

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The 2022 academic year has and will continue to be a transformative year for Village School. With our new principal Ashley settled at the helm, the Board is slowly and thoughtfully steering the school forward. Change is often unsettling, but I want to take this opportunity to assure everyone that the Board will endeavour to make decisions that reflect the aspiration of our learners and families.

We kicked off 2022 with new leadership by way of Pamela Taylor-Barnett moving into the Chair seat. It was a busy year for the Board that included extensive preparations for the VRQA school audit and the Village School 3-year strategic plan. I would like to extend my deepest thanks to Pamela for her direction of the Board. We now have the right foundations in place and can look forward to growing the school.

It was then time for the Board to hit the ground running!

As a starting point, we welcomed two new positions to the Village School Leadership team: Deputy Principal and Head of Curriculum Development and Head of Inclusive Education. We were fortunate to have Melissa and Leanne accept their respective positions. Their wealth of knowledge and intimate understanding of the Village School ethos is unmeasurable. I'm sure all families would agree that changes to curriculum and greater structure, communication, and planning for how learners can be better supported in their academic and social development has benefited our learners.

At the end of Term 4, the Planning Committee was fortunate to receive 4 PowerPoint proposals from Year 3 and 4 learners requesting improvements they would like to see made at the school. We utilized this as a commencement point to engage a landscaper with great experience combining learning spaces and play spaces in educational settings. He has presented us with an initial outline of

proposed works which will include a formal mud kitchen, reinvigoration of the outdoor classroom and farm area, a true kitchen garden and most anticipated, a resolution to the soggy patches of mud all around the school grounds!

I am releasing the initial proposal to the community, but do bear in mind that we have yet to solidify any plans. Opportunities will be given to the children, the teaching staff, and parents for input. We have yet to formalize capital infrastructure works that will include an expansion of classroom, refurbishment of existing specialist classrooms and the addition of a Bush Kinder to Village School. Watch this space!

Other improvements to the school will be in keeping with the strategic plan, which I will be breaking down into 90-day cycles. Of upmost importance will be alignment with a formal Health & Wellbeing Framework for the school. We are on the cusp of bringing in additional supports in this area to help support our staff and learners.

Many changes are coming for Village School and whilst we want to ensure its long-term survival, we are acutely aware that preservation of the elements that make Village unique and the community we have come to love must also take equal importance.

Danielle Parent

Acting Chair, Village School

23/05/2023

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It is an absolute pleasure to submit my first full report to the Village School AGM after being in the seat for more than a full year. In the past year the school has grown in numbers and in the quality of our teaching and learning programs. As I walk around the school it's refreshing to see and hear our learners engaging with the many differentiated tasks and the positive classroom language.

COVID

During the first term no positive cases of COVID-19 were reported within the school community. We began the school year with rapid antigen testing kits being delivered from the education department. Families were issued with 5 testing kits per fortnight and parents and staff were asked to test on a SUNDAY and WEDNESDAY evening. During this time, we also checked the temperature of staff and learners on the other three days of the week. There are members in our community who have vulnerable health conditions and checking of temperatures was implemented as a mechanism for safeguarding for the Village School community.

During Terms 2 - 4 we unfortunately had several positive cases identified within the school community. We were required to report these numbers to the education department each Monday.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Student engagement is fundamental for all learning and doing. This is highlighted at Village as our learners are actively involved in what they do and learn. Whether it's through a hands-on approach or investigations through inquiry, our classrooms are full of happy and eager learners. The Victorian Curriculum underpins all learning and teaching at Village School.

In Term One 2022 the overarching theme for all groups, and specialist classes, was 'Celebrations and Festivals'. The first celebration was Chinese New Year. The lead up for this event was a whole school afternoon activity on Thursday 17th February. Flora and Tanya were supported by the learners who assisted in managing this event.

In Term Two the overarching theme was 'The Human Body'. Classroom work and individual projects were the center of this theme. Staff made significant links to the Victorian Curriculum and created an engaging learning and teaching program suitable for the interest levels of each group.

The theme for Term 3 was Dinosaurs and this was closely linked to the school's production 'Harry Potaurus and the Asteroid.' Learners enjoyed a day at the Melbourne Museum and visited the dinosaur exhibition.

During Term 4 Laura groups focused on Food and Farm, Melissa's group on Passion Projects connected to books, Sam's group on Kingdoms and Leanne's group researched personal Passion Projects.

Sports rotations continued to be on Wednesday afternoons. This followed a similar schedule to previous years (Movement Matters, Tennis, Swimming and Horse Riding). Learners travel by bus to Aqua Hub in Croydon for swimming lessons. There has been a change with the tennis program, as we moved from Ace Tennis in Lilydale to Match Point in Ringwood. In Term 2 Risky Kids was introduced and this replaced Movement Matters.

