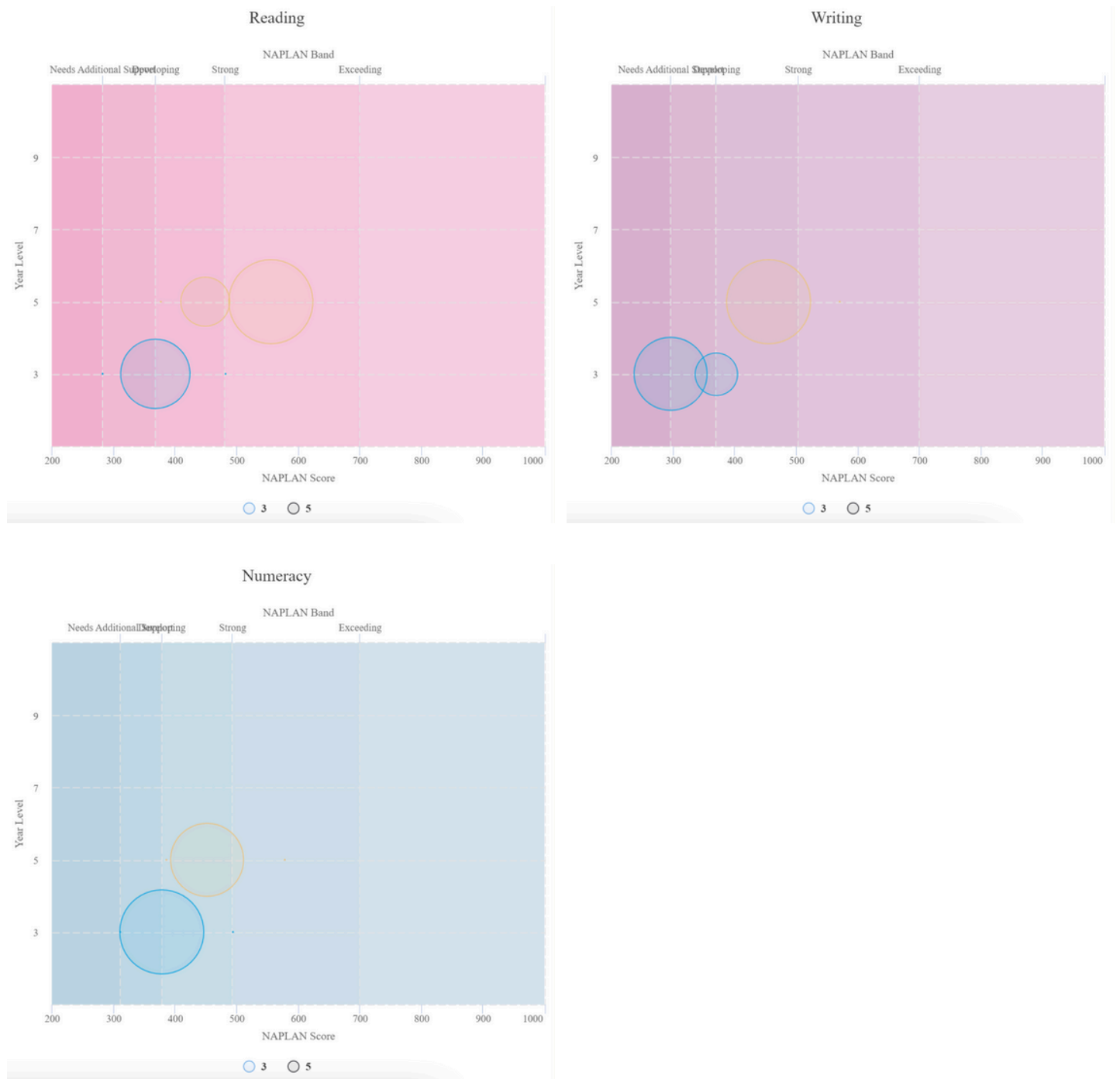
There are four proficiency levels:

- Exceeding: The student's results exceeds expectations at the time of testing.
- Strong: The student's result meets challenging but reasonable expectations at the time of testing.
- Developing: The student's result indicates that they are working towards expectations at the time of testing.
- Needs additional support: The student's result indicates that they are not achieving the learning outcomes expected at the time of testing. They are likely to need additional support to progress satisfactorily.





# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT CONT.



## Numeracy Data:

- Overall improvement in Numeracy assessment results and report grades
- Overall improvement in understanding of number and shape.

## Literacy Data:

- Consistent achievements overall
- Increase and stabilising of phonics in upper primary after regression in 2022.

# COMMUNITY SURVEYS

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Each year, our school conducts Student, Parent, and Staff Opinion surveys to collect feedback from the community. The survey data is analysed, compared to previous years, and used to inform continuous improvements both at the school and governance levels. In 2023, additional staff support was provided to students in completing the survey to aid in the consistency of student understanding. It is important to note that small data pools greatly impact survey data.

Once received, data from 2023 were compared to data from 2022. Comparing the results to past years can highlight patterns and help identify the school's changing needs. Overall, Parent Opinion Survey data showed an increase in 'disagree' responses compared to 2022 data and a decrease in satisfaction, except for Teacher Quality, which showed an increase in 'agree' responses. When comparing average responses for each category, all categories maintained or increased either an 'agree' or 'slightly agree' response.

## Areas that scored highly:

- Student's specific learning needs are met
- Teachers are friendly and helpful
- Students have opportunities for leadership
- Participation in community activities
- School atmosphere
- Quality of education
- Communication.

## Areas that require attention:

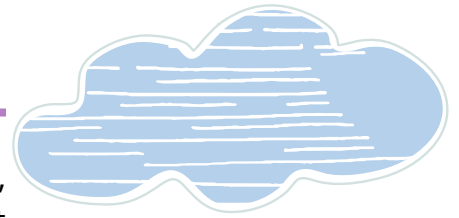
- Access to technology and resources
- Improve resource storage/organisation
- Access to a variety of subjects and extra-curricular opportunities;
- Opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education.





# KSCS BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

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We begin by expressing our heartfelt gratitude to the staff, teachers, parents, students, and the entire Kerry Street community for your unwavering support and dedication throughout the challenges of 2023.

With numerous staff changes bringing moments of uncertainty and disruption, your collective commitment was truly inspiring. Despite the difficulties, your resilience and collaborative spirit allowed us to navigate these challenges with strength and unity. We deeply appreciate your contributions, which enabled us to reconnect with the essence of what it means to belong to Kerry Street. Together, we emerged stronger and more united, ready to continue fostering an environment where our students can thrive.

This year marked a significant transition in our school leadership, as we bid farewell to our commendable Principal, Melissa Kennedy, who resigned after many years of dedicated service. During this interim period, our Deputy Principal, Taylah Griffin, admirably stepped into the role of Acting Principal. Her exceptional leadership and unwavering commitment ensured a smooth continuation of our school's operations. We were pleased to announce that after an extensive and thorough recruitment process, we appointed Anna Ritzema as our new Principal, commencing 2024. We are confident that Anna will bring fresh perspectives and continue to drive our school towards excellence.

The Board of Kerry Street Community School continued to fulfil its responsibilities by overseeing the strategic direction and governance of the school, ensuring that decisions aligned with our core values and supported our students' well-being and academic success. We extend heartfelt acknowledgements to David Pereira, who dedicated nearly eight years of admirable service as our Treasurer before retiring. Additionally, the entire board demonstrated exceptional dedication and resilience throughout 2023. The countless hours of service rendered by each member deserve special recognition and gratitude.

Following an extensive process initiated in 2022, our 2023-2027 Strategic Plan was approved after numerous hours of consultation with staff, students, and the wider community. Engaging in this collaborative endeavour was both invigorating and enlightening, allowing us to collectively envision and plan for the future of our school. It was an exciting opportunity to contribute to shaping the trajectory of our educational journey, and we are eager to see the positive impact of our strategic initiatives in the years ahead.

As we conclude this year's report, it is with a sense of optimism and determination that we look towards the future.

