

SOUTH THORNIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT

2021

Achieving Excellence Together



PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS



Megan Barnett - Principal

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2021 Annual Report. It is an opportunity for us to celebrate the successes which the children and the school have achieved this year. It has been an honour leading this exceptional school over the past three years as we have continued to negotiate the complexities and challenges of an ever changing world.

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

All staff are committed to providing the best possible education programs for all children, encouraging them to achieve academic excellence and become responsible citizens.

Our focus to provide an education that caters for the requirements of each individual child remains our highest priority. We pride ourselves on providing an inclusive learning environment that caters for the diversity of the students in our care. We actively form and foster partnerships to support us in achieving this objective.

2021 has been a busy and successful year. We maintained and built upon past achievements and continued our focus on improving school performance with the flexibilities afforded us through our status as an Independent Public School. Building strong partnerships between the community and the school was further enhanced with the support of the School Board.

2021 saw our school learning community continue to strive to address and achieve the targets and milestones outlined in the South Thornlie Primary School 2019 – 2021 Business Plan. During the latter half of 2021 our staff reflected on that Business Plan, celebrated the successes and identified and planned for areas of future growth and achievement for all members of our school learning community. This was done collaboratively as a whole staff and in consultation with our School Board.

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



At South Thornlie Primary School we have been very fortunate to have had University Services available to our students and parents incorporating Social Workers, Counsellors and Sports Science Students throughout the year. Parental consent allows our students to have sessions with these services giving our students support, family assistance, social skills, emotional regulation, resilience building skills and an opportunity to learn to deal with conflict, anxiety and trauma, and build confidence and self-esteem. In addition we now have marketing students who have been working towards addressing our main target in our marketing and business plan of increasing our public image by promoting and sharing our school in the community.

The achievements of our students in 2021, both in the academic and non-academic areas has been impressive. We continue to work towards further improvement with a focus on high quality teaching and learning programs as cornerstones to future success. As the leader of this Independent Public School, I look forward to 2022 and the further success we can achieve through a strong focus on working together and aspiring to providing a dynamic school, innovative students and a nurturing community.

Megan Barnett | Principal | South Thornlie Primary School

Staff News:

2021 has seen us welcome new staff and say goodbye to others. Three of our long standing staff members; Graeme Edwards, PE teacher, retired after 41 years at the end of semester one, Angelia Hale, Manager of Corporate Services, retired after 32 years at the end of term three and Shirley Pender, Education Assistant, will retire at the end of 2021 school year after giving 41 years to the Department of Education. All have given so much to the South Thornlie School Community and we wish them well on their retirement.

We said good bye to David Bonser who has taken up a position at Wangkatjunka Remote Community School after being with South Thornlie for 10 years. We also farewelled our Head Cleaner, Sandra Drayton who moved interstate after 12 years. We wish them both all the best for their prospective futures.

We welcomed several new staff members Michelle Murray, Paula Vardy, and Merranie Beal. Ms Murray has seamlessly stepped into B2 to continue to build upon the strong foundations laid by Mrs Tapper who is on long service leave. Ms Murray will return in 2022 as a permanent staff member. Mrs Vardy and Mrs Beal joined us in Term 2 and 3 respectively, joining the Administration Team as Deputy Principals incorporating student services into their daily roles. Mrs Tapper and Mrs Downs have enjoyed some well deserved Long Service Leave during 2021. We look forward to their return in 2022.

INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

Our school currently has over 447 students from Kindergarten to Year 6. We celebrate multiculturalism with approximately 27% of our students coming from a language background other than English and over 40 different languages spoken.

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

We look forward to educating your children and seeing them grow, discover and prepare themselves for the future.

SCHOOL BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is my pleasure to present the 2021 South Thornlie Primary School Board Chair Report and to reflect on the Boards Activities over the last twelve months.

Last year South Thornlie Primary School successfully became an Independent Public School, and it has been a year since our School Council transitioned to a School Board. With this change came new challenges, which the Board has approached both professionally and enthusiastically. The Board has a requirement to focus on the long-term goals of the school and the members of the Board have strategic oversight of the school's achievement targets, finance, and overall direction. This year the Board, staff and administration have worked collaboratively to outline the school's strategic direction and priorities, forming the basis for South Thornlie Primary School's Business Plan for 2022-2024.

Along with the creation of this plan the Board has focused its efforts this year in the following areas:

- Review of the reports by the Principal and staff on the progress towards achieving the targets of the current Business Plan
- Endorsement of the annual school report, contributions and fees, marketing plan, school policies, and student performance targets and achievements.
- Support and promotion of the Board in the School and the community.

Overall, the Board has been very satisfied with the planning, implementation and execution of the various strategies set out in the school's business plan and remains on target to continue to achieve the targets and milestones outlined in the new Business Plan.

The Board has adopted strategies to positively promote and market our school, engage our community further and to strengthen relationships between all school stakeholders. We value the importance of strong relationships between all groups and believe that together we can have a positive impact on our children's education.

Through our community representative Nick Mortimer our students now enjoy a partnership with CSIRO where they can watch turtle tagging streamed live to the classroom and have built their own radios.

In partnership with Rotary, our community representative Kevin Saunders has arranged new buddy benches around the school for our students to share, promoting resilience and our school value of Care. Additionally, through our parent representative, Kristen Thakwray, students have had the opportunity to choose to participate in wellness sessions. The Parent Open Night was enthusiastically supported by Board members Tony, Lorraine, Kevin, and myself. We thoroughly enjoyed assisting parents with completing the school survey, and helping students to complete their redbrick road passports. Our aim was to raise School Board awareness in our community.

In closing, I would like to thank our Board members Tony Goh, Kristen Thackray, Serena Gosnay, Neetha Talam, Jeong-Eun Jeong, Paula Vardy, Jenny Liedermoy, Merranie Beal, Lorraine Hams, Megan Barnett, Nick Mortimer, and Kevin Saunders, for your enthusiastic support of both myself and the Boards endeavours. I appreciate your support and positive contributions to our meeting discussions. I would also like to welcome our new members Robert Fulton and Brooke Dickson, and farewell with gratitude our exiting staff representatives of 2020 Denise Tjhung, Larissa Waghorn, and Christopher Mattock. Thank you also to our resigning members of the last year Chang Liu, Ellen Ducrow, Leanne Urbas, Niki Paton, Thiago Bacellar, Edwina Allen, David Bonser and Ruth Moore for your time and efforts.

