

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Edition 6- Term 3 2025

Vision

There is a prosperous path for every child. Each journey is theirs to lead. There is a place in which every child can shine.

Mission

Identify the talent, develop the confidence and create the leader.



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are gathered here today and we pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the culture and dreams of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

From the Principal Genevieve Casonato

As we reach the final week of Term 3, we're reflecting on a busy and successful term packed with activities that have enriched student learning and wellbeing. Since our last newsletter, students have participated in:

- Living & Growing Program (Years 5 & 6)
- Spring Makers Market
- Division Athletics
- Prep Transition for 2026
- Kingston Youth Year 7 Transition
- Prep to Year 2 Swimming Program
- Parktone Storytime
- Walkathon

Our teachers have also been assessing student progress to tailor Term 4 learning plans. Please keep in mind that attendance is very important next term as students will complete end-of-year assessments starting Week 5. We hope everyone enjoys the upcoming break to recharge and come back ready for an enthusiastic finish to 2025!

Enrolments 2026

Enrolments for 2026 Our Open Transition Sessions for 2026 Prep students were held in August and September, with 34 new Preps enrolled for next year. With 72 Year 6 students graduating at the end of this year, we anticipate around 375 students in 2026, organised into 17 classes.

Staffing News

This week, Mr. Feary began his paternity leave following the birth of his daughter, Scottie Marla, on September 6. Congratulations to him and his family! During his leave, Miss Hannah Murnane will be teaching 5A and STEAM and covering CRT roles.

Miss Kelly's last week teaching 4A is this week, before she begins family leave in Term 4. We warmly welcome Miss Annie McGeachin as her replacement. Miss McGeachin had planned to be overseas in 2025 but is excited to rejoin the Parktone family.

Mrs. Waack has started family leave and is expecting her second child soon. Mr. Ryan Nugent, our experienced CRT, will take over delivering the Japanese program prepared by Mrs. Alakus. Additionally, Mr. Le will be on leave every Wednesday next term, with Mr. Nugent stepping in on those days.

NAPLAN & Attitude to School Survey (AtoSS)

We're incredibly proud of the outstanding results our students achieved in the 2025 NAPLAN and AtoSS. These successes reflect the hard work of our staff, ongoing professional development, and initiatives like School Wide Positive Behaviour Support. Our tailored learning programs are helping students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. For a deeper dive into our data and achievements, check out Mel Bach's detailed report in this newsletter.

Important Dates

Term 4

October

- 6th - First day of Term
- 9th - Division Aths
- 17th - Prep - Year 2 Sports Day
- 23rd - Japanese Day
- 30th - Prep - Year 2 Concert

November

- 4th - Melbourne Cup Day
- 7th - Year 3 Sleepover
- 28th - Curriculum Day

December

- 2nd & 3rd - Year 6 Lifesaving
- 5th - Parktone Talent Quest
- 8th & 9th - Year 5 Lifesaving
- 10th - Year 4 Lifesaving
- 11th - Year 3 Lifesaving
- 11th - Carols on the Green
- 19th - Last Day of Term 4 (1.30pm finish)

Some events subject to change. Please check the Compass calendar for other event dates



Don't forget to follow us on Instagram!

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From the Principal continued....

Walkathon – Thank You!

Last Friday's whole school Walkathon was a huge success! The perfect weather made for a fun day filled with laughter and energy. Thanks to everyone's efforts in collecting sponsorships, we raised over \$14,500! These funds will go toward new soccer goals, a Gaga ball pit, and upgrades to the P-2 playground.

Special congratulations to our top fundraisers: 1st – Mirabelle Friswell (5B) 2nd – Jessica Shannon (4A) 3rd – Joshua Addorisio (2C)

And special recognition to Marla Tobias (2A), Paige Hyde (2C), Lukas Muhlechner (1A), and Sophia Pascoe (3C) for their great efforts.

Huge thanks to Cath in the office for coordinating this event and to all families for your wonderful support!

Fathers Day Celebrations

Our dads and special friends had a fantastic time at the Father's Day breakfast, enjoying delicious ham & cheese toasties from OSHClub, visiting classrooms, and completing activities with their children. Throughout the day, students shopped at the Father's Day stall, thanks to the amazing work of Camila Portal Brocheir Dos Santos and our volunteers. Congratulations to the lucky raffle winners!



Term 3 Finale

Our final day was filled with footy fun! Year 6 students ran activities on the oval following the Footy Parade. Mr. Hunter Le Velle, our Principal for the Day, helped ensure a smooth finish and classroom clean-up.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back after a well-deserved two-week break on Monday, October 6th. Enjoy your holidays and stay safe!