Moving forward, our initial focus will be on fostering stability and strengthening our community. It is imperative that we rekindle our commitment to the values that define us: trust, honesty, integrity, courage, excellence, wonder, wisdom, community, care and love. By staying true to these guiding principles, we will continue to foster a nurturing environment where every member feels valued and supported. Together, let us embark on the journey ahead with renewed energy and purpose, mindful of our collective responsibility to contribute to the daily life and future of our school and to the broader world around us.

*Alyssa Coates*

**BOARD CHAIR**

## 2023 BOARD MEMBERS

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Alyssa Coates - Chair  
David Periera - Acting Chair; Treasurer  
Danielle Pascucci - Treasurer  
Amanda Kingdon  
Beck Mackay  
Ron Gorman  
Kath Hodgson  
Ben Grassham



### **Ex-Officio (Non-Voting)**

Jessica Forth  
Jacey Long  
Melissa Kennedy  
Taylah Griffin

## BOARD PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

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Various Members of the Board completed the following professional learning:

- Mandatory Reporting - All members
- Briefing the Board - Future Insights, Transitions in Early Childhood, changes to Fair Work laws, compliance and registration AISWA
- Governance Essentials - AISWA
- Mastering the Media Introduction - AISWA
- Media Training Module 1 - AISWA
- Online legal seminar to discuss IR changes - AISWA
- Reportable Conduct Scheme - AISWA
- Early Years Learning Framework version 2.0 - AISWA
- Positive Workplaces - AISWA
- Chair and Acting Principal attended the Australasian Democratic Education Community Conference in Victoria





# STRATEGIC PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS

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## AN ENGAGED, CONNECTED AND RESPECTFUL WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

- Margaret River whole school camp
- Community events: Tom's 25th Anniversary, Open Day, Harmony Day, National Reconciliation Week
- Year 6 graduation held at Memorial Hall
- A new approach to the Wellbeing program with new insight offered by Lisa
- Sarah joining the team as Intervention Specialist
- Term 4 focus on reconnecting and opening dialogue with our current community
- Parents continued to support the school with lunchtime cooking meals, school committees, class coordinators, school camp preparation, fundraising events and busy bees.



## A PASSIONATE, SUPPORTED TEACHING STAFF

- High staff turnover in 2023, yet by the end of the year we started to solidify the appointments required for 2024
- Transparency and creating open dialogues with teachers allowed conversations to improve and benefit the learning environment
- Introduction of Sentral to support the teachers and their ability to communicate with parents, effectively streamlining student administration management.
- Regular staff professional learning, both internal and external
- Chair and Acting Principal both attended the ADEC conference, resulting in Kerry Street being chosen to host the event in 2024.



## ENGAGING LEARNING PROGRAMME INSTILLING A LOVE OF LEARNING IN ALL STUDENTS

- Implementation of the 'PLD program' across all year levels
- Continued class-based inquiry learning
- Planning, design and engagement of contractors for the Makers space
- Establishment of IT Fee - lease of laptops in Year 5/6, purchase of iPads
- Regular incursions and excursions, with a number of experts in their field visiting the school
- Planning for the implementation of Digital Learning in Quarter 1, 2024.

# STRATEGIC PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS CONT.

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## BEAUTIFUL AND INSPIRING NATURAL AND BUILT SPACES THAT SUPPORT AND ENHANCE THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

- Planted new natives along wild space fence line
- Upgraded front patio in Early Childhood Education playground
- Established the Sensory Path
- Upgraded the Water Course in Term 3
- Addition of natural light in Yr 1/2 and 5/6
- Heaters installed in K/PP
- Gary hired for grounds maintenance, providing regular nurturing to the school's grounds
- Addition of the front shed near the office for safe and lockable storage
- Parent meeting space was created in the hall via an AISWA grant.



## A RESPONSIVE AND EFFECTIVE BOARD

- A new Board Chair was appointed
- A new Board Treasurer was appointed
- Board demonstrated enhanced communication and decision-making
- Managed unforeseen operational obstacles while maintaining effective governance
- A dedicated Board Admin was engaged, allowing for better control of documentation and general administration by the Board
- Succession planning and active promotion of the Board resulted in new members being recruited
- Board members undertook various professional development opportunities.



