

SNOWY MOUNTAINS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ANNUAL  
REPORT

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2024



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## Core Vision:

To provide the opportunity for a Christian education to all families on the Snowy Monaro.

## Core Purpose:

Snowy Mountains Christian School exists to prepare children for life by training them in partnership with their parents, to grow in character, skills and knowledge; realising their full potential in Christ to serve, as they understand more of God's truth in an atmosphere of God's love and mutual respect.

## Core Values:

Each core value springs out of a Christ-centred worldview where every thought, word, action is consistent with the person of Jesus Christ.

**Love** - Love God and each other.

**Respect** - Respect each other in word and action.

**Truth** - Grow in the knowledge of the truth.

**Integrity** - Possess and express integrity.

## School Motto:

'In Christ we strive for Excellence'

## Philosophy:

We see our role as a partnership with parents to educate their children. The Bible clearly states that children should be brought up to base their lives on the commandments of God and to learn to love God with all of their heart, soul and mind. We also seek to make Christ known to the Snowy Monaro region.

At Snowy Mountains Christian School, we aim to nurture the whole person - intellectually, spiritually, physically, emotionally, and socially. Students are actively challenged to become active participants in their own educational journey.

It is our aim and prayer that every student will have a positive experience at school, through developing healthy relationships, achieving their personal best, maintaining physical and emotional well-being, and developing a greater understanding of Christian faith and character.

## Biblical focus for 2024:

I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

John 12:46

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## INTRODUCTION TO SNOWY MOUNTAINS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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Snowy Mountains Christian School has been providing Christian Education to the Snowy Monaro region for over 25 years. It is committed to authentic Christianity, to excellence in education and to genuine community. All curriculum and policy materials are founded on a Biblical worldview, and Christian values and principles are woven through every dimension of learning. The school is a dynamic community of partnerships between parents, staff and students, fostered through open communication and active parent involvement. The warm, nurturing relationships between staff and students enrich the learning experiences and contribute to a positive and vibrant learning environment. Each child is valued as a precious member of our community.

In 2024, the Principal, Mrs Ella Meyer, the teachers and the staff engaged in nurturing the spiritual, academic, emotional, mental and physical wellbeing and character of 71 students from Kindergarten to Year 10. Through smaller class sizes, rigorous pedagogy and nurturing relationships between teachers, parents and students, students have progressed in their studies in accordance with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) curriculum. Each area is taught from a Christian viewpoint, bringing all of the Bible to all of life.

Through activities and events, such as: Serving on the Student Service Council; participating in the ANZAC Day march and in the reading of prayers at the Cooma cenotaph; Book Week activities; international competition papers; performing at ShowCASE and in the School Musical 'The Born Again Identity'; enjoying school snowsports; camp adventures and many more activities. Students were given opportunities to learn, develop and apply skills beyond the classroom and into the world, making their mark on the world.

The school relies heavily on the warm community by which it is supported, including the many people who volunteer their time whether it is on the School Board, in the library, fundraising, at sporting events, tending the school grounds, serving at breakfast club, or listening to students read.

**Biblically Faithful  
Academically Rigorous  
Culturally Engaging Education**



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### **Introduction**

As we reflect upon the past year, it is difficult to comprehend how swiftly time has passed. For many, the year commenced with an accelerated pace, leaving us striving to meet the challenges and demands that arose. The path ahead often appeared daunting, akin to a towering mountain waiting to be scaled. However, the resilience, perseverance, and determination demonstrated throughout the year has been nothing short of inspiring.

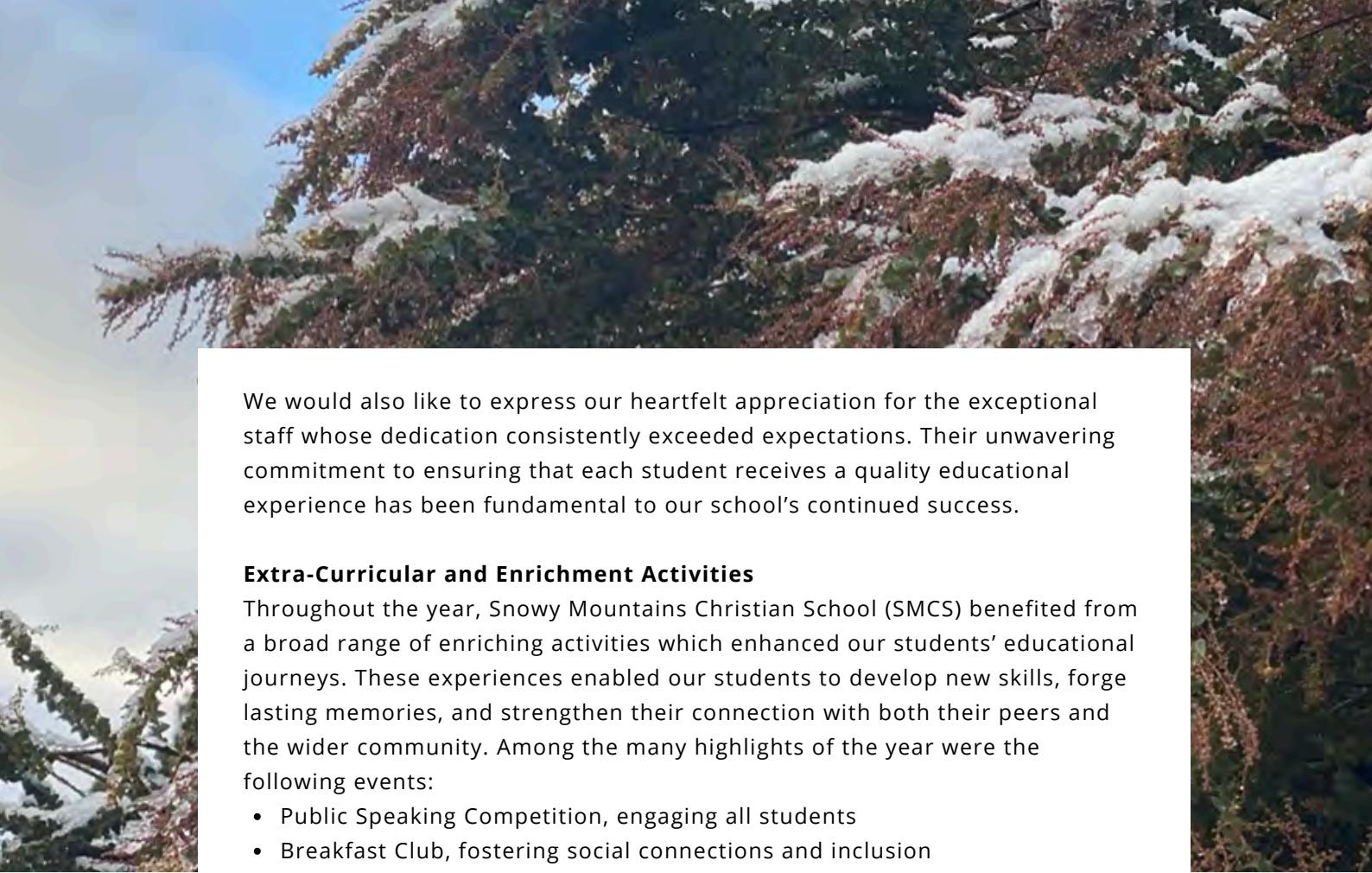
Each challenge presented an opportunity for growth, learning, and the strengthening of our collective resolve. Not only did we ascend the metaphorical mountains before us, but we also found strength through unity and supporting one another along the way. Grounded in faith, we were able to approach each new endeavour with renewed purpose, knowing that, with God's guidance, no summit was insurmountable.

### **Year in Review: Growth, Learning, and Community Engagement**

This year has been a journey marked by profound learning, growth, and active engagement within our community. Reflecting on a guiding verse from scripture, we have gained a deeper understanding of its relevance in our lives and the broader cultural context in which we live. It has served as a reminder of the transformative power of faith, commitment, and perseverance in shaping our experiences.

"I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness." John 12:46

It is essential to acknowledge the invaluable contributions that have made this year both memorable and productive. We are deeply grateful to the many individuals who have dedicated countless hours to supporting our students, both in the classroom and beyond. Their tireless efforts—volunteering, chaperoning, reading, organizing, donating, and doing whatever was necessary to support our students—have been indispensable to the success of our school community.



