

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



Acknowledgement of Country

At Neerigen Brook Primary School, we begin each day and special events by acknowledging the traditional custodians of our land in both Noongar and English.

Neerigen Brook Primary School - Acknowledgement of Country

*Kaya yoka, maaman, koolangka – hello women, men, children.
Nidja ngalang kwobidak Noongar boodja – this is our beautiful Noongar country.
We acknowledge the Wadjak Noongar people,
and recognise their continuing spiritual connection to
boodja (land), kep (water) and moort (community).
Neerigen Brook Primary School is a special place where we continue our
moorditj kaadadjiny (strong learning) journey together
and pay our respects to the Elders – past and present, and emerging leaders.*

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Progress

A key focus identified by staff was increasing engagement in the ongoing development and implementation of the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) through targeted professional learning opportunities. Staff continued to strengthen and shape the Cultural Committee, ensuring broad representation across the school community. Growing understanding of the significance of Acknowledgement of Country has been a notable success, with every classroom now commencing the day with an Acknowledgement. Students and staff are increasingly confident in developing and delivering their own acknowledgements, reflecting a deeper appreciation of culture, connection to Country, and the importance of reconciliation.



The full RAP can be viewed on the Narragunnawali Website.

Message from the Principal

Kaya wandjoo,
Hello and welcome,

It is my pleasure to present the 2025 Annual Report to the Neerigen Brook Primary School community. This report provides an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the achievements, progress, and collective efforts that have shaped our school throughout the year. I extend my sincere thanks to our staff, students, P&C, School Board, families, community members, and partners for their ongoing commitment to making Neerigen Brook a place of *moorditj kaadadjiny* (strong learning).

A highlight of 2025 was Neerigen Brook Primary School receiving a five-year return following its Public School Review. This recognition reflects our strong performance across all domains, including leadership, teaching quality, student achievement, partnerships, and resource management. Feedback from the independent review panel affirmed our commitment to excellence, inclusion, trauma-informed practice, and culturally responsive education. In acknowledging this achievement, Steve Watson, Deputy Director, Schools, commended the strategic, reflective, and reconciliation-focused approach embedded across our school. I thank everyone who contributed to this significant achievement. The full report is available on the school website and Schools Online.

This year also marked the introduction of the Hands-on Learning Program, led by Deputy Principal Ms Trina Clayton. Neerigen Brook was one of only three schools in Western Australia selected for this pilot initiative. The program has provided senior students with meaningful, practical learning experiences that have strengthened engagement, confidence, resilience, and leadership while contributing positively to our school environment.

Our specialist music programs continued to flourish through our partnership with Musica Viva and the leadership of Ms Kirsty Mees. Students showcased their talents through performances at assemblies, Dale Fest, and One Big Voice, demonstrating both excellence and commitment. Congratulations to all students and staff involved.

We were pleased to welcome Mrs Judith Pescodd as our permanent Deputy Principal and look forward to her continued leadership and expertise. We also farewelled Ms Jenkins and Ms Valessi as they accepted leadership positions at other schools and thank them for their valuable contributions to our community.

This year, we also farewelled Mr Luke George as Chair of the School Board. Luke's dedication, advocacy, and support have made a lasting contribution to our school, and I thank him sincerely for his outstanding service. I would also like to acknowledge and thank Aboriginal Elder, Uncle Sydney Phillips, for his leadership, generosity in sharing knowledge, and ongoing support of our students, families, and staff. Through his advocacy and guidance, our community has benefited from valuable opportunities to deepen our understanding of Aboriginal cultures, histories, and perspectives. We greatly appreciate the learning opportunities Uncle Sydney creates and the strong connections he fosters between our school and community.

I would also like to acknowledge the ongoing work of our P&C Committee, whose commitment and generosity continue to strengthen opportunities for our students and school community.

