



# **2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

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Annual General Meeting  
7th June 2023

Principal: Mrs Louise Lont

Board Chair: Mrs Sharon Arena

# School Context

## **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**

Members of our 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.



# Environmental Context

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 2022 August census, Pioneer Village School had 123 PP to Year 6 students, 33 four year old Kindergarten students, and 24 three year old Kindergarten students, with relatively equal numbers of boys and girls. This is a total enrolment of 180 students and a funded enrolment of 156 students, as the three year old Kindergarten program is self-funded. Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander students made up 2% of the funded student population, and 18% of students speaking a language other than English at home.

## Staff

The School employed the following staff as at August 2022 Census; 1 Principal, 7.6 full-time equivalent teaching staff and 9 full-time equivalent non-teaching staff. There were 3 male staff (teaching and non-teaching); and 1 staff member 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.

## Student Attendance

The 2022 average student attendance rate was 89.76% for compulsory schooling years (PP-6). This was a 0.76% drop in attendance from the year prior.

At Pioneer Village School we take unexplained absences very seriously. Early intervention for children at risk of developing irregular patterns of attendance is crucial so that these patterns may be reversed. The School's policies and practices are such that where a child is absent from school;

1. The parent is required to notify the office before to inform of the absence.
2. All unexplained absences are recorded and an SMS is sent to families before 9.30am.
3. Families are expected to respond and absences are recorded.
4. In the case of no response, a phone call or email is made to confirm the absence.
5. Should there be no response, a follow-up call may be made to the nominated emergency contact.

In the case of a student's absence dropping below 90% the principal will meet with the family to work through an individual attendance plan in line with the Attendance policy, and all efforts will be made to increase the student's attendance to above 90%.

To further increase student attendance rates, family holidays during the school term were discouraged. To remove children from school during the school term for holidays, parents and guardians are expected to gain written approval from the Principal.

# NAPLAN

When considering NAPLAN results it is important to recognise that the NAPLAN assessments are only a snapshot of student achievement. Teachers consider results and use the data to reflect on student achievement in conjunction with a range of classroom assessments. It gives us a picture of how our students performed on that day compared to students across the nation which is just one piece of the whole learning picture.

NAPLAN online is well established now and there were few issues with disruptions in 2022. This year we are unable to look at student growth as the Year 5 cohort did not complete NAPLAN in 2020. Instead, we have analysed the data based on comparison to the average score of similar schools. It should be noted that both cohorts sitting NAPLAN at Pioneer Village School are quite small.

The *My School* website only compares a school's data if they have a minimum of 11 participants in the cohort. Our Year 3 cohort in 2022 was under 11 and therefore with such a small sample size it is not given a rating when compared to similar schools. The table below shows the Year 3 Pioneer Village School and 'similar school' data, with no colour coding based on *My School* ratings. The Year 5 cohorts scores are classed as 'close to' by the *My School* website, when compared to 'similar schools' in all areas. This shows improvements from the 2021 cohorts results which were classed as 'below' when compared to similar schools in mathematics.

Generally, one of the main aspects of our analysis of the NAPLAN results is focused on student growth. As mentioned, students in the 2022 Year 5 cohort did not sit NAPLAN in Year 3 due to COVID, so we are unable to consider student growth from NAPLAN this year. However, alternate data collected in classrooms across the year groups have shown students in this cohort have made growth.

Based on our NAPLAN results we have continued our focus on supporting teachers to implement Talk For Writing to assist students transferring their spelling and grammar understandings into their written texts. We have also renewed our focus on mathematics training with new staff being upskilled in hands on approaches to mathematics instruction, with Professional Learning with AISWA and Dr Paul Swan scheduled throughout 2023. It is pleasing to see the impacts of the training we have done in PLD, our school wide structured synthetic phonics program, as both cohorts have stronger spelling scores than in 2021.

Year 3	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy	Reading	Spelling	Writing
PVS	453	397	456	438	395
Similar	439	401	447	429	414

  

Year 5	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy	Reading	Spelling	Writing
PVS	470	458	481	497	468
Similar	481	469	491	495	474



# Achievement and Wellbeing

## 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 picnic, parent/teacher interviews, end of year concert, World Simultaneous Story Day, assemblies, Buddy Days, Cross Country, Sports Days, Easter Parade, Book Week with associated activities and parade, and the P&F school social functions. The Year 6 class enjoyed their special celebrations which included the graduation camp and excursion, and the graduation evening followed by a social dinner with the whole class.