We would also like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the exceptional staff whose dedication consistently exceeded expectations. Their unwavering commitment to ensuring that each student receives a quality educational experience has been fundamental to our school's continued success.

### **Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Activities**

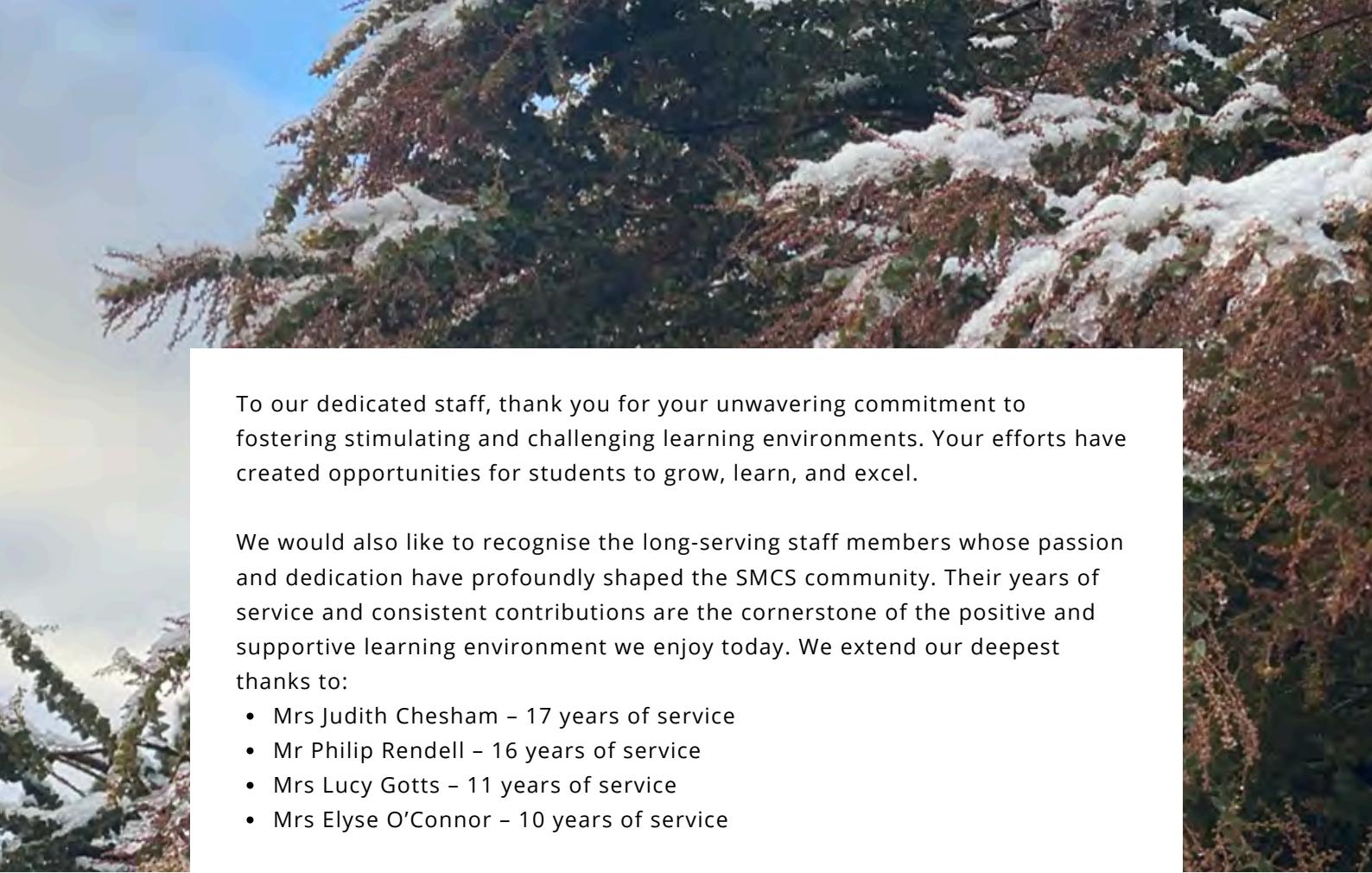
Throughout the year, Snowy Mountains Christian School (SMCS) benefited from a broad range of enriching activities which enhanced our students' educational journeys. These experiences enabled our students to develop new skills, forge lasting memories, and strengthen their connection with both their peers and the wider community. Among the many highlights of the year were the following events:

- Public Speaking Competition, engaging all students
- Breakfast Club, fostering social connections and inclusion
- Artworks displayed at the Raglan Gallery, showcasing student creativity
- School Musical, celebrating the God-given skills and talents of our students
- Pine Car Derbies, led by Mr Brad Lidster, promoting teamwork and craftsmanship
- Secondary School's participation in the Rotary Club Debating Competition, developing communication skills and winning the competition
- Primary School Camp to Kianinny, encouraging personal development and teamwork
- Secondary Camp to Teen Ranch, providing opportunities for leadership and outdoor exploration
- Water Days at Snowy Hydro, offering hands-on learning experiences
- Book Week, including the Book Fair and Book Parade, inviting the participation of preschool children
- Showcase Evening, celebrating the God-given skills and talents of our students

Each of these activities provided valuable opportunities for personal and academic growth, further enriching the educational experience at SMCS.

### **Acknowledgments and Appreciation**

We wish to extend our sincerest gratitude to the parents and carers who have walked alongside SMCS throughout the year. Your unwavering support of your child's education is deeply appreciated, and your partnership has been integral to our shared success.



To our dedicated staff, thank you for your unwavering commitment to fostering stimulating and challenging learning environments. Your efforts have created opportunities for students to grow, learn, and excel.

We would also like to recognise the long-serving staff members whose passion and dedication have profoundly shaped the SMCS community. Their years of service and consistent contributions are the cornerstone of the positive and supportive learning environment we enjoy today. We extend our deepest thanks to:

- Mrs Judith Chesham – 17 years of service
- Mr Philip Rendell – 16 years of service
- Mrs Lucy Gotts – 11 years of service
- Mrs Elyse O'Connor – 10 years of service

### **Student Achievements and Reflections**

We extend our warmest congratulations to all our students for their individual and collective achievements throughout the year. Their commitment, hard work, and perseverance have been clearly evident in every aspect of their journey. While tangible achievements such as awards, certificates, and medals may eventually fade, the impact of their growth, character, and contributions to our community will endure.

What will remain truly memorable are the ways in which our students have exhibited kindness, compassion, and generosity. Their actions have reflected the values we hold dear—helping those in need, making others feel special and appreciated, and showing the love of Christ to those around them. These qualities will remain as a lasting testament to the essence of this year's accomplishments.



## Conclusion

In conclusion, the year has been one of remarkable growth, achievement, and gratitude. We are thankful for the collective efforts of our students, staff, parents, and the wider community, all of whom have contributed to the success of this year. As we look to the future, we remain committed to fostering an environment where all students are encouraged to reach their full potential, and where the values of faith, compassion, and excellence continue to be at the heart of all that we do.

**"Not to us, O Lord, Not to us, but to your name be the glory because of your love and faithfulness." Psalm 115:1**

*Mrs Ella Meyer*

School Principal





## BOARD CHAIR REPORT

The School Board experienced a considerable amount of change in 2024. Judy Taylor took a mandatory break after 6 years of service. Due to work commitments and family responsibilities, Malcom Anderson resigned from the Board after 5.5 years of service. Neil Poucher also took a mandatory break from the Board after 6 years of service. Presently, the Board consists of Andrew Darnell, Mick Torry, Robert Wiles, David Learoyd and John Vanderhout.

The School Board continued to meet monthly throughout 2024 and spent time reviewing the Work, Health and Safety recommendations that were presented to us from the Finance Committee and from the WHS Committee. This has allowed us to continue with building maintenance planning and budgeting for the coming years. Professional development was undertaken and completed, and it is a key component of the School Board's role. It is pleasing to note that our student numbers have remained consistent throughout 2024, and the School Board is delighted that our Registration and Accreditation to operate as a school has been renewed by NESA for the next five years.