I would like to extend a special thank you to the teaching staff, teaching support staff, administration staff, the cleaners, gardener and our P&C and other parent volunteers for their continued efforts in 2021. Serving on the School Board is a privileged opportunity to contribute and create better outcomes for the school, students, staff, parents, and community. Members of the Board generously give their time and I thank them for their efforts and dedication.



OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

We have 32% of students enrolled in our school who were born outside of Australia which represents a gradual increase over past years. There is a small cohort of Aboriginal students in the school and we have established a positive relationship with Aboriginal elders in the community and their families.

South Thornlie Primary School has an ICSEA of 978 (State decile rank of 6). When "like school" comparisons are referred to, they are made with schools with a similar ICSEA. The average ICSEA across Australia is 1000. The ICSEA has replaced the SEI: (Social Economic Index) and represents a more accurate ranking of our community.

Student Background

Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) School ICSEA Value: 1006

Decile: 5

Average ICSEA Value: 1000

Data Source: Parent Information

ATTENDANCE: "Every day counts"

The Department of Education defines regular attendance as being above 90%.

Consistent attendance and participation at school are essential factors in achieving social and academic learning outcomes. Student attendance of less than 90% will have an impact on the child's opportunity to achieve their potential. Attendance is monitored on an individual basis and partnerships with parents are developed to improve attendance rates where required.

Employing an Attendance Officer has improved our overall school's attendance rate compared to previous years.

The average rate of attendance for students at STPS in 2021 is TBC%.

Our Business Plan 2019-2021 objective was to increase the average rate of attendance at STPS to 85%. In 2021, the STPS average rate of attendance was TBC%

Our Business Plan 2019-2021 objective was to increase students with regular attendance (students attending more than 90%) to 80%. In 2021, STPS regular attendance rate was TBC%, with Public Schools achieving TBC %.

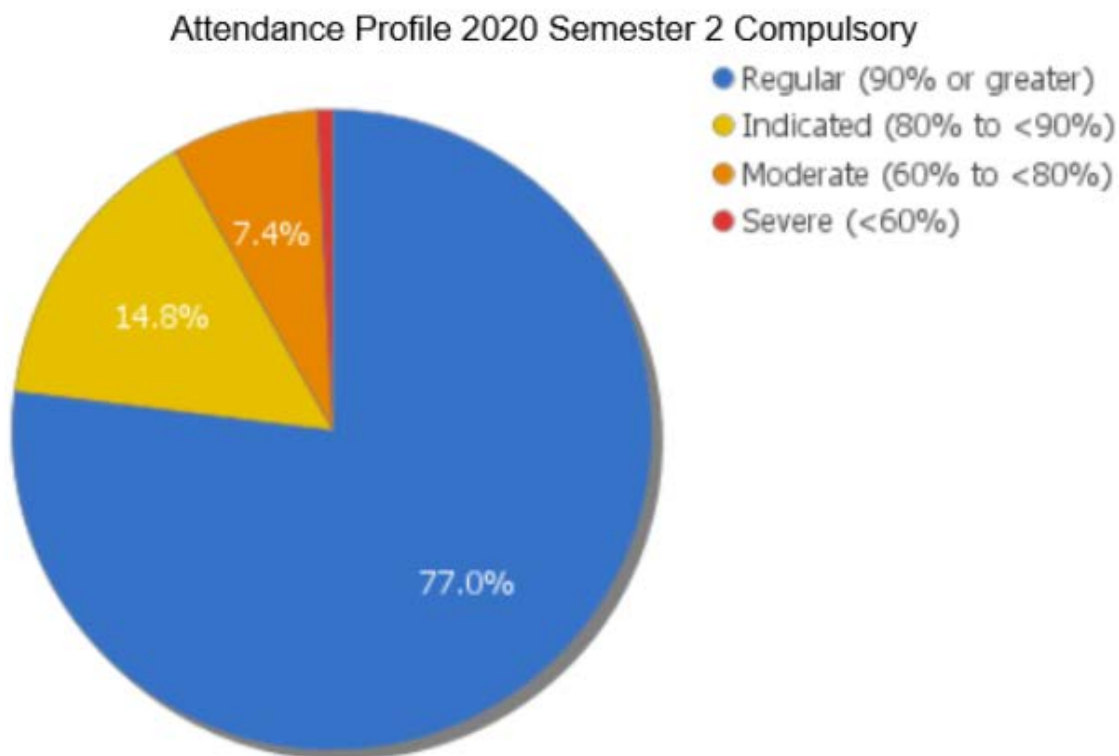
ATTENDANCE: “Every day counts”

We currently have TBC% of students who are identified as either moderate attendance risk (with 60-79% attendance) or severe risk (with 0 - 59% attendance). This is an improvement from 2018 when the rate was 10%.

Attendance Risk Categories	
95 -100%	Attendance is classified as being EXCELLENT
90 - 95%	Attendance is classified as being at REGULAR
80 - 89%	Attendance is classified as being at INDICATED RISK
60 - 79%	Attendance is classified at being at MODERATE RISK
0 - 59%	Attendance is classified as being at SEVERE RISK

Our school has devised a whole school attendance policy followed by all staff that encourages regular attendance.

Individual Attendance Plans are put in place for students with attendance below 80%.



SCHOOL EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Year 6 Camps to AQWA and Dwellingup

2021 was a year of firsts for the Year 6 students from South Thornlie Primary School. They participated in two camps in two locations: AQWA and Dwellingup.

In term one, they stayed overnight at AQWA for the first time at the start of the year. They spent one night at AQWA Museum sleeping under the aquarium. Students also learned about the research vessel Linnaeus with Nick Mortimer, Senior Engineer CSIRO, reporting it being a very awesome experience as well as an educational one.

