



DAWSON PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

2021

ANNUAL REPORT





Learning has NO Limits



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PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

PAULINE JOHNSON

2021 was a very busy and exciting year for our learning community, so it is with great pride and a sense of achievement for our students and teachers that I present our 2021 Annual report. Our school is more than our formal learning program, to us, every child matters for each and every day that they are in our care. As a learning community we seek to deliver the highest standards of pastoral care and support services in order to enable our students to thrive. Our strong partnership with parents, families and the wider community are pivotal to our success and ensures a holistic approach to teaching and learning is implemented.

The collaboration between our outstanding teachers, highly skilled support staff and our supportive parents enabled us to maintain an unwavering focus on improving our performance and our students' outcomes. 2021 saw us embark on our new Business Plan 2021-2023. This plan was centred around the work of Geoff Masters 'National School Improvement Tool.' Our vision going forward, is again focussed on four key areas, which we will continue to develop and extend in partnership with our parents so we can offer our students a stimulating, rich learning environment.

2021 provided us with many highlights with our senior choir performing at the WAPPA conference and presenting our annual musical both of which were very well received.





SCHOOL BOARD

DR LORRAINE HAMMOND

Since writing last year's Dawson Park Primary School Report, Australia unfortunately remains in midst of a pandemic, with Western Australia now experiencing a rise in reported cases of COVID 19 and hospitalisations. While WA's case load was very low last year, there were still lockdowns and an elevated sense of anxiety in the community.

The staff and Board of Dawson Park Primary School see themselves as a part of the school community and are to be congratulated for their enduring support of families and commitment to ensure the exemplary standard of instruction Dawson Park is known for was maintained, irrespective of how it was delivered. In 2021, the school has done what it does best: providing a stable and consistent environment for children, underpinned by academic excellence.

In the last 12 months, teachers from Dawson Park Primary School, who are regarded as instructional leaders in the wider educational community have travelled to the Kimberley of Western Australia to take part in, and contribute to, a program of professional learning for teachers in regional and remote schools. Further, in spite of the challenges of the pandemic, Dawson Park Primary School again hosted the Fogarty EDvance Summer Teaching Intensives with over 150 teachers, including Dawson Park staff giving up a week of their January holidays to finesse their teaching skills or provide demonstrations and coaching to the participants. Many of the teachers who attended travelled from schools outside of the metropolitan area from Halls Creek to Albany.

I am immensely proud of the quality of education provided at Dawson Park Primary School and I encourage you to tell staff who provide support programs, classroom teachers, educational assistants and the administration, that you recognise their hard work too.

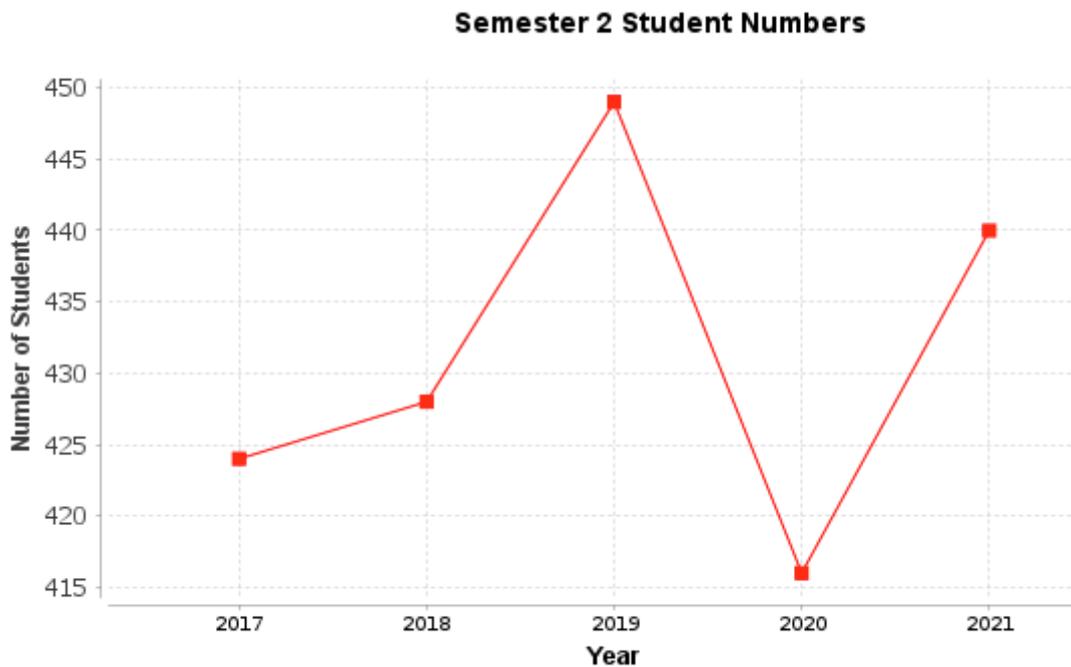
SCHOOL BOARD 2021		
Dr. Lorraine Hammond	Miss Sarah Byrne	Mr Allan Morton
Mr Mohammed Shahidul Alam	Mrs Candice Jones	Mr. Aaron Davidson
Mrs Pauline Johnson	Ms Trina Barnes	Mr Reid Mullin
Mrs Jade Aim	Mrs Holly Carter	Mrs Kristy Davies

