



# 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT

### Mount Hawthorn Primary School

Mount Hawthorn Primary School opened in 1906 and is situated on Wadjak Noongar boodja. The school provides outstanding educational opportunities to over 960 students from Kindergarten to Year 6. Students in Pre-primary to Year 6 are at the main campus on Killarney Street, Mount Hawthorn whilst Kindergarten students learn and play at our Richmond Street, Leederville campus.

Mount Hawthorn Primary School equips students to be successful, confident learners through engaging opportunities in the classroom and beyond. Our dedicated and professional teachers maintain an environment which supports each child every day to achieve their personal best. Teachers look to employ evidence-based strategies to maximise the effect they have on student learning. In addition, we constantly aim to deliver the highest standards of student support services to enable all students to thrive.

Mount Hawthorn PS embraces all members of our community and strives to maintain a nurturing and welcoming environment. Our families, Schools Board and P&C are integral to our school community, and together we are committed to providing the best for our students.



## Principal's Comment

It is my pleasure to present the 2023 Mount Hawthorn Primary School Report. The report's purpose is to share highlights from the year, financial information, and how our students are progressing against the targets contained in our Business Plan. I trust you will find it informative and that it helps you to better understand our school's operations.

**Leon Wilson | Principal**

## From the Schools Board Chair

2023 was the first year in the implementation of the Business Plan 2023-2025. Investment in high quality teaching is the cornerstone of this plan which maximises learning through whole school, evidence-based teaching practices. Professional development and coaching of teachers, as well as the recruitment of staff with pedagogical expertise, were the first priorities. Investment in our teachers fueled the introduction of high impact teaching strategies across the school starting with explicit phonics and spelling instruction. Early results have demonstrated that students are becoming better readers ahead of prior years.

The school is solidly positioned to expand on these early gains as initiatives are scaled and applied across the school in 2024 and 2025. The requisite foundations are in place with a transformational leadership team led by Mr Leon Wilson, committed and capable teachers, instructional coaching, mentoring, and resourcing. Achievement of literacy and numeracy targets is expected in the latter years of the Business Plan.

The other strategic areas in the Business Plan of Learning Environment and Relationships & Partnerships will be emphasised in 2024 and 2025. The social and emotional well-being of students will be prioritised and efforts to enhance collaboration, connection and trust in the community will be visible. In this vein, the Schools Board has been refreshed with the election of six new members who have deep roots in Mount Hawthorn and distinct capability. The Board reflects the priorities of performance and community.

Mount Hawthorn Primary School benefits from highly engaged parents who are committed to propelling their children's learning and contributing to school life. Parents with staff and school leaders deliver remarkable opportunities, a focus on vibrant children aiming to be their best, a top tier primary education and lifelong learning success. This is the expectation, and plan, for every student, in every classroom, every day at Mount Hawthorn Primary School.

**Ms Katharine Nash | Schools Board Chair**



## 2023 LEADERSHIP STAFF

### Principal

Mr Leon Wilson

### Associate Principal

Mr Reece Smith

### Deputy Principals

Ms Perisse Pitsikas

Mrs Cailie Spencer

Ms Louise Swain

### Manager Corporate Services

Mrs Marjorie Commijs

## 2023 SCHOOLS BOARD

### Parent Representatives

Ms Katharine Nash (Chair)

