



Northam Primary School School Report 2023

School Report 2023

The 2023 Annual Report outlines what we have achieved in our programs, how well we are going and what we need to focus on next to continually improve the educational programs and services to students in our community. This report also provides an account and some assurance about the way resources have been used to provide the very best quality teaching and learning environments for your children.

OUR VISION:

Our vision at Northam Primary School is "We strive for excellence". This coupled with our Moral Purpose of "Providing a high quality education that fosters a love of learning and empowers students to succeed". It is what we use to measure our level of success against.

Northam PS prides itself on our behaviour expectations of, Respect, Responsibility, Persevere and Care. Parents are encouraged to be active participants in their child's schooling. We know the importance of students' physical, emotional and social wellbeing on student achievement, happiness and success at school and we work hard to nurture and develop this. Northam Primary School has a whole school focus on sustainability, which drives an integrated curriculum across the school. Our programs are enhanced through collaboration with associated professionals including school support staff, a school psychologist and community volunteers. Specialist programs in Physical Education, Performing Arts and Noongar Language (Years 3-6) are part of the students' learning program. Technology is a feature of the school, comprising of a school wide network, interactive whiteboards in every classroom and iPads and laptops for Teacher and Student use.

The school has continued its journey of embracing our local Indigenous culture and we are implementing a range of strategies to include the teaching and valuing of our local Indigenous culture in all classrooms. We work closely with our community and value their opinions and feedback.



Principal's Message

It is my delight to present you with the Northam Primary School 2023 Annual Report. This report gives parents and other members of the community a clear sense of how students in the school are progressing and what is being done to maximise student achievement. We are extremely proud of our school; the staff have worked very hard throughout the year to implement strategies to improve the educational outcomes for our students. A strong focus on literacy and numeracy has continued to drive our efforts in lifting the educational standards at the school. We have continued our focused on improving our social behaviours within the school and have seen a great deal of change occurring throughout 2023.

The embedding of our explicit teaching of phonics within Early Childhood was maintained as our focused priority during 2023, along with embedding a more phonological approach towards our Years 3-6 spelling approach. These programs have provided our students with a baseline to draw on for decoding skills leading to a greater improvement in their reading, along with their comprehension and grammar skills. We strengthened our reading instruction through the embedding of the Literacy Pro program from Years 1-6 and using the data that program provides on each individual student to target their specific needs through a case management approach.

On the Numeracy side we continued to embed our whole school TopTen mathematics program. This program has continued to engage students within mathematics lessons. We also further embedded a whole school Numeracy block, explicit instructional lesson design and detailed scope and sequence documents. I am confident that the change made to the teaching of Mathematics will result in positive progress across the next 12 months.



Northam Primary School highly values working together with the parents and wider community to support student learning and this remained our focus throughout 2023. As a school we underwent a Public School Review in Term 4 2023 and received a fantastic outcome with our school self-assessment and the Review Team validation visit being endorsed by the Deputy Director General, Schools. A copy of the Public School Review report can be found on our school website. Along with the Public School Review we also participated in the selection process to become an Independent Public School and again we are proud to say we were successful in the selection process and commenced as an Independent Public School on the 1st January 2024.

I would like to thank staff, students, School Council, P&C and all parents and families for their ongoing effort and support in making 2023 a very successful year for Northam Primary School.

Mark Donaldson
Principal

2023 School Council Chair Report

2023 was a huge year for Northam Primary School and the School Council, with the School and School Council deciding to apply to become an Independent Public School. The decision was made in consultation with the school staff, School Council, and whole school community. After considering the schools capacity to take on the additional accountabilities of being an Independent Public School, the school community's support for change, and the school's operational performance, it was definitively decided to apply to be an Independent Public School. After numerous meetings, briefings, and presentations to panels, Northam Primary School was successful and will commence the 2024 school year as an 'Independent Public School'. The School Council is very proud of Northam Primary School staff, students, and the whole school community for achieving this milestone, and looks forward to becoming a School Board in 2024.

As a school I believe we should be proud of the high standard of work and quality education that Northam Primary School provides and I wish to acknowledge and thank the entire school staff and the whole school community by encouraging and supporting our students. Many school events were held during the year that were thoroughly enjoyed and well supported by our students, staff, and whole school community. These included: Swimming Carnival; Athletics Carnival; Cross Country; Mothers/Father's Day Breakfasts; ANZAC Service; Remembrance Day; and Harmony Day.

The school's journey in further recognising our country's First Nations people, is very evident in its whole school embraced Reconciliation and NAIDOC Week events. The schools 'Yarning Circle' and Six Seasons Garden, complements the school's excellent Noongar language program. Due to our strong belief that our school's journey towards being a proficient Culturally Responsive and supportive learning environment for Aboriginal students and families, the Northam Primary School Council nominated the school for the 'Excellence in Cultural Responsiveness' award category in the 2023 DOE WA Education Awards. Whilst the school was not a finalist in 2023, we look forward to the addition of our schools new Faction Shirts next year, which were designed using Aboriginal Art and storytelling designed by staff and students and endorsed by the School Council this year.

The P & C provided amazing and nutritional food to our students though the canteen, exciting events, and they have also provided the school with funds to purchase a variety of learning resources with the biggest funding being the purchase of the Literacy Pro student subscriptions and short reads. The volunteers within the P & C have freely given their time to support our school and its students, and I personally would like to thank them all for their contributions throughout the year and wish the next committee all the very best for the coming year.

