



Pioneer Village School

7 Albany Highway, Armadale 6112

PO Box 409, Armadale 6992

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Principal

Mrs Louise Lont

Board Chair

Mr Patrick Ragan

Annual General Meeting

3 April 2019

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School Motto

The Pioneer Village School motto **Aim for Excellence** recognises the importance of encouraging each student to always strive for their own personal best to reach their full potential.

School Values

All members of Pioneer Village School community are expected to demonstrate and act in line with Pioneer Village School values: Excellence, Integrity, Perseverance, Fairness and Respect.

School Philosophy

Learning

Our priority is to develop a strong foundation in education via the essential skills of reading, writing, Mathematics, and a broad range of academic programs and offerings. We believe all students are diverse and exhibit different talents. We provide students with the opportunity to extend themselves and reach their full potential. Academic success is imperative and we create opportunities for our children to experience success by providing a broad curriculum.

Leading

We provide an environment where students develop their self-respect, confidence and a positive attitude towards life. We pride ourselves on providing a quality, value-based education program, and aim to develop resilient children who understand diversity, and can lead in their chosen field with a strong sense of compassion and integrity.

Life

If a love of learning is developed early, a life-long love of learning should follow. Life-long education is essential for ongoing personal growth, creativity, resourcefulness, independent thought, and also in developing an inquiring mind. We provide an environment where learning is stimulating and enjoyable, and an education that aims to develop that life-long love of learning.

Love

Family is vital to the overall success of each child's education, and we gladly welcome parent/caregiver participation in school activities. Our school offers the security of a close working relationship between students, teachers and families. Our students build relationships with all teachers regardless of year level and will always have a connection to their classroom teachers- even once they have moved year levels.

Pioneer Village School is an independent, non-denominational, co-educational primary school nestled in a picturesque heritage protected environment. Pioneer Village School caters for students from 3 year old Kindergarten to Year 6.

Student Cohort

At 2018 August census, Pioneer Village School had 110 PP to Year 6 students, 17 four year old Kindergarten students, and 20 three year old Kindergarten students, with relatively equal numbers of boys and girls. This is a total enrolment of 147 students and a funded enrolment of 127 students as Kindergarten 3 is a self-funded program. There were 0 Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander students and 7 students speaking a language other than English at home.

Student Attendance

The 2018 average student attendance rate was 93.5% for compulsory schooling years (PP–6). Supportive mechanisms were in place to encourage positive school attendance. One such mechanism includes family contact through a SMS service. The school contacts the parents if a child is absent, and ongoing absences are followed up by the principal.

In the case of lengthy absences parents are formally contacted and processes put in place to improve the attendance rate of that child in line with the Attendance Policy.

To further increase student attendance rates, family holidays during the school term were discouraged and were only taken with written approval from the principal.

Staff

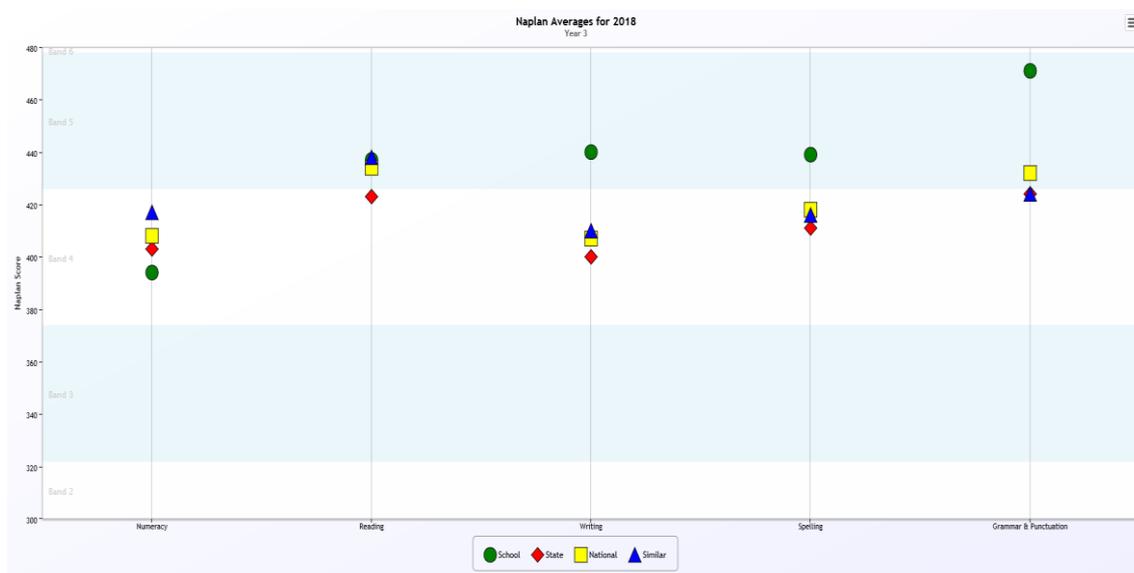
The School employed the following staff as at August 2018 Census; 1 principal, 7.1 full-time equivalent teaching staff and 6.8 full-time equivalent non-teaching staff. There were 3 male staff (teaching and non-teaching); and no staff were of Indigenous descent.