The Arts were celebrated with events and learning such as; a whole school end of year performance, Edu-Dance dance program and concert, classroom visual arts program, middle year's choir, and the music program. Our annual Edu-Dance concert was delivered differently to concerts of the past, but it was still a great success, and enjoyed by all those that were able to attend in person and online via Zoom. As always, our students put on an excellent show and entertained the audience with their fabulous moves. Another highlight on the musical calendar was the concert by Gina Williams and Guy Ghouse. Their performance included storytelling and performing in Noongar language and our students were enthralled with their immersion in Noongar culture. It was also wonderful to hear from our guests that they were extremely impressed with our student's beautiful singing of Wanjoo.

In 2022 the school aimed to broaden community connections through interschool sporting events. We had Touch Rugby WA and NRL WA come out to train the students in readiness for the interschool events. To ensure the interschool Athletics Carnival was well resourced we purchased new equipment such as bibs, starting blocks, and equipment for the obstacle course. These events were enjoyed by students, teachers and the community alike. New friendships were formed and our students are eagerly anticipating the 2023 events and catching up with their new friends. Basketball WA also came out to train our students as our aim is to enter a team into the 2023 *Super Slam* series, and ready them for interschool basketball 2023.



Pioneer Village School students engaged in a wide variety of incursions throughout 2022. 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; Constable Care, musicians, Circus Challenge, Wanjoo Aboriginal Workshop, Redz Zoo, Suez, Emergency Services, Armadale Library, Armadale History House, as well as various sporting coaches.

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 their compulsory years. 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 2022, 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 continued to use the identification and screening process to identify hidden abilities in our students. This was completed to ensure our students are given a fair opportunity to translate their gift into talent. To further upskill staff in the gifted space Kylie Bice from *Growing up Greatness* joined us for extensive Professional Development for teaching staff. *Growing Up Greatness* works with schools and teachers to improve practice and provision for students of all abilities through the provision of professional learning, professional advice and coaching. This includes students who are gifted and talented, and this diverse group has been the focus of the work Kylie completed with staff at Pioneer Village School over the past 18 months.





In 2022 Pioneer Village School also 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 in accordance with need, and met with families at scheduled times throughout the year to update them on their child's progress.

On top of Literacy Intervention we utilised Dyslexia SPELD Foundation's recommended JEMM and EMM program to support those needing numeracy support. These small group withdrawal lessons were attended by those with a formal diagnosis, or those deemed by the classroom teacher to be in need of intervention.

School Leaders were given more responsibility in regards to organising school events, decision making, and running school assemblies. Face to face speaking opportunities were better than the previous year, and so they were able to build their confidence and skills by presenting to live audiences.

Our Parkerville social worker continued to support the social and emotional well-being of our students and their families. She ran a lunch time student 'drop-in club' and small groups that were responsive to student need and also met with students and/or parents one-on-one.



## Areas for Improvement

Student voice, leadership and agency will continue to be a strong focus moving forwards. This includes preparing all of our students for public speaking opportunities by inviting students to the stage at assemblies to share news. School leaders will be given more responsibility in regards to organising before school fitness, lunch clubs, as well as preparing and running assemblies.

Moving forwards with our Arts program, we plan to deliver drama lessons throughout the school year to prepare the students for their bi-annual school play, public speaking, and to build confidence. We will also conduct senior and junior choirs in 2023 with the aim to have our students perform at 'One big Voice'.

One of our challenges is re-connecting the community after the years of COVID. The 2022 community survey showed us that this continues to be important for our school members, and will therefore remain a key focus for PVS moving into 2023. With the end of the pandemic in sight we are aiming to have our grandparents return for the much loved Grandparents Day, and move forwards with fostering the sense of community we so enjoy.

The use of Dyslexia SPELD Foundations recommended JEMM and EMM program will be expanded into the classrooms in 2023, as it has been deemed an excellent resource for both those requiring support and those needing extension.

In 2023 we will also be trialing whole school clubs on Friday afternoons. This way all students will have an opportunity to be involved in a club. These clubs will cover the following three areas; The Arts, Practical Life, Problem Solving and give students from Years 1 to 6 an opportunity to work in multi-age groups, and with a variety of teaching staff. This initiative will replace the after school clubs offered previously.





# Productivity

## Celebrations

Our Little Pioneers ELC (Early Learning Centre) for 3 and 4 year olds continued to be a great success with families enrolling consistently throughout the year. Our Service allowed working families to bring their children to school for up to 5 days a week, 50 weeks a year. They were able to collect their CCS (Child Care Subsidy) should they so desire, or should they not wish to, they could choose to attend under the structure of past years. Providing this service has given families flexible options and choices. With well over 50 years combined experience working with children, our team provides a high level of care and education. The now expanded Early Years' team continued to embed their philosophy within the school as part of the NQS framework, and the ELC team focussed on ECRU's (Education and Care Regulatory Unit) Assessment and Rating readiness in anticipation of a visit.