Warm regards, Genevieve

Aerobics Season Highlights

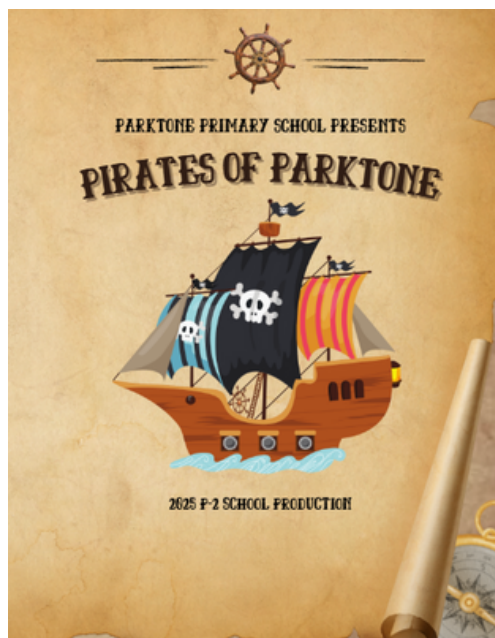
What a fantastic season for the Parktone Aerobics teams! With over 60 families involved and the support of Pinnacle and coaches Michelle Nicolson and Eva Jarman, we expanded our teams and saw great growth. Competing against more than 90 schools, our teams achieved impressive national results:

- Year 3/4 Diamonds – 13th place
- Year 4 Pink Panthers – 5th place
- Year 5 Sunshine Dreamers – 9th place
- Year 5 Sweethearts – 6th place
- Year 6 4 of a Kind – 2nd place
- Year 6 Lightning Fusion – 12th place
- Year 6 Elite – 8th place

Congratulations to all athletes, coaches, coordinators Tara and Jackie, and families! Interested in joining? Check Compass for tryout info.

Looking Ahead to October

- P-2 Sports Day: On October 17, our Prep to Year 2 students will take part in their annual Sports Day, supported by Year 5 leaders. Mrs. Hutson will share details early next term.
- P-2 School Musical: Rehearsals are underway for our pirate-themed concert at The Drum, Dandenong on Thursday, October 30th. Thanks to Mrs. Wheatley and Mrs. McVilly for their creative work on the script and choreography, and to our specialists preparing costumes and stage.
- Japanese Day: students will enjoy a day of fun activities celebrating Japanese culture.



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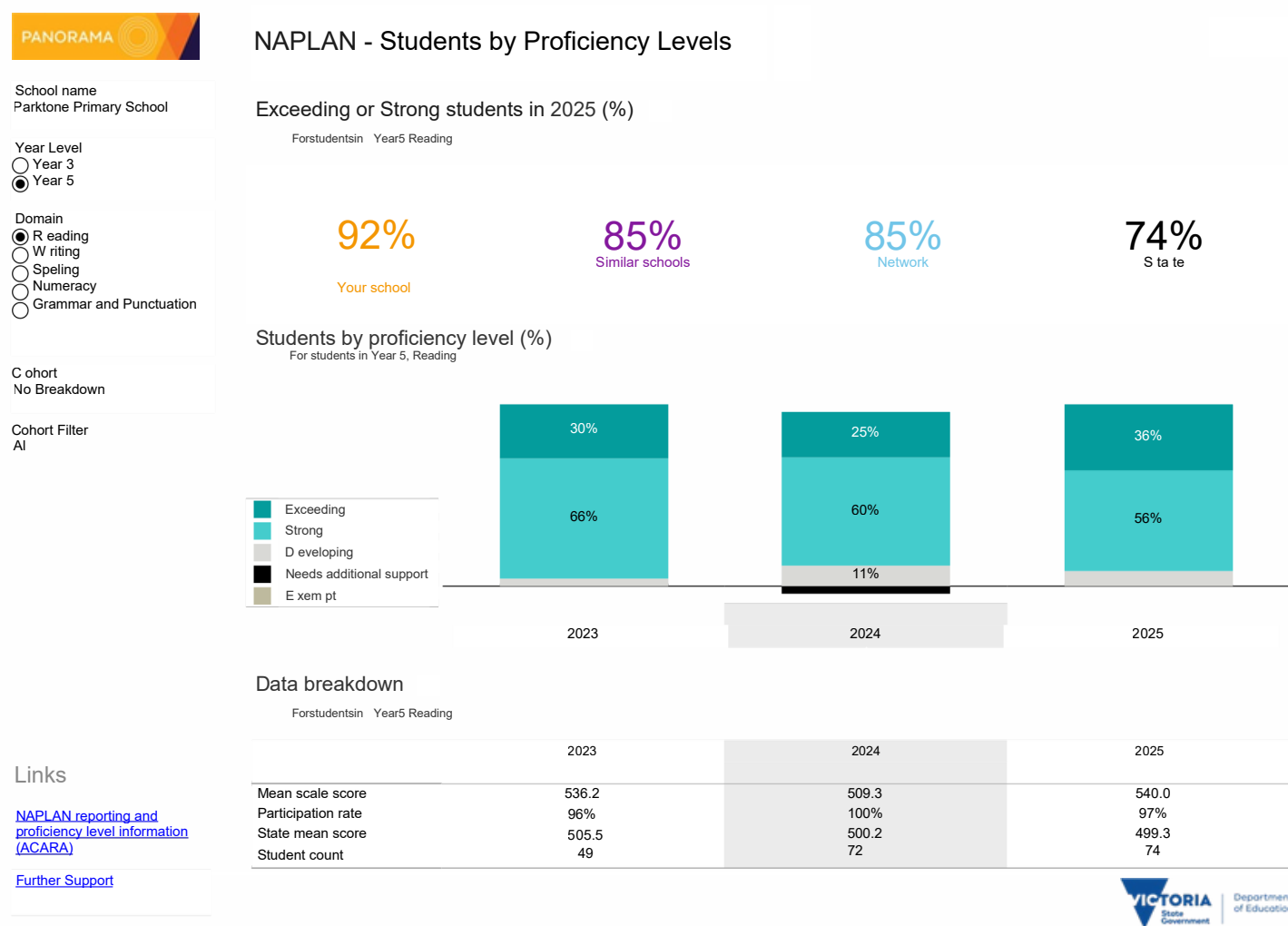
From the Assistant Principal