Within this Annual Report, you will find evidence of the achievements and progress made throughout 2025. These outcomes are supported by the strong partnerships between staff, students, families, and the wider community and are complemented by the many ways we share and celebrate success throughout the year, including newsletters, assemblies, School Board and P&C meetings, Compass communications, student reports, and our website.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we continue to create a positive, inclusive, and high-achieving learning environment where every student can thrive.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Barrett
Principal



Message from Uncle Sydney, Sydney Phillips, Aboriginal Elder

The brief was, library wall, whole school collaboration, tiles, go for it... So I thought about how Neerigen Brook Primary School is synonymous with inclusivity. How, alongside strong Noongar cultural learning, we recognise and respect all cultures within our school community.

Each student was given a small ceramic tile to paint, to be later attached to the main mural in celebration of our collective learning journey. The challenge was to create something in unison with the school's natural environment.

When I visualise Armadale, I see trees and creeks, valleys and dales. I can imagine the pathways the old people would have walked as they traversed the land through the six seasons. So, a tree, a landscape was the obvious choice.

The library itself gave inspiration, offering an abundance of thematic choices; tree of knowledge, tree of life, branches, growth, even re-growth. The school library was destroyed in a fire in 1989 and later restored, so it's a symbol of resilience in its own right. The underpinning concept is inclusivity, safety in diversity, and knowledge sharing.

The library embraces all students so I decided to wrap the physical library in the embrace of a huge eucalyptus tree. This was achieved by painting the tree trunk across two wall faces. The nine circles spread across the landscape represent all nine classes that are, in turn, embraced by the boodja while embracing the knowledge within the building.

Once the tree was planted on the walls it began to bear the fruit of creativity; the tiles painted by the students. When we realised we had a glut; too much fruit for the tree to bear; we decided to permanently install the remaining tiles on the wall behind the stage in the undercover area.

Sydney Phillips



Message from the President of the Parent and Citizens Association

The P&C continued its commitment to supporting the school community throughout 2025, delivering a range of events, initiatives, and fundraising activities. Engagement remained strong, with families, staff, and volunteers contributing to another productive year.

Committee & Governance - Annual General Meeting

The 2025 AGM was held on **12 May 2025**, with **12 members nominating** for committee positions. This strong turnout reflects ongoing community interest in shaping P&C priorities and supporting school initiatives.

Canteen Operations

The school canteen continued operating **four days per week**, closing only on Mondays. Key highlights included:

- A **\$50 voucher donation** from the canteen as an incentive for families to download and log in to the new **Compass app**.
- Celebration of **WA Canteen Day** on **Friday, 7 November**, recognising the vital role of canteen services with a special shout-out to our dedicated **Canteen Manager, Beck**, for consistently providing students with delicious food week after week.

Fundraising & Community Events

Mother's Day Raffle - The Mother's Day raffle was a great success, generating **just over \$500** in ticket sales. Community participation was strong, and the funds contributed meaningfully to P&C initiatives.

Daylight Disco – The Daylight Disco was held during school hours on **Friday, 26 September**. While the event ran smoothly, attendance and enthusiasm were lower compared to our traditional after-school evening discos. This feedback will help shape future planning.

Father's Day Raffle - Thanks to generous family donations, we were able to offer **10 prize hampers**. The raffle was well received and contributed positively to our fundraising efforts.

Attendance & Voluntary Contributions Incentives - The P&C supported school engagement by donating:

- **\$500** in rewards for attendance
- **\$500** as an incentive for payment of Voluntary Contributions

A raffle draw was held, and winners were announced by the school.

Sports Carnival - The Sports Carnival was a major highlight, featuring:

- Sausage sizzle
- Baked goods
- **New coloured novelties**, which proved very popular

The Sports Carnival Raffle included a **meat hamper** and **grocery hamper**, the day raising **just over \$1,000**.

Jingle & Mingle - The P&C operated its own stall selling sausage sizzles, drinks, and assorted snacks. Despite limited helpers, the event generated **just over \$800** in profit.

Given ongoing volunteer shortages, the P&C will consider returning to a **food truck model** for 2026 to ensure smoother operations and reduce pressure on the small group of regular helpers.