We also said goodbye to some familiar faces within the staff and welcomed new staff who jumped into their roles with great enthusiasm. We have seen improvements in our academic results and culture amongst the students, which is a true reflection of the hard work put in by all of the staff within the school and by the students.

Congratulations to all of our Year 6's who have transitioned off to their next adventure at Secondary School. The Year 6 Camp, Graduation, and End of Year Concert were great events for these students to remember their final year of Primary School. We wish them all the very best for their future endeavours and hope they will look back fondly on their time at Northam Primary School.

Finally, it has been my pleasure to serve as Chairperson on the School Council for this past year, and I have enjoyed watching the school develop and evolve during that time. Thank you to all the members of the school council who willingly gave their time to attend regular meetings and respond to emails. With plans for continued improvement in 2024 and beyond, I look forward to the further strengthening our links between the Northam Primary School and the wider community as we transition to becoming a School Board.

Joe Manning
School Council Chair

Northam Primary School P&C

Presidents Report 2023

In 2023, we have successfully achieved significant milestones, notably the memorable sausage sizzle at the sports carnival and the Penny War. Our primary objectives for the year encompass expanding our volunteer base and establishing comprehensive documentation and operational strategies for all events to benefit not only the current P&C committee but also future committees. Recognising that clear instructions and time commitments are vital to alleviate pressure on volunteers and enhance their engagement, we introduced the “Just 1 Thing” survey to encourage every family's participation by offering opportunities aligned with their interests and skills. Envisioning the impact of 200 families contributing “Just 1 Hour” each throughout the school year, totaling 200 collective hours, exemplifies the potential outcomes achievable through widespread involvement.

The substantial funding thanks to previous committee's hard work and dedication towards fundraising enabled us to lay the groundwork for these initiatives. Additionally, we still successfully organized various fundraisers throughout the year, all of which yielded positive results. It may not seem like we have done a lot this year as we did scale back on the events as a new committee. As we found our feet and a direction for the way to move forward and upwards in the years to come even with a change of committee this should not make a difference with all the records and reporting that has taken place there is a clear road map and a living document to help any team find their feet and hit the road running instantly.



Even though we were concentrating on other areas this year we still managed to raise in total just over \$5700. Our fundraising activities included:

- Easter Raffle,
- Subway Day for swimming carnival
- Mother's Day Stall & Raffle
- Father's Day Stall & Raffle
- Penny War
- Free Dress Days Favourite Sports Team.
- NAIDOC Week lunch specials in the canteen.
- Christmas Raffle
- Crazy Sock and Hair Day

Donations went out to

- \$6000 Literacy Pro Program
- \$1320 Numeracy Games Athletics
- \$1595 End of Year concert award books
- \$120 Bookfair best dressed awards

There is \$8435.50 in the P&C's Long Term Deposit account which is to be used for the P&C's major project to provide shade over the school playgrounds.

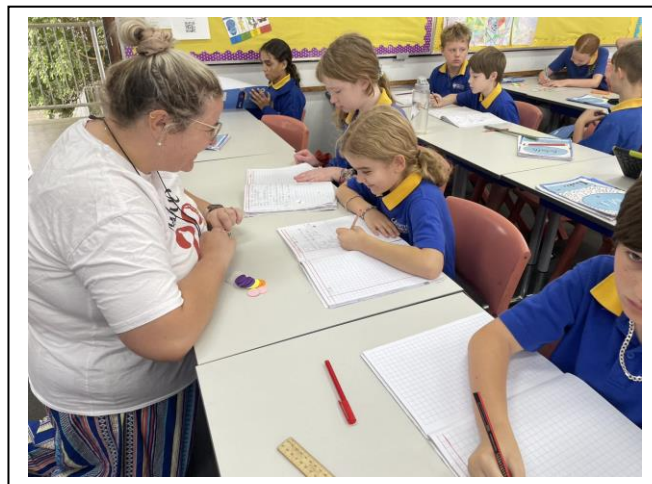
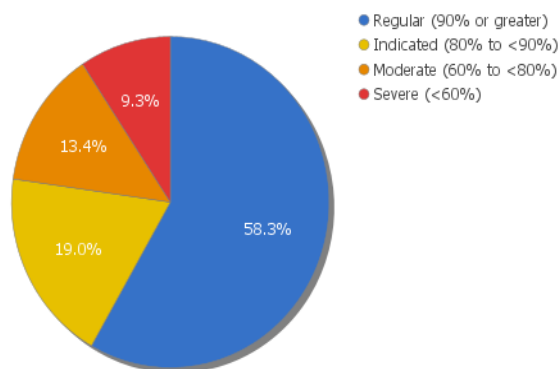
Thank you to the 2023 committee for all the hard work put in to achieve everything we did. Everyone played a part in it no matter how big or small. I'm grateful to be a part of a fantastic school and P&C.

Breanne Best President NPS P&C President 2023.

School Performance 2023

ATTENDANCE DATA

During 2023 we continued to face a range of issues based on the ongoing impacts of Covid-19. We saw a 6.5% improvement within our regular attendance between Semester 2 2022 and Semester 2 2023. Moving forward into 2024 we need to focus our attention on ensuring all of our students become regular attenders. We will increase our level of focus on those students who are not attending school on a regular basis and work with those families to improve their level of attendance during 2024.