The Board would like to thank Mrs Ella Meyer as she continues as Principal of the school, leading and directing her staff as they continue to strive to uphold our Core Values of Love, Respect, Truth and Integrity, and modelling what it is to be a follower of Jesus.

The focus verse for 2024 was John 12:46, "I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness."

In 2024, the budget was met. Capital works were carried out on upgrading the front fence which now looks amazing.

I would like to present the following as prayer points for 2025:

- Continued prayer for staff as they share their faith and model what it is to be a follower of Jesus.
- Safety for students and staff.
- Protection from adverse situations.
- Selection of additional Board Members.
- Student growth.

In His Service

*Mr John Vanderhout*

Board Chair



## SPORT REPORT

### **House Captains for 2024**

In the first week of Term 1, we voted for our new House Captains for 2024. The Captains for Wattle (yellow) were Molly Taylor and Matthew Markham, and the Captains for Waratah (red) were Imogen Walker and Samuel Thompson. The students were inducted on Monday at our formal assembly, and they then had only 24 hours to get their heads in the game and prepare for the Swimming Carnival!

### **Swimming Lessons**

Primary Swimming lessons began Week 2, Term 1. Each week the Primary students continued to develop their swimming skills at Michelle's Swim School at Cooma Festival Swimming Pool.

### **Swimming Carnival**

We had a brilliant day at our annual Swimming Carnival. It was a little chillier than we would have liked, but it was great fun anyway. Mrs Pristavu and Mrs Chesham ran a wonderful program for our younger students and non-swimmers, and the racing in the big pool was fast and furious! The House Captains did a fantastic job organising relays, encouraging all those who were swimming, and generally keeping their teams in check. Congratulations to all who competed and especially to our Age Champions, some of whom represented our school at the Zone level!

### **Cross Country**

This year's Cross Country event was a standout success, thanks to our new venue at Cooma Lions Park. The week prior to the event, the students had the opportunity to walk the course, giving them a clear understanding of the route and boosting their confidence. The day was filled with excitement and energy, with the added bonus of a coffee van for a well-deserved treat. Overall, it was a fantastic event that allowed the students to showcase their talents and enjoy a memorable day of competition and camaraderie.

### **State Cross Country**

Mrs England was privileged to take an awesome group of students to Sydney to compete in the CSSA State Cross Country. Five amazing athletes and their parents made the trip and put in a wonderful performance. Congratulations to these wonderful students on their fantastic achievements!

## **Athletics Carnival**

This year's Athletics Carnival at Snowy Oval was a fantastic event for everyone involved. The students had ample opportunity to try out all the events. The high jump activities were conducted separately, ensuring that every student had time to participate in all the field and track events if they wanted to. The day was further enhanced by the presence of a coffee van for students and parents, adding a touch of enjoyment to the occasion. Overall, it was a wonderful day filled with athletic talent and support from peers and parents.

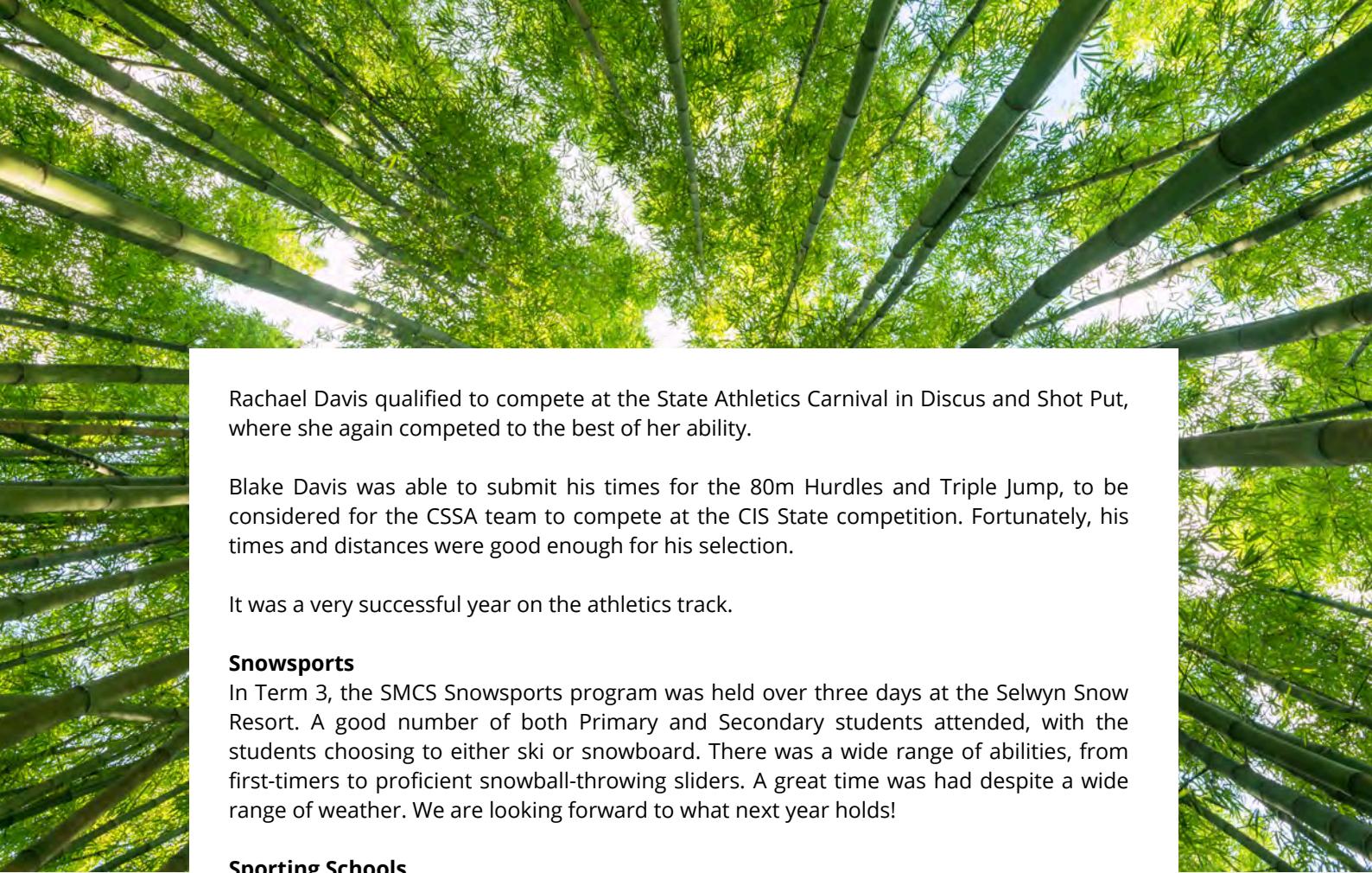
## **Zone Athletics**

Mrs England had the privilege of taking some amazing athletes to the Zone Athletics Carnival in Wollongong. They all competed with dignity and honour, and they represented SMCS in the manner to which we have become accustomed, with some amazing results.

Our Secondary Team consisted of Emily Beere and Blake Davis. Emily Beere competed in the 12 year girl's category. She placed 6th in 100m, 3rd in 200m, 2nd in 400m, 4th in Long Jump, 4th in Shot Put, 5th in Discus and 4th in Javelin. She placed 3rd overall as the Age Champion. Blake Davis competed in the 13 year boy's category, and he placed 10th in 100m, 10th in 200m, 8th in 400m, 8th in 800m, 8th in Long Jump and 3rd in Javelin. He placed 12th overall as the Age Champion. Emily qualified for the State Athletics Carnival.

Our Primary Team consisted of Tayla Wassink, Rachael Davis, Victoria Groves, Zane Beere, Ruby Wassink, Destiny Langton, and Benjamin Kamenyitzky. They also competed well and achieved the following results. Tayla Wassink competed in the 8 year girl's category. She placed 8th in 100m, 9th in 200m and 8th overall as the Age Champion. Victoria Groves competed in the 9 year girl's category, and she placed 9th in 100m, 12th in 200m, 8th in High Jump, 7th in Long Jump, 10th in Shot Put and 8th overall as the Age Champion. Rachael Davis competed in the 9 year girl's category. She placed 7th in 100m, 7th in 200m, 6th in 800m, 9th in 1500m, 6th in High Jump, 13th in Long Jump, 1st in Shot Put, 1st in Discus and 2nd overall as the Age Champion.