Mel Bach – Curriculum

Last week, I had the pleasure of presenting our 2025 NAPLAN achievements to the School Council. Our continued success is influenced by several factors, with our exceptional teachers being the most significant. Over the past few years, we have refined our focus and deepened our understanding of the Science of Learning, and this dedication is clearly yielding results. The Tutor Learning program has also played a part in reducing the number of kids Needing Additional Support. Our work doesn't stop here though. We will roll up our sleeves and keep working hard to ensure that our children have the quality education they deserve.

Year 5 Reading

- 7% higher than similar schools
- 7% higher than network
- 11% growth in exceeding
- 4% decrease in strong
- 3% decrease in developing
- 4% NAS decrease
- Increase in mean scale score of 30.7



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Year 5 Numeracy

- 7% higher than similar schools
- 5% higher than network
- 15% growth in exceeding
- 8% decrease in strong
- 4% decrease in developing
- 3% NAS decrease
- Increase in mean scale score of 33.3



School name
Parktone Primary School

Year Level
☐ Year 3
☒ Year 5

Domain
☐ Reading
☐ Writing
☐ Spelling
☒ Numeracy
☐ Grammar and Punctuation

Cohort
No Breakdown

Cohort Filter
All

NAPLAN - Students by Proficiency Levels

Exceeding or Strong students in 2025 (%)

For students in Year 5 Numeracy

87%

Your school

80%

Similar schools

82%

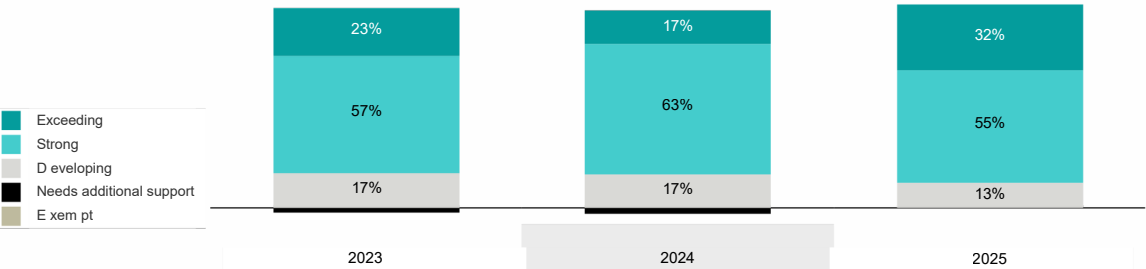
Network

69%

State

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 5, Numeracy



Data breakdown

For students in Year 5 Numeracy

	2023	2024	2025
Mean scale score	511.9	507.4	540.8
Participation rate	96%	99%	96%
State mean score	492.7	493.8	498.7
Student count	49	72	74

Links

[NAPLAN reporting and proficiency level information \(ACARA\)](#)