The expanded Early Years' team continued to embed the Early Year's philosophy within the school as part of the NQS framework. The ELC team focussed on ECRU's (Education and Care Regulatory Unit) Assessment and Rating readiness. Teachers from the Early Years gathered on many occasions to engage in professional discussions based on current research, planning documents, teacher programs day to day activities, and timetabling. These discussions allowed for teachers to contribute their knowledge and practices, in line with current guidelines to ensure the play-based curriculum offered in the Early Years is an accurate reflection of the Early Year's philosophy.

The teaching staff engaged in a wide variety of Professional Development. On top of their own personal professional reading and off-campus choices of PD, they engaged in Mandatory Reporting, Talk for Writing, ACER data analysis, First Aid, Protective Behaviours, and Gifted and Talented.

The School again worked hard to maintain its school facilities to a very high standard. The works completed included but were not limited to; refurbishing a second Pre-Primary room, painting classroom interiors, upgrading the indoor and outdoor spaces, and further improving school safety by installing more on-site cameras.

The school recognises and thanks the extremely generous parent volunteers who contributed to the P&F. Their continued fund-raising diligence benefits the whole school community. Their hard work enables our students to enjoy fun end of term meals, celebrations, and raffles, and enables the teachers to fulfill their annual 'wish list' items.



Sustainability practices to guide Pioneer Village School in the best practice for waste management continued to grow and develop. Educating our students on how to reduce waste, recycle, and live more sustainably continued to be prioritised. We also received a number of *Sporting Schools* grants which enabled us to bring in specialist coaches to teach a variety of sports including gymnastics, soccer, athletics, and touch rugby. We also received a PALS Indigenous Grant which enabled us to provide the students with a musical incursion.

The strong relationship with AISWA (Australian Independent Schools Western Australia) continued throughout 2022 and we utilised many of their services. The school staff worked diligently to improve outcomes by revising policies and engaged in future planning meetings. The Board reviewed the current Strategic Plan and Improvement Goals, and began development planning for the subsequent plan.



## **Parent Satisfaction Summary & School Staff Survey**

The School student survey was undertaken by the Upper Years students, and from the feedback it is evident that the majority of students; feel that there is at least one trusted adult they can talk to in the school, understand they are expected to aim high and display the school Values, and enjoy the variety of incursions and excursions offered.

This year the School Board surveyed families face to face. The survey is vital to providing feedback on how the school is performing, with the information obtained from the survey used to guide the Board and School Management improvement planning processes and the subsequent Strategic Plan.

## **Areas for Improvement**

We will continue ongoing maintenance of classrooms, grounds, facilities, and play areas. We will continue to apply for grants to enable us to upgrade facilities, engage various sporting coaches, and further increase the understanding and awareness of our First Nations people, and culture through ongoing activities and incursions. We will also engage experts in their field to guide our RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) journey.

# Finance

The annual 2022 financial report provides a statement of the financial performance of Pioneer Village School for the year ending 31st December 2022, and its financial position as at the end of that year.

This report provides a snapshot of the finance of Pioneer Village School regarding the operating activities for the current year 2022, 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.

In 2022 Pioneer Village School added four year old kindergarten to the ELC (Early Learning Centre). The addition of a second ELC classroom has further strengthened the school's position for strong future growth.

The addition of 4-year-olds to our ELC impacted the financial statements by injecting an additional income stream. This, in combination with an increase in school fees, attributed to the overall surplus of \$254,921. PVS has accumulated funds from previous years which is included in 'total assets' in the table below. The surplus funds had been placed into a Reserve Account, to be available for the school's future financial needs.

Commonwealth and State Government funding contributed 65% in total. Tuition fees contributed 33% to total revenue.

Revenue increased by 16% in 2022.

Total operating expenditure decreased by 1% over 2021.

Tracey Cowlin  
Bursar





**FINANCIAL POSITION**

		2022		2021
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	4,294,952.00	\$	4,127,429.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	619,369.00	\$	746,782.00
NET ASSETS	\$	<b>3,675,583.00</b>	\$	<b>3,380,647.00</b>

**FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

		2022		2021
REVENUE	\$	2,895,474.00	\$	2,502,697.91
EXPENSES	\$	2,640,553.00	\$	2,626,712.00
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>254,921.00</b>	<b>-\$</b>	<b>161,127.00</b>
Add back Depreciation / Provisions ,	\$	80,431.00	\$	73,825.00
<b>NET SURPLUS / DEFICIT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>335,352.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>61,305.00</b>

**2022 Income**