In term three, the Year 6s went to Dare Adventure Camp in Dwellingup, where they stayed for three nights. Students made rafts, had a go at archery and a high ropes course, went on a tree adventure and bush walk, and learnt about forest ecology and team work. Each night was a different fun activity: movie night, night bush walk and talent show. Many thanks to the staff and parents who came along.



STEM Professionals in Schools Program

STEM Professionals in Schools is a national volunteer program that facilitates partnerships between schools and industry to bring real STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) into the classroom. South Thornlie has partnered with Nick Mortimer who works for CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere. Nick has completed several projects with students in 2021. The Year 5s and 6s made crystal radios, the year 4s made water powered rockets, the Year 3s designed a package to protect an egg dropped from various heights and the Year 2s built paper planes. This is an amazing opportunity for students to learn about Science in real life.



Pirate Day

South Thornlie Primary is a generous school and loves to support worthwhile causes. Every year, we hold a Pirate Day to raise funds for children with brain cancer. Students dress up like pirates and have fun completing pirate activities – like walking the plank – in their classrooms. In 2021, STPS raised \$306.35.



Harmony Day:

It is a time to celebrate Australian multiculturalism, and the successful integration of migrants into our community. Australia is one of the most successful multicultural countries in the world and we should celebrate this and work to maintain it. Harmony Week is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

South Thornlie Primary celebrated with activities in class, dressing up at an assembly in cultural clothes and watching a dance performance by our senior students who rehearsed with the school chaplain.



ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day is an important day at South Thornlie Primary. As well as students learning about the ANZACs in their classes, students participate in a poetry writing competition and our school community celebrate at a special assembly. The winners of our 2021 ANZAC poetry competition were Jessie from C4 and Jace from B1. The competition is judged by our adopted diggers.



Incursions

Each year a range of school incursions are conducted for the whole school, specific year levels or class groups. In 2021, these included:

- Edu Dance
- The Teddy Bear's Hospital
- Brownes Dairy



Disco

The students got their groove on as Mrs Gosnay pumped out some hopping tunes at the school disco. Thanks to all the staff and families who came and helped.



Parent Open Night

On Tuesday, 24 August, STPS opened its doors to the school community. School families were invited in to the classrooms to see what students have been learning, as well as participating in some fun activities in the general and specialist classrooms. In addition to the open classrooms for teachers to showcase student learning, the school community were invited to showcase their businesses. Families promoted their businesses in the Library and Arts Centre, along with the school board and several other community groups. Families enjoyed a superb sausage sizzle catered for by Mrs Harbron and Mr Turner and children got to follow the Red Brick Road. Special thanks to Mrs D'Sylva for all her hard work and organising of this event.



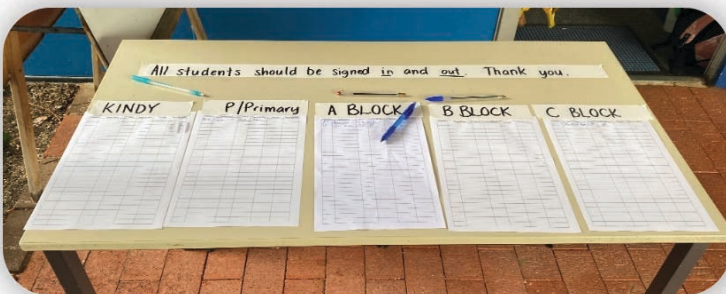
Lego Robotic Showcase

Students worked with Mrs Larissa Waghorn and Miss Chantelle Murray to design activities which could be accessed by both able bodied people and people with disabilities to encourage them to be active. Students came up with various designs, including playgrounds, which would suit wheelchair users.



Parent Teacher Interviews

Another first for 2021 was the introduction of Parent Teacher Interviews. Interviews were held on Tuesday 15 June from 11:30am – 2:30pm. Parents could book online or ring the school to book a ten minute appointment to see their child/children's class and specialist teachers. These interviews provided an excellent opportunity for parents to hear how their child is progressing both academically and socially. Children waited in the library while parents met with teachers.



Book Fair & Book Week Parade

Book Fair was held on 13 -17 August and the theme was "Reading Oasis: A Cool Place to Discover Hot Books. Children and families got to buy books from the comfort of our school library and raised money for our library to spend on books. Thanks to Mrs Knott and her awesome team of volunteers who helped out. As a whole school we also participated in a Book Week dress up day and parade on 3 September in which all students were invited to come dressed as a favourite character from a book.



Free Coffee Friday with 98.5 Sonshine FM

Sonshine FM hosted their Free Coffee Friday morning radio show at South Thornlie Primary on Friday 10 September. Children enjoyed a free pancake breakfast and adults could enjoy a free coffee. A netball player from the Sharks Netball team came out and practised some netball skills with the students. Mrs Barnett and Mrs Pereira talked about programmes the school is running and Alice, Nykandra, and Mrs Jenny Liedermoy talked about our student leaders. It was a marvellous opportunity to promote our school.



Fortnightly School Assemblies

Whole school assemblies are held in the Arts Centre every fortnight with each class taking a turn in presenting an item and hosting the assembly. After each assembly the hosting class receive an icy pole.

This performance project is always a highlight for each class and a wonderful opportunity for parents and community to share in our school.

As well as merit certificates, children who have demonstrated our school values during the fortnight go in the draw to win a prize and the Aussie of the Month is awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding attitude and behaviour.



Still to Come...

As the year draws to a close there are still a host of events still to come including:

- Obstacle-A-Thon
- Book Awards Assembly
- End of year Wet and Wild Reward Day

Other Projects Around the School in 2021 include:

- A footpath between pre primary and the NOLA
- Ducted air conditioning to Admin
- Ceilings have been replaced throughout the school
- A community kitchen has been built in C Block
- The Therapy Rooms have been beautifully furnished
- Bafflers have been installed in the Science Lab
- Jump pits have been repaired
- New computers throughout the school
- More marvellous mosaics throughout the school
- Painting of internal walls is taking place
- Over the 2021-2022 holidays, a new cover will be installed over the outside stage

School Improvements

We are proud to be able to share with you, the improvements our school has undertaken in 2021. Our school has seen an ongoing focus on school improvements to the physical and learning environments in our school. Some major improvements include the community kitchen, Early Childhood playgrounds and Noongar Outdoor Learning Area (NOLA).