Zane Beere competed in the 10 year boy's category. He placed 11th in 100m, 11th in 200m, 8th in 800m, 8th in 1500m, 7th in High Jump, 4th in Long Jump, 6th in Shot Put, 8th in Discus and 8th overall as the Age Champion. Ruby Wassink competed in the 11 year girl's category. She placed 11th in 100m, 10th in 200m, 4th in High Jump, 7th in Long Jump, 5th in Shot Put, 4th in Discus and 9th overall as the Age Champion. Destiny-Isabella Langton competed in the 11 year girl's category. She placed 12th in 100m, 11th in 200m, 9th in 800m and 17th overall as the Age Champion. Benjamin Kamenyitzky competed in the 12 year boy's category. He jumped 2.81m in Long Jump, and placed 6th in Shot Put, 4th in Discus and 10th overall as the Age Champion.



Rachael Davis qualified to compete at the State Athletics Carnival in Discus and Shot Put, where she again competed to the best of her ability.

Blake Davis was able to submit his times for the 80m Hurdles and Triple Jump, to be considered for the CSSA team to compete at the CIS State competition. Fortunately, his times and distances were good enough for his selection.

It was a very successful year on the athletics track.

### **Snowsports**

In Term 3, the SMCS Snowsports program was held over three days at the Selwyn Snow Resort. A good number of both Primary and Secondary students attended, with the students choosing to either ski or snowboard. There was a wide range of abilities, from first-timers to proficient snowball-throwing sliders. A great time was had despite a wide range of weather. We are looking forward to what next year holds!

### **Sporting Schools**

SMCS primary students received funding for Sporting Schools from the Australian Sports Commission for Swimming in Term 1, Tennis in Term 3 and Cricket in Term 4. The students enjoyed growing in their understanding and challenging themselves to improve their skills in these sports, with the help of the coaches. Thank you to Michelle's Swim Program, Tom Perea (tennis) and Nathan Thompson (cricket) for their time in coaching our students.

### **Big Thank You**

Congratulations to every student who represented the school so well. We would like to thank all of our volunteers who came and helped at our events. Without your help and support, these events would not have been so successful.

*Mrs Elizabeth England, Mrs Victoria Carpentier & Mr Bradley Lidster*

Sport Coordinators 2024



## STUDENT SERVICE COUNCIL

This has been an amazing year with the Student Service Council. I have had the privilege of working with them, teaching them, and watching them grow.

They have all willingly participated in many activities throughout the year, serving the school community. They have organised various activities and fundraisers, such as assisting Mrs Judy Taylor with the garlic bread lunches, and running the Kub Kar event earlier in the year. They have also written many of the SSC articles for the school newsletter.

Each member of the SSC has given up one lunchtime per week to meet together to plan activities, review and analyse past activities, and learn more about what it means to be a Christian leader in the world! They have encouraged and supported each other throughout the year.

Each member of the SSC had many opportunities to run the Monday morning assemblies, and they have grown in confidence and ability. It has also been wonderful to see them on stage each Monday to lead the school in praising God.

This was the first year that our Year 5/6 Christian Character award recipients have been full-fledged members of the SSC, and they have proven to be an asset to the leadership team. Thank you to Molly Taylor, Charlotte Crane, Jacob Wilson, Matthew Markham, Xavier Pond, Emily Beere, Benjamin Kamenyitzky, and Finnegan McCloskey for all the work you have done and the commitment you have shown.

*Mrs Elizabeth England*

SSC Coordinator



## FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

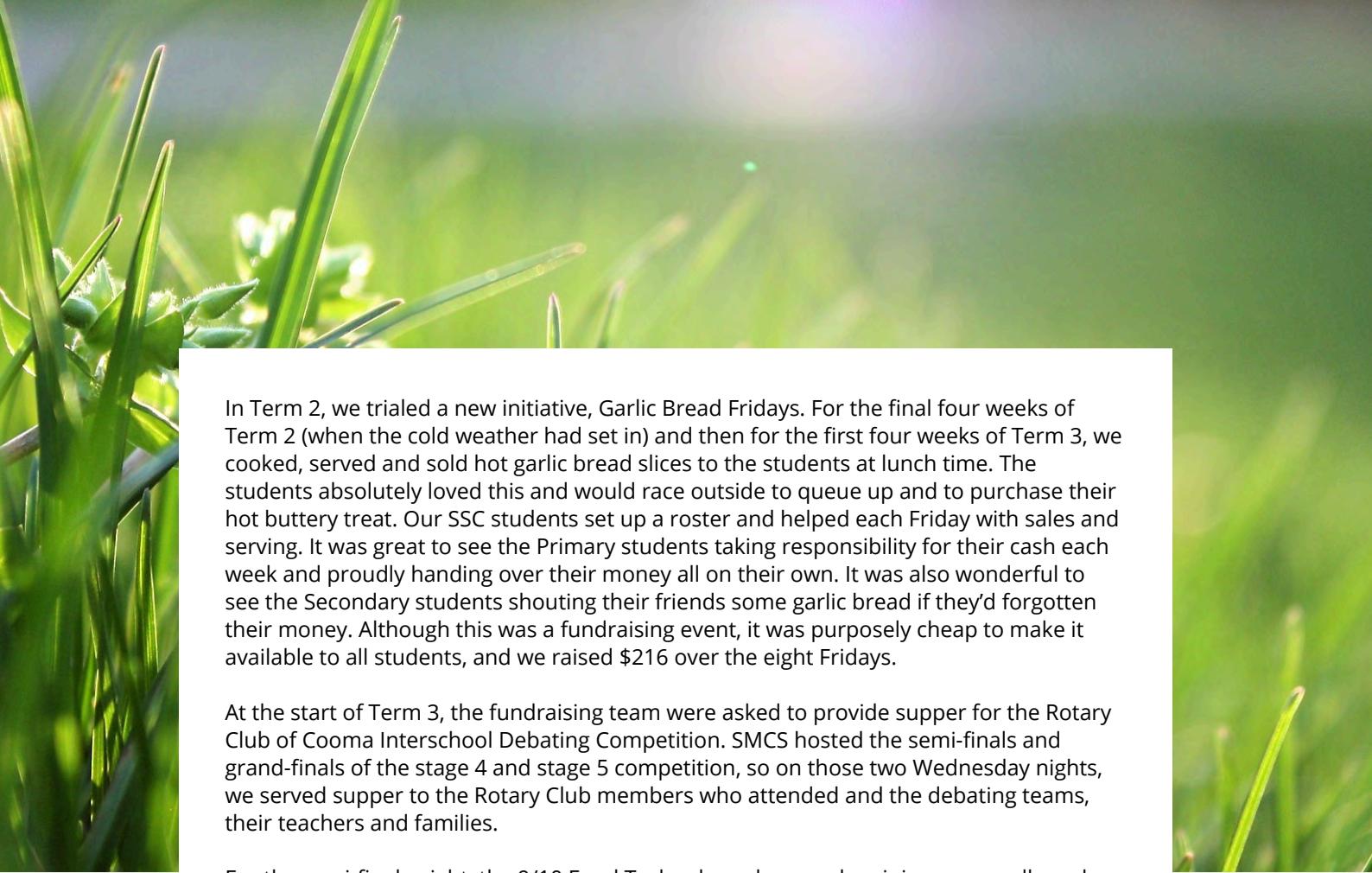
2024 saw some changes for the Fundraising Team. Mrs Allysia Kamenyitzky took a step back from coordinating the team after 5 fantastic years working tirelessly to raise funds for our school and students. We give great thanks for her dedication and commitment to coordinating the Fundraising Team and her continued support as a member of the team this year.

The year began with an event that had carried over from 2023. The Adaminaby Campdraft was held over a weekend in January 2024 after being postponed due to poor weather. Sarah Davis, Bryce Kelland, Ryan, Maddie, Bryla and Colton and the Kamenyitzky family gave up their time to man the Food Tent that weekend to raise \$1000.