Mr Brandon Munro

Ms Belinda Owen

Mr Glenn Savage

Prof Andrew Whitehouse

Ms Julia Wilcox

Mr Scott Yelland

### Staff Representatives

Miss Melanie Cross

Miss Kylie Grace

Ms Rebecca Miles

Mrs Cailie Spencer

Ms Anna Steele

Mr Leon Wilson

## 2023 Highlights

- NAIDOC Week was a huge success at Mount Hawthorn PS as we celebrated Aboriginal culture with our community. We hosted the Boorloo Boys from Trinity College for a cultural dance incursion, celebrated Indigenous Literacy Day with the Great Book Swap, and concluded with a whole school assembly hosted by our Aboriginal students, who all spoke in Noongar. We were privileged to have Dylan Collard run interactive Noongar language sessions for all Kindergarten to Year 6 classes.
- Our students showcased their athletic talents at a range of sporting events, including faction and interschool swimming, cross-country and athletics. Year 6 students represented the school in AFL, soccer, netball and modcrosse at the annual winter carnival, and both our senior basketball teams were successful in making it into the finals of the Champions Cup.
- Our Harmony Day and Children's Book Week parades were both major hits! The school was buzzing on both mornings as staff, students and parents joined the festivities on the Tiger Turf.
- Music Under the Stars was the perfect forum to showcase our amazing musicians who performed in our school choir, concert band, orchestra, and multiple instrumental ensembles.
- Term 3 ended in an explosion of colour at our Lapathon Colour Run.
- The kids (and adults) absolutely loved the afternoon and thanks to our incredible P&C we raised enough money to resurface our aging basketball courts, which now look amazing!
- Our end-of-year Christmas carols concert saw over 1000 people pack The Hangar to mark the start of the festive season, culminating in a show-stopping staff flash mob dance!
- Multiple other school and community events occurred throughout the year, including Year 6 camp, P&C sundowner, Halloween disco, Remembrance Day service, Churchlands band festival, music camp and Reconciliation Week to name just a few!

## YEAR 6 STUDENT AWARDS

Dux  
Joel Tran

Citizenship  
Felix Ruello  
Casper Wood

Schools Board  
Taisei Nottle

NMER Medal of Excellence  
Joshua Quach

Marjorie Williams  
ANZAC Cottage Bursary  
Samuel Hardy

Subject Awards  
Rosie Walker (English)  
Connor Wong (Maths)  
Jennifer Wilcox (Science)  
Clara Hawley (HaSS)  
Drew Lawe Davies (Art)  
Eden Butcher (Art)  
Annabelle Metcalfe (Music)  
Matthew Hardie (Italian)  
Eloise O'Shea (Italian)  
Darcy Brian (Tech)  
Tyson Hickey (Sport)  
Sasha Lawe Davies (Sport)



2023 performance as measured by Business Plan targets

The Mount Hawthorn Primary School Business Plan 2023-2025 contains 8 targets relating to student achievement and progress, behaviour, attendance, and school satisfaction.

Target 1: Students’ achievement in NAPLAN Numeracy, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation is above WA Like Schools

Score:  
0/10

The following table displays the relative achievement of Mount Hawthorn PS students across the 10 NAPLAN assessment domains in Years 3 and 5. Achievement in each domain is expressed as the number of points the school’s mean score was above or below our WA Like Schools (the Western Australian public schools with a similar socio-educational advantage to Mount Hawthorn PS). The mean absolute achievement scores for MHPS and state are also included. The school did not exceed its WA Like School comparison in any of the 10 domains.

|        |                            | Numeracy | Reading | Writing | Spelling | Grammar and Punctuation |
|--------|----------------------------|----------|---------|---------|----------|-------------------------|
| Year 3 | Variance to WA like school | -2       | -5      | -9      | -17      | -8                      |
|        | MHPS Mean                  | 441      | 439     | 438     | 425      | 442                     |
|        | WA Mean                    | 398      | 390     | 408     | 396      | 397                     |
| Year 5 | Variance to WA like school | -15      | -21     | -9      | -26      | -18                     |
|        | MHPS Mean                  | 529      | 517     | 516     | 510      | 530                     |
|        | WA Mean                    | 480      | 484     | 474     | 485      | 487                     |

|                                  |                                   |                          |                                   |                                  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 10+ points below WA Like Schools | 0-10 points below WA Like Schools | Equal to WA Like Schools | 0-10 points above WA Like Schools | 10+ points above WA Like Schools |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|

The school currently has a renewed focus on quality teaching. During 2023 teachers began to employ Daily Reviews in English and Mathematics and reported that students are retaining information in their long-term memory more effectively. All classes aim to use consistent student engagement strategies to ensure students are supported to actively participate in their learning. The 2023 introduction of Spelling Mastery, a program commonly used by high-performing WA public schools that emphasises a morphographic approach to spelling, will almost certainly raise spelling achievement in future years. The school is buoyed by the results from our annual Dibels and PAT assessments, and is confident these gains will translate into stronger NAPLAN performance in 2024 and beyond.