Pre Primary & Kindy



THE BROADER CURRICULUM

South Thornlie Primary School staff have had a continual focus on improving the delivery of the curriculum to our students with meticulous analysis of data and individual student performance, to ensure that every student can reach their academic potential. Teachers assess and monitor classroom programmes to ensure areas of strength are maintained and areas of weakness are addressed whilst ensuring national requirements are included in the lesson plans. Learning areas are reviewed with staff and School Board members in terms of progress towards our Business Plan milestone and targets and future actions. Curriculum area summaries are outlined below.

English as an Additional Language or Dialect - EAL/D

Students who are English as an Additional Language or Dialect are identified on enrolment through an interview process with their families. The students are recorded on either stage 1 and/or 2 depending on their prior level of studies/if any in an Australian school. The Students' learning progress of English is tracked using an EAL/D Early Childhood (Kindergarten – Year 2) or Middle Childhood (Year 3-6) Progress Map (PM) in levels 1 to 8. In 2021, Stages 1 and 2 EAL/D students have been provided with extra support at South Thornlie Primary School with an EAL/D Targeted Achievement Program (TAP) to further develop their language skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

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

South Thornlie Primary School has invested in a wide range of EAL/D resources that is accessible to all staff and utilised in various targeted achievement and support programs across the school. The school continually updates and invests in new resources. This includes the purchases of large books, selected by class teachers to use as resources to sustain the EAL/D TAP language program. Resources are also used to support South Thornlie Primary School's Chinese Partnership program.



Chinese Partnership

In 2019, a Chinese partnership program had been established with two sister-schools, Ding Hui Primary School and Jin Hua Huang Cheng Primary School that has continued in 2020 and 2021. South Thornlie Primary School have been involved in a letter exchange program. Letters were written by students across the school with replies from Chinese students put on display in the front office. With COVID-19 affecting countries around the world and constant changing circumstances, our exchange program will be brought online with students uploading and emailing their letters to their correspondence to improve delivery efficiency. This program promotes cultural diversity by sharing cultural experiences and knowledge within both school communities.

Visual Arts

The Art program at South Thornlie Primary School allows children to express themselves through visual art. In 2021, the Art Specialist role was re-established with the employment of Enya Chen. Ms Chen worked with 8 classes across the school. Those classes that were not working with the Art specialist still participated in visual arts lessons with their regular classroom teacher.

The visual art program involved an emphasis on observed drawing and design skills leading to completed art works. Students were exposed to a wide variety of art influences, media and techniques including the use of collage, acrylics, water colours and mixed media.

The refurbished art room has been well utilised and the new facilities have ensured that the space provides an excellent environment for the students to work in. The new smart TV has given students the opportunity to view art works and techniques, allowing for further enrichment of the Visual Arts program. The Art Room is well resourced with an extensive array of supplies and materials. This has ensured that a diverse range of student projects will continue to be possible in the future.



Performing Arts: Music 2021

In the first semester of the year music was taught by classroom teachers. With no official school choir in 2021, the year five teachers in C2 and C3 combined their classes to perform at whole school events including ANZAC Day, Harmony Day and NAIDOC celebrations.

In the second semester of 2021, Mrs Allen moved into the music role working with students in Year 1-6 reintroducing a special music program to our school. Each class was allocated one session per week ranging from 40 to 70 minutes.

This program incorporated a developmental learning approach where each student is given the opportunity to participate in activities involving listening, singing, moving, playing and performing for an audience with the aim of developing and strengthening their understanding and appreciation of music.

The Instrumental Music School Services (IMSS) program is another important component of music at South Thornlie Primary School where the students are tested in Year 4 with those students selected being offered placements in Year 5 to study brass, flute or guitar and continuing on through Year 6. Lessons are conducted weekly for thirty minutes either at Thornlie Senior High School or at the Primary School by specialist instrumental teachers.

Term four continued the focus on movement through dance with the addition of Edu-Dance to the whole school program. Lessons used dance for fitness and fun and included a variety of dance styles including the very popular 'Hip Hop' and 'Street Stomp' styles. Students performed their dances for the school community at the end of year Concert on the school Oval.

At the end of term three Mrs Allen retired and a new music teacher joined the community at South Thornlie. In 2022, music lessons will continue with a dedicated music specialist incorporating IMSS lessons as well as choir sessions involving children from Year 4 to 6.



Science

This year our specialist Science teacher continued the delivery of the Science curriculum with a specific focus on Science Inquiry Skills. From the beginning of the year, using whole school frameworks, students worked to develop effective skills in planning, conducting and evaluating a scientific investigation. The aim of this was to increase students' interest in learning Science with hands on inquiry based approach, through discovery learning and to improve their Science knowledge and understanding.

We have developed programs that link into the National Curriculum and cover the four main areas of Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth & Space. These programs cover this content whilst focussing on the Science Inquiry Skills the students require. The students were experiencing Science through a wide range of experiments and investigations that relate Science to their everyday lives. The instruction builds on the knowledge they have obtained in previous years.



CSIRO Partnership

We have been very fortunate to develop a partnership with Nick Mortimer from the CSIRO. Nick has been able to spend two days each term working with our students. In first semester the Year 5 and 6 students had the opportunity to create their own crystal radio set. This involved learning new skills, like soldering, and was a great challenge for both students and staff. Term 3 found the Year 4 students designing their own rockets made from plastic bottles. We discovered how powerful water and air can be as they went flying up into the air. A couple even got stuck on the Arts Centre roof! The Year 3 students then designed a package to protect an egg being dropped from different heights. Nick brought his drone in so that they could be tested from a great height! Term 4 saw the Year 2 students designing and testing paper planes. This has been a great experience for our students and we hope to be able to continue the partnership in 2022.