PLANNED RESPONSE

Addressing the overall attendance rate of the school is imperative and we will continue to strive to continually raise the level of regular attendance. To meet this need we will implement a range of strategies throughout 2024. These include:

- Continually focus on educating the community about the need to ensure regular attendance of their children.
- Classroom teachers to undertake a home visit for those students identified as “At Risk” to establish positive relationships with the families and encourage regular attendance.
- Target the most severe at risk students with individual rewards to improve targeted student’s attendance rate.
- Implement Responsible Parenting Agreements for those students in the Severe and Moderate Attendance categories.

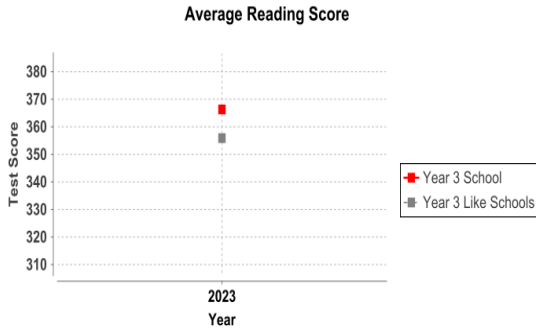
ACADEMIC DATA

Following the release of the 2023 NAPLAN data, Northam Primary School Staff conducted a Discipline Dialogue using the three questions of; “What is the data telling us”, “Why do we think it is so”; and “What are we going to do about it”? The School Council also reviewed the data and had discussion around what it was informing us as a school for future strategic planning and what impacts it may have moving forward.

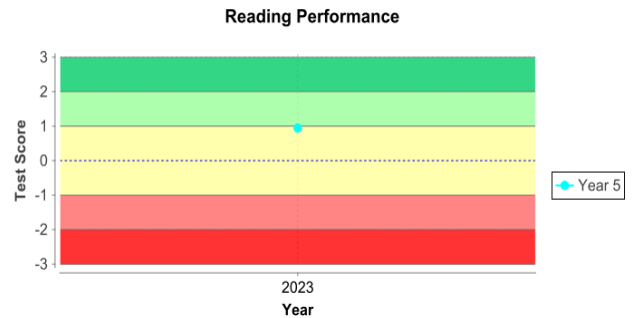
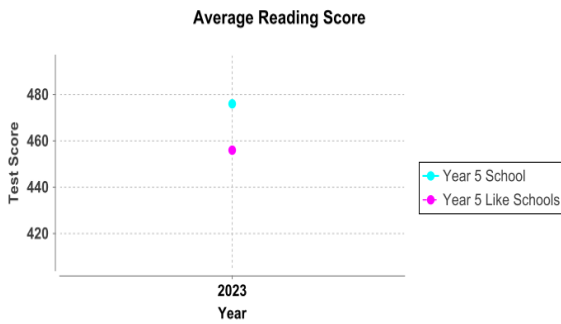
It is important to note that due to the change in how the data is reported it means that we can not compare the 2023 NAPLAN data to that of previous years. The data will be used as a baseline comparison for future years, and to inform the next three-year business planning cycle (2024-2026).

READING

Year 3 Reading data indicates the cohort has performed as expected with the overall result being 0.2 Standard Deviation (SD) above the expected school mean. The data indicates the cohort average band was above that of Like School results.



Year 5 Reading data indicates the cohort has performed better than expected with the overall result being 0.9 SD above the expected school mean. The data indicates the cohort average band was above that of Like School results. If this development continues, we expect to see the 2024 cohort more than 1 SD above the expected school mean.



The **positives** change we have seen within Reading is the fact both the Year 3 and Year 5 cohorts are above the expected school mean..

The **concerns** derived from the data and in discussion with staff, is the need to move the Year 3 cohort further above the expected school mean.

Planned Response

- Maintain a focus on the explicit teaching approach used to teach reading (guided reading) as a whole school approach to reading.
- Review the Literacy scope and sequence documents to further develop the teaching reading across P-6 to ensure it covers the skills students require that are in both the Exceeding and Strong NAPLAN pathways.
- Embed reading moderation practices across the school.
- Continue to build on the successful engagement of students through the Literacy Pro Reading

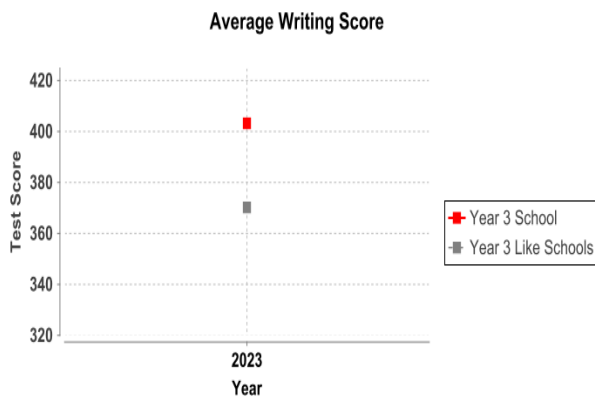
program across Years 2-6 classroom practise, ensuring the data is used to drive and inform classroom planning.

- Maintain a strong focus on the Case Management approach as a whole school strategy to focus on meeting each students reading needs.
- Literacy Leaders to observe and model reading sessions in individual classrooms and provide feedback to teachers on the effectiveness of their guided reading programs.

