



Settlers

PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT

2024





WELCOME

It is with great pleasure that we present the Annual Report of 2024. This year has been one of change and growth at our school. With a dedicated and hardworking staff, and an active and engaged parent community, Settlers PS continues to build on its success.

The Annual Report provides parents and members of the community a snapshot of the school's progress and forward momentum in 2024. It is envisioned that this report is viewed in tandem with our Business Plan, student reports, and broader communication through parent or social media channels. Through these means we hope that you will gain a broad perspective and an overall understanding of the processes, tone, and ambitions of our school.

In 2024 our School completed its first full year of the new Business Plan. The implementation of consistent, evidence-aligned programs and large scale upskilling of staff allowed the school to make significant progress and develop planning for the future whilst celebrating what makes our school great. We also came together as a community to celebrate, to mourn and to support each other.

OUR SCHOOL

Located in the South Metropolitan Region, Settlers Primary School has been a beacon in the Baldivis community since it was first built in 2005. The community of Baldivis has seen immense growth in this time, with new primary schools opening frequently in the area. Settler's reputation as a school of choice is well known and celebrated by our community.

Settlers Primary has a Socio-Economic Index Score of 1001, positioning us as being slightly above the national average with regards to socio-economic advantage. Settlers families draw from an immense range of social and professional backgrounds, and we are proud to be able to support students from all walks of life.

At Census in 2024 there were 641 student enrolments for 25 classrooms. This student number represents a slight increase in student population, however an influx of enrolments at the end of the year for 2025 suggest that our declining student numbers may not continue beyond this year.

In 2024 our school's percentage of students from ATSI backgrounds was 4%, which is a slight increase from last year.

OUR VISION

Settlers Primary School promotes empowered students who are resilient, life long learners.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2024 has been a busy and unexpected year. Our students have been SOARING with their amazing behaviour, great academic achievements and sporting accomplishments. We continued our journey to teach, acknowledge and reinforce positive behaviour at Settlers PS by introducing PBS reward tokens, which allows students to earn rewards for their factions such as extra play, icypoles and movie and popcorn days! We introduced 'put ups' which promote students acknowledging the efforts of their peers and celebrating others' success. We also began the Always Club initiative, which aims to recognise and celebrate those students who always do the right thing.

2024 has seen us build on evidence aligned teaching approaches. Programs like Spelling Mastery (proudly supported by our fabulous P&C) Talk4Writing, Sounds Write and the use of TeachWell participation tactics and Daily Reviews across our school mean that our students are being exposed to High Impact teaching that is consistent from classroom to classroom, year to year. We also introduced consistent Work Standards across the school, to improve the standard of students' written work presentation and ensure consistent expectations throughout the school. Our NAPLAN scores in 2024 continue to show positive trends in all areas, and we have high hopes for this to continue in 2025, as we focus on Mathematics teaching and learning.

Our students took learning outside the classroom, participating in excursions, sports days, science reward excursions and our annual School Production. Our Year 6 students enjoyed a truly memorable year, engaging in team building activities, dancing lessons, a Big Day Out to Adventure World and a fantastic camp at Dwellingup! Our Stargazing and Bottle-Rocket night continues to be a community favourite, with parents just as eager as students to see their rockets take flight!

Our staff have worked incredibly hard this year. Settlers Primary is a truly special school that is only as good as the people who work here, and we have a staff full of great people! The staff genuinely care about our students and each other, and this has been particularly evident in 2024, in the face of some challenging and sad events. In the current climate of teacher shortages, Settlers Primary School remains a school of choice for staff, due largely to their wholehearted belief in each other and the difference we can make to families and the community.

Finally, I would like to take this time to thank Jake Petterwood for his leadership and passion for Settlers over the past 2 and a half years. The impact that Jake made on staff culture and student achievement cannot be understated, and the Settlers community will miss him and his leadership in 2025.

Christine Bewetz
Principal



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

On behalf of the School Board, I am pleased to provide this update and officially endorse the 2024 Annual Report.

The 2024 school year marked the first year of our new three-year business plan. As a board, alongside our teaching staff, parents, and the wider community, our unwavering focus is to achieve the best possible outcomes for our students. In 2022, both internal and external assessments indicated that we were falling short of our goals. I commend the board and staff at the time for taking decisive action to drive change.

Our new business plan shifted focus from simply improving past performance to setting clear goals based on the standards and key performance indicators (KPIs) we aspire to achieve. Robust discussions took place about how ambitious our targets should be, ultimately leading to a plan that prioritizes what we should achieve rather than what we believe we can achieve.