Target 2: The mean progress of our Year 3 to 5 stable cohort in all NAPLAN domains is above that of WA public schools

Score:  
N/A

NAPLAN progress from Years 3 to 5 cannot be reported in 2023 due to 2 reasons. Firstly, new NAPLAN bands (Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs Additional support) were introduced in 2023. Secondly, the testing window was moved forward from May to March. NAPLAN progress from Years 3 to 5 will be able to be reported on again in 2025.



Target 3: A to E grade allocations for English, Maths, Science and Humanities will be at or above the expected range

Score:  
4/4

The following table shows the grade allocation index for Pre-primary to Year 6 for English, Maths, Science and Humanities. Grade allocations are informed by school-based moderation, where teachers assess work samples against the WA Curriculum Judging Standards and Achievement Standard. Grades across the school are then averaged and standardised against the school's socio-educational advantage. "At the expected range" is defined as the standard deviation being between -0.50 and 0.50. The results show that teacher-assigned grades at Mount Hawthorn PS were consistent with the expected range in 2023.

|             | 2023 Grade Allocations | At or Above Expected Range? |
|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| English     | -0.40                  | At or Above                 |
| Mathematics | -0.01                  | Yes – At                    |
| Science     | 0.01                   | Yes – At                    |
| Humanities  | 0.52                   | Yes - Above                 |

Target 4: The proportion of students exceeding the national mean in PAT Science testing is greater than 60% in Years 3 to 6

Score:  
4/4

The Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) provides schools with the Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT). This suite of national standardised assessments allows schools to compare their performance to national means. In 2023, more than 60% of our Year 3, 5 and 6 cohorts exceeded the national mean as measured by PAT Science.

|        | Proportion of students above the national PAT Science mean | Met target? |
|--------|--|-------------|
| Year 3 | 67%  | Yes         |
| Year 4 | 55%  | No          |
| Year 5 | 66%  | Yes         |
| Year 6 | 64%  | Yes         |



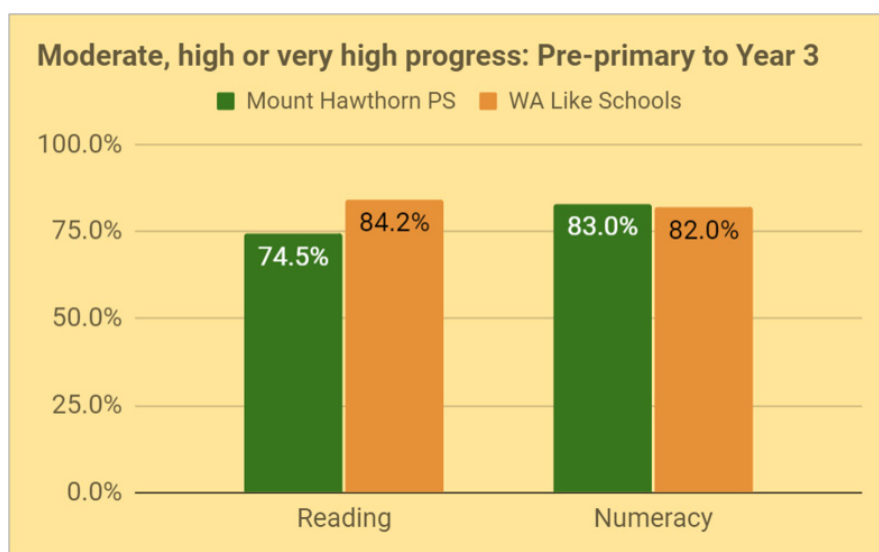
## Target 5: The proportion of students making moderate, high or very high progress is above that of WA Like Schools

Score:  
1/2

Students complete the On-entry Assessments in the first term of Pre-primary and then sit NAPLAN in Year 3. Progress made in Reading and Numeracy in the three years between these two assessments can be categorised as very high, high, moderate, low, or very low. The school aims to have more students in the top three categories compared to our Like Schools.