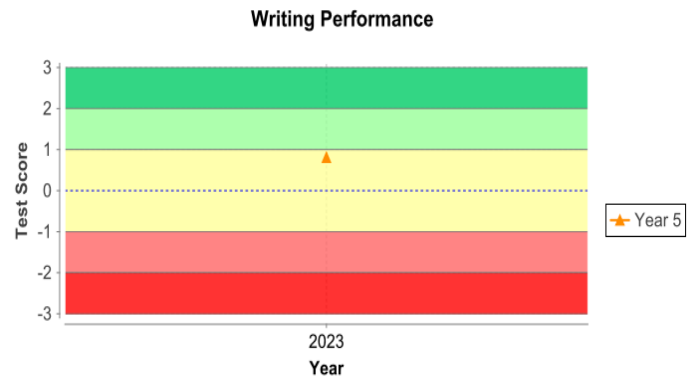
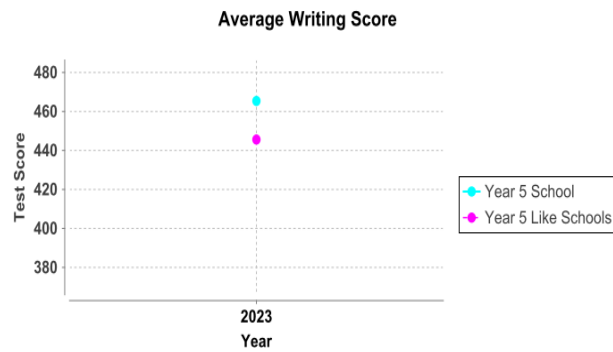


Writing

Year 3 Writing data indicates the cohort has performed above what was expected with the overall result being 1.0 SD above the expected school mean. The data indicates the cohort average band was well above that of Like School results



Year 5 Writing data indicates the cohort has performed above what was expected with the overall result being 0.8 SD above the expected school mean. The data indicates the cohort average band was above that of Like School results.



The **positives** change we have seen within Writing is the overall result of both the Year 3 and Year 5 cohorts indicating significant progress has been made in developing the students writing knowledge over the past three years. The very effective means of the Case Management approach and the effectiveness of the Associate Principal's in guiding the development of each classes Case Management term by term.

The **concerns** derived from the data and in discussion with staff, is the impact of poor attendance for those students in the lower bands, which then leads into a negative impact on student overall performance.



Planned Response

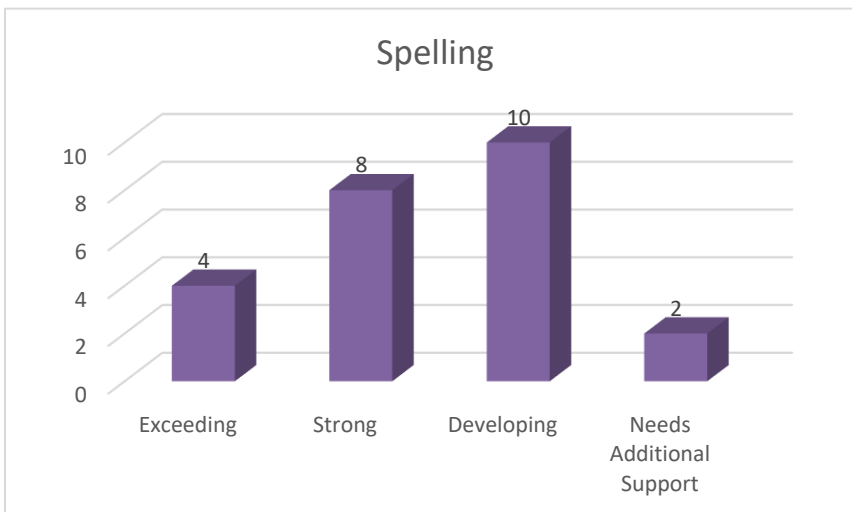
- Maintain a focus on the Literacy scope and sequence documents as a comprehensive planning tool.
- Further refine the Talk 4 Writing aspects of the Literacy Scope and Sequence to continue building on the staff knowledge of the sequences and expectations for each year level.
- Ensure teacher knowledge of new teachers through attendance at the Talk for Write professional learning.
- Continue to embed the explicit teaching of the NAPLAN assessed areas across the year levels.
- Embed the Writing Daily Reviews across the year levels.
- Maintain a strong focus the Writing Case Management approach as a whole school strategy to focus on meeting each students writing needs.



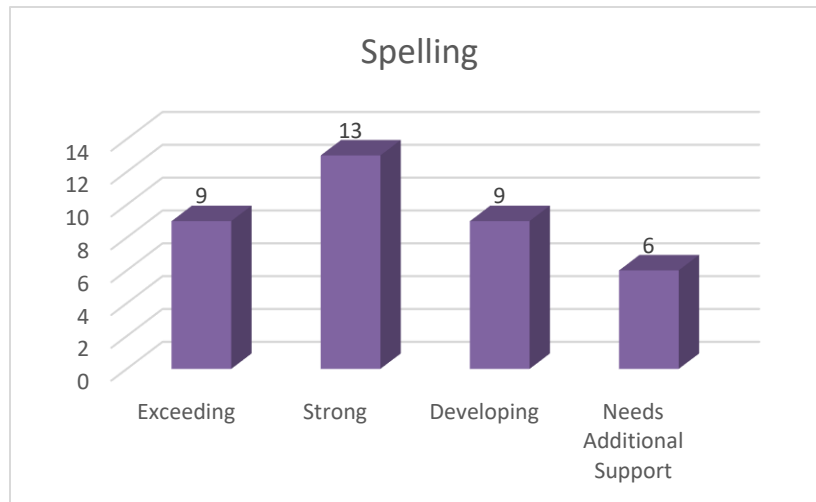
- Further consolidate writing moderation using the Brightpath tool ensuring the data is used to developed individual writing goals for each student with each student and the teacher in collaboration.