[Further Support](#)

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Year 3 Reading

- 8% higher than similar schools
- 10% higher than network
- 3% growth in exceeding
- 6% decrease in strong
- 4% decrease in developing
- 1% NAS maintained
- Decrease in mean scale score of 12.5



School name
Parktone Primary School

Year Level
☒ Year 3
☐ Year 5

Domain
☒ Reading
☐ Writing
☐ Spelling
☐ Numeracy
☐ Grammar and Punctuation

Cohort
No Breakdown

Cohort Filter
All

NAPLAN - Students by Proficiency Levels



Exceeding or Strong students in 2025 (%)

For students in Year 3 Reading

88%

Your school

80%

Similar schools

78%

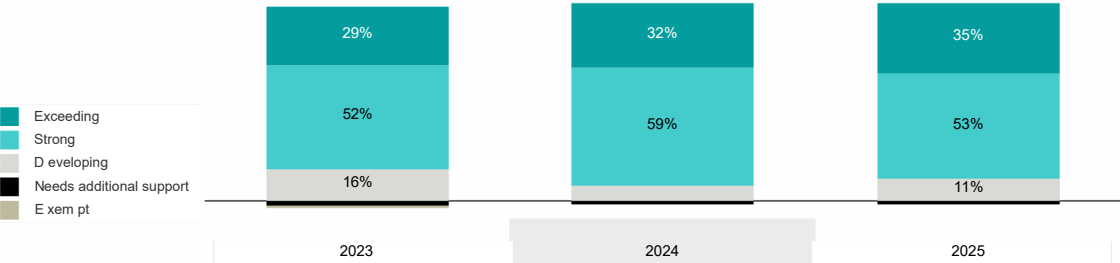
Network

69%

State

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 3, Reading



Data breakdown

For students in Year 3 Reading

	2023	2024	2025
Mean scale score	438.2	454.3	441.8
Participation rate	96%	98%	98%
State mean score	414.7	414.9	416.5
Student count	80	57	58

Links

[NAPLAN reporting and proficiency level information \(ACARA\)](#)

[Further Support](#)

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Year 3 Numeracy

- 6% higher than similar schools
- 9% higher than network
- 10% growth in exceeding
- 5% decrease in strong
- 4% decrease in developing
- 0% NAS maintained
- Increase in mean scale score of 15.7



NAPLAN - Students by Proficiency Levels

School name
Parktone Primary School

Year Level
☒ Year 3
☐ Year 5

Domain
☐ Reading
☐ Writing
☐ Spelling
☒ Numeracy
☐ Grammar and Punctuation

Cohort
No Breakdown

Cohort Filter
All

Exceeding or Strong students in 2025 (%)

For students in Year 3, Numeracy

86%

Your school

80%

Similar schools

77%

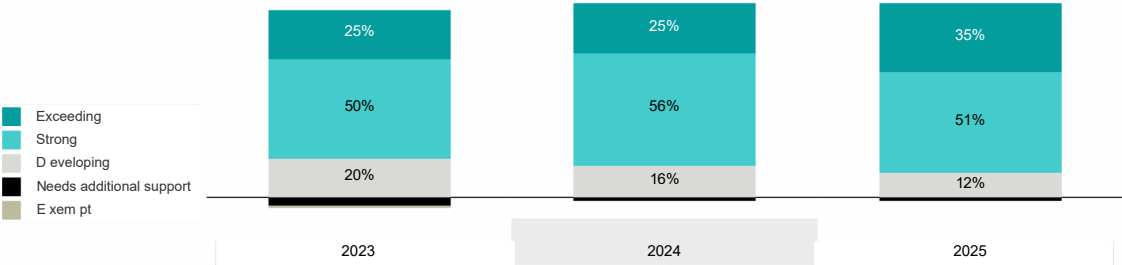
Network

66%

State

Students by proficiency level (%)

For students in Year 3, Numeracy



Data breakdown

For students in Year 3, Numeracy

	2023	2024	2025
Mean scale score	439.9	444.4	460.1
Participation rate	95%	95%	98%
State mean score	415.7	413.0	416.3
Student count	80	58	58

Links

[NAPLAN reporting and proficiency level information \(ACARA\)](#)

[Further Support](#)



Brett Sargeant and I recently visited Parkdale Secondary School to celebrate their outstanding 2025 Year 7 NAPLAN results. They invited local primary schools to join the celebration, recognising that with NAPLAN now held in March, much of the foundation for this success is built through the work done in Years 5 and 6.