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Dawson Park Primary School was opened in 1982. The school is located in a beautiful bush setting and offers a strong academic environment for all students.

STUDENT POPULATION

Our students come from a variety of social and cultural backgrounds. In 2021 we had 474 students enrolled at Dawson Park Primary School.



STAFF PROFILE

We have a diverse profile combining the expertise of very experienced staff together with those with youthful exuberance and drive.

- Two staff members with a Masters Degree
- Twelve teachers with a range of teaching experiences

In addition to our teaching staff, we have experienced Education assistants, and Special Needs Aides.

BUSINESS PLAN

The two business plans that we have worked through since 2015 have had as their foundation four key areas. These areas were drawn from the work of Dr. Geoff Masters and respond to the identified needs and aspirations of our key stakeholders – students, staff and parents. In 2020, in consultation with our staff, parents, community and the School Board, our new plan for 2021-2023 was developed and adopted. Our plan going forward is to sustain our growth, have targets in all areas that are ambitious and challenging.

As part of this plan we are going to extend our Health professional team under the guidance of Mrs Carter. This team will be responsible for screening all our kindy students and identifying students who require extra support. They will also work with our families to assist and support them.

This plan was endorsed by our School Board.



DEVELOPING EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATORS

As a learning community our biggest asset is our staff. We invest heavily in developing their skills and knowledge to provide our students with high quality teaching, so that they can achieve the best possible learning outcomes. High impact teaching enables our staff to address the needs of all our students.



To support our focus on developing exceptional Educators we did the following:

- Our Coaching program was continued and extended.
- 'Shaping Minds' were engaged to be our external coaches.
- Regular feedback on practice for all teachers was given by the leadership team and colleagues.
- All staff upskilled in the use of digital technologies.
- Three staff attended the Fogarty foundation's 'Edvance Teaching Intensive' in January.
- Seven staff members attended the five day 'Teach Well Master Classes'
- Our curriculum leaders continued to develop and edit our whole school curriculum planning documents.
- We again hosted collegial visits from schools across Australia.
- We supported the Kimberley Schools project by hosting schools visits for Principals and teachers along with sending three staff to Broome to model EI lessons and coach



FOSTERING TALENTS & ADDRESSING NEEDS

Our whole school Behaviour Shaping policy is based around a restorative justice model which encourages students to own their behaviour and assists them to develop a growth mindset. As a learning community we talk to our students about red and green choices and that for every choice, there is a consequence. We have a supportive, cohesive whole school approach, we focus with our students on relationships that are built on mutual trust and respect. This structure is supported by the “Smiling Minds” program that helps students become more reflective rather than being reactive.

High expectations of ourselves and our students is the foundation of our learning community.

Our students and families are supported by the following services:

- School Chaplain—3 days per week.
- School Psychologist—3 days a week
- Speech Pathologist—3 days a week
- School Nurse—Kindergarten screening and health talks for Year 5 & 6 students and assisting with hearing testing etc.
- Breakfast Club—Average attendance 40 students per session.
- Helping Hands – Before and after school care— average 20-25 students per session. Holiday school Program.
- Food program for under privileged students.
- Counselling from Leadership team.