The first official 2024 fundraising event was our participation in the Snowy Classic Bike Ride in March. A team of 13 adults and 7 students assisted with marshalling, directing, cheering, feeding and watering the 1700 riders who came from all over Australia to ride around our region. We received an \$800 donation for our efforts on the day.

To finish off Term 1, the fundraising team organised a sausage sizzle at the school's Cross Country Carnival. Mr Nick Kamenyitzky, Mr Johnny O'Connor, Miss Alana Stibbard and Mrs Judy Taylor prepared and served 96 sausage sandwiches for students, staff and family members to raise \$280.





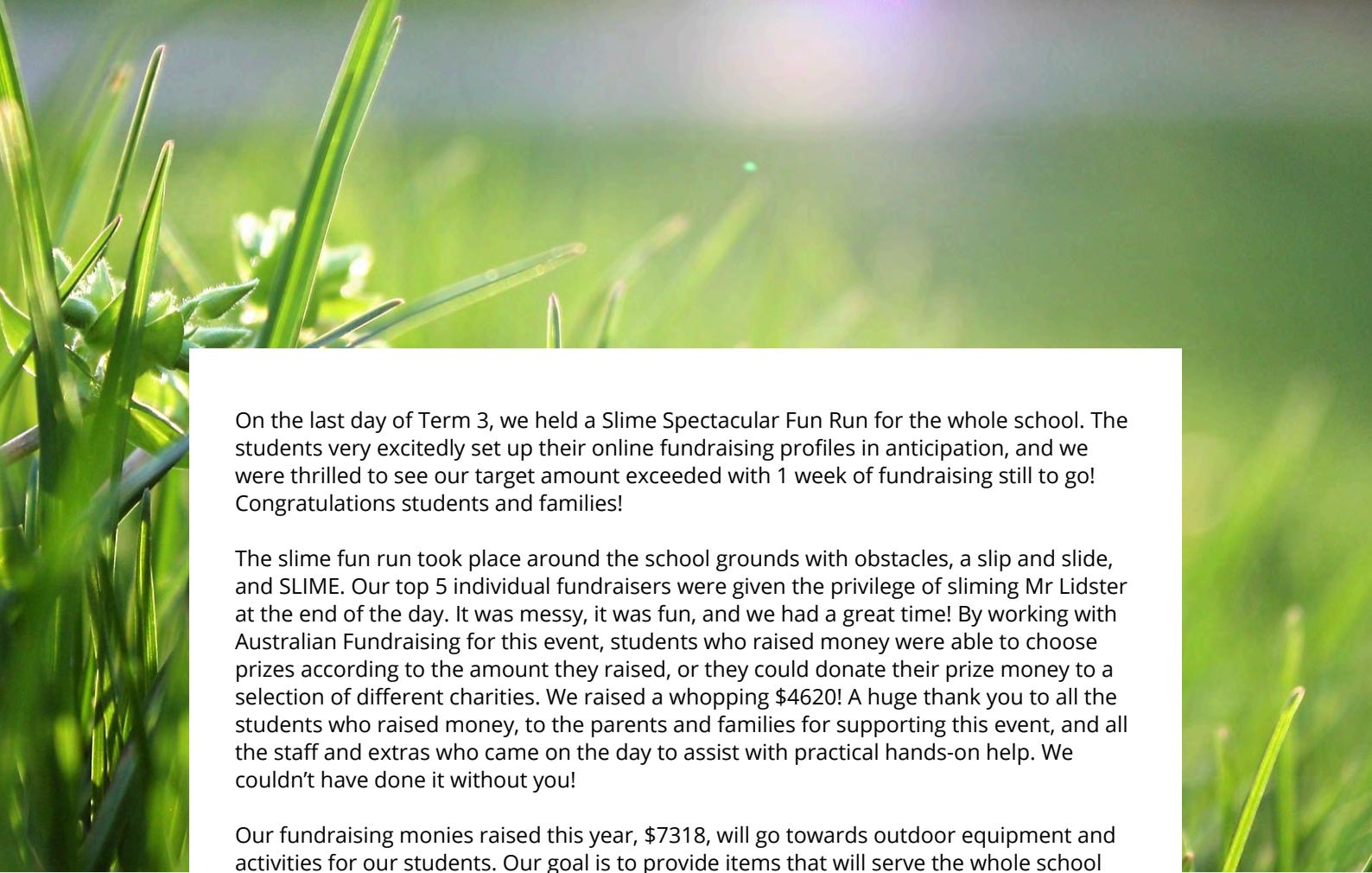
In Term 2, we trialed a new initiative, Garlic Bread Fridays. For the final four weeks of Term 2 (when the cold weather had set in) and then for the first four weeks of Term 3, we cooked, served and sold hot garlic bread slices to the students at lunch time. The students absolutely loved this and would race outside to queue up and to purchase their hot buttery treat. Our SSC students set up a roster and helped each Friday with sales and serving. It was great to see the Primary students taking responsibility for their cash each week and proudly handing over their money all on their own. It was also wonderful to see the Secondary students shouting their friends some garlic bread if they'd forgotten their money. Although this was a fundraising event, it was purposely cheap to make it available to all students, and we raised \$216 over the eight Fridays.

At the start of Term 3, the fundraising team were asked to provide supper for the Rotary Club of Cooma Interschool Debating Competition. SMCS hosted the semi-finals and grand-finals of the stage 4 and stage 5 competition, so on those two Wednesday nights, we served supper to the Rotary Club members who attended and the debating teams, their teachers and families.

For the semi-finals night, the 9/10 Food Technology class made mini sausage rolls and mini quiches as part of the supper. Miss Alana Stibbard and Mrs Judy Taylor also made sandwiches and sweets and manned the kitchen for the evening. Extra thanks to Dr Colin Taylor for his vacuuming skills and clean up at the end of the night.

For the grand-final night, we served Tomato and Bacon Soup and Thai Pumpkin Soup with bread rolls, along with sweets baked by Miss Stibbard and Mrs Taylor. Both meals were enthusiastically received by all those in attendance. Between donations from Cooma Rotary Club and from those participating in the supper, we raised \$402. The organisers of the event have already approached us about the possibility of our assisting in the same way for next year's competition.





On the last day of Term 3, we held a Slime Spectacular Fun Run for the whole school. The students very excitedly set up their online fundraising profiles in anticipation, and we were thrilled to see our target amount exceeded with 1 week of fundraising still to go! Congratulations students and families!

The slime fun run took place around the school grounds with obstacles, a slip and slide, and SLIME. Our top 5 individual fundraisers were given the privilege of sliming Mr Lidster at the end of the day. It was messy, it was fun, and we had a great time! By working with Australian Fundraising for this event, students who raised money were able to choose prizes according to the amount they raised, or they could donate their prize money to a selection of different charities. We raised a whopping \$4620! A huge thank you to all the students who raised money, to the parents and families for supporting this event, and all the staff and extras who came on the day to assist with practical hands-on help. We couldn't have done it without you!