Spelling

The year 3 data indicates 50% of the students that were tested were in the Exceeding and Strong Proficiency Bands, with 42% in the Developing Proficiency Band and 8% in Needs Additional Support Proficiency Band. The School Mean was 20 points higher than the Like School Mean.



The year 5 data indicates 61% of the students that were tested were in the Exceeding and Strong Proficiency Bands, with 24% in the Developing Proficiency Band and 15% in Needs Additional Support Proficiency Band. The School Mean was 18 points higher than the Like School Mean.



The **positives** we saw within Spelling was the continued improvement in both the Year 3 and 5 cohorts resulting in both cohorts being above that of Like Schools.

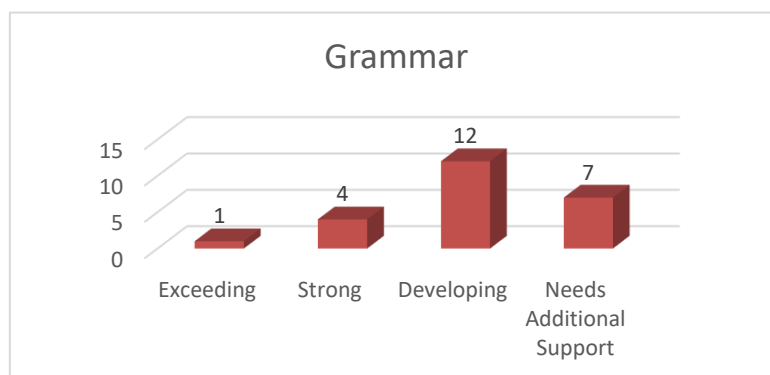
Whilst there are no major **concerns** with either cohort there is still a need to raise the School Mean tequal to or above the WA Mean.

Planned Response

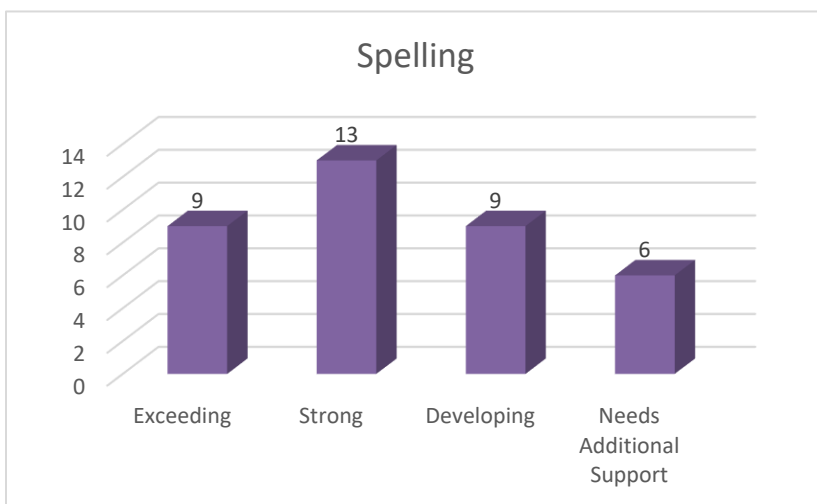
- Further strengthen the Letters and Sounds phonics program in PP-Year 2.
- Continue to embed the Heggerty program in K-2.
- Further strengthen the whole school explicit instructional model of phonemic awareness for students in Years 3-6.
- Embed spelling within the Writing Case Management approach.
- Implement the PreLit program into Kindy during 2024.
- Embed the targeted withdrawal for students in Year 2 and 3 to continue to provide earlier intervention for those identified as at risk through the Letters and Sounds assessment process.

Grammar

The Year 3 data indicates 21% of the students that were tested were in the Exceeding and Strong Proficiency Bands, with 50% in the Developing Proficiency Band and 29% in Needs Additional Support Proficiency Band. The School Mean was 2 points lower than the Like School Mean.



The Year 5 data indicates 60% of the students that were tested were in the Exceeding and Strong Proficiency Bands, with 24% in the Developing Proficiency Band and 16% in Needs Additional Support Proficiency Band. The School Mean was 11 points higher than the Like School Mean.



The **positive** changes we have seen within the data have been the upwards movement the Year 5 cohort and the Year 5 cohort results being above that of Like Schools, whilst the Year 3 cohort is comparable to Like Schools..

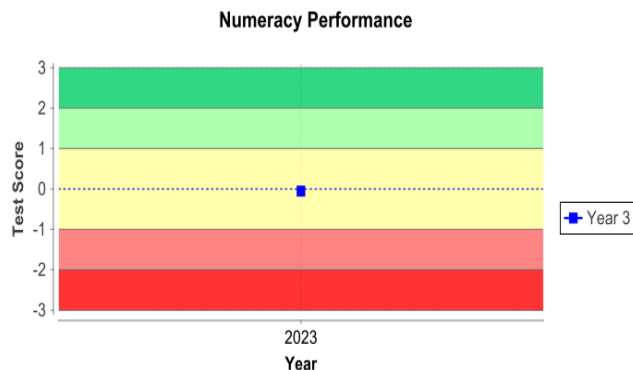
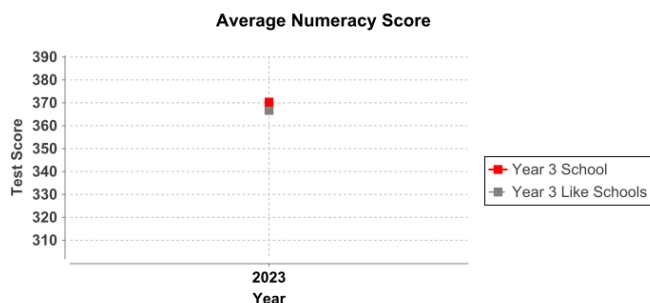
The **concern** is the percentage of Year students in the bottom two Proficiency Bands.