OPTIMISING INVESTMENTS IN LEARNING

Giving our students the opportunity to maximise their talents and skills, reach their potential and become well rounded individuals who contribute to society in a positive way is a fundamental challenge for our learning community.

As a learning community, we recognise and value the importance of strengthening our specialist areas and continuing to develop a vibrant, innovative Early Childhood program.



In 2021 our achievements in this area were:

- Extending our Digital Technologies Program.
- Our teams competed in the Lego League competition for the third year in a row
- Our third Musical "Danger Kids" performed at the Kalamunda Performing Arts Theatre.
- Edu Dance concert
- Our choirs performing for Senior Citizens, shopping centre and at the WAPPA conference
- Extension of Friday Clubs.
- Junior and Senior Sport.
- Participation in the Darling Range Art Festival
- Participation in several interschool carnivals and sports incursions including Perth Glory, Kalamunda Hockey, Perth Wildcats and Active Little Aussies.



ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

The Parents and community of Dawson Park are supportive and work collaboratively with us, we consider them our partners in the education of their child. Our School Board is an active and knowledgeable group who represents the views of our parents and community. Parents also provide valuable help and support through our small but very active P & C who have supported the school financially by fundraising for resources that are vital for our teaching programs.





Senior Choir performing at the WAPP conference



Network Art Show



Colour Run



Interschool Athletics Carnival



Colour Run



NAIDOC Week



School Musical



Artist in Residence

TRACKING OUR PROGRESS

As a learning community we carefully track and monitor the progress of our students. To do this we use NAPLAN, PAT testing and our weekly assessments on "Feedback Fridays".

Whilst our 2021 NAPLAN data was disappointing it did not correlate with our PAT testing in term 4. Our students beat the Australian mean in many year levels and learning areas.

As a learning community in 2022 we will be focussing on introducing some new programs to enhance our students' comprehension skills.



Each year we are seeing a pleasing trend in an improvement in our Science results.

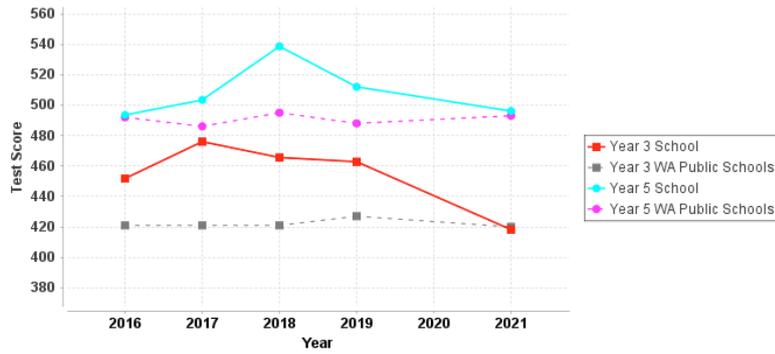
READING		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Dawson Park Average	77.3	103.4	106.7	115.5	123.5	127.7
National Average	87.1	100.5	100.9	118.7	124.5	128.8	

GRAMMAR		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Dawson Park Average	N/A	N/A	N/A	123.0	130.2	131.6
National Average	N/A	N/A	N/A	123.0	128.0	131.0	

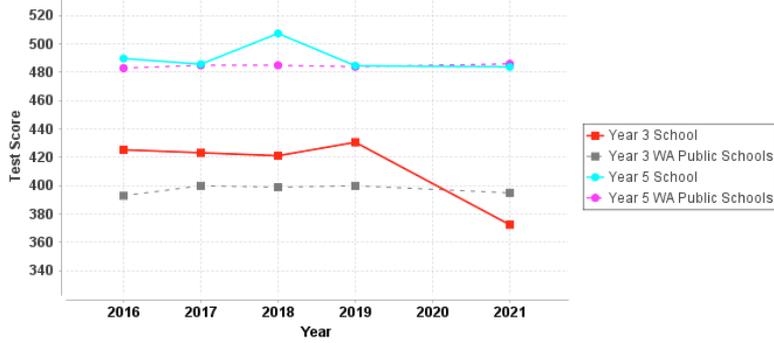
MATHS		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Dawson Park Average	93	108.7	111.3	116.4	125.2	129.8
National Average	93.2	103	110.9	117.4	122.7	127.0	