In the second semester Technology Mentoring was introduced to further support the ongoing professional development of staff. Larissa Waghorn worked with teachers and students to develop skills integrating digital technologies with classroom learning programs. This has been a very successful initiative with very positive feedback from those teachers who participated in the mentoring program.

Scitech Family Evening

In Term 4 we booked out Scitech for the evening. This was a great opportunity for families to share in an amazing Science experience. A great night was had by all!

On Tuesday 2 November we had our STPS Scitech After Hours Party! Some activities students got to enjoy were: lifting their own body weight using a pulley system, making paper cup helicopters and seeing which designs flew the best and solving various clues and breaking codes to solve a mystery. Families also enjoyed delicious pizza. Thanks to all the families who attended - 216 tickets were purchased, we hope you had a great time.

A huge thanks to Mrs Waghorn for organising the event, and to Mrs Lledermoy, Mrs Leaver and Mrs Vardy for attending.

Paula Vardy | South Thornlie Primary School



Mathematics

Mathematics has continued to remain a priority area in the school for 2021. The staff have strived to further improve our teaching practices and continued to maintain and further develop whole school approaches to areas such as word problems and problem solving.

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

The Early Childhood focus areas for 2021 have included:

- Integrating Outdoor Play with Maths
- Graphs and interpreting data

The Year 1-6 focus areas for 2021 have included:

- Counting/Number Properties
- Multiplication, Division & Arrays
- Tallies, Graphs & Interpreting Data
- Length, Area & Perimeter



2021 has seen us build on the Maths resource kits created in 2020. Teachers have access to NAPLAN style task cards to prepare their test literacy, Hands On Activity cards to encourage the use of concrete materials and real life tasks, Youtube and internet links to cater for different learning styles.

Maths will continue to be a priority area, each term with a specific focus. Word problems will also be an area that teachers focus upon and they will be linked with the term focus. Teachers will continue to be given time to collaboratively plan and have access to resources to use in the classroom to assist with the implementation of lessons.

English

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



In 2021 focus areas included:

ECE: Outdoor learning, environmental print along with oral recounts, narratives and sequencing.

Years 1-6: Narrative and persuasive writing, adverbs, nouns, editing and reading comprehension strategies including bias & prejudice and cause & effect.

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

In 2022 staff have decided to move from Sound Waves Spelling to a whole school approach based on Diana Rigg PLD Spelling and Phonics from Kindy through to year 6. PLD provides an Australian, evidence-based approach to structured synthetic phonics aligned to the Science of Reading. Staff have undertaken significant professional learning throughout the second semester ready for implementation in the new year. The English committee has invested heavily in resources to support the implementation of PLD including the recent purchase of decodable readers for students in years 3-6.

School NAPLAN results have reinforced the high level of effectiveness of this targeted approach in English with 2021 data indicating South Thornlie students are performing better than like schools and WA schools in Writing, Spelling and Grammar & Punctuation with comparable performance in reading. Reading has been identified in improvement planning as our focus for 2022.

South Thornlie Primary School have continued to implement our assessment data collection and analysis timeline to track student performance and inform planning.

PAT testing (Progressive Achievement Test) has been used to provide longitudinal data to track student progress in reading, spelling and grammar and punctuation. This was extended to include vocabulary for students in years 4-6. Brightpath has continued as an assessment and analysis tool in writing with all teachers completing moderation in year level teams to support the making of consistent judgements.

Leadership and Ambassador Program

In 2021 our leadership program consisted of Student Leaders, Ambassadors, Italian Ambassadors and Faction Captains. Students nominated themselves, presented a speech and were democratically voted for by their peers and staff. Our Student Leaders, Ambassadors and Faction Captains recently presented to the School Board on their roles, responsibilities and achievements displaying their versatility. The feedback from Board members and the school community on their presentation was that they presented with confidence and enthusiasm.

Student Leaders

Student Leaders are provided with opportunities to develop the skills, values and attitudes needed to be responsible and effective leaders and role models. They are encouraged and supported to show initiative and make informed decisions. This requires them to develop a high level of organisation and clear communication skills to carry out the variety of tasks which make up their role. During the year they have acknowledged student achievements including the fortnightly announcement of maths competition accomplishments, supporting our school values of Learning, Excellence, Equity and Care and assisting with Principal's Morning Tea events. They attend weekly leadership meetings to support their roles and responsibilities around the school.



Sporting School Grants

This year we have applied and received three Federal Government Sporting Schools Grants totalling \$10,500. Mr Mattock has been applying for these each term with the aim to increase sports participation in school and at club level. This year we have had professional coaching from Softball WA, Perth Glory Football Club, Gymnastics WA and Tennis West. We have also been able to purchase and replace equipment. The coaching occurs in Physical Education lessons and allows students to learn new skills in various sports.

Physical Education

The primary focus of the Physical Education Program is to develop and enhance the physical activity skills, cooperation and teamwork skills and the individual leadership skills of all students and to encourage and foster a positive attitude toward a healthy and active lifestyle.

Every student participates in a Physical Education class each week combined with class fitness sessions, organised year level sport and fortnightly Mega Play, which provides a minimum of two hours of physical activity per week for every student at South Thornlie Primary School. Many students have the opportunity to spend more than two hours participating in a variety of physical activity programs.

This year saw the school have two Physical Education teachers in Semester 1 with Mr Edwards working with Mr Mattock to hand over the role heading to retirement. In Semester 2 Mr Mattock took over the role full time.

All students from Pre Primary to Year 6 are placed in a school faction, either Redbacks, Blue Roos, Green Pythons or Gold Geckoes and will remain in that faction for the duration of their time at South Thornlie Primary School. Faction sport is a regular feature of our school for Year 3-6 where students are put into small teams to maximise participation, playing a variety of modified sports. In 2021 these teams were organised and run in class lessons. Students are given the opportunity to captain, coach and umpire and to develop conflict resolution skills.



Swimming classes were conducted at Gosnells Leisure Centre in Term 3 when students returned to school. All students from Pre Primary to Year 6 participated (the Year 6s went at a different time due to camp).