Planned Response

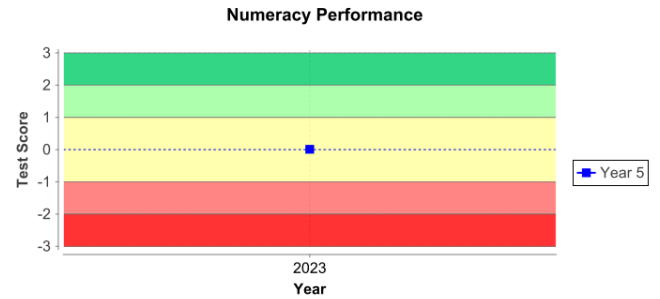
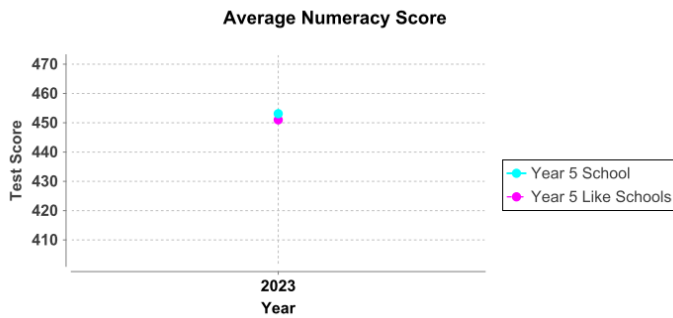
- Strengthen the focus on Grammar within the Writing Case Management from P-6.
- Literacy Leaders to observe and model spelling sessions in each classroom and provide feedback to teachers on their teaching practice.
- Ensure the explicit teaching of grammar concepts and skills form a part of the Talk For Writing approach.
- Develop a comprehensive approach to teaching Grammar through working with Shaping Minds in further developing the Grammar and Syntax Scope and Sequence documents.
- Development of Grammar components within the Writing Daily reviews from PP-Year 6.

Numeracy

Year 3 Numeracy data indicates the cohort has performed at the expected school mean. The data indicates the cohort average band was 3 points above that of Like School results.



Year 5 Numeracy data indicates the cohort has performed at the expected school mean. The data indicates the cohort average band was 2 points above that of Like School results.



The **positive** changes we have seen within was both the Year 3 and 5 cohorts meeting the expected school mean.

The **concern** is how to maintain an upwards trend in both the Year 3 and 5 cohorts in order to continue an upwards improvement trend over the next three years.

Planned Response

- Continue to embed the Top Ten Numeracy program as a whole school approach from P-6.
- Work with Shaping Minds to strengthen the whole school scope and sequence documents to be in line with the Top Ten program, ensuring critical concepts are given a higher priority during 2024.
- Continue to embed the Junior Mental Maths and Elementary Mental Maths programs from Year 1-6 as part of the whole school mathematics approach.
- Continue the use of the Acer Comparative Assessment as a means of data collection to inform teaching and learning and ensure teachers use this data to inform classroom planning.
- Further embed the Numeracy Case Management process to ensure teachers are using data to drive student achievement and progress.
- Numeracy Leader to include classroom observations, coaching and modelling effective practice for teachers.
- Embed Mathematics Daily reviews within all classrooms that enable the continual review of critical Numeracy concepts on a daily basis to reinforce student understanding.



School Activities

Harmony Day Picnic

It was amazing to see so many families being able to attend the Harmony Day Picnic on Wednesday 21st March. The students loved every minute of sharing this occasion with their families. We really do appreciate the time taken by our families to make this a success.

Assemblies

Throughout 2023 each of our classrooms conducted a whole school assembly where students got the opportunity to showcase their learning and to perform in front of a large audience. We were so grateful that all our classes got their opportunity to shine.



ANZAC Day Service

We would like to thank Laila Rafferty, Toby Edwards (School Captains), for the outstanding job they did in conducting our ANZAC Day Service. They spoke clearly and articulate throughout the Service, their leadership in conducting the Service was outstanding. I also thank our student leaders, Dustin Manning, Ellysa McConnell, Aron Rico, and Stella Verburg for their contributions, they enhanced our Service through their contributions.



Thank you to the students from each class who laid a wreath on behalf of their class, they were amazing and extremely respectful of their role. Our entire student group participated demonstrating all our school Behaviour Expectations and their singing of the song Lest We Forget and National Anthem was beautifully sung. We also want to acknowledge all our students and staff for the work they did in learning about ANZAC and the amazing work each class had on display. Thanks to all our special guests for attending the Service.