A key component of this strategy was investing in teacher training and implementing consistent, evidence-based learning programs. Accountability and ongoing investment in professional development were central to our approach.

I am pleased to report that we successfully met or exceeded 14 of the 16 goals outlined in our business plan. Notably, our NAPLAN results showed significant progress, with 8 out of 10 scores across both cohorts meeting and exceeding national averages. Additionally, annual staff and community surveys reflected positive outcomes. We have also strengthened our teaching capacity, doubled the number of senior teaching staff and ensured targeted professional training for all permanent staff.

On a sadder note, I would like to pay tribute to Omar Haji, our previous Board Chair, who passed away suddenly at the beginning of the school year. Omar was a cornerstone of our school community for over a decade and played a crucial role in shaping our latest business plan, along with several previous iterations. His tireless dedication to the school and its community is a testament to his character. Vale Omar—our gratitude will never be enough.

I am deeply grateful for the dedication, expertise, and commitment of our leadership team and staff, who continue to invest in the future of our students. I look forward to the school maintaining the momentum built over the past two years under Jake Petterwood's leadership. Every year feels like a significant milestone for our school, but 2025 is particularly special as it marks 20 years of Settlers Primary. It will be a time for reflection, celebration, and continued progress.

I also encourage all parents to get involved this year—whether through excursions, events, the P&C or even the Board. Your support makes a real difference.

Zane Padman
School Board Chair



FROM THE P&C

What a wonderful year of events we've had!

2024 bought us our biggest year of fundraising. From discos, a car wash, Easter colouring in competition, Mother's and Father's Day stalls, star gazing and bottle rocket competition, VIP car parking space to the best colour fun run we've had so far.

For me, joining the P&C four years ago was one of the best decisions I've made. From building connections with the school and wider community, making lasting friendships, to bringing happiness and seeing the smiles on our students faces. Being a part of a team that is building those core memories that the students make throughout their primary school years is truly rewarding.

The fundraising efforts in 2024 have contributed to -

- Spelling Mastery program
- Yoga mats for Mindful Yoga
- Upgrading kitchen equipment for Breakfast Club
- Display notice boards all around our school
- Bottle Rocket competition prizes
- Year 6 camp shirts
- End of year book awards
- Faction and student councillor shirts
- Christmas concert stage
- Year 6 Big Day Out



Throughout the year we've had the unwavering support of Mr Petterwood, deputies, teachers, EA's and admin ladies. Thank you! From you working with our P&C to watching you all teach and support our children is inspiring and it is the foundation of our children's success.

To our P&C committee members, your tireless volunteering and efforts in 2024 with organising events for our students have made a lasting impact, creating opportunities, memories, and a sense of togetherness that will be cherished by all for years to come.

On behalf of the entire school community, I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our long-term members who will be departing our P&C at the end of 2024. Jo Clossick, Amy Sevelj, Rhiannon Alembick, and Emma Olver. Your dedication to our P&C and the school over the past 7+ years has been remarkable, your tireless efforts and passion have made a lasting impact on our students, school and community. We wish you all the best with your future endeavours.

Lastly, thank you to our Settlers families and the wider community for your continued support, volunteering and generous donations. Together, we make a stronger, more connected school community. We look forward to new members joining and working with you all in 2025 to bring exciting new events and fundraisers to our school.

Kelly Mez
P&C President

CURRICULUM

In 2024, we further embedded practice with Talk For Writing which is the writing program used from K-6. The scope and sequence was reviewed and improved to ensure all content and skills are incorporated.

Also in English, we continued to use Spelling Mastery across Years 3-6, our spelling age increased by an average of 1.5 years over the 11 months of the program. Year 2 students started the program in Semester 2 and the average increase in spelling age was 7 months progress in the 15 weeks the program was run.