## A FINANCIALLY STABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND THRIVING SCHOOL

- Successful grant applications: Sporting Schools, Wellbeing Boost, PALS, AISWA Early Childhood Grant
- Submission on Metropolitan Region Scheme Amendment (MRS) 1404/41 - Roe 8 Remainder and Roe 9
- Substantial class waitlists and ongoing tours and interest from prospective families
- Ongoing maintenance of state and federal budgets including subsequent Inclusive Education and Disability funding
- Established strategic partnerships with consultants
- Enhanced school's reputation and brand through social media and website presence
- Ongoing reduction in debt and growth in assets.

**KERRY STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL INC.****ABN: 25 261 149 634****INCOME STATEMENT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Ad Hoc Income	10,084	16,627
Administration Fees	18,845	19,983
Federal Grants	1,139,983	922,696
Hall Hire	1,220	1,850
Levies	36,021	33,045
Oncharged Expenses	37,216	25,866
Other Grants	25,469	28,646
Parent Forum Donations	312	963
State Other	8,591	9,940
State Per Capita Grants	209,217	182,379
Term Fees	285,286	229,241
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,772,244	1,471,236
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Administration Costs	72,154	52,836
Building & Grounds	74,275	63,599
Coordinators	6,720	5,640
Depreciation	48,805	48,941
Employment Expenses	1,184,648	963,984
Loan Charges	8,157	13,528
Occupancy Costs	31,213	28,141
Other Expenses	28,285	25,769
Professional Development	15,994	9,941
Reimbursable Expenses	36,925	31,440
Student Expenses	2,467	2,936
Teaching Expenses	11,816	10,605
Teaching Resources	12,129	9,098
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	1,533,589	1,266,458
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	238,656	204,778
	1,582,383	1,377,605
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	1,821,039	1,582,383



**KERRY STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL INC.**

ABN: 25 261 149 634

**BALANCE SHEET**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<i>Note</i>	<b>2023</b> \$	<b>2022</b> \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
<i>Cash and cash equivalents</i>	<b>3</b>	1,175,270	1,036,435
Trade and other receivables	<b>4</b>	53,176	30,785
Other current assets	<b>6</b>	2,818	10,701
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<hr/> 1,231,264	<hr/> 1,077,921
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	<b>5</b>	1,981,840	1,973,053
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<hr/> 1,981,840	<hr/> 1,973,053
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<hr/> 3,213,104	<hr/> 3,050,973
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	<b>7</b>	135,897	117,385
Provisions	<b>9</b>	74,016	77,396
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<hr/> 209,912	<hr/> 194,781
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Borrowings	<b>8</b>	787,809	879,465
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<hr/> 787,809	<hr/> 879,465
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<hr/> 997,721	<hr/> 1,074,246
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<hr/> <hr/> 2,215,383	<hr/> <hr/> 1,976,727
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Asset Revaluation Reserve		394,344	394,344
Retained earnings		1,821,039	1,582,383
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<hr/> <hr/> 2,215,383	<hr/> <hr/> 1,976,727



# OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

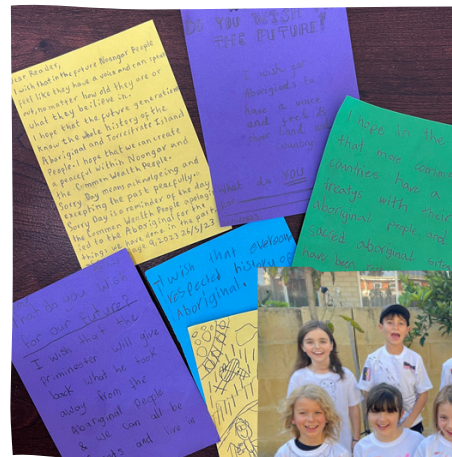
## CAMP



## OPEN DAY



## NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK





## INQUIRIES



## BOOK WEEK



## INCURSIONS & EXCURSIONS



## GRADUATION