Mother's Day

It was awesome to see many Mums and Grandmothers, along with Dads and Granddads at our Mother's Day Breakfast. The smiles on our students' faces certainly indicated they were so proud to have their parents/grandparents join them for the breakfast. I would like to thank all the staff for pitching in to prepare the breakfast and for serving on the day, A particular thank you to Mrs Purslowe, Mrs Donaldson, Mrs Southwell and Mrs Dearnna Byfield for the leadership and coordination in making this event so successful. A huge thankyou to the dads Jeremy Osborne, Phil McConnell and Kyle Cornthwaite that came in at 6:45 am to cook the bacon and eggs, your efforts certainly ensured the success of the event. We also like to thank our committed P&C who ran the Mother's Day stall and raffles. Their time in purchasing the gifts, wrapping and then conducting the stall ensured that all students got the opportunity to buy their mother a gift. So, thank you P&C for all you continue to do for our school.



Winter Carnival

Our Year 5 and 6 students participated in the Inter School Winter Carnival on Friday 19th May. We had teams in the Netball, and Soccer all of which gave their very best in representing NPS with pride. Most importantly they all had fun. Our A division Netball team won the championship.

Year 4-6 Swimming Carnival

Our Year 4-6 Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 6th April 2023. It was a fantastic day and one in which all the students did their very best for their factions. Congratulations to Djer Djer (Blue) Faction who won the carnival (the students proudly say they have won it three years in a row) and to each of our individual medal winners.

Cross Country

Our school Cross Country was on Wednesday 7th June 2023. The day turned out to be a great day with every student running their hardest and doing their personal best. In the end it was a close competition with the winning faction being Noorn (Gold) Faction. A huge congratulations to all our champion and runner up champions for each year level.

Thank you to Mr Robson for his outstanding organisation and to all our parent helpers on the day. Also, thank you to the families who were able to make it on the day, your support is appreciated by the students.

Inter School Cross Country

Fantastic effort by all our Inter School Cross Country team that competed on Monday 26th June 2023. They did us proud by running as hard as they could. We finished second. Congratulations to the students who won Champion Boy/ Girl or Runner Up Champion Boy/Girl, you should feel super proud of yourself. Thank you to Mr Robson and the parent helpers for their efforts in helping on the day.

West Coast Fever - Wheatbelt/Goldfields Primary School Cup

On Thursday 22nd June we had two NPS team compete within the West Coast Fever Wheatbelt/Goldfields Primary School Netball competition, a mixed Year 3/4 team and a mixed Year 5/6 team. Both of our teams performed amazingly on the day with the Year 3/4 team finishing third overall from 10 teams and our Year 5/6 team finishing first overall from 10 teams. The students demonstrated amazing sportsmanship whilst at the same time giving their best to win. I want to thank Kelly Beard, Lisa Porteous and their support team for willingly giving their time to enter the team into the competition and coaching them. Also, a huge thank you to Mr Robson for all his work in ensuring our teams were able to compete.

NAIDOC Week 2023

The NAIDOC Week activities went extremely well with our students being engaged in a range of activities throughout the week. We were fortunate enough to have two of our Elders within the Community, Mrs Kathy Davis and Mrs Debora Moodey give their time for a day to speak with our students and share their own life journey about growing up and what it means to be an Elder within the community. Mr Trevor Davis, another Elder in our community shared and yarned with the whole school about his life growing up, showed some artifacts that he has used during his life and played the didgeridoo sharing a story through the didgeridoo.

We would like to thank and acknowledge Mrs Phove Rafferty, Miss Lizzie Stack and the ATSI Committee for the work they put into organising the week. We also thank all the staff for the range of activities they planned and conducted with our students.





School Athletics Carnival

Our carnival week began on Tuesday, Tuesday 15th August with the Jumps and Throws being held on the school oval. It was fantastic seeing all the students participate and give their very best personal effort. A congratulations to all those who finished in the top four of their year groups.

I would like to acknowledge all our students for the fantastic spirit they demonstrated when they competed at our School Faction Carnival on Friday 18th August 2023. Each and every student gave their very best efforts on the day and more importantly they were all very positive and encouraging of each other, regardless of what faction they were in they supported everyone. Congratulations to all our individual champion boys and girls, along with the individual runner up champion boy or girl for each year level. A huge

well done to Noorn (Gold) Faction for their win on the day, they tell me that their win was unexpected, and they are very proud of themselves.

A huge thank you to the parents that helped out at both the Jumps and Throws day and then at the Sports Carnival. Events like these really do rely on the support of our parents. Your contributions were amazing. Also, a thank you to our families for coming along and supporting the students on the day. I certainly hope you enjoyed it.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding job Mr Robson did in preparing the students for the carnival. The organisation and conduct of the carnival and his overall dedication to ensuring it went off so well. Thanks to all our staff for the contributions they made preparing the students in the lead up to both the Jumps and Throws and the Carnival. Also, for their efforts in helping with a wide range of jobs on the day.

I would also like to acknowledge the amazing effort by our P&C and volunteers on the day for conducting the sausage sizzle. Our students loved it.

Lastly, a huge thank you to our four Faction Captains Alex Drummond – Noorn (Gold) Faction, Tess McLean – Djer Djer (Blue) Faction, Maebh Wooster – Kaa Kaa (Red) Faction and Devansh Kilari - Yongka (Green) Faction. Their leadership and contributions to their faction was extremely impressive. We are super proud of how each student has gone about their leadership role this year.