All teaching staff met the requirements for approved teaching in WA schools and were registered teachers in the state of Western Australia. Teachers' qualifications included Master of Education, Honours and Post Graduate Studies as well as Bachelor Degrees.

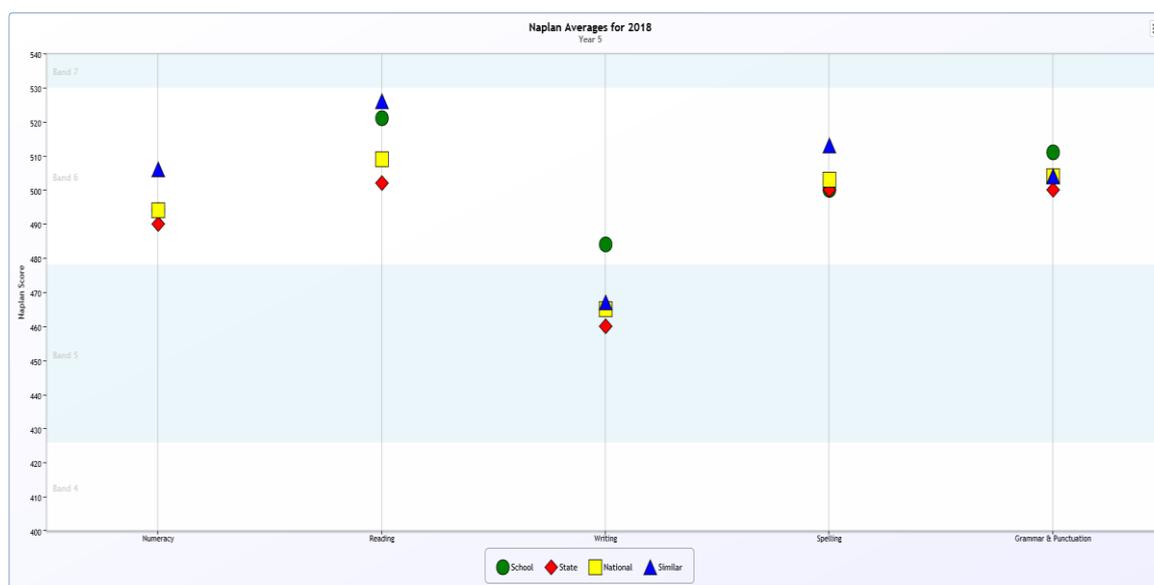
NAPLAN ACHIEVEMENT

Celebrations

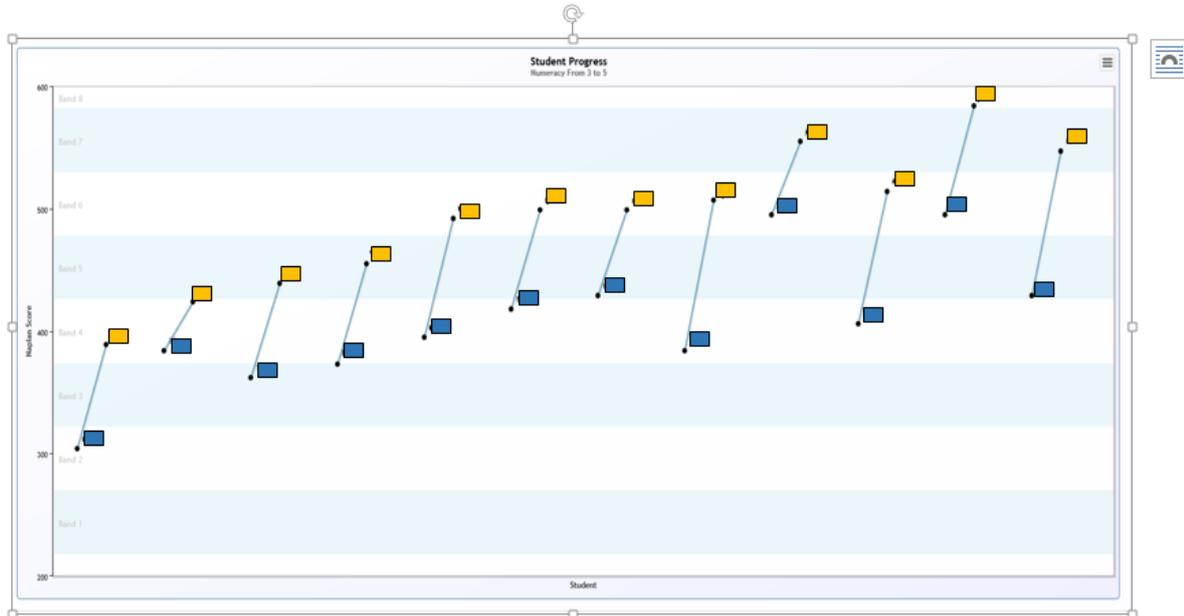
Pioneer Village School students performed very positively on the 2018 NAPLAN assessment. Compared to *Similar* schools, *WA (State)* Schools, and schools Australia wide (*National*) the Year 3 cohort achieved statistically above all in Writing, Spelling, and Grammar and Punctuation. This is a testament to the dedication of the teaching staff and their implementation of quality programs. Compared to other schools, the Year 3 cohort did underperform in the area of numeracy, but moving forwards with *First Steps*, and a very hands-on approach to Mathematics, we are confident improvements will become apparent. Reading scored on par with *Similar* schools and all 'at-risk' students had been identified well before receiving this report, and had already been receiving targeted intervention. The reading report reaffirmed that Pioneer Village School in-school assessments are identifying these students early.



Compared to *Similar* schools, *WA (State)* Schools, and schools Australia wide (*National*), the Year 5 cohort achieved statistically above all in Writing, and Grammar and Punctuation. Numeracy, Reading and Spelling scores are close to *Similar* schools, *WA (State)* Schools, and schools Australia wide (*National*).