SCIENCE		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
	Dawson Park Average	N/A	N/A	108.9	112.4	119.9	119.5
National Average	N/A	N/A	115.8	118.5	121.2	122.3	

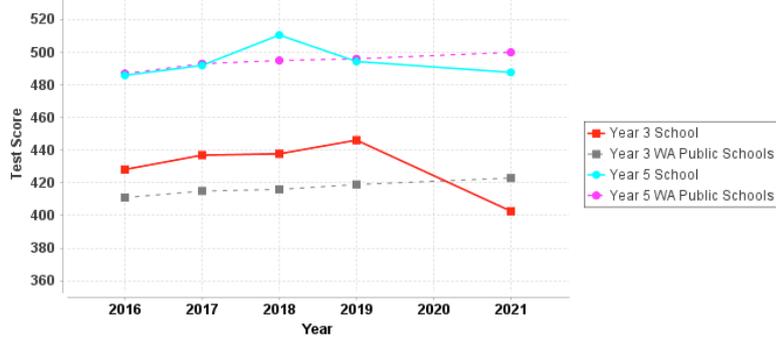
Average Grammar & Punctuation Score



Average Numeracy Score

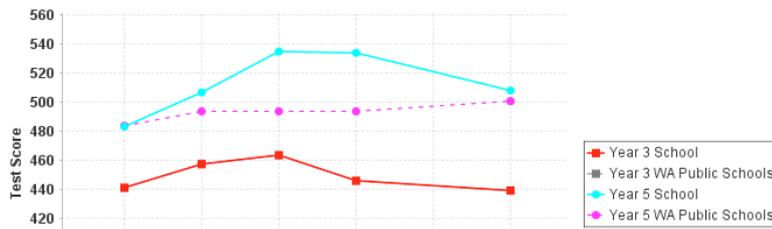


Average Reading Score

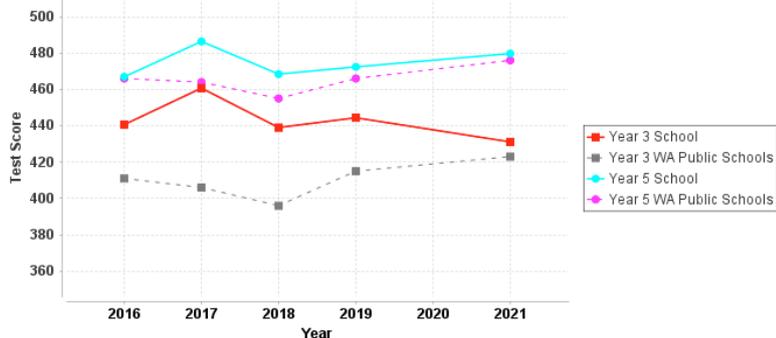


Average Spelling Score

Average Spelling Score



Average Writing Score



TECHNOLOGIES

At Dawson Park Primary School, our students continue to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to design and make products that solve real world problems and meet genuine needs. They continue to develop the skills and knowledge to confidently select and manipulate a range of materials using informed, ethical decision-making processes.



All students from Pre-Primary through to Year 6 have a weekly hour of technology, whereby one semester focuses on Digital Technologies and one semester explores Design and Technologies.

The digital technologies curriculum exposes students to the digital systems around us and how they support new ways of collaboration and communication. They also start to look at basic coding using algorithms and the different ways of representing data. Students also have access to some of the latest robotics equipment, including Beebot, LittleBits, Sphero, Makey Makey, EV3LEGO Mindstorm, Dash & Dots and Edisons.

Design and technology provides students with the opportunity to explore and apply design processes. It is during Design and Technology that students collaborate with each other to design a solution to a given problem. The type of problems being considered could be related to engineering, or the types of materials used for products or it could be related to the production of food and fibre. In all cases it is about the ways technology can assist with the solutions.