In 2023, the proportion of students making at least moderate progress at Mount Hawthorn PS was lower than that of WA Like Schools in Reading (74.5% vs 84.2%) but higher in Numeracy (83.0% vs 82.0%). By way of comparison, in 2022 Mount Hawthorn PS was below Like Schools in both Reading and Numeracy.

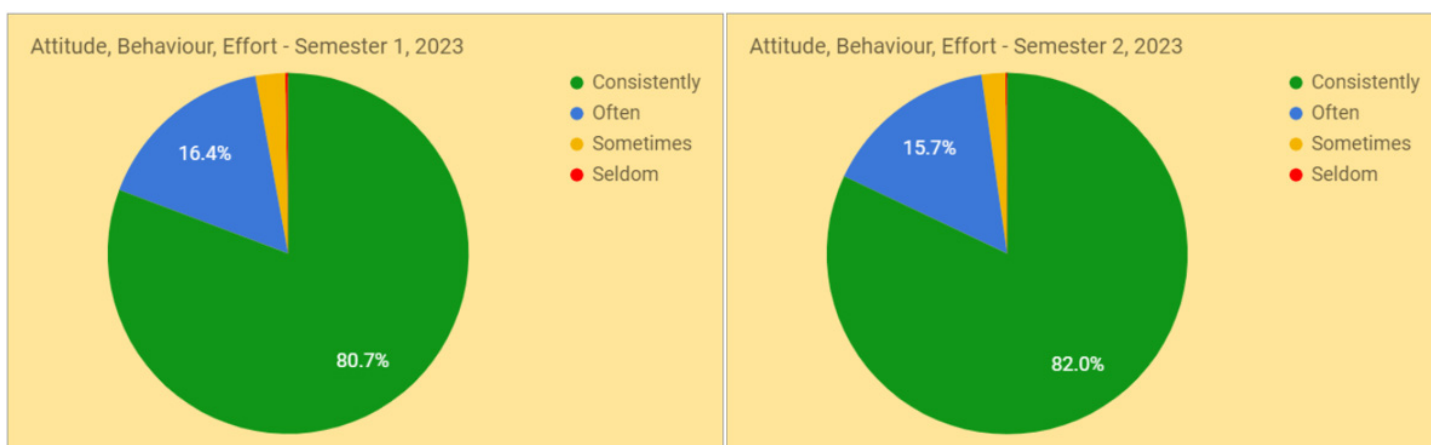
|          |           | MHPS   | WA Like Schools |
|----------|-----------|--------|-----------------|
| Reading  | Very High | 20.80% | 29.3%           |
|          | High      | 29.2%  | 26.9%           |
|          | Moderate  | 24.5%  | 28.0%           |
|          | Low       | 13.2%  | 9.5%            |
|          | Very Low  | 12.3%  | 6.4%            |
|          |           | MHPS   | WA Like Schools |
| Numeracy | Very High | 21.7%  | 28.4%           |
|          | High      | 22.6%  | 20.5%           |
|          | Moderate  | 38.7%  | 33.1%           |
|          | Low       | 12.3%  | 11.7%           |
|          | Very Low  | 4.7%   | 6.3%            |



## Target 6: The proportion of Consistently and Often ratings in students' Attitude, Behaviour and Effort assessments will be above 92%

Score:  
2/2

In each semester's formal report, the attitude, behaviour and effort demonstrated by students is shown using the following scale: Consistently, Often, Sometimes and Seldom. Teachers make judgements against 12 learning behaviours in Pre-primary to Year 2, and 8 learning behaviours in Year 3 to 6. The combined Consistently and Often rating (green and blue together) across the school was 97.1% in Semester 1 and 97.6% in Semester 2. Pleasingly, both Semester 1 and 2 ratings were higher in 2023 than in 2022. Possible reasons for this include a more stable learning environment due evidence-based teaching, more structured morning routines across classes, and the presence of 8 new-to-MHPS teachers in 2023.