A point to note- these graphs do not show individual student growth and actual progress over time (the learning progression between Year 3 and Year 6), and as educators that is actually what counts. See below for an example of growth which is the true celebration. Teaching staff will continue to use this data to see 'growth over time' but it is not used to drive teaching practice. Overall numeracy results may seem less strong compared to other schools but in actual fact the individual student growth has been very good.



Areas for Improvement

The School will continue to develop the skills students need to complete the NAPLAN testing on the new online platform. The implementation in 2019 of the Talk for Writing program should further our students' already strong writing ability. Continued early identification of 'at-risk' readers and entry into reading intervention should in future years enable us to see gains in individual performance between years 3 and 5. In terms of numeracy, with the embedding of *First Steps*, as an *iMath* text book based replacement, we are confident improvements will become apparent.



Celebrations

Pioneer Village School students and community participated in a wide variety of events that celebrated learning, friendship and family. Events included, but were not limited to: Outdoor Education Day, whole school Friendship Breakfast, parent/teacher interviews, Grandparents Day, Carols Evening, assemblies, Year 6 Graduation, Buddy Days, Cross Country, sports days, Easter Parade, Science Week celebrations, Book Week dress-up day with Book Week associated activities and parade, Year 6 graduation camp and excursion, and the P&F school social functions. The students also extended their interaction with the wider community through Inter-School sports, carol singing at the local nursing home, entered into the Armadale Festival Sustainability competition, and also entered art into the Kelmscott Show.