Students from Pre Primary through to Year 6 once again participated in Edu-Dance program throughout Term 4. This fun, whole school dance program provides weekly dance sessions. Lessons use dance for fitness and fun and include a variety of dance styles such as the very popular 'Hip Hop' and 'Street Stomp' styles. It is a valuable component of the school program and contributes to the Physical Education and Health outcomes required for students. Additionally, it provides the basis for our end of year concert.

Throughout the year the usual carnivals were held including the Faction Cross Country, Jumps Carnival and the Faction Athletics Carnival. The Faction Cross Country was a huge success and was won by the Gold Geckoes. Our Captains led their factions with enthusiasm, effort and great vision.

Our largest school event, the Faction Athletics Carnival was much anticipated and was once again a great success. The school provided a sausage sizzle, drinks and icy poles for lunch. A coffee van provided hot drinks and a donation to the school. The students participated with great energy and sportsmanship.

In 2022 Mr Mattock is planning to start before school coaching clinics in Term's 2 and 3. These will focus on skill development and game sense for Soccer and Athletics.

Chris Mattock | Physical Education Teacher



Gifted and Talented

Challenge Club is an academic extension program for identified students and provides challenging learning program for those identified students. The program was introduced in the Semester 2, 2018 and has continued throughout 2021. Within this area we provide programs to challenge and extend talented students in academic and non-academic learning areas.

It is an opportunity for identified highly capable students to participate in a 50 minute withdrawal class to experience learning at a higher level of challenge. The strategies encourage the development of critical thinking, creativity, reflection and reasoning skills as well as self and peer assessment.

In Challenge Club the students have been developing their skills in project based learning and personal goal setting. This process involves students negotiating what topic they would like to research, developing a schedule for how they would get this task completed within the allocated timeframe and how are they going to critically review and reflect upon their learning. Students must "touch base" during each Challenge Club session to briefly discuss where they are at with their project and how they will continue to complete the task for the next week. Students also use this time to critically reflect on their personal learning goals and what steps they need to take to achieve them. Once students have completed a project they are expected to complete a short presentation on their project incorporating what went well. Students then self-evaluate their project before handing it in to be marked.

During Term 3, students were allocated QR codes on parent night. This allowed parents to access student's digital work quickly and efficiently. This will be a process that will continue in Challenge Club for 2022 as part of the parent communication process.

This year the students have learnt strategies which enables them to plan their projects, develop their time management skills and their critical self-reflection strategies.

Tess Panomarenko | Gifted and Talented Coordinator



Aboriginal Studies and NAIDOC

We currently have 41 Aboriginal students at South Thornlie Primary School. Through professional learning, we aim to increase the incorporation of Aboriginal culture across all learning areas. We have case management in place for identified Aboriginal students at risk in English and/or Maths.

Our Noongar Outdoor Learning Area (NOLA) was designed and created through feedback from the whole school community and is now complete. Many thanks to John Turner, Jane Brown and Larissa Waghorn for organising the bush tucker plants and their associated QR codes so students can learn about the plants and how The First People use them. The beauty of the NOLA has been enhanced by the addition of story poles and seasons boards created by Suzi Sheridan in consultation with local Noongar artists, and painted by Suzi with several of our Aboriginal students.

This year the whole school celebrated NAIDOC Week at the end of term two, from Monday 28 June to Friday 2 July. Classes contributed by creating a meaningful visual display in the Arts Centre with a focus on the 2021 NAIDOC theme of "Heal Country". The event was organised and planned by an active committee comprising of staff, parents and community members and was partly funded by a Partnership Acceptance Learning Sharing grant. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, parents were unable to come on site and participate, however the students had a fantastic time.



Restrictions also caused our NAIDOC assembly to be postponed to the beginning of term three and celebrated on Friday 6 August. The assembly was led by Aboriginal students from Years 3 – 6 beginning with acknowledgement of country and included several wonderful performances by students across the school:

- Students in A5 performed the song “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” in Noongar led by Miss Murray
- Students in Year 5 and 6 performed some Aboriginal dances choreographed by Mrs Pereira, the school chaplain.
- The Year 5 choir, led by Mrs Allen, performed Gundalla: We Dance.

We also had a story reading of Waakarl written by Dorothy Yurleen Winmar and read by Blake Innes.

Additionally, as part of NAIDOC week, we introduced a brand new project and students in Years 4 – 6 were involved in publishing a book. Students heard a story about Bunyip and The First People. Students had to write a conclusion for the story after Bunyip invades and destroys the land, then seeks help from The First People to fix it. The book was able to be purchased by the school community.

At South Thornlie Primary School we have had an ongoing range of activities throughout the year to promote understanding of Aboriginal culture. These activities include:

- Learning activities in the Noongar Outdoor Learning Area.
- Bush tucker talks about the uses of the native plants.
- Sharing Dreamtime Stories.
- Learning Noongar words through the Aboriginal Word of the Week project.
- Guided tours of the Noongar Outdoor Learning Area.

Thank you to our hard working committee for making this possible.

- Jeanette Petersen | Aboriginal Committee Coordinator

- Paula Vardy | Deputy Principal



Technologies 2021

At the start of this year South Thornlie fully implemented the Student Online in Public Schools policy and procedures. The purpose of this is to ensure that the provision of online services in public schools is for learning related activities and makes every reasonable effort to educate and protect students from exposure to inappropriate online material. All parents and caregivers received a copy of this policy including an overview of the applications that STPS has incorporated into our learning programs. Staff were very pleased at the overwhelming support from our school community for the implementation of this policy with the whole school P-6 signing and returning agreements allowing all students to participate fully in our digital technologies programs and access all resources without restriction for learning related activities.



2021 saw the continuation of work to consolidate the distribution of updated technologies infrastructure across the school. All classrooms now have a computer in warranty and access to a Smart TV or Touch Screen Smartboard. Teachers were also provided with an iPad and smart pen to be used to mirror to their smart TV. Students have access weekly to the computer lab with between one and three sessions allocated to classes throughout the year. Students also have access to iPads daily with a range of apps being successfully utilised to consolidate learning across the curriculum.