Each Thursday learners moved through a schedule of specialist subjects. Each session lasts for 45 minutes in duration. Two sessions before break and two before lunch. In 2022 we were pleased to offer STEAM, Library studies, Performing Arts and Mandarin as our language other than English (LOTE). Like all curriculum areas, the specialist subjects require commitment and dedication for each learner so they can achieve the best possible results.

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS

1. Chinese New Year - Thursday 17th Feb 2 - 3pm.
2. The learners in Leanne's group created a 'Celebration Day / Fun Day' at the end of Term 1. This was like a Carnival Day. It was initiated by the students and was a credit to the entire student body. Activities for the day were divided into 3 parts:
 - 9am -11am class-based activities.
 - 11:30am – 1pm whole school activities.
 - 2pm - 3:30pm class-based activities.
3. Excursion to Melbourne Museum during T3.
4. Life Education – *Developing and Maintaining Friendships* T4.
5. The planned Sleepover was changed at the last minute to a late stay due to an outbreak of COVID in the school. The learners were disappointed, but the event was enjoyed by all.

WHOLE SCHOOL EVENTS – FAMILIES/CARERS

Picnics are scheduled each term. They generally piggyback school events: Parent Information and Curriculum Evenings and Meet the Grads.

Working Bees are held each term. However, due to heavy rains and windy conditions the working bee scheduled in Term 3 (Saturday 3rd September) was cancelled. Working bees were well attended, and supported (T1 – 13 families, T2 – 20 families and T4 – 11 families).

Open Mornings are held twice a year (10th May and 1st September). These mornings are pitched at internal families and offer parents/carers an opportunity to participate in teaching and learning activities alongside their learner.

An Open Day was held on the 4th of November. This day is pitched at prospective parents and follows a 3-week advertising campaign. This campaign is hosted on the school website and is integrated via social media platforms.

WHOLE SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

Term 3 is the performance term and the week starting Monday 5th September is known as our performance week. The performance this year was Harry Potaurus and the Asteroid. Learners either performed on stage, or had roles backstage, front of house or as ushers.

SCHOOL CAMP

During T4 the whole school had an opportunity to attend the 5-day Camp at Wilson's Prom. This was attended by roughly 75% of our learners. Some learners chose to stay for 2 nights whilst many stayed for 4. A small minibus was used to transport the 2-night stayers but to school on the Wednesday. 25% of learners who did not go to camp attended school and were taught by CRT's. This was provided so the school could remain open and appropriate learning opportunities continued.

INCURSIONS/EXCURSIONS

With COVID-19 restrictions in place during Term One there were no incursions or excursions scheduled.

On Friday 6th May a local CFA team attended the school. They presented to P-2 and then 3-6. A PowerPoint was used as the vehicle of information during the presentation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- *Understanding and supporting students with anxiety* (Leanne)
- *Navigating is Comply* (Laura)
- *NAPLAN Online* (Samantha and Ashley)
- *Accommodating the learning needs of our learners* lead by Elspeth / ISV (all staff)
- *Principals Executive Network 2022 – session 1 of 6* (Ashley)
- *Running Records* inhouse PD (all staff)
- *Using the PROBE Reading Assessment Kit* inhouse PD (all staff)
- *Difficult Conversations Webinar* (Ashley)
- *Principal Executive Network* (Ashley)

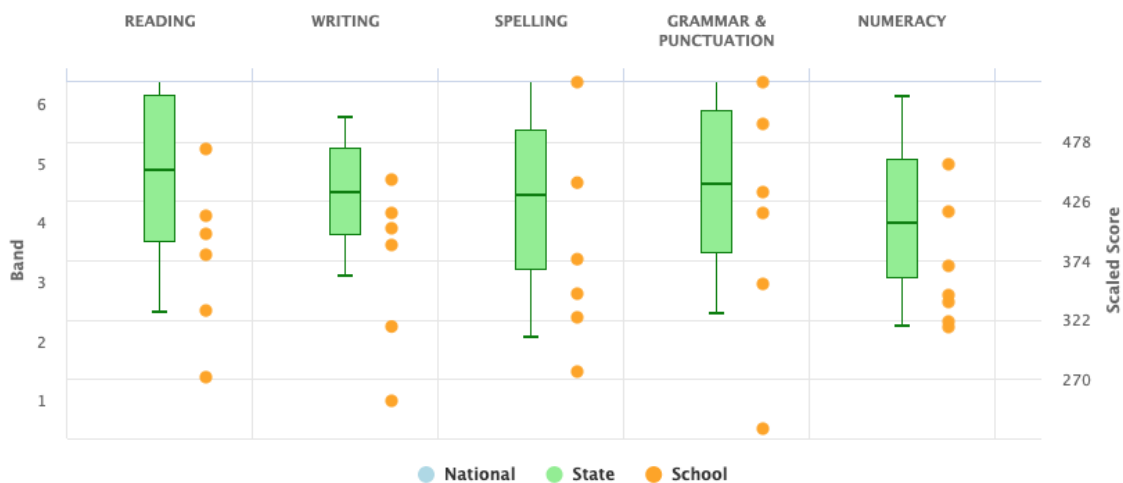
TESTING AND ASSESSMENT

NAPLAN

NAPLAN was completed in Term 2 2022. This involved our learners in Years 3 and 5. Data collected will help drive the curriculum initiatives for 2023 and support staff in building a Village School curriculum that is listed in the Village School Strategic Plan 2022 - 2025.