The technologies lessons are predominantly paperless. Children use iPads (or laptops) and the Seesaw for schools digital learning platform to build a digital journal as they collaborate and communicate their knowledge and understanding through the use of a variety of digital tools. The Seesaw for Schools platform allows teachers and administrators to communicate with most of the school community inclusive of staff, students and their families. Seesaw enabled teachers and students to participate in online learning as and when it was required.

Dawson Park provides a strong focus on ensuring our students participate and communicate effectively and responsibly in a digital society and economy through positive and confident engagement with digital technology. Students continually practice online safety and awareness skills in order to respect and protect themselves and others whilst collaborating online.

Dawson Park once again proudly participated in the First Lego League regional competition in 2021. This amazing experience provided our senior students with the opportunity to build, program and compete with the EV3 LEGO Mindstorm robot as well as collaboratively designing an innovative solution to the problem of product transportation. Students had to identify a specific problem, then, create or improve a piece of equipment, a technology, or a method of transportation to solve their problem. Participation in future First Lego League competitions will be on offer as an extension program in 2022. (<https://firstaustralia.org/>)

Students in Years 4-6 can nominate themselves to join the team of T-Experts, this is a great leadership opportunity and equips students with the skills to troubleshoot and problem solve with technology. As a Tech-Expert students are trained to assist their peers, and even their teachers, to solve IT problems and learn new a skill.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Semester 1

- Junior students worked on their fundamental movement skills as well as being introduced to the sports the senior students play.
- Senior students won the Darling Range Basketball and Futsal competitions.
- Upper school practised their seasonal sports in preparation for the Summer and Winter Carnivals.
- Wattle Grove PS attended our school to compete in a head-to-head Summer Carnival for the senior students.
- Senior students competed in the Winter Carnival, winning both netball divisions.

Semester 2

- Specialist clinics for all students included basketball, tennis and athletics.
- Athletics Carnival ran smoothly once again with great participation and effort shown from all involved.
- Competed strongly at the Inter-School Athletics Carnivals held at Edney and High Wycombe, with multiple students winning Champion or Runner-Up athletes for their year level. Finished 3rd overall.
- Swimming lessons went ahead at Aqua Tots and Darling Range Sports College.
- Several Year 6's were accepted into specialist sport programs at Darling Range Sports College.

Recommendations for 2022

- Utilise school facilities for more sport programs
- Use Sporting Schools funding to bring in more specialist clinics.



VISUAL ART

2021 was another busy year in the Visual Art Program at Dawson Park. The year saw a focus on culture and community, with several opportunities for students to exhibit artworks, both in-school and the wider community.

Dawson Park Visual Arts began the year by examining a diverse range of Western Australian artists, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal. These artists influenced the techniques and styles students worked with, with some stunning results. Of particular note were the large scale sand textured paintings produced by Year 3's in the style of the Kimberley Ochre painters; Uluru in acrylic (also year 3); Rebecca Cool inspired cats and chickens, using the tricky technique of painting in the negative; and Year 5/6 fabric and watercolour compositions, representing flowers of the local Mundy Regional Park area. This foray into local artists prompted a small group of Indigenous girls to meet regularly in the art room at lunch time, where they undertook self-directed art projects, including a canvas.



Term 2 was welcomed in by Art Kidz in The Park. This Art festival is a biannual event run by the Zig Zag Art Committee and the City of Kalamunda. Dawson Park Primary School were proud hosts to this community event, the first one ever to be held in Forrestfield. The festival included events such as face painting, science experiments, collaborative artwork creation and music. Taking place outside of school hours, this enjoyable festival demonstrated the commitment Dawson Park has to embrace the wider community.

Also in Term 2, students in years 3-6 participated in a dynamic incursion by Geraldton artist Phil Doncon. This interactive performance fully engaged students as they watched Phil paint a full-wall sized mural whilst breakdancing. Workshops then involved students in painting their own relay-style mural, and learning some breakdance moves. A lot of fun was had by all, and core messages of resilience permeated the incursion.