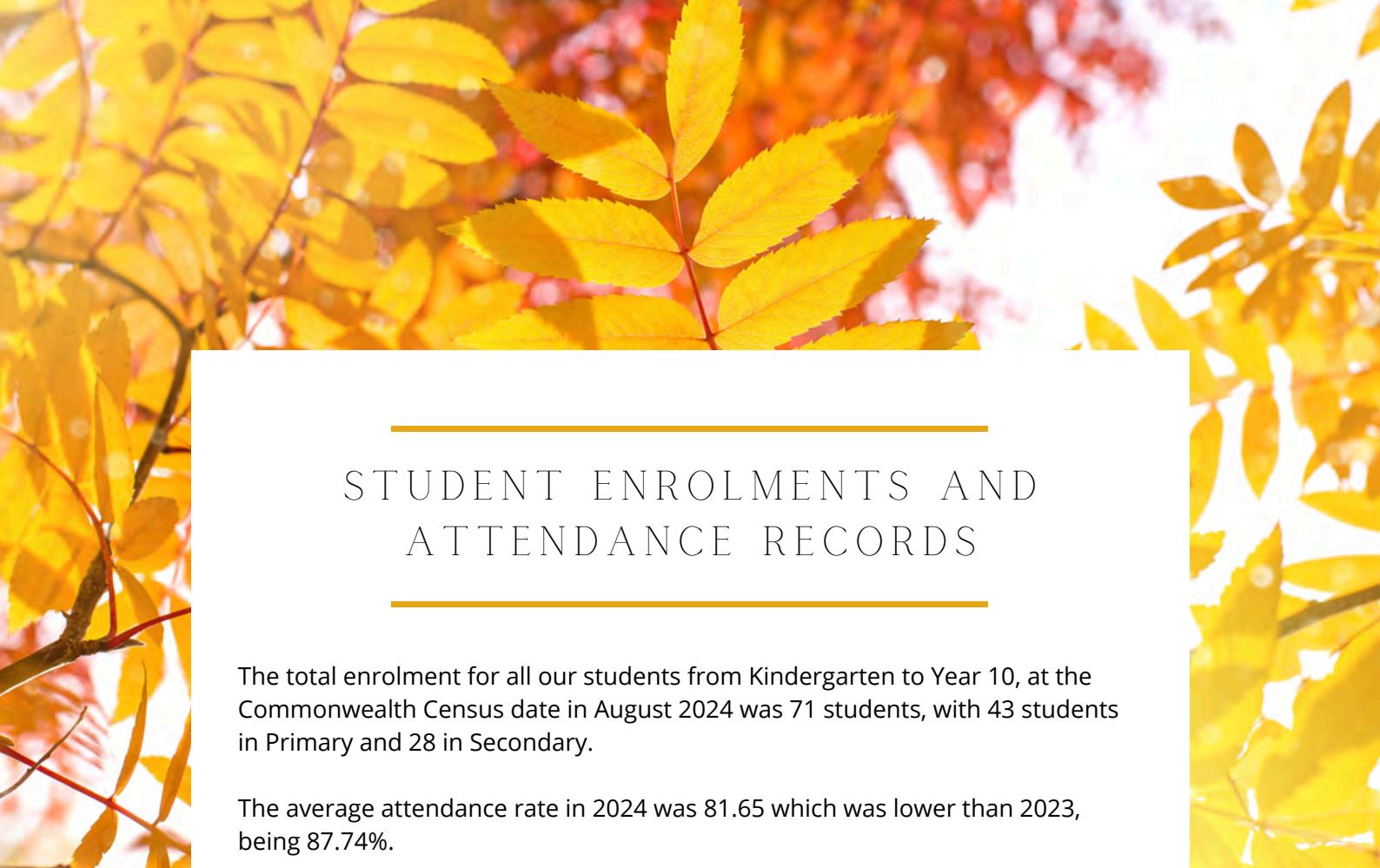
Our fundraising monies raised this year, \$7318, will go towards outdoor equipment and activities for our students. Our goal is to provide items that will serve the whole school community, not just a particular group or area. At the conclusion of the year, two new outdoor picnic tables with bench seats were purchased for the students to use at lunch time. One is in the Secondary area and the other in the Primary playground.

Thank you to the fundraising team, for their support and help throughout the year with our various events. I'm looking forward to working with you all again in 2025!

*Mrs Judy Taylor*

Fundraising Chairperson





## STUDENT ENROLMENTS AND ATTENDANCE RECORDS

The total enrolment for all our students from Kindergarten to Year 10, at the Commonwealth Census date in August 2024 was 71 students, with 43 students in Primary and 28 in Secondary.

The average attendance rate in 2024 was 81.65 which was lower than 2023, being 87.74%.

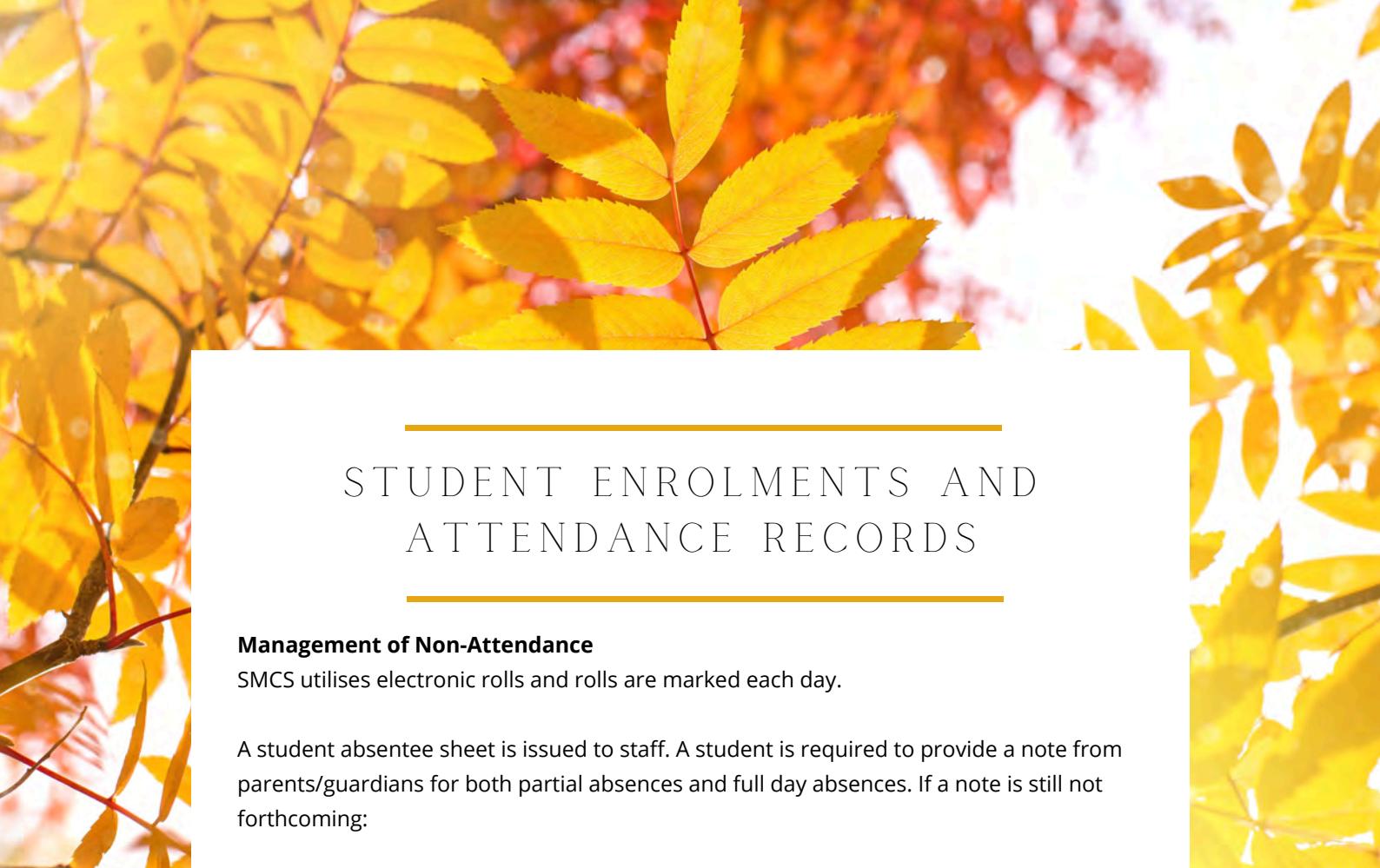
The attendance record of each student is monitored by their classroom teacher, and a record of attendance is kept at the school office and in software. Any absences without a written explanation from home are to be followed up by the classroom teacher. Persistent non-attendance, for reasons other than known illnesses or approved activities, is referred to the Principal.

### **Post-school Destinations**

Of our seven Year 10 students, five have enrolled in senior secondary studies at other schools and TAFE.

All Year 10 students had their marks recorded with NESA to qualify for their ROSA.





## STUDENT ENROLMENTS AND ATTENDANCE RECORDS

### Management of Non-Attendance

SMCS utilises electronic rolls and rolls are marked each day.

A student absentee sheet is issued to staff. A student is required to provide a note from parents/guardians for both partial absences and full day absences. If a note is still not forthcoming:

- a) The parent/guardian is called and asked to submit a note.
- b) A letter is sent to the parent (Unexplained Absence Note) to again remind them of their child's absence on that particular day, or period of time. This is kept with the student absences and archived during the year.
- c) The Coordinator informs the Principal that no note has been submitted.
- d) The Principal calls the parent/guardian & informs them that if a note is not forthcoming the next day, a letter will be sent informing them of the absence & that their child is Absent Without Reason (Unexplained Absence).
- e) Dependent upon the outcome, the Principal will then inform Community and Justice Services of the absence.