GRADE 3

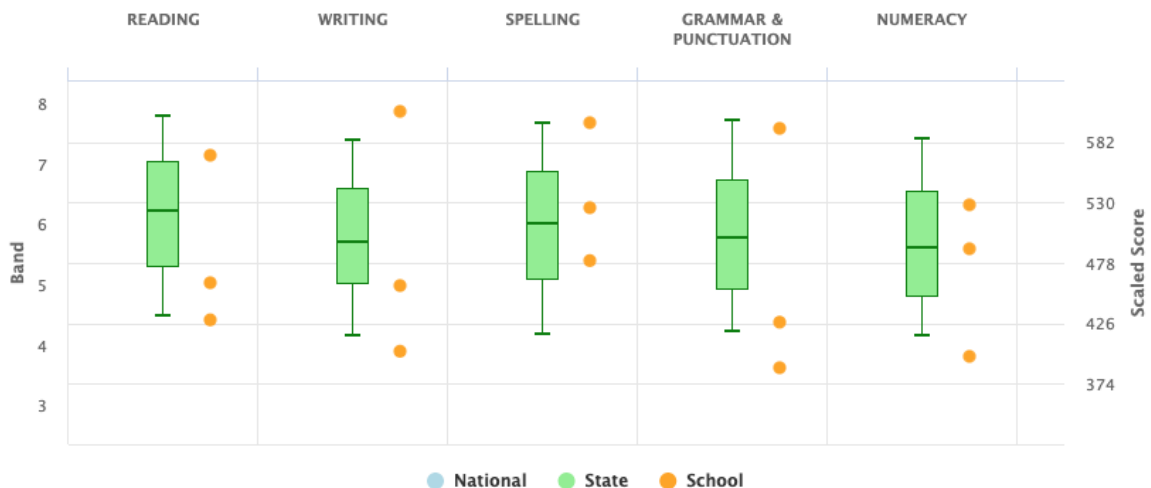
In Term 1 2022, Village School year three students took part in NAPLAN testing. Six students completed all the required testing (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Numeracy) and a seventh student completed only the Numeracy testing. The results from this testing are displayed in the table below (Figure 1.1) and show the students' results compared to the national and state averages. For meaningful analysis, the Village School's data has been compared only to the State average. This is because Victorian results are higher than most other states and the national average, and because there was no calculated national average in 2022 (caused by high absenteeism across the country). Because there were only six students who completed the test, these results have been shown as individual results and not in box and whisker plots, which require a minimum of ten students. In two of the tests (Grammar and Punctuation and Spelling), the spread of results is significant.



(Figure 1.1, source NAPLAN Data Service, Village School)

GRADE 5

In Term 1 2022, Village School year five students took part in NAPLAN testing. Three students completed all the required testing (Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Numeracy). The results from this testing are displayed in the table below (Figure 1.2) and show the students' results compared to the national and state averages. For meaningful analysis, the Village School's data has been compared only to the State average. This is because Victorian results are higher than most other states and the national average, and because there was no calculated national average in 2022 (caused by high absenteeism across the country). Because there were only three students who completed the test, these results have been shown as individual results and not in box and whisker plots, which require a minimum of ten students.



(Figure 1.2, source NAPLAN Data Service, Village School)

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

During the Parent Information Evening (PIE) in February I shared with the community the Learning Cycle that we are emphasizing for the year. This created a platform and structure for the parents to HEAR, DISCUSS, SEE and REVIEW elements of the planned curriculum each semester.

HEAR refers to the *Parent Information Evening* where staff discussed their planned curriculum. This is a plan as real inquiry is created through student questions.

DISCUSS refers to the *You Tell Us Interviews* where parents/carers are encouraged to share additional information about their child/learner and what makes them tick. Learning goals for the term are also discussed and set.

SEE refers to parents/carers attending the *School Open Mornings* to see the curriculum in action.

REVIEW refers to the formal *school reports* that are issued at the end of each semester.

The Village School assessment schedule that encompasses PREP – Year 6 has been reviewed, revised, and implemented.

Staff have completed the assessments for their group using the revised assessment schedule. Data collected is stored in a central location on OneDrive. The team will then access the data periodically and consider programs / staff PD and learning tasks/activities that will support the various cohort of learners.