Looking Ahead to 2026

We are excited for what **2026** will bring. The P&C aims to organise additional events and fundraisers to continue supporting the school and its students. Strengthening volunteer participation will be a key focus to ensure sustainable delivery of community activities.

Jo Richardson

P & C President



Message from the School Board Chair

It has been both a privilege and a pleasure to serve as Chairperson of the Neerigen Brook Primary School Board over the past five years. During this time, I have had the opportunity to work alongside a dedicated team, all united by a shared commitment—to support and progress every student towards their full potential.

At the heart of our work has been a consistent focus on student growth—academically, socially, and emotionally. Neerigen Brook Primary School has continued to create an environment where students are encouraged to engage, challenge themselves, and experience success. It has been incredibly rewarding to witness the growth of individuals and to see the school evolve into a place where opportunity and support go hand in hand.

A significant highlight has been the full introduction of the **Hands On Learning** program. This initiative has provided an alternative and highly effective pathway for students to connect with their education through practical, meaningful experiences. It has strengthened engagement, built confidence, and created a sense of belonging for many students—an outcome that reflects the school's commitment to meeting the diverse needs of its community.

I would like to sincerely thank Principal Lesley Barrett for her outstanding leadership. Lesley's vision, dedication, and unwavering focus on students have been instrumental in driving the school's continued success. Alongside her, the team of educators at Neerigen Brook deserve recognition for their professionalism, care, and daily commitment to making a difference in the lives of their students.

My thanks also extend to my fellow Board members for their time, insight, and commitment to student education. Their willingness to contribute, challenge thinking, and support strategic direction has been invaluable.

One of the standout experiences during my tenure was leading the Board through the Public School Review process. This was a significant milestone for the school, and the outcome was a reflection of the collective effort, clarity of purpose, and strong culture that exists within the Neerigen Brook community. It is certainly something we can all celebrate.

As I conclude my time as Chairperson, I do so with a deep sense of appreciation and confidence. Neerigen Brook Primary School is in a strong position, with the leadership, staff, and community to not only meet expectations—but to continue to surpass them into the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of such a committed and inspiring school community.

Luke George

Chairperson (Outgoing)

Neerigen Brook Primary School Board



System Data

Student Attendance

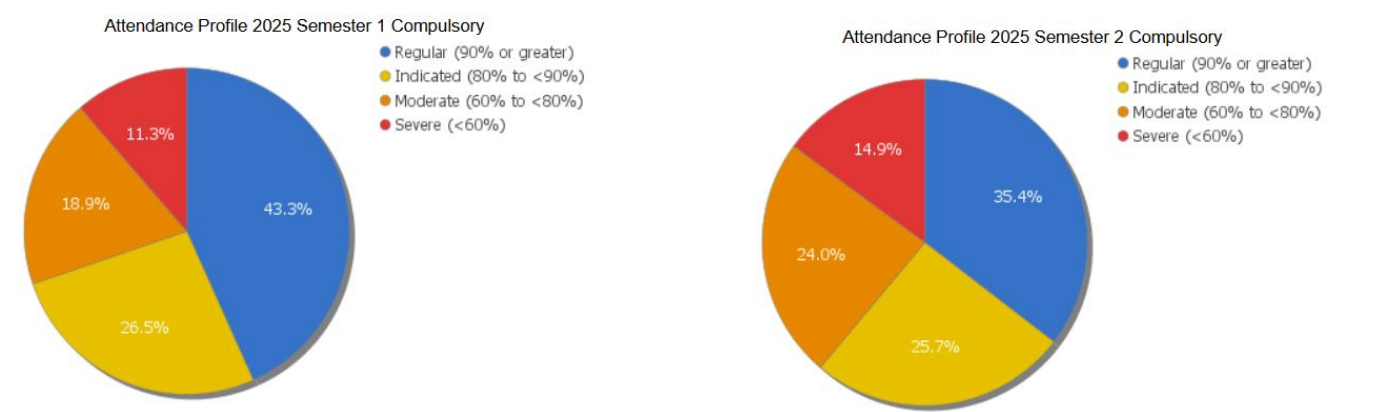
Overall, Neerigen Brook Primary School students attend school at rates below both, Like Schools and WA Public Schools.