The Arts were celebrated with events and learning such as; a whole school performance, Edu-Dance dance program and concert, the classroom visual arts program, and the music program. The swimming program, Cross-Country and Athletics events were sporting highlights.

Pioneer Village School students engaged in a wide variety of incursions throughout 2018. These incursions were carefully selected to support a range of curriculum areas. Incursions included, but were not limited to, visits from the following experts in their field; SciTech, World of Maths, Constable Care, the Eagles, classical music concert, Indigenous concert, Marine Science, Geology, sustainability, dance, basketball, gymnastics, rugby, tennis, and recycling.

Pioneer Village School staff provided a positive environment for learning and focused on sound transitions across the school. An Early Years parent session was held to inform parents on what to expect when their child begins school. The Early Years' team worked diligently to meet high standards of operation outlined in the National Quality Framework standards. Meet the Teacher night was held to ensure parents started the year with a clear understanding of classroom expectations and understood the running of their child/childrens' classrooms.

In 2018, Pioneer Village School again made significant improvements in the Gifted and Talented Program. We offered accelerated learning options for these students, as well as specialised Gifted and Talented programs for children in Years 2-6. We refined the identification and screening process to identify hidden abilities in our students. This was done in order to ensure our students are given a fair opportunity to translate their gift into talent. We continued our relationship with MENSA Australia and they recognised the positive impact we are having on our gifted children. A group of our talented students entered and won the \$5000 first prize in the Bostic STEAM challenge.

In 2018 Pioneer Village School continued to make a difference to those students needing substantial support. The evidence-based intervention reading program was continued with great success for students underachieving in this area. The evidence-based assessment pack was used effectively to ensure continued correct identification and tracking of students at risk of falling behind in reading. To further support our students with special needs, classroom teachers wrote Individual Learning Plans (IEP), differentiated the curriculum accordingly to cater for need, and met with families at scheduled times throughout the year to update them on their child's progress.

The strong relationship with Australian Independent Schools Western Australian (AISWA) continued and PVS utilised many of their services. The School staff worked diligently to improve outcomes by revising

policies and engaged in future planning meetings. The Board and school staff continued to work towards the goals outlined in the 2016–2019 Strategic Plan.

The teaching staff also engaged in a wide variety of Professional Development in 2018. On top of their own personal professional reading and off-campus choices of PD, they had close to 20 hours of AISWA facilitated Numeracy PD to ensure the successful transition from *iMaths* to *First Steps*. Further PD topics covered throughout the year included but were not limited to; Mandatory Reporting, Staff and Student Code of Conduct, Protective Behaviours, effectively assessing student writing, and use of the Brightpath writing assessment tool.

Areas for Improvement

In line with AISWA recommendations, throughout 2019 PVS staff will undergo the Keeping Safe Curriculum PD to ensure we are implementing the most up-to-date best practice in the area of child safety.



Celebrations

The school has worked hard to maintain the school facilities to a very high standard. The major works completed included storm damage repair to roofing, the security system, and shade sails. We further improved safety by installing an extra on-site camera.

The development of the Nature Play was dependent on weather and the availability of our volunteer helpers, but the land was filled, levelled and the outer wall construction completed. We acknowledge the generous support of the school P&F, families and local businesses who have supplied significant financial and manual labour support to these projects.

We received a Science and Industry \$5,000 Maker Space Grant which has enabled us to purchase a high quality 3D printer, as well as other items needed to enhance student learning in the STEAM area.

We received a number of Sporting School Grants which enabled us to bring in specialist coaches to teach a variety of sports. We also received an Indigenous Grant to create stepping stones with Indigenous designs to be laid in our new Nature Play area.

Parent Satisfaction Summary & School Staff Survey

Parent satisfaction survey was completed by families, and the feedback was valued and appreciated. Despite a low return rate, the community reported positive comments about the school and the provision of education at Pioneer Village School. Parent and staff feedback was taken into account.