At the end of each term, teachers are to record all absent days (full days). These are to be noted on each student's report at the end of Semester 1 & 2. Community and Justice Services will be notified at any time if staff/Principal are concerned for the welfare of any child at the school.





## STUDENT ENROLMENTS AND ATTENDANCE RECORDS

### Student Enrolments by Class for 2024

Class	Number Enrolled	Attendance (%)	Class	Number enrolled	Attendance (%)
Kindergarten	3	85.93	Year 7	7	74.29
Year 1	5	80.00	Year 8	8	78.89
Year 2	6	78.91	Year 9	7	85.87
Year 3	7	77.78	Year 10	7	82.59
Year 4	6	75.78	<b>Total</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>81.65</b>
Year 5	8	91.39			
Year 6	8	86.67			

**Snowy Mountains Christian School's enrolment policy can be found on the school's website: <https://www.smcs.nsw.edu.au/newsletters-documents> for further information regarding all prerequisites for continuing enrolment.**

# SIGNIFICANT SCHOOL EVENTS 2024

- Swimming Carnival
- Kinder Start Program
- Year 7 Taste 'n' See Program
- Book Week including Book Fair and Book Parade
- Year 3-6 Camp to Kianinny Bush Cottages
- Year 7-10 Camp to Teen Ranch, Cobbitty
- Premier's Reading Challenge
- Primary Swimming Program
- Cooma Fire Service and Truck Visit
- Year 10 Graduation
- Year 10 Formal
- Year 6 Graduation Day
- Presentation Night
- Work Experience Week
- Enrichment Classes
- Pine Car Derbies
- Preschool Visits
- Chess Challenges, Tournaments and Competitions
- Cooma Rotary Club Debating Competition
- Kindy Discovery Day
- Open Day/Special Friends Day
- Zone Swimming Carnival
- Cross Country
- State Cross Country
- NAPLAN
- ICAS Competition
- Public Speaking Competition
- Primary Rostrum
- Student Artworks displayed at the Raglan Gallery
- Primary School Excursion to Questacon
- Secondary School Excursion to Kosciusko National Park
- Monaro Trade and Careers Expo at Monaro High School
- Information and Education Sessions at Snowy Hydro
  - Athletics Carnival
  - Zone Athletics Carnival
  - State Athletics Carnival
  - Snowsports Program
- Water Days in conjunction with Snowy Hydro
- Representing at the ANZAC Day March
- Volunteering at the Snowy Classic
- School Musical
- ShowCASE Night
- Secondary School Excursion to the National Museum of Australia

## STAFF, STUDENT AND PARENT SATISFACTION

11 families completed the survey. 36% of families had Primary students, 55% Secondary and 9% across both Primary and Secondary.

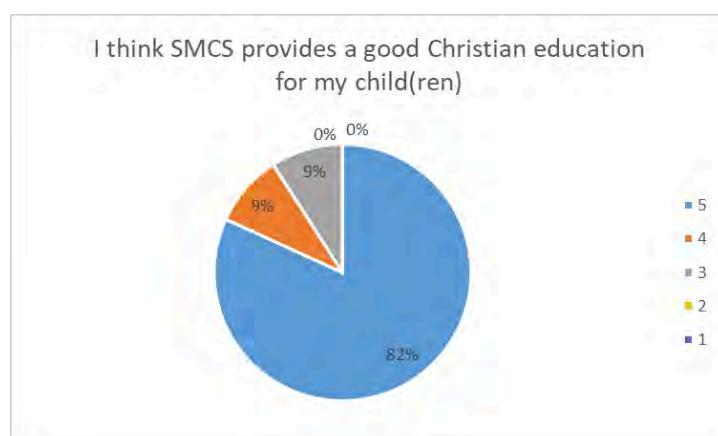
Longevity wise, 18% of families who have been at SMCS for 3-5 years completed the survey, then 55% for both 2 years and under, and 27% of families who have been at SMCS for 5-10 years completed the survey.

Average rating for all questions = 4.5 (ranging from 4.18 – 5)

Based on Longevity: Families who have been here two years or under are most happy with SMCS, then families for 5-10 years and finally families who have been here for 3-5.

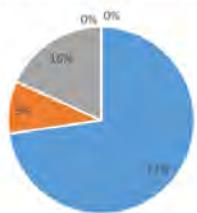
Based on cohort, Secondary parents are most happy across the questions.

*Survey was between 1-5, with 5 being very satisfied.*

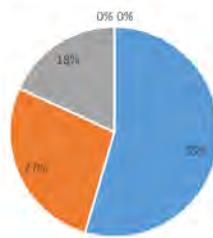


## STAFF, STUDENT AND PARENT SATISFACTION

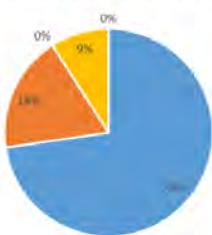
I am satisfied with the range of educational and co-curricular programs available



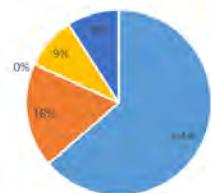
I am confident with the Teacher's capability



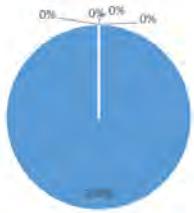
I am happy with the methods of communication



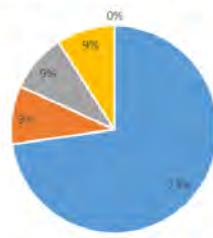
I am pleased with the way student behaviour and discipline is dealt with



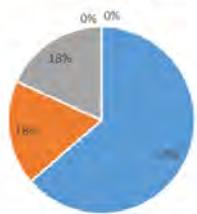
I am satisfied with the office and financial administration



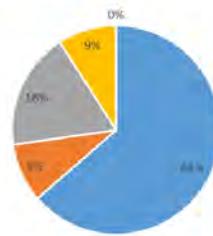
I am satisfied with the communication I receive



SMCS has a good reputation in the Snowy-Monaro Region



I feel a sense of community





## STAFF

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### Workforce composition

Summary of the workforce composition for Snowy Mountains Christian School as at August Census.

2024 Staff	Number	FTE
Full Time Teaching Staff	4	4.00
Part Time Teaching Staff	5	2.60
Full time non-teaching staff	1	1.00
Part time non-teaching staff	8	4.39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12.80</b>

Average staff attendance: 94.38%, compared with 95.68% in 2023

When updated to show 2024 data, this information is also available on the MySchool website at: <http://myschool.edu.au>

## STAFF

### Teacher Accreditation

**All teachers at Snowy Mountains Christian School have accreditation with NSW Education Standards Authority, as defined by TA Act.**

2024 Teaching Staff	Number
Teachers accredited at the level of Proficient teacher	7
Teachers accredited at the level of Provisional teacher	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>

### Teacher Qualifications

All staff are committed Christians who subscribe to the school's Statement of Faith and all teachers and aides are committed to teaching from the perspective of a Christian worldview. We have an appropriate spread of age and experience giving a balance of maturity and discernment. National backgrounds include Australian and there are no Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff currently employed in the school.

In accordance with NSW Education Standards Authority guidelines, all nine teachers reported in the 2024 Annual Census hold a recognised teaching qualification from a higher education institution within Australia (or a qualification recognised by the National Office of Overseas Skill Recognition). That is, they hold a degree in Education or a degree related to their field of teaching with a Diploma in Education.



## FINANCE REPORT

Snowy Mountains Christian School Limited (SMCS) recorded a surplus in 2024 of \$18,330, which was smaller than the surplus of 2023, \$84,739.

The surplus was mainly due to the continued funding from Commonwealth and State Government, in addition to the AISNSW and Snowy Hydro.

There were 71 enrolments based on the 2024 August census, up from 67 in 2023.

The Company's results for the year were as follows:

Income totalled \$1,851,894 and consisted of Commonwealth and State Government recurrent grants of \$1,655,954, AISNSW grants of \$2,514, increased donations of \$7,623, fundraising of \$10,453 and fees and private income of \$175,349, which included interest income of \$7,246.