Attendance Overall Primary

	Non-Aboriginal			Aboriginal			Total		
	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
2023	85.8%	88.1%	90.3%	80.1%	77.4%	74.3%	84.2%	86.1%	88.9%
2024	84.1%	88.7%	91%	73%	73.7%	74.3%	81.6%	85.3%	89.4%
2025	85%	88.8%	90.7%	74.2%	73.4%	73.2%	82.5%	85.8%	89.1%

Congratulations to our Aboriginal students and families who achieved attendance above both like schools and WA public schools.

Overall, student attendance remains an area of focus as we continue to seek achievement at and above like schools. This requires staff, parents/carers and agencies to work together to drive excellence in attendance, to ensure students maximise their schooling years. A clear case management approach continued with a focus on improving daily attendance through a range of strategies. This will continue to be a focus.



At Neerigen Brook Primary School, we know that regular attendance is the key to successful learning. To encourage students to attend school every day when they are well, each day of attendance earns a raffle ticket that goes into our Attendance Rewards draw. At the end of each semester, exciting prizes are drawn, giving students the chance to be recognised and rewarded for their commitment to learning. Everyday counts, and consistent attendance helps children build strong routines, maintain friendships, and make the most of every learning opportunity. We encourage all families to support regular attendance and ensure children are at school every day they are healthy and ready to learn.



Culture of Continuous Improvement

Building on the Centre for Excellence learning has driven school-wide improvement by deepening staff expertise, strengthening collaborative practice, and fostering a shared commitment to high-impact teaching and learning. Through the application of this learning, staff have enhanced their collective efficacy, refined evidence-informed instructional practices, and developed a common understanding of effective pedagogy. This has resulted in greater consistency across classrooms, stronger professional collaboration, and improved outcomes for students.



Student Achievement and Progress

A commitment to improving the academic achievement and progress of all students drives a focused approach on teaching, assessment, and reporting to inform a clear understanding of student growth.

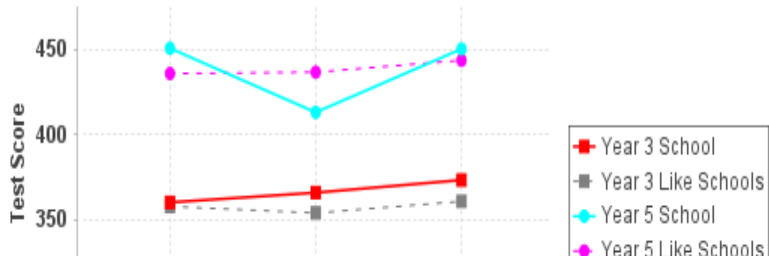
NAPLAN performance demonstrates improved achievement and progress across all areas. Years 3 and 5 performances in Literacy and Numeracy is at or above the level of Like Schools in most areas. Year 5 writing and spelling demonstrate notable growth, reflecting teachers' effective use of data to drive targeted improvement strategies.

Test Domain	Year 3		Year 5	
	Performance	#Students	Performance	#Students
Numeracy	0.7	32	0.5	37
Reading	0.9	32	0.3	38
Writing	-0.4	32	1.9	39
Spelling	0.6	32	1.3	38
G&P	0.5	32	0.9	38

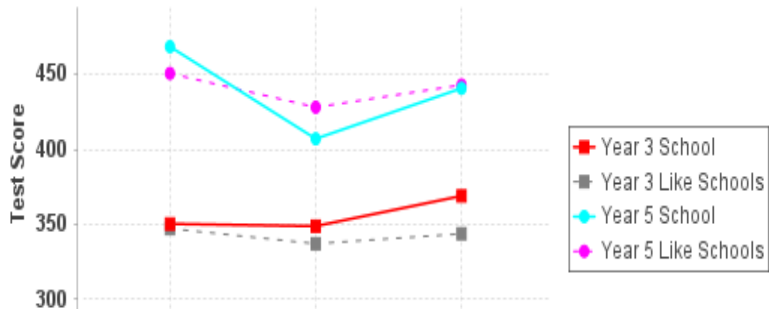
Data Understanding Key

Green	Above Expected - more than one standard deviation above the predicted school mean
Yellow	Expected – within one standard deviation of the predicted school mean
Red	Below Expected – more than one standard deviation below the predicted school mean