Throughout the year, students were creatively engaged in producing artworks to display for the library, classrooms, school celebrations such as Anzac day, Mothers and Father's Day, and National science week. These thematic displays integrated classroom learning with the arts, and provided another layer of purpose to students' creations. We continued our relationship with Hawaiians Forrestfield, providing the shopping centre with artwork displays for events such as Easter and Halloween. Students' joy at viewing their work in a community setting was wonderful to see.

During third term, three of our year 6 students had their artwork selected for exhibition at the Zig Zag Art Gallery in Kalamunda. The Young Artist Awards is an initiative of the City of Kalamunda, with the purpose of showcasing and celebrating emerging young artists. The exhibition ran from the 10th-26th of September, with all three of our students selling their artwork. Having the experience of going through the full exhibition process was invaluable to these very talented young artists, and we are very proud of their achievements.

Term 4 included an exhibition of visual and media arts at Darling Range Sports College. Facilitated by the Darling Range Learning Community, a network of local area schools selected artworks from students in years 1-6 from all schools were displayed. This opportunity for a large scale exhibition for the wider learning community was well received by parents, students and the schools, with high attendance and numerous positive comments and feedback. Artworks exhibited by Dawson Park included paintings, collage, chalk pastel drawings, and ceramics. Exhibition is an important aspect of visual art learning, and 2021 certainly provided plenty of opportunities for student engagement with this process.



PERFORMING ARTS

Music at Dawson Park in 2021 saw many highlights! Students had the opportunity to learn different instruments, such as ukulele, keyboard and guitar in their class music lessons. The process of composition combined with musical skill refinement and the opportunity to improvise work together offers full-bodied musical experiences for all year levels. Students were also often given the chance to perform for their teachers and Admin.

PMI and IMSS

Here at Dawson Park, there are many opportunities for students to be involved with Music outside of the classroom. Once again, PMI (Primary Music Institute) weekly lessons were made available for students to learn guitar and keyboard. IMSS (Instrumental Music School Services) have been teaching selected Year 5 and 6 students guitar on a weekly basis and this past year saw an amazing performance by these students at the Awards Assembly at the end of the year.

Training and Senior Choir

Students from Years 2 and 3 have had the opportunity to be a part of the Training Choir in 2021. This choir is working to prepare them for potential inclusion in the Senior Choir. The Training Choir this year worked towards a performance at the end of the year.

Students from Years 4-6 had the opportunity to be selected for the Senior Choir. Our Senior Choir was kept extremely busy this year. They sang for the ANZAC service as well as the Mother's day morning tea and finished their year with an excursion to sing for the Senior Citizens club.



However, our big focus for the first half of the year was our performance at the Western Australian Primary Principals Association (WAPPA) conference at the Crown. We were among a small selection of schools invited to perform for the WAPPA conference. Our Choir performed a musical/rap version of Mulga Bill's Bicycle that incorporated oration, singing and dancing. It certainly wowed the audience.

Musical

The Choir had also been busily preparing again for the annual musical which was performed in Term 3. This year it was entitled "Danger Kids" and was once again a huge success. This year, being able to fill the theatre without the previous restrictions was a highlight for our community.



SCIENCE

The 2021 science curriculum has been based on the Primary Connections program which is fully aligned with the Australian Curriculum. The Primary Connections program is produced by the Australian Government and the Australian Academy of Science. It includes a sophisticated professional learning component for teachers and exemplary curriculum resources.



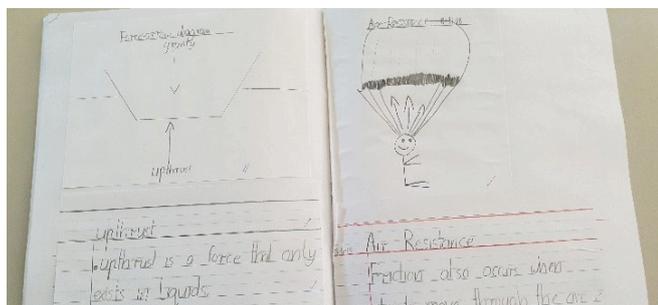
New resources were purchased to maintain and enhance the science program. A class set of butterflies was purchased so the junior primary students can practise their observational drawing skills, biological specimens set in resin were also purchased for learning in the area of the Biological Sciences. The components for electrical circuit work in the Physical Sciences were comprehensively restocked.