The School student survey was undertaken by the Year 6 cohort, and from the feedback it is evident that the students feel a strong sense of belonging and are motivated to learn.

Areas for Improvement

Moving forward, we will continue ongoing maintenance of classrooms, grounds, facilities, and play areas.

The P&F has dedicated substantial funds in 2018/2019 to support the development of the Nature Play area and we can now aim for end of Term 1, 2019 completion thanks to the generous contribution of a volunteer parent project manager.

We also aim to continue to address the mechanisms for school feedback and will endeavour to improve the number of families that contribute to annual surveys.

FINANCE

The annual financial report 2018 provides a statement of the financial performance of Pioneer Village School for the year ending 31st December 2018, and its financial position as at the end of that year.

The financial information included in this report is supported by the school's audited financial statements that are presented at this meeting and form part of this report. This report provides a snapshot of the finances of Pioneer Village School regarding the operating activities for the current year 2018, as determined by the School Board and management team of Pioneer Village School.

Our budget has been well-managed to provide for student learning, and is prioritised in line with the school values and maintenance of grounds and infrastructure.

Financial Performance

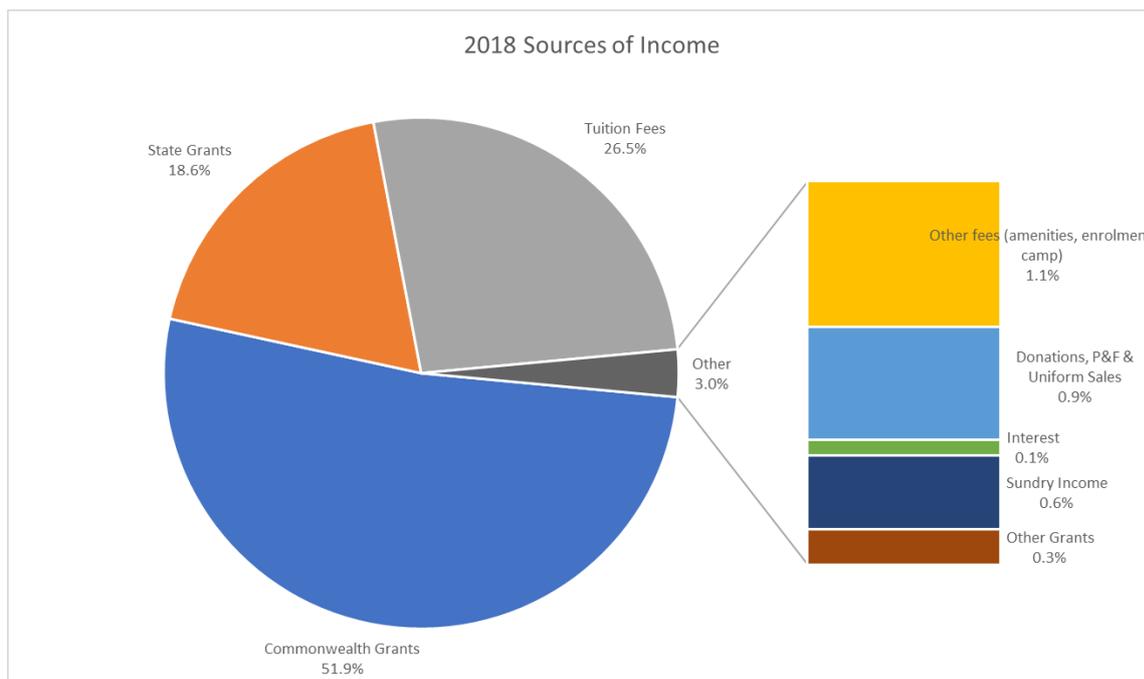
	2018	2017
Income		
Recurrent Revenue	\$1,912,814	\$1,949,669
Expenses	\$1,918,217	\$1,965,384
Surplus / (Deficit)	-\$5,403	-\$15,715
Non-Recurrent Revenue	\$48,200	\$51,612
Net Operating surplus / (deficit) for the year	\$28,235	\$19,772
Add Back Provisions		
Depreciation / LSL etc.	\$106,920	\$286,718
Net surplus / (deficit) for the year After non-cash items add backs	<u>\$135,155</u>	<u>\$306,490</u>

The school achieved a positive overall result in 2018 providing a stable foundation going forward into 2019.