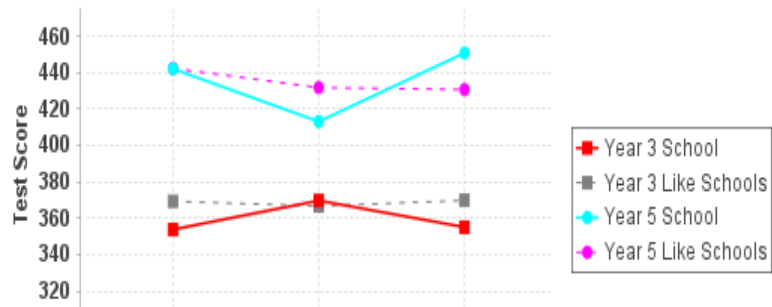
Average Numeracy Score



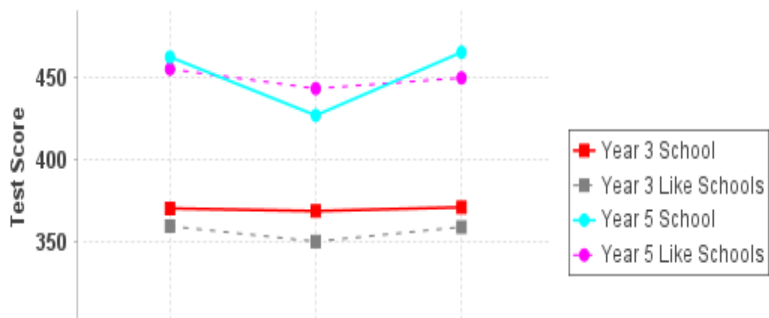
Average Reading Score



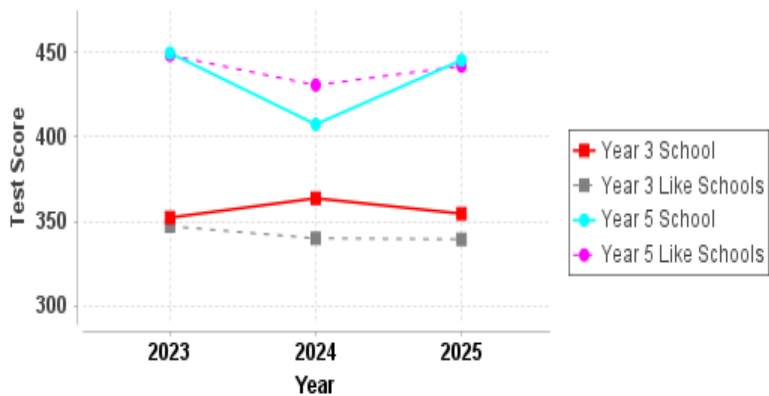
Average Writing Score



Average Spelling Score



Average Grammar & Punctuation Score



Celebrations





Thank You *to our* Supporters

Your trust, support, and encouragement inspire us to grow every day. We are truly grateful to have such an amazing community by our side. Thank you for being part of our journey.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

ONE LINE BUDGET - Dec 2025 (Verified Dec Cash)		
	Current Budget (\$)	Actual YTD (\$)
Carry Forward (Cash):	341,951	341,951
Carry Forward (Salary):	134,525	134,525
INCOME		
Student-Centred Funding (including Transfers & Adjustments):	4,614,452	4,614,452
Locally Raised Funds:	97,109	95,160
Total Funds:	5,188,037	5,186,088
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries:	4,282,620	4,282,620
Goods and Services (Cash):	697,641	572,499
Total Expenditure:	4,980,260	4,855,118
VARIANCE:	207,777	330,970

Goods and Services vs Salary expenditure