Renovations in 2020 to the existing Art Room saw this space fully refitted and converted into a S.T.E.A.M. room (an integrated space Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) Two specialist teachers worked with students across the school to focus on Design Technologies in semester one.

A range of projects were successfully implemented and the students enjoyed having access to the new facilities and resources. In term 3 Larissa Waghorn entered our school into the STEM Cash for Schools giveaway with staff and students joining forces to cut and fill-in the details on hundreds of entries taken from the West Australian newspaper. We were lucky enough to have one of our entries drawn out and won \$5000 to spend. The Technologies committee decided to spend these funds on building the school iPad resources. New iPads and charging stations will be available for student use increasing our ratio of devices.

This year we continued our Senior Robotics after school program, open to students in Years 5 and 6. These students participate in a competition called the First Lego League Challenge. In this competition students engage in research, problem-solving, coding and engineering – building and programming a LEGO robot that navigates the missions of a robot game. As part of Challenge, teams also participate in a research project to identify and solve a relevant real-world problem. At the end of the year in late November, students compete against other teams of students from primary and high schools across the state.

2021 saw the addition of a Junior Robotics after school program, open to students in Years 3 and 4. This was an extremely popular program. These students participated in the First Lego League Explore division. In teams they got to focus on the fundamentals of engineering as they explored real-world problems, learnt to design and code and create unique solutions made with LEGO bricks and powered by LEGO WeDo 2.0 robots. We held our first Exhibition where these students were able to showcase their creations for their parents, staff and the members of our school board. An article about this was on the front cover of “The Examiner” newspaper.

The school runs regular Technology Cafes to support ongoing staff professional learning in Technologies and these continued throughout 2021. These sessions are facilitated by the Technology Committee and utilise the skills of current staff to support and develop those of their colleagues. One of the popular sessions was led by Larissa Waghorn and supported staff to use Air Server, which allows teachers to mirror their iPad to their smart TV. Staff have reported a good level of success with this valuable

2021 also saw the completion of the South Thornlie Primary School Business Plan 2022-2024. Technologies was again identified as a school priority area. Our targets have been identified as the provision of access to the STEAM Room as a maker space by all classes for their Design Technologies lessons and the development of a whole school approach to Digital Technologies. Teachers will continue to use the technologies rubrics to assess student progress and inform future planning.



Health and Wellbeing Initiative

South Thornlie Primary School has planned, run and engaged the benefits of health and wellbeing initiatives to grow our students' coping strategies and abilities to manage their emotions. In partnership with an outside agency the students have learnt to use breathing, relaxation and resilience skills. As an educator of student well-being, STPS strives to support students in a range of areas and this component will continue into 2022. We have a responsibility to maintain a healthy and safe place to learn and encourage our students to develop their social, emotional and academic skills into the future.

LOTE (Language Other Than English)

South Thornlie Primary School celebrates learning through our Italian Programme which encourages students to speak the language and become familiar with the culture. Italian is taught to students from Years 3-6 in weekly lessons.

The teaching and learning program is aligned within the Western Australian Curriculum for Languages and a range of different experiences and activities are provided through interactive tasks including singing, role-playing, games, choral repetition, digital tools and story books in Italian. The lessons are centred around topics that are engaging and relevant to every child such as numbers, colours, family, food, animals, weather, travel, sport, clothing and classroom objects and instructions.



LOTE 2021 Strengths:

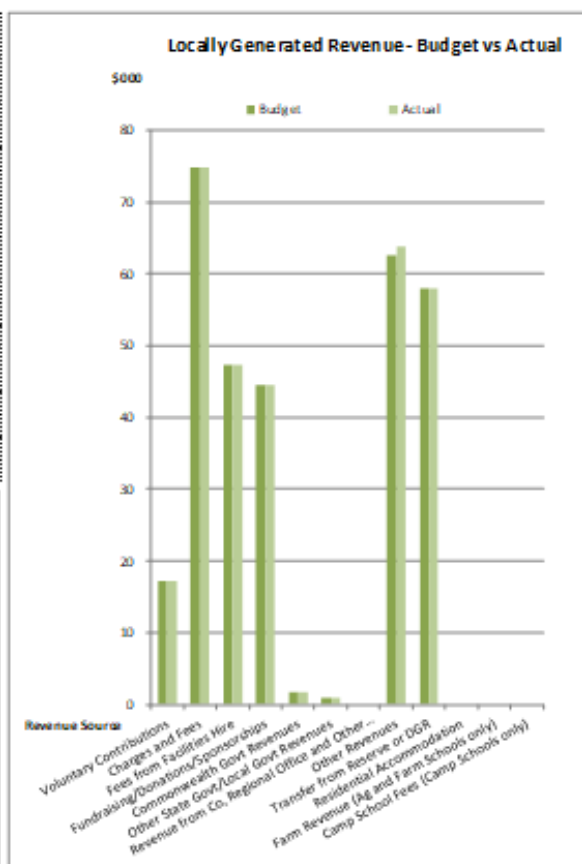
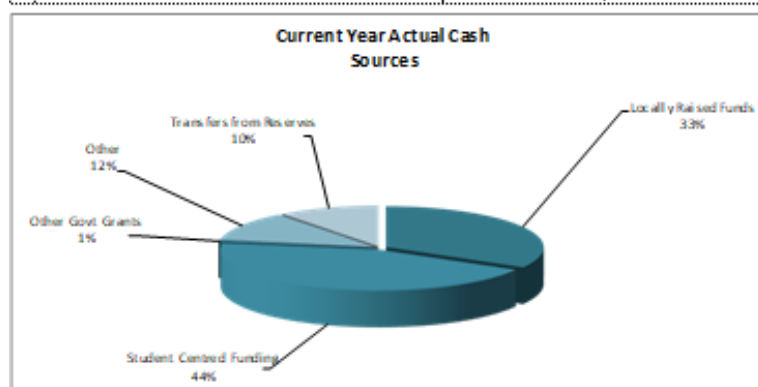
- West Australian Curriculum implemented and Connect resources used for Years 3-6.
- The Italian Ambassadors gave out the Pinocchio Award to the best class and the Leaning Tower of Pisa Award to the best student on a fortnightly basis.
- Photos and a range of student work shared with the school community via the newsletter, school website and Italian room.
- The Italian Room is well resourced and maintained.
- Students in Year 3 B2, for their Assembly performed two entertaining Italian songs and a dance.
- Italian songs were presented and sung at Assemblies twice a term, with positive feedback.
- The Harmony Day Assembly included an Italian song sung by all students.
- Each classroom is provided with posters to display in classrooms to further promote the target language.
- All teachers were provided with a Power Point to further promote the language throughout the whole school. The Power Point showcases target words and phrases that teachers can easily access to use in their classrooms.
- Year 5 students in C2 enjoyed a pizza lunch and gelato as a reward for their wonderful work and enthusiasm in Italian.
- The students enjoy the Restaurant set up in the Italian Room as a reward and further enhance their learning through role plays.