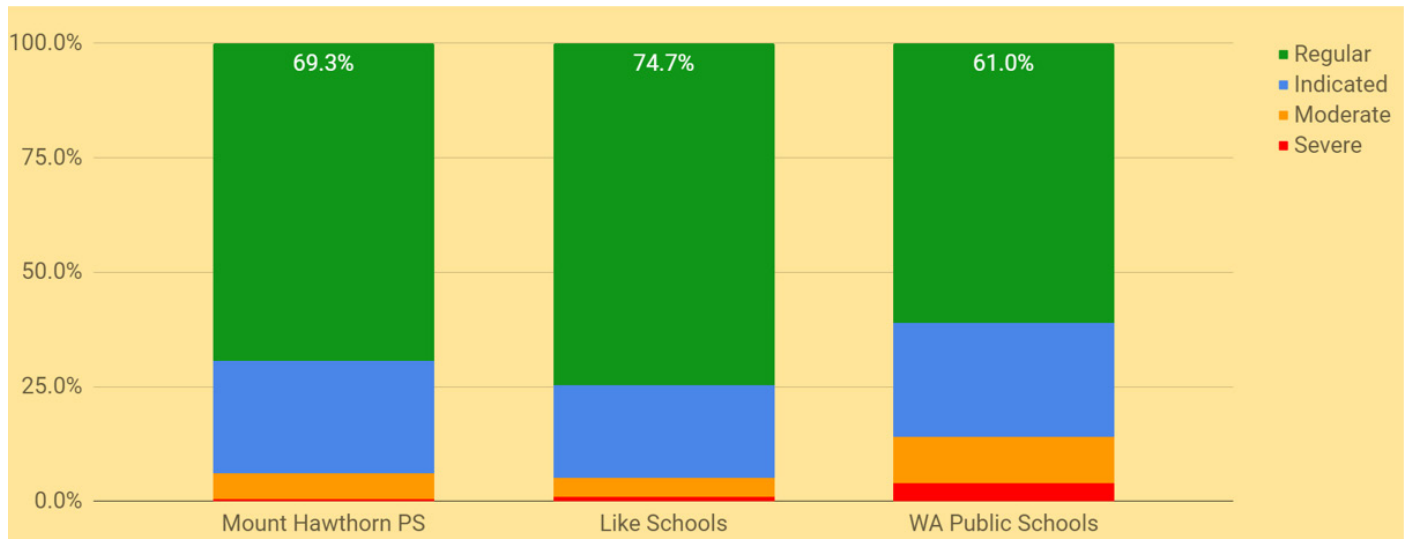




Target 7: The proportion of students attending at least 90% of available student days is at or above the expected range

Score:  
0/1

Regular attendance at school correlates strongly with student academic achievement and progress. This chart shows student attendance. Green equals regular attendance (90% or above), blue represents an indicated risk (80-90%), orange equals a moderate risk (60-80%) and red equals severe risk (below 60%). Data for Mount Hawthorn PS, WA Like Schools and all WA Public Schools are shown. 69.3% in the regular attendance (green) category means the school was -0.55 standard deviations below the expected level in 2023.