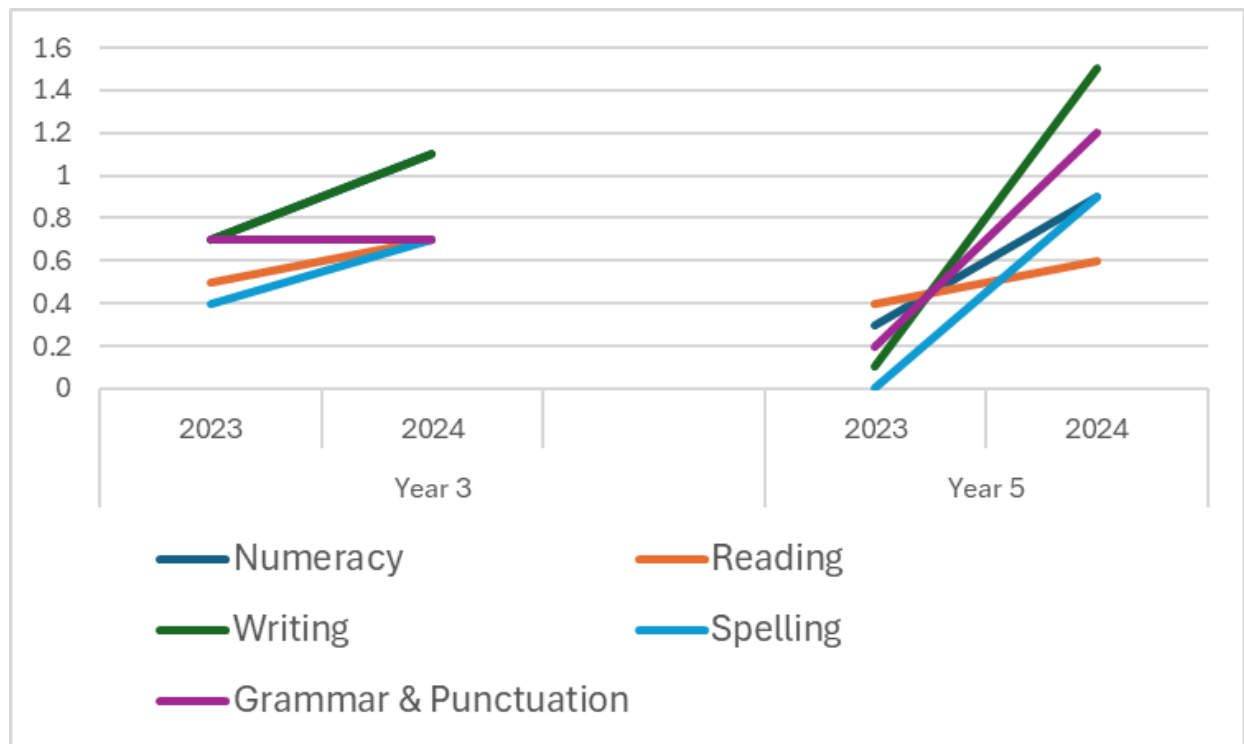
While our Pre-Primary to Year 2 students were receiving some phonics instruction, we identified an opportunity to refine and improve our teaching in this area. Sounds Write was implemented in Semester 2 after teachers attended the four-day course with Dyslexia Speld Foundation. At the end of the semester, the average spelling age was 0.2 years above, and we feel that this will further improve as Sounds Write is taught in classrooms from Semester 1, 2025.

In Mathematics, we trialled three programs across the school with the purpose of implementing a whole school program in 2025. In Pre-Primary to Year 2, the teachers taught using Stepping Stones; Years 3-4 taught using Maths Plus, and Years 5-6 taught using PRIME. At the end of 2024, our school gathered data on the progress of the students, feedback from teachers, and analysed the programs and the research behind them. From this, a decision has been made to implement PRIME across Pre-Primary to Year 6 in 2025 with all staff receiving training in Term 4 of 2024.



NAPLAN PERFORMANCE

The following graph shows the School performance against the State Mean in all areas of Year 3 and Year 5 NAPLAN over the last 2 years.



OBSERVATIONS

Year 3

Maintaining the upward trend in NAPLAN results in Year 3 is cause for celebration. In all areas our Year 3 Cohort has performed higher than the State mean. Writing in particular is a standout, with our average over 1 standard deviation above the WA mean. It is clear that improvements to the learning environment and consistency of teaching practise are having a direct impact on student outcomes at our school.

Grammar and Punctuation is an area that requires additional focus for 2025.

Year 5

There has been a dramatic increase in the overall trend of student performance in Year 5. Writing and Grammar and punctuation are clear standouts, with both results over 1 standard deviation above the State mean. This is a great achievement, and a testament to the focus on high impact, low variation teaching we have been embracing over the last 3 years.

Reading is identified as an area of focus for Year 5 moving forward to 2025.