Costs for the day-to-day operation of the school ('operating costs') totalled \$1,833,564 which comprised staff salaries and related expenses of \$1,441,557, capital expenditure of \$104,034, and non-salary expenses of \$260,319 which included \$47,812 of depreciation and interest of \$4,069.

With the granting of Snowy Hydro STEM Grant, Sporting Schools Grants and Fundraising, SMCS undertook property improvements and acquisitions totalling \$104,034. This included upgrading of the fire panel and detection system, upgrading the Bell and PA system, 3d Printer and Derby Race Track, gym equipment, as well as the continued acquisition of new ICT equipment including computers and televisions for classrooms and beginning stages of property upgrades.

Total current assets decreased by \$31,981 during the year, from \$421,011 in 2023 to \$389,030 in 2024, while the total current liabilities also increased by \$36,877 from \$257,999 in 2023 to \$294,875 in 2024. Net assets (total assets minus total liabilities) increased by \$18,330 from \$1,563,210 in 2023 to \$1,581,540 in 2024.

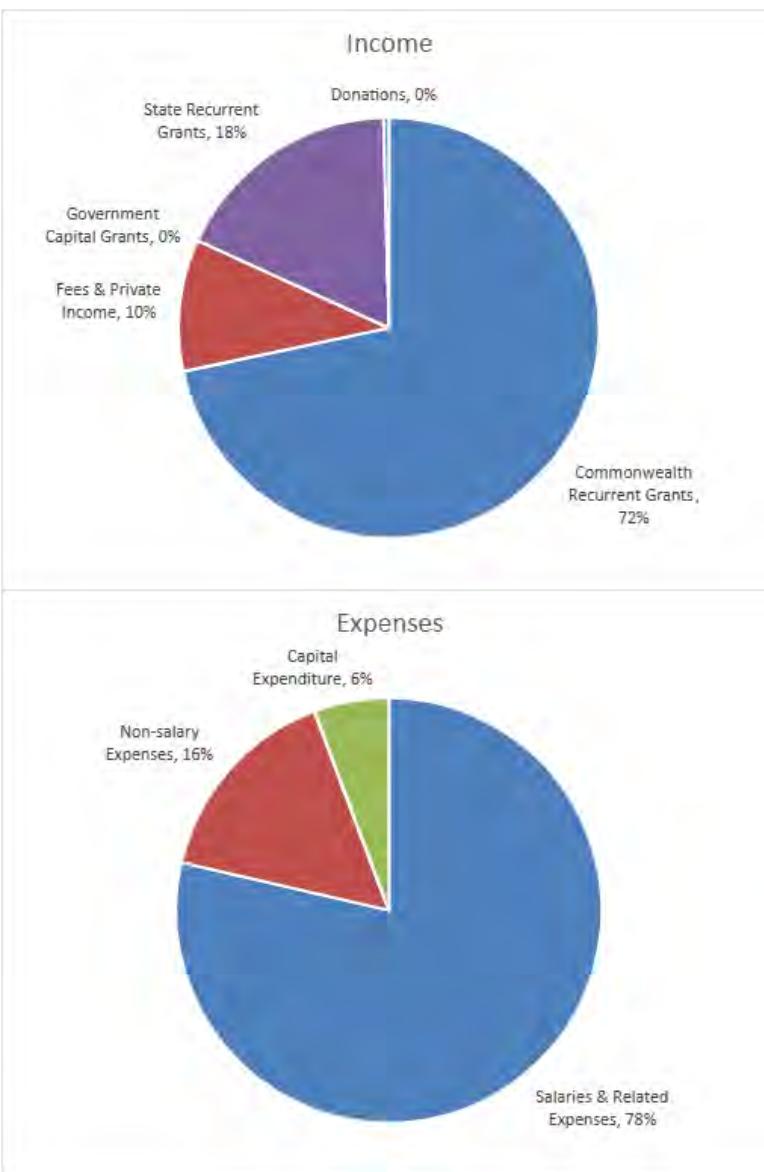
The long-term debt (non-current liabilities) decreased by \$30,966 from \$249,075 in 2023 to \$218,109 in 2024 due to the continued repayment of loans. Cash held at year end after all school activities was \$337,170.

Contingent Liabilities have reduced to \$30,00, leaving only 1 liability. This loan amount is reduced by 5% each year if the school remains in operation until 2027 when the loan will cease to exist.

A detailed account of the financial performance of the School is contained in the audited 2024 Financial Statements which is available from the school website or the School Office.

## FINANCE REPORT

A detailed account of the financial performance of the School is contained in the audited 2024 Financial Statements which is available from the school website or the School Office.



*Mrs Lucy Gotts*

Financial Administrator

## NAPLAN

Every year students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Students sit each test online except for the writing test for Year 3 which is completed on paper. Students are tested for their writing, language conventions (grammar and spelling), reading and numeracy. Each student tried their best in each test.

The results in the 2024 NAPLAN for Year 3, Year 5, Year 7, and Year 9 are as follows:

Year 3 results were below to the national average in Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and above the average of students with similar background for Numeracy.

Year 5 results were above average of students with similar background for Reading, Spelling, Grammar, above the national average for Numeracy and below the national average for Writing.

Year 7 results were above the national average for Reading and Grammar, just above the average of students with similar background for Numeracy, and below the national average for Spelling. There is no comparison for Writing.

Year 9 results were above average of students with similar background for Reading, and below the national average for Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Numeracy.

	2023	2024			
Compare to	Students with similar background	All Australian students			
	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3	339	373	364	353	379
Year 5	460	457	492	487	492
Year 7	558	-	513	570	525
Year 9	519	502	496	460	497

NAPLAN participation for this school is 93%

NAPLAN participation for all Australian students is 95%

NB A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate for a comparison colour to be available. Grey shading indicates participation did not meet these thresholds.

*Mrs Elyse O'Connor*

NAPLAN Coordinator

## INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS REPORT

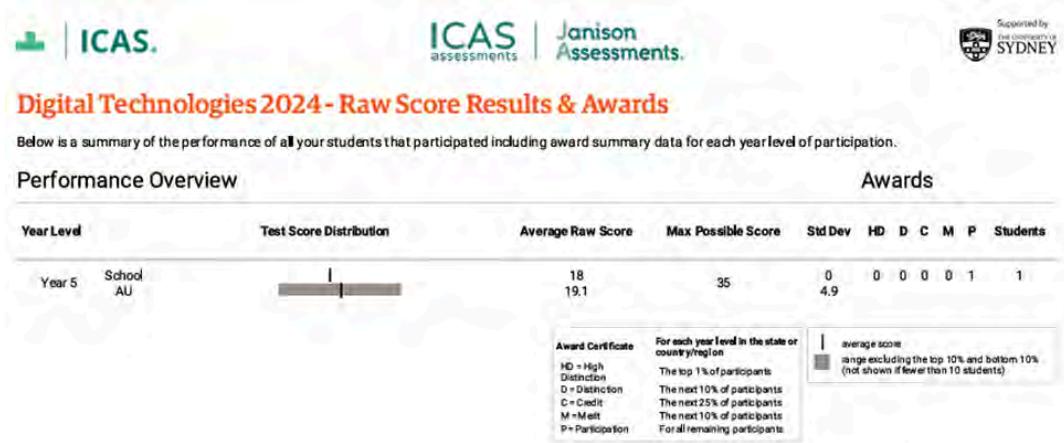
Snowy Mountains Christian School participated in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) this year. It was offered to students from Year 2 to Year 10. Countries around the world that participate in this competition include Brunei, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore and Vietnam. "ICAS is designed to target students' higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling Bee and Digital Technologies."

The assessments are suitable for students wishing to extend themselves academically and take up the personal challenge of competing in an international assessment. 7 students from SMCS, participated from Year 2-10 and whom together completed 15 assessments.

- In ICAS Mathematics, one student in Year 2 received a Credit certificate, one student in Year 5 received a Credit certificate and one student in Year 6 received a Merit certificate.
- In ICAS Writing, one student in Year 7 received a Credit certificate.
- In ICAS English, one student in Year 7 received a Credit certificate.
- In ICAS Science, one student