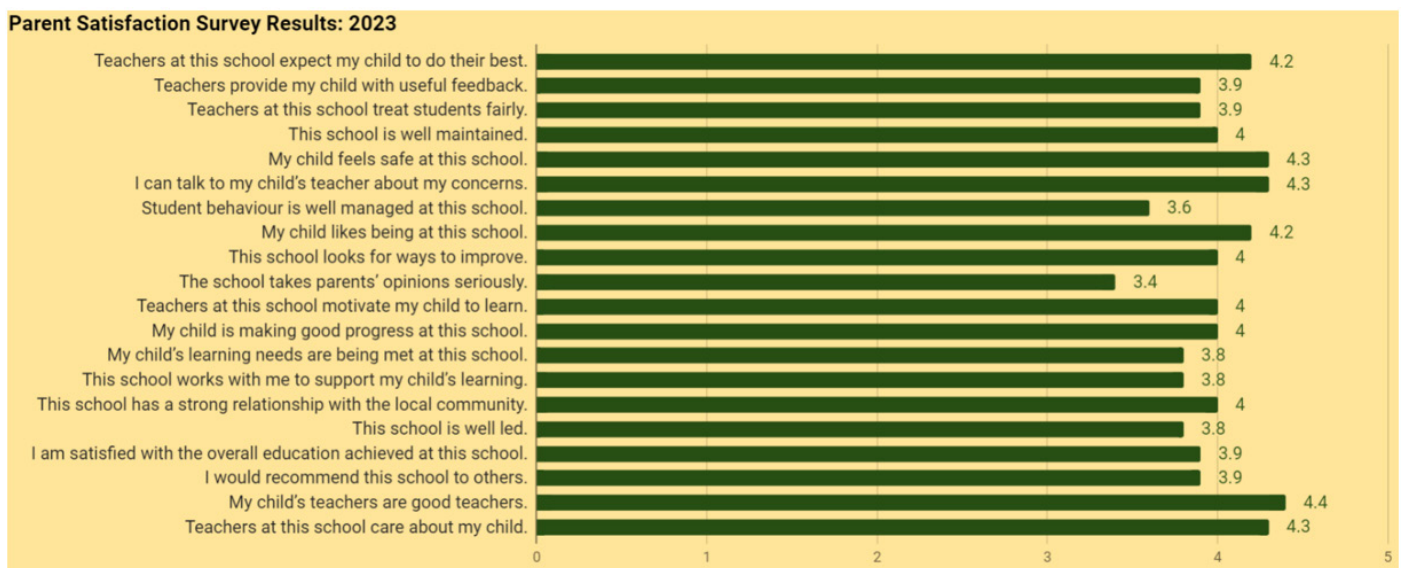


The school's mean attendance rate in 2023 was 91.4%, which is below the rate for WA Like Schools (93.8%) but above the rate for all WA Public Schools (91.0%). After 'notified as sick', 'unauthorised vacation' was the second highest cause of student absences in 2023. The school will continue to encourage parents to organise vacations during school holiday periods to ensure their child doesn't miss out on school.

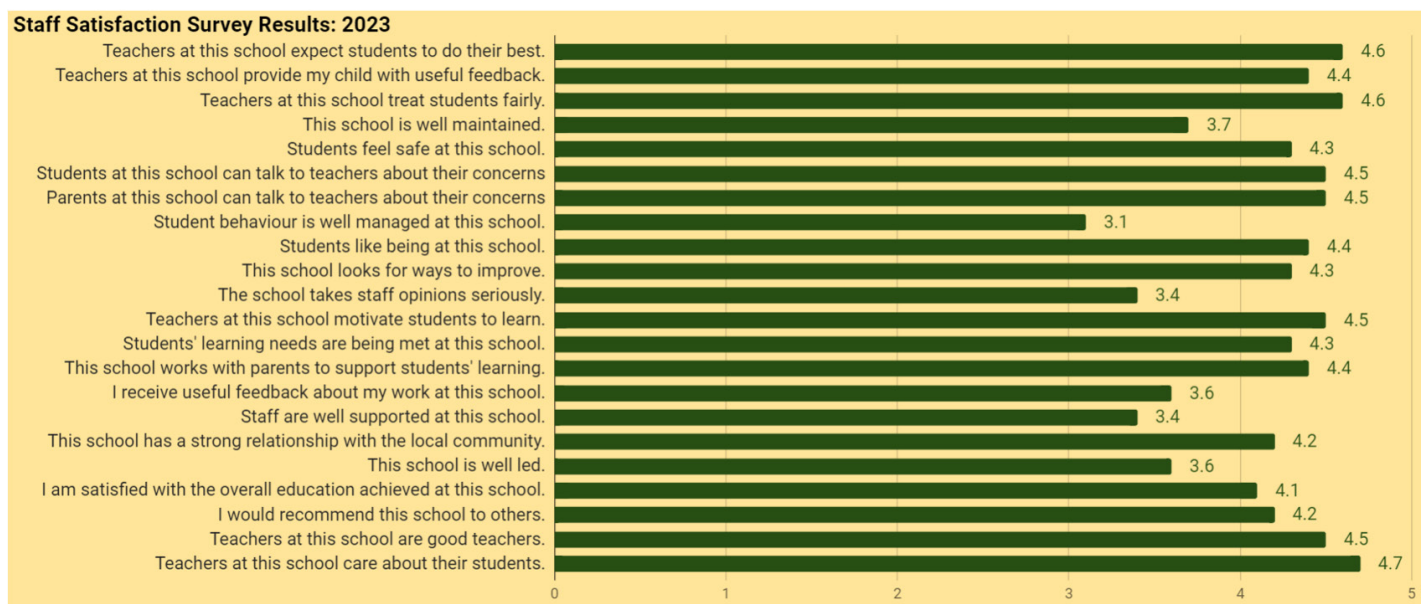
Target 8: School satisfaction as measured by students, parents and staff in the National School Opinion Survey is high (mean at least 4 out of 5)