2023-26 BUSINESS PLAN

Our collective belief in the school as a central hub of our community shines through in our current Business Plan, with its ambitious targets serving as a driving force for school improvement. We achieved many milestones throughout 2024, with a focus on low variation, high impact teaching, professional learning and explicit behaviour expectations through our PBS matrix. Our Business Plan priority areas are highlighted below.

Our regular monitoring of the business plan goals informs our yearly operational planning.

OUR STUDENTS

We will build the academic and personal capacity of our students through evidence based and consistent practise.

OUR STAFF

We will embed high quality teaching through the delivery of high impact, explicit instruction.

OUR COMMUNITY

We will build and maintain strong engagement within and beyond our school community.

BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

Area of Focus	Goal	Achieved?
Students	An upward trend in all areas of NAPLAN from 2023-2026.	Yes. Improvements in 2023 & 2024
Students	Student attendance average is above 92%	Not yet, but improving and was 91.1% in 2024
Staff	Staff culture surveys average 4.1 or higher with an upward trend.	Yes 2022 average 3.99 2023 average 4.50 2024 average 4.68
Staff	Targeted Professional learning is accessed by all staff and supports high impact teaching and learning.	Yes. All permanent staff trained in Teachwell and Talk 4 Writing.
Community	NSOS maintain an average of 4.1 or higher, with an upward trend.	Yes. 2022 average 4.1 2024 average 4.6
Community	60% of families to complete NSOS in 2024, 70% of families to complete NSOS in 2026.	No. 2024 - 125 families completed the survey, approx 40% of families.



STUDENT SERVICES

ATTENDANCE

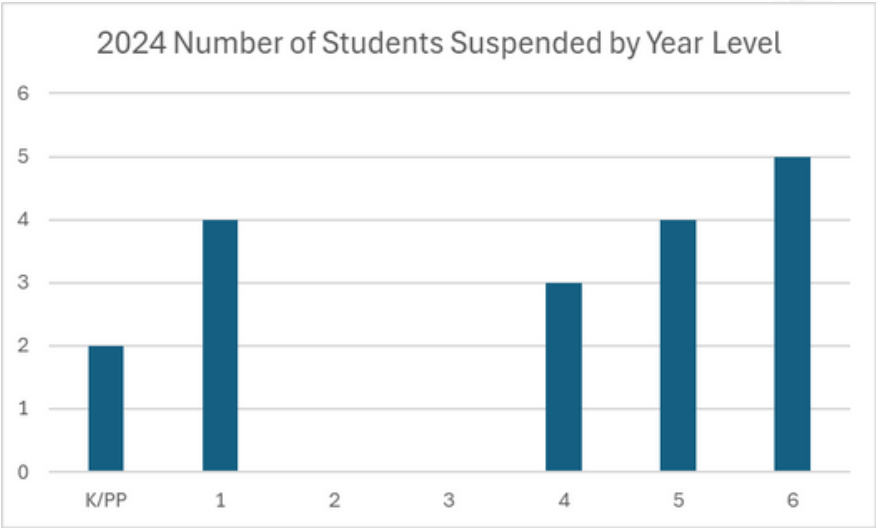
We are pleased that Settlers continues to have an overall attendance rate that is higher than the state average, and displaying an upward trend. The number of unexplained absences has also decreased in 2024, from 37% of absences to 29%. The introduction of Compass as a communication platform has streamlined the process of submitting absences for parents, which may be a reason for this drop in unexplained absences. Moving into 2025, there is still work to be done to support families, who for whatever reasons, may be finding it difficult to come to school regularly.

	School	WA Public Schools
2022	88.4%	86.6%
2023	90.9%	88.9%
2024	91.1%	89.4%

STUDENT WELLBEING AND BEHAVIOUR

Student behaviour continues to be a focus at Settlers Primary. Whilst we have seen a increase in the overall percentage of students being suspended from school in the last three years, with the percentage of students suspended from our school was still low compared to other schools, at 3.4%.

Settlers retains an exceptionally high standard of student behaviour. As we continue to implement Positive Behaviour Support throughout our school, we are able to demonstrate that students are being taught explicitly the standards of behaviour that will ensure their success and wellbeing both at school and in the community.