The focus on Wellbeing has been well-received by both learners and parents/carers. The Social Skills Training program (Stop, Think Do) has been introduced to all groups. The program will not be followed explicitly as the needs for each group are met as they arise.

TECHNOLOGY WITHIN THE SCHOOL

Technology will be a big-ticket item over the next few years as our laptops and desktops are aging and replacements will soon be required.

The Interactive White Boards (IWB's) are also aging or not working. A focus in the Village School Strategic Plan is to review how technology is used in the classrooms and how it supports teaching and learning.

When an IT map has been created the school leadership team will finalize a proposal for the next 3 years.

PARENT SURVEY was completed in October. Data collected was used to inform adjustments to school operations for 2023.

STUDENT NEWS

We had more than 30 families join us in 2022. The staff ran lunchtime activities to ensure that everyone had a positive start to the year.

STUDENT ENROLMENTS

ENROLMENTS – November 2022	
Part Time Prep	8 (0.6) 4.8 FTE
Prep	2
Year 1	12
Year 2	12
Year 4	10
Year 5	4
Year 6	8
TOTAL	64 (60.8 FTE)

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

STUDENT ATTENDANCE 2022	
Part Time Prep /Prep	73.84%
Year 1	83.20%
Year 2	83.94%
Year 3	77.85%
Year 4	84.59%
Year 5	76.58%
Year 6	86.54%
TOTAL	80.93%

MARKETING

Marketing activity during 2022 focused on 4 main areas:

1. Creating content for Facebook and Instagram. The aim was to post regularly to raise the online profile of our school. This has been very successful, and our Facebook and Instagram pages have both experienced strong growth in page likes and followers, respectively.
2. Using Google Ads to drive traffic to our website. This consisted of an ongoing monthly campaign targeting both specific interest groups and people in the correct demographic group (parents with young children) that live within 20km of Village School. Additional campaigns using both static images and video were used to promote our Open Day in November.
3. Using Facebook Ads to drive traffic to our website. These ads run on an ongoing monthly basis and consistently provide a high level of click thru-traffic to our website.
4. Continually updating our website to ensure that we appear at the top of search results for several key search terms.

STAFFING

Teaching staff:

Laura Fraser	PTP/Prep/One	Bachelor of Education
Melissa Langford	Years 1/2	Bachelor of Education
Samantha Assender	Years 3/4	Masters in Primary Education
Leanne Fitch	Years 5/6	Graduate Diploma Bachelor of Arts (Psychology/Sociology) Graduate Diploma (Social Psychology)
Sally Boyd	Library	Bachelor of Education
Tanya Heine	Performing Arts	Master of Education Diploma of School Music
Flora Leung	LOTE (Mandarin)	Master of Education Studies Bachelor of Teaching Graduate Diploma in Education
Dianne Varner	STEAM	Diploma of Teaching (Primary) Grad Dip Teaching (Early Childhood)
Ashley Penny	Principal	Bachelor of Education Bachelor of Arts (Education) Reading Recovery Educator

Learning support staff:

Kathy McCann	Years 1/2/3/4	Certificate 3 Education Support
Tara Massoud	Years 3/4	Completing Bachelor of Education
Meredith Macrae	PTP/Prep/1	Certificate 3 Education Support
Stacey Clark	Years 5/6	Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology)
Rachael Stanly	Years 5/6	Certificate 4 Education Support
Aurora Hammon	Years 1/2	Certificate 4 Education Support

Administration

Trish Lamb	Bursar	CPA, BBus
Sally Body	Registrar	Bachelor of Education
Maia Cruz	Office Staff (T1-T3)	
Kieren Yen	EA to Principal and Community Engagement Officer	Bachelor of Arts/Commerce Master of International Business Post-graduate diploma in Digital Marketing

OH&S

OH&S is a standing item for each Board Meeting. Issues and concerns are discussed and dealt with as they arise.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all our wonderful teachers and support staff for their ongoing dedication to our school and learners. Thank you also to the Board, parents, and learners for their continued enthusiastic support for Village School.

2022 BOARD MEMBERS

Pamela Taylor-Barnett	Chairperson
Trish Lamb	Secretary
Keith James	Treasurer
Ashley Penny	Principal
Melissa Langford	Staff Representative - Retired 26 th May 2022
Tara Massoud	Staff Representative - Appointed 26 th May 2022
Amy Buchanan	Parent Representative - Retired 26 th May 2022
Danielle Parent	Vice Chairperson - Appointed 26 th May 2022
Amie Templar - Kanshlo	Parent Representative
Liesel McDonald	PnF Representative
Tess Barreiro	OH&S Representative - Appointed 26 th May 2022
Jessie Parnell	General Member - Appointed 26 th May 2022
Samantha Sissons	General Member - Appointed 26 th May 2022

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