Score:  
2/3

The school deploys the National School Opinion Survey with parents, staff and students on a biennial basis in order to receive feedback about its performance. Each question requires respondents to answer on a five-point scale, where 1 equals strongly disagree, 2 is disagree, 3 is neither agree nor disagree, 4 is agree and 5 is strongly agree.



The mean score across all items in the parent survey (previous page) was 4.0 out of 5, indicating a moderately high level of satisfaction with the school. ‘My child’s teachers are good teachers’ and ‘My child likes being at this school’ rated highest, underscoring the positive learning environment provided by school staff. ‘The school takes parents’ opinion seriously’ was the lowest rated item, and an area the school is aiming to improve on in 2024.



In the staff survey (above), the mean response score across all items was 4.15 out of 5, with 13 items ranked 4.3 or greater. The lowest rated item was ‘Student behaviour is well managed at this school’, which raises a line of inquiry given it doesn’t align with the high Attitude, Behaviour and Effort data assigned by class teachers (Target 5). Nonetheless, the school is moving forward with a new Positive Behaviour team to review staff response to student behaviour in 2024.

Results for the 2023 student survey were unable to be retrieved due to the Department decommissioning the School Survey platform. This survey will be repeated in 2024.





## Parents & Citizens Association

New volunteering recruits and motivated parents saw an increase in fundraising and high engagement from our parents which truly reflects the community spirit that Mount Hawthorn Primary School is all about. We introduced a new Vice President, Emma, and Secretary, Laura, who took their roles on with pride and were an amazing addition to the executive team.

Events took 2023 by storm, raising over \$107,000! This meant we were able to support the school with new basketball courts, teacher professional learning and academic resources for the school. Inspiring events such as the Paddo Parents Night, Lapathon Colour Run and Halloween Disco, together with lots of smaller fundraisers, were highlights of the year. A huge shoutout to Nat and Kristen for their motivation and dedication through all these items, taking our events to another level!



The canteen has been bustling with activity, with higher demand contributing to an 18% increase in sales in 2023. Our beloved Milo cookie topped the best seller list of course! I wish to share my appreciation for Teresa who invested her time in the canteen only to now invest her time to bookkeeping and uniform. Jess R and Jess W are constant rockstar volunteers and we also welcomed the wonderful Neysa as a new staff member.

The uniform shop continues to make healthy sales. Teresa is doing a wonderful job in her role as uniform shop coordinator alongside Danielle as the uniform convenor. Opening the shop during

additional and regular hours, we couldn't do this without the support of our small, steady group of amazing volunteers that were rotated throughout the year.

The Fathering Project saw a successful 2023 for the dads, with lots of families attending events such as the junior camp out, Dad's pub night, Pump track session, poker night, Bickley camp and Dwellingup Camp. They have already locked in events for 2024, and new/existing dads can head to the Mount Hawthorn Mountain Goats Facebook page to stay up to date. A big thank you to Justin Bird for heading The Fathering Project.

Nav and Fritha who head the safety subcommittee saw the invigoration of safety houses in Mount Hawthorn; currently there are 18 houses that are compliant so a massive shoutout to our Mount Hawthorn community for keeping our kids safe!

Thank you to Travis Lithgo for his dedication and hard work with the Grounds subcommittee. The 2023 Busy Bee saw a great turnout and helped reinvigorate many spaces around the school. This will be Travis' last year with us on the P&C and I wish to acknowledge all the hard work and contributions he has made throughout his volunteering in past years. You will be missed, Trav!