Both State and Federal funding were reviewed during the year, which resulted in a 3% increase in per capita funding received in 2018.

It is pleasing to report that there was an increase in the 2018 operating surplus of 30% over the 2017 surplus result.

The introduction of PaySmart in 2016 continues to provide benefit to the School by effectively managing the collection of school fees.



Expenses

There were a number of changes to staffing in 2018, including additional teaching staff, which has resulted in an increase in staff expenses.

Total operating expenditure was reduced in order to offset the increase in staff expenses, leading to our improved operating performance.

Financial Position

	2018	2017
Assets	\$4,860,630	\$4,924,720
Net Assets	\$4,205,789	\$4,156,314
Loans against property	\$ 519,329	\$ 585,136

Tracey Cowlin
Finance & HR Manager

PVS Board Biographies

Patrick Ragan

Originally from Britain, we have lived in the area since the birth of our two boys, Alfie age Ten and Felix Six. Being passionate about achieving the right education for our children, I believe that Pioneer Village School achieves the right mix of a nurturing, vibrant community that encourages the best in educational achievement for our children.

As Governance Specialist for Western Power in Perth for over nine years, my role involves working with both internal and external stakeholders at all levels. I work to ensure that, through correct governance policy, procedures are followed when connecting large users to the WA electricity network.

I feel that I have the required professional expertise of policy development, governance and management as well as excellent communication skills needed to contribute to the ongoing strategic development and success of PVS.

As a member of the board, I would welcome the opportunity to work closely with staff and other parents, to achieve even greater success of such a unique school and hope to be elected to the Board.



Lorna Saunders

I have been a parent at Pioneer Village since October 2014. My daughter is currently in the Year 3/4 class. I enjoy being part of the school community and my family attends events and supports aspects of school life whenever we can.

I am a primary school teacher and I teach at a local school. I have been teaching at this school for the last ten years. Prior to this, I taught in Scotland and England before moving to Australia in 2009. Through my teaching role I have a sound knowledge of the school curriculum and a good understanding of the challenges facing school today. I also appreciate how important it is for our children to be educated in a nurturing environment where they feel safe, respected and ready to embrace the challenges they are presented with today and in their life after primary school.

I have been a member of the Pioneer Village School Board since April 2017 and I am keen to continue to in this role. I am fully committed to working collaboratively with the members of the board and school staff to support the effective and efficient governing of Pioneer Village School.



Katherine Ford

I have two children, both of whom attend Pioneer Village School in K4 and Year 2. Our family love PVS primarily because of the amazing, dedicated and inspiring teachers, staff and Principal. We also enjoy being part of a wonderful, positive community and the unique school environment. I feel like each of my children are valued, listened to and catered for at this school.

My career has been split across two industries to date; mining and property. I hold degrees in Mining Engineering and Mining Geomechanics and have spent 12 years working in the mining industry in technical and management roles. My husband, Luke, and I also built, operated and successfully sold a housing company involved in the National Rental Affordability Scheme and a real estate agency. I have recently started a new part time position as Senior Mining Engineer at Northern Star Resources.

I have been a member of the board since May 2016, and would like to continue with the great work that the board is doing. My particular areas of interest are finance and marketing.

**Marrie Woodward**

My family and I have been a part of the Pioneer Village School community for 6 years now with our three boys in Year 4, Year 3 and Year 1 this year.

I have been a Board Member for just over 2 years, and member of the P&F Committee prior to that. I enjoy the opportunity to be involved in our boy's education, the school, and the school community. I have a broad ranging administration and accounts background, within the distribution, construction & manufacturing industries, with a focus on integrated management systems.

I currently work within my partners businesses with the responsibilities of small to medium business including finance, sales, marketing and day-to-day workings. We have a wonderful school and I again offer my nomination to assist in the ongoing success of PVS.