During our visit, we observed classes in action and engaged in valuable discussions about teaching practice. Next term, Parkdale Secondary will visit us to observe our Literacy and Numeracy sessions. This exchange is a great opportunity for us to learn from one another and explore ways to better prepare our students for secondary school.

As part of this preparation, we are introducing a novel study in Year 6. Each student will receive their own copy of a novel, which will be explored in depth throughout the term.

Recently, the school's Attitudes to School Survey results have been released. I look forward to sharing these with you next term. They are amazing!

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From the Assistant Principal

Kaye Ralph – Wellbeing

Footy Day at Parktone PS: Celebrating Wellbeing Through Loyalty, Bravery, Inclusiveness, and Strong Relationships

At Parktone Primary School, Footy/Team Colours Day is more than just a chance to wear your team's colors—it's a powerful celebration of student wellbeing in action. This special day highlights the values of loyalty, courage, diversity, and inclusiveness, creating a supportive environment where every child feels valued and empowered.

Loyalty to Their Team

One of the most heartwarming sights on Footy Day is seeing students proudly don their team's jerseys. This loyalty goes beyond sport—it fosters a sense of belonging and community. When students stand united behind their teams, they build strong social connections that contribute to their emotional wellbeing. Feeling part of a team gives them confidence and helps reduce feelings of isolation.

Building Strong Relationships with Teachers

A unique and vital part of Footy Day at Parktone PS is the opportunity it provides for students to connect with their teachers outside the usual classroom setting. Sharing the excitement of the day, cheering for teams together, and engaging in friendly competition helps strengthen the bonds between students and staff. These positive relationships foster trust and a sense of safety, which are crucial for students' wellbeing and academic success.

Bravery in the Arena

Footy Day encourages bravery—not just on the field, but in the social arena as well. Many students are brave enough to stand up for their team, sometimes even when they're the only ones supporting it. This courage teaches resilience and self-confidence, important skills that help children face challenges in school and beyond.

Celebrating Diversity and Inclusiveness

Footy/Team Colours Day isn't just about one code of football or sport. We celebrate all —AFL, Rugby, Soccer, Netball and more—reflecting the rich diversity of our community. This inclusiveness ensures that every student sees their passion and culture represented and respected. It's a reminder that differences are strengths and that we thrive when we support each other.

By welcoming all forms of footy, our students learn to appreciate and celebrate diversity in all its forms—building empathy, kindness, and understanding. These values are key to mental wellbeing and contribute to a positive school culture.

Today is a shining example of how sport can promote wellbeing by nurturing loyalty, bravery, strong relationships, and respect for diversity. It's a day where every student has the chance to shine—on and off the field.

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The Parktone Pulse

Parktone Pride

Recently we welcomed back some of our former students, now in Year 12, for a special visit to where it all began. It was wonderful to see them reconnect, share memories of their days at Parktone and reunite with teachers who played a part in their journey.

They were cheered on by our marvellous school community including our student leaders who were in Prep when these students finished primary school.

As they head into their final weeks of school and prepare for exams, we wish them every success. We are cheering them on for the exciting paths that lie ahead.



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Spring Makers Market

Last Friday, students took part in a special Science afternoon led by their classroom teachers, exploring this year's National Science Week theme: "Decoding the Universe – Exploring the Unknown with Nature's Hidden Language." It was fantastic to see each class embrace the theme in creative and engaging ways. Some highlights included:

- Year 2 investigated star constellations and their connections to Aboriginal Dreamtime stories.
- Year 5 discovered how nebulae are formed, then created their own colourful versions in glass jars.
- Year 6 explored communication through light, experimenting with a torch in a Morse code-style activity.

The afternoon was a wonderful celebration of science, curiosity, and discovery!



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Fathers Day Celebrations

We are excited to share our latest sustainability initiative, proudly led by Hunter Le Velle in Year 3 and his mum - Lem. Together, during our element gardening sessions, they helped to construct a brand-new worm farm for our school.

The worm farm will help us reduce food waste by turning scraps into nutrient-rich worm castings, which will be used to enrich our gardens. This is a wonderful step towards caring for our environment and making our school more sustainable.

A big thank you to Hunter and his family for leading the way. We look forward to using the worm farm and seeing the positive impact it will have on our gardens and our learning.



Stepping Up for Parktone

A huge congratulations to our Parktone community for the best ever Walkathon result! Together we achieved an outstanding fundraising total of over \$14K which will go straight back into supporting our students and our school. Thank you to every student who walked with great spirit and enthusiasm, to the wonderful parent helpers who guided and encouraged the students throughout their laps and to the families and friends for their incredible generosity. What a tremendous team effort!



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Leader In Me



Leaders in Green Action!

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