Total fundraising came through a combination of events, canteen, uniform, grants, voluntary contributions & donations. During the year the P&C made contributions to the school grounds, school equipment and to support the curriculum. A massive shoutout out to each and every volunteer, all the P&C members, Leon, and all the supportive school staff. We are looking forward to another marvellous year in 2024!

**Ms Tasha Hawkins | P&C President**

## 2023 P&C Executive Office Bearers

President  
Ms Tash Hawkins

Vice President  
Ms Emma Carter

Secretary  
Mrs Laura Mortimer

Treasurer  
Mr George Nicholls





## Images from 2023



Top left to bottom right: Year 6 cactus sculptures; The Lapathon Colour Run; Year 5 pasta making; Interschool Swimming Carnival; Massed Choir Festival; Harmony Day; National Sorry Day, and; Faction Athletics Carnival.



## Financial Summary – 2023

| Income   | Budget (\$)      | Actual (\$)      |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Carry Forward (Cash)                               | 58,975           | 58,975           |
| Carry Forward (Salary)                             | 218,863          | 218,863          |
| <b>Student-Centred Funding</b>                     |                  |                  |
| Per Student  | 7,848,758        | 7,848,758        |
| School and Student Characteristics                 | 641,884          | 641,884          |
| Disability Adjustments                             | 69,560           | 69,560           |
| Targeted Initiatives                               | 274,984          | 274,984          |
| Operational Response Allocation                    | 9,757            | 9,757            |
| <b>Total Student Centred Funding:</b>              | <b>8,844,943</b> | <b>8,844,943</b> |
| <b>Transfers and Adjustments</b>                   |                  |                  |
| School Transfers – Salary                          | (568,988)        | (568,988)        |
| School Transfers - Cash                            | 539,500          | 539,500          |
| <b>Total Trasfers and Adjustments:</b>             | <b>(29,488)</b>  | <b>(29,488)</b>  |
| <b>Locally Raised Funds</b>                        |                  |                  |
| Voluntary Contributions                            | 47,936           | 47,996           |
| Charges and Fees                                   | 209,604          | 209,606          |
| Fees from Facilities Hire                          | 10,607           | 11,275           |
| Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships                 | 10,513           | 121,513          |
| Commonwealth Govt Revenues                         | 0                | 0                |
| Other State Govt/Local Govt Revenues               | 0                | 0                |
| Revenue from CO, Regional Office and Other schools | 65,339           | 65,339           |
| Other Revenues                                     | 37,133           | 38,939           |
| Transfer from Reserve or DGR                       | 18,984           | 18,984           |
| <b>Total Locally Raised Funds:</b>                 | <b>400,116</b>   | <b>513,652</b>   |
| <b>Total Funds Available</b>                       | <b>9,493,409</b> | <b>9,606,945</b> |

| Expenditure                                      | Budget (\$)      | Actual (\$)      |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Salaries</b>                                  |                  |                  |
| Appointed Staff                                  | 7,227,230        | 7,227,230        |
| Casual Payments (includes all relief staff)      | 840,033          | 840,033          |
| Other Salary Expenditure                         | 2,204            | 2,204            |
| <b>Total Salaries</b>                            | <b>8,069,467</b> | <b>8,069,467</b> |
| <b>Goods and Services (Cash Expenditure)</b>     |                  |                  |
| Administration                                   | 34,200           | 26,226           |
| Lease Payments                                   | 22,500           | 22,491           |
| Utilities, Facilities and Maintenance            | 326,348          | 240,628          |
| Buildings, Property and Equipment                | 173,828          | 112,573          |
| Curriculum and Student Services                  | 384,771          | 352,913          |
| Professional Development                         | 40,000           | 34,983           |
| Transfer to Reserve                              | 20,000           | 20,000           |
| Other Expenditure                                | 12,803           | 12,863           |
| Payment to CO, Regional Office and Other schools | 4,360            | 4,420            |
| <b>Total Cash Expenditure</b>                    | <b>1,018,810</b> | <b>827,097</b>   |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>                         | <b>9,088,277</b> | <b>8,896,564</b> |