Inter-School Athletics Carnival

The Inter School Athletics Carnival was held on Friday 15 September at Jubilee oval. Once again thank you to our students that represented the school and to those students who achieved either champion boy and girl or runner up champion boy or girl. It was fantastic to see us finish second overall. Thank you to our parent helpers on the day and to the staff that assisted. Lastly, a huge thanks once again to Mr Robson who not only prepared our school team, but he also organised and coordinated the entire carnival. On behalf of all the school communities I say thank you and well done!



Father's Day Breakfast

What a fantastic morning we had at the Father's Day Breakfast. It was so great seeing all our dads, granddads, mums and grandmothers (nanna's) attend. Walking around and observing how much the students enjoyed having their family present and enjoying the breakfast was a highlight of the day for me. Thank you to all our staff for their contributions towards running the event. A particular thank you to Mrs Purslowe, Mrs Donaldson, Mrs Southwell and Mrs Byfield who were the main organisers of the event.

We also thank Liz Osborne and Alison Manning for coming along at 06:45 am and spending their time

cooking eggs and bacon, their help was greatly appreciated. Thank you to our P&C for the awesome Fathers Day stall and raffle. Our students really enjoyed being able to buy their dad, or special someone, a gift. We acknowledge that there is so much more to just turning up and running the stall on the day, and our P&C members give their time to source donations, wrap the presents, and set up and pack away the stall. It takes a lot of hours to make it as hugely successful as it was. To our P&C President (Breanne Best), and her team, a heartfelt thanks from our school community.



Book Week

We celebrated Literacy in Week 3 of Term 4. Thank you to our amazing students and parents for the effort put into the students Book Parade costumes. Our students were so excited to participate and truly loved the parade. Thank you also to our staff who also dressed up and ensured the students had a great time. Also thank you to Mrs Donaldson and Mr Southwell for their organisation of book week. Teachers decorated their doors in true Literacy style. Let's find Where's Wally was a huge event for students.

Our P&C conduct the annual Book Fair which was again an awesome event for the students to be involved in. Without a doubt they enjoyed purchasing books and other items throughout the days it was open. We truly appreciate all our P&C volunteers who gave of their time to open the Book Fair each

morning before school and each afternoon after school.

Year 6 Camp

Our Year 6 students participated in their school camp during Week 5 of Term 2. The students had an amazing time challenging themselves with the variety of activities they undertook. By all reports from each student, they had the best time and would love to do it all over again. I am sure the photos of them further into this newsletter will demonstrate exactly why they had so much fun.



Thank you to Miss Sparkes, Mr Southwell, Mr Nickels, Mrs Southwell, Mr McConnell and Mrs McLean for their willingness to take the students on the camp and for all their time and effort throughout the four days.

Year 6 Graduation

Our Year 6 graduating students had their formal graduation ceremony followed by a dinner and dance. It was the perfect event to end our Year 6 students primary school years. They looked absolutely amazing on the night and had an awesome time commemorating their final year of primary school. Congratulations to every student on graduating. They will move on to high school in 2024, and without a doubt they will be fantastic ambassadors for Northam PS.

We hope our Year 6 Graduates take many memories of their time at Northam Primary School with them and wish them all the very best for high school. You will all be missed here at Northam Primary School.

We want to acknowledge Joshua Beard and Mikayla Willmot for being our MC's on the night. They were both fantastic and I have no doubt our students chose wisely when they elected Josh and Mikayla to the School Captain roles for 2024.



End Of Year Concert

On Thursday 7th December 2023 we held our End of Year Concert at the Northam Recreation precinct. Having moved the event indoors and bringing it forward to an earlier start certainly lent itself to making the concert successful. The feedback from many parents was that they really enjoyed the evening. I would like to again acknowledge all those people who played a part in organising and running the concert, it takes a lot of work and coordination to make it all work as well as it did. I also want to acknowledge the individual donors for the book awards and thank the invited guests for attending. A huge thanks to our P and C who donated \$1500 for the class book awards, we could not do it without their support.

The students took the opportunity to enjoy their moment to shine during their performances, the dance moves were amazing from Kindy to our Year 6 graduating students' final performance. It was awesome to see all the smiles and to hear how the students cheered each other on. The students looked amazing in their costume choices, so well-done parents! Congratulations to those students who were presented with awards on the evening, they were all very worthy recipients. A huge thanks to Toby Edwards and Laila Rafferty for their outstanding job of MC on the night. They have been outstanding ambassadors for our school all year. Once again, I want to congratulate all our students for their amazing effort and performance, along with the huge effort of families to dress their child according to their class performance item. All our students looked amazing.



School Resources and Governance

Northam Primary School operates a One Line Budget. The majority of the Student Centered Funding received is assigned to staff salaries, with the remainder going towards our Cash Budget supporting our schools' programs, replacement and upgrading of resources, furniture and fittings, and general maintenance throughout our school.

The cash budget carried the school through 2023 enabling support of our education programs, replacement and upgrading of resources, various furniture and fittings and building works through the school. The verified One Line Budget as at 31 December 2023 is below.

ONE LINE BUDGET - Dec 2023 (Verified Dec Cash)		
	Current Budget (\$)	Actual YTD (\$)
Carry Forward (Cash):	231,367	231,368
Carry Forward (Salary):	231,522	231,522
INCOME		
Student-Centred Funding (including Transfers & Adjustments):	3,569,534	3,569,534
Locally Raised Funds:	72,051	73,302
Total Funds:	4,104,474	4,105,726
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries:	3,270,956	3,270,956
Goods and Services (Cash):	660,126	457,557
Total Expenditure:	3,931,082	3,728,513
VARIANCE:	173,392	377,212