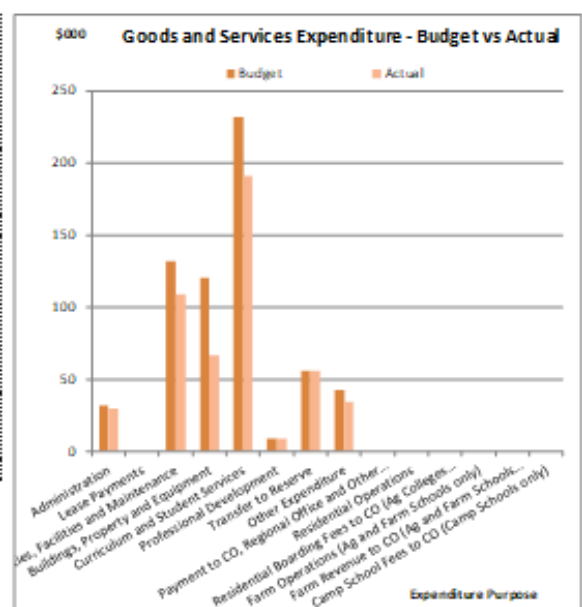
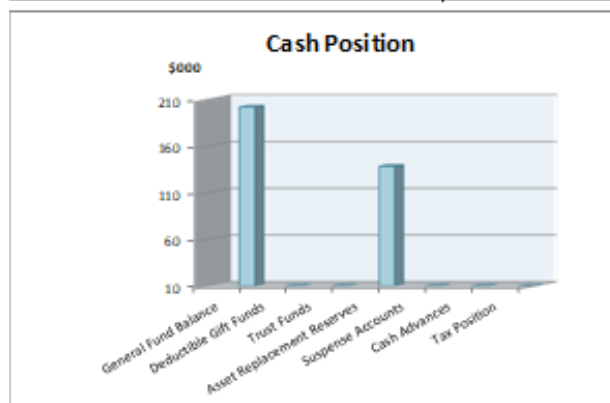
Financial Summary

South Thornlie Primary School – 31 December 2021

Revenue - Cash & Salary Allocation	Budget	Actual
1 Voluntary Contributions	\$ 17,239.00	\$ 17,238.60
2 Charges and Fees	\$ 74,952.00	\$ 74,846.00
3 Fees from Facilities Hire	\$ 47,273.00	\$ 47,272.73
4 Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships	\$ 44,516.40	\$ 44,515.44
5 Commonwealth Govt Revenues	\$ 1,745.15	\$ 1,745.15
6 Other State Govt/Local Govt Revenues	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
7 Revenue from Co, Regional Office and Other Schools	\$ -	\$ -
8 Other Revenues	\$ 62,960.00	\$ 62,868.89
9 Transfer from Reserve or DGR	\$ 58,000.00	\$ 58,000.00
10 Residential Accommodation	\$ -	\$ -
11 Farm Revenue (Ag and Farm Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
12 Camp School Fees (Camp Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
Total Locally Raised Funds	\$ 307,385.55	\$ 308,486.80
Opening Balance	\$ 141,411.28	\$ 141,411.28
Student Centred Funding	\$ 244,834.00	\$ 244,813.88
Total Cash Funds Available	\$ 693,430.83	\$ 694,711.97
Total Salary Allocation	\$ -	\$ -
Total Funds Available	\$ 693,430.83	\$ 694,711.97



Expenditure - Cash and Salary	Budget	Actual
1 Administration	\$ 31,315.00	\$ 29,562.49
2 Lease Payments	\$ -	\$ -
3 Utilities, Facilities and Maintenance	\$ 131,693.00	\$ 108,326.55
4 Buildings, Property and Equipment	\$ 120,110.00	\$ 66,494.58
5 Curriculum and Student Services	\$ 231,613.18	\$ 190,835.97
6 Professional Development	\$ 8,357.16	\$ 8,357.25
7 Transfer to Reserve	\$ 55,600.00	\$ 55,600.00
8 Other Expenditure	\$ 42,231.07	\$ 33,682.64
9 Payment to Co, Regional Office and Other Schools	\$ -	\$ -
10 Residential Operations	\$ -	\$ -
11 Residential Boarding Fees to CO (Ag Colleges only)	\$ -	\$ -
12 Farm Operations (Ag and Farm Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
13 Farm Revenue to CO (Ag and Farm Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
14 Camp School Fees to CO (Camp Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
Total Goods and Services Expenditure	\$ 621,119.41	\$ 492,859.48
Total Forecast Salary Expenditure	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenditure	\$ 621,119.41	\$ 492,859.48
Cash Budget Variance	\$ 72,291.42	\$ -



Cash Position as at:	
Bank Balance	\$ 337,791.96
Made up of:	
1 General Fund Balance	\$ 200,852.49
2 Deductible Gift Funds	\$ -
3 Trust Funds	\$ -
4 Asset Replacement Reserves	\$ 136,269.22
5 Suspense Accounts	\$ 8,057.25
6 Cash Advances	\$ (300.00)
7 Tax Position	\$ (30,087.00)
Total Bank Balance	\$ 337,791.96