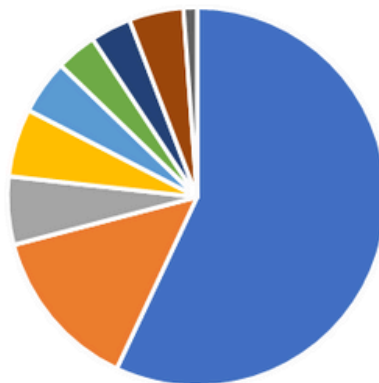
TRANSITION TO KINDY

Transition to Kindergarten at Settlers Primary School in 2024 included a parent information session and four Stay and Play sessions that each had a Kindy classroom visit and special guests. Transition to Kindy programs can provide a smoother start to schooling for our students and their parents, enabling early identification and support for students at risk. Our parent information session provided practical school advice and connected families with a variety of relevant community services. The Stay and Play sessions gave children a taste of Kindy, while still having parents and caregivers close and introduced various school staff. The feedback from parents and caregivers has been that these transition sessions have enabled a positive start at Settlers. Kindy transition was well attended, with all families new to Settlers attending at least one Stay and Play session.

TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Settlers takes great pride in our partnership with Ridge View Secondary College. Transition programs such as Raptor and Edison provide valuable opportunities for our students, offering meaningful and extended introductions to Secondary Education.

While enrolment numbers at our local feeder secondary school have slightly decreased compared to 2023, we have implemented several strategies to strengthen our transition processes. As part of these efforts, several Year 6 staff members attended the transition day at Ridge View Secondary College. This experience provided them with deeper insight into the challenges and experiences our students encounter, allowing us to offer more informed and effective support during this important milestone.

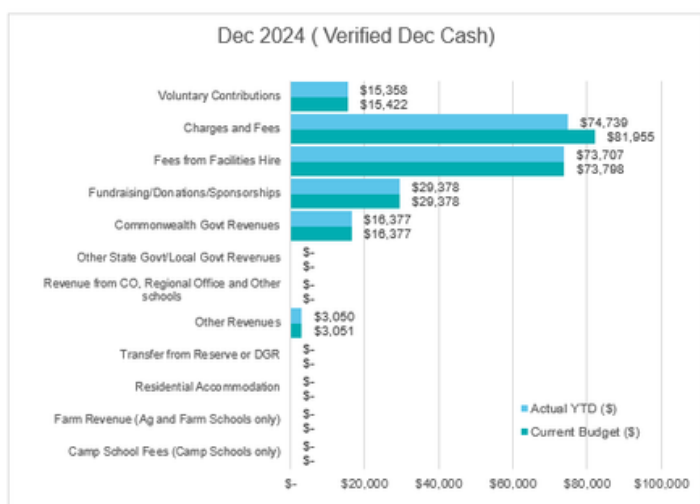


■ Ridge View SC ■ Mother Teresa ■ Baldivis SC ■ Tranby College ■ Peter Carnley
■ Living Waters ■ Other Public ■ Other Private ■ Unknown

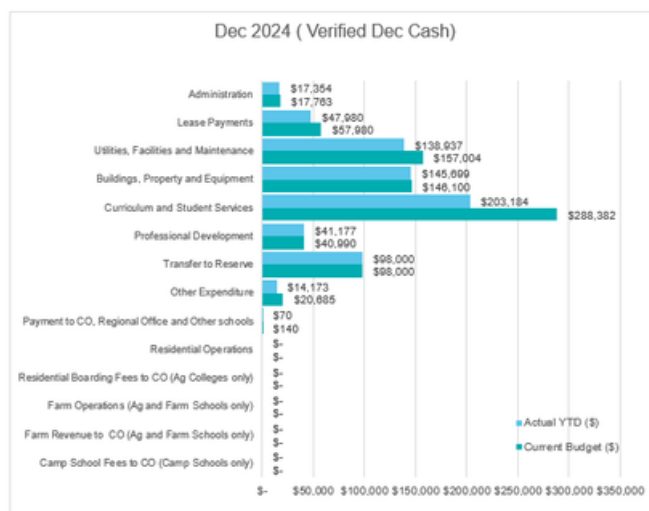


SCHOOL FINANCES

Locally Generated Revenue - Budget vs Actual



Goods and Services Expenditure - Budget vs Actual



Summary	Budget	Actual
Total Funds Available	\$7,294,242	\$7,286,870
Total Expenditure	\$7,002,884.36	\$6,882,414.94
Variance	\$291,357.64	\$404,455.06
Reserves	\$270,752	\$270,752

The variance we carry forward to 2025 includes \$210,802 Cash and a Salary variance of \$247,962. Reserves continued to be built to ensure ongoing refurbishment and renewal of resources and equipment.



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