The highlight of the science year was the Scitech Incursion to the school on the 8th – 10th June. The reason for the incursion was to develop and enhance the students understanding and knowledge of the Space Sciences. The program was an hour for each student from Pre-Primary to Year 6 and consisted of half an hour in the space dome in the undercover area followed by a half hour workshop. Students learnt how the sky changes from day to night and discovered how astronomers explored the night sky throughout history. This enabled the students to learn about the solar system, our nearest neighbours and why our home is so special.

During Term 1, Biological Sciences were the focus of instruction and the area reported on in the Semester 1 report. In Term 2, the Chemical Sciences were emphasised and the students explored the fascinating aspects of matter in our world and the changes it undergoes. Term 3 saw the study of Earth and Space Sciences, covering aspects like the natural resources found on planet Earth, the composition of soil and aspects of our solar system. This learning area was the focus of Semester 2 reporting. Term 4 involved exploring the world of the Physical Sciences and permitted students as young as Year 2 to explore the forces of air resistance, gravity and upthrust and explain their effects on objects.

Throughout the year, the skills for scientific inquiry were incorporated into all student investigations in all four learning areas above. Continual emphasis was placed on the concept of 'fair testing' and why this is necessary to validate investigation results. Progressive Achievement Tests in science for Years 3-6 took place in Term 4. It was pleasing to see the Year 6 level perform above the national average. The testing is based upon all four conceptual strands of the science learning area.

In 2022, there will be a continued focus to improve resources and the quality and delivery of the science program.

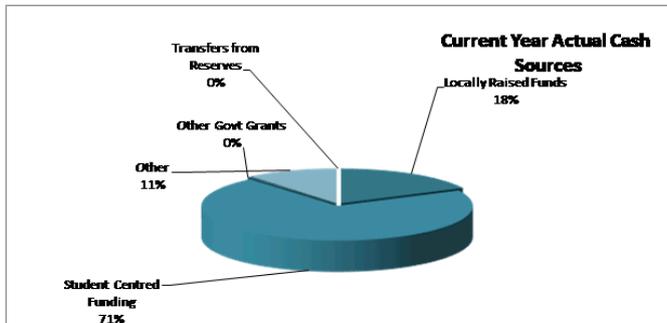
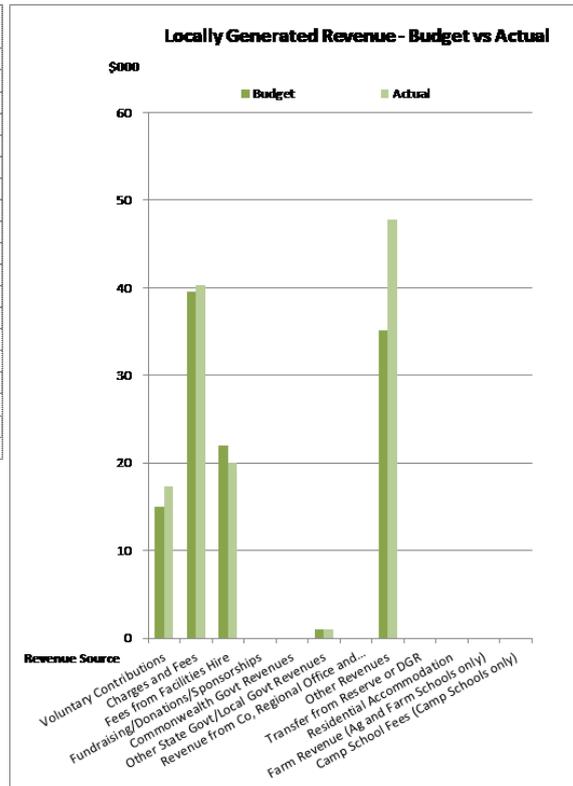


RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

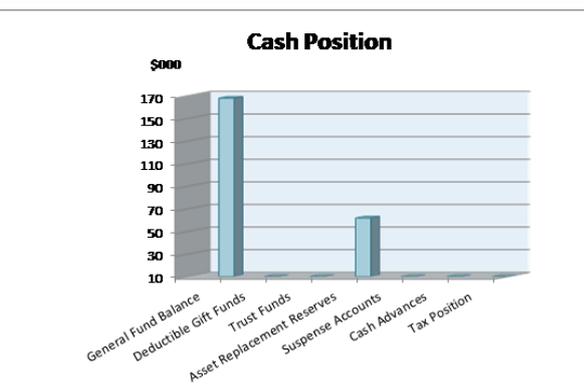
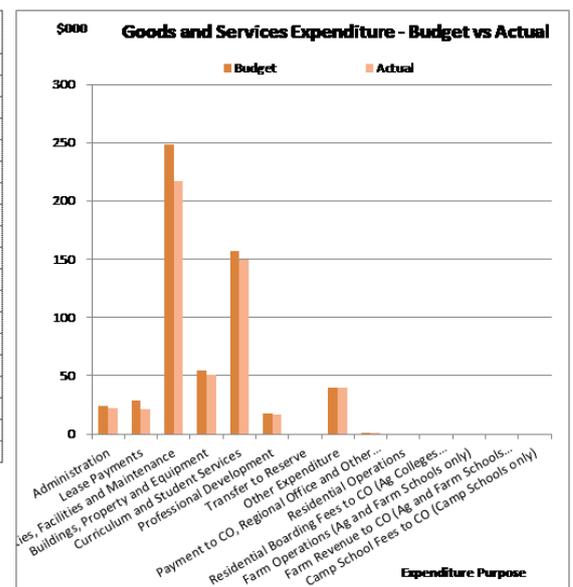


Dawson Park Primary School
Financial Summary as of
8 January 2022

Revenue - Cash & Salary Allocation	Budget	Actual
1 Voluntary Contributions	\$ 15,054.00	\$ 17,389.40
2 Charges and Fees	\$ 39,512.46	\$ 40,279.85
3 Fees from Facilities Hire	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
4 Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships	\$ -	\$ -
5 Commonwealth Govt Revenues	\$ -	\$ -
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	\$ 35,098.05	\$ 47,747.73
9 Transfer from Reserve or DGR	\$ -	\$ -
10 Residential Accommodation	\$ -	\$ -
11 Farm Revenue (Ag and Farm Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
12 Camp School Fees (Camp Schools only)	\$ -	\$ -
Total Locally Raised Funds	\$ 112,664.51	\$ 126,416.98
Opening Balance	\$ 248,865.91	\$ 248,865.91
Student Centred Funding	\$ 281,960.13	\$ 311,960.13
Total Cash Funds Available	\$ 643,490.55	\$ 687,243.02
Total Salary Allocation	\$ -	\$ -
Total Funds Available	\$ 643,490.55	\$ 687,243.02



Expenditure - Cash and Salary	Budget	Actual
1 Administration	\$ 24,074.00	\$ 22,470.51
2 Lease Payments	\$ 28,535.00	\$ 21,639.16
3 Utilities, Facilities and Maintenance	\$ 248,162.00	\$ 217,363.58
4 Buildings, Property and Equipment	\$ 54,005.20	\$ 50,804.70
5 Curriculum and Student Services	\$ 157,175.29	\$ 149,935.82
6 Professional Development	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 16,972.33
7 Transfer to Reserve	\$ -	\$ -
8 Other Expenditure	\$ 39,531.31	\$ 40,046.54
9 Payment to CO, Regional Office and Other Schools	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00
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	\$ 569,652.80	\$ 519,402.64
Total Forecast Salary Expenditure	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenditure	\$ 569,652.80	\$ 519,402.64
Cash Budget Variance	\$ 73,837.75	



Cash Position as at:	
Bank Balance	\$ 219,037.23
Made up of:	\$ -
1 General Fund Balance	\$ 167,840.38
2 Deductible Gift Funds	\$ -
3 Trust Funds	\$ -
4 Asset Replacement Reserves	\$ 61,775.20
5 Suspense Accounts	\$ 270.65
6 Cash Advances	\$ -
7 Tax Position	\$ (10,849.00)
Total Bank Balance	\$ 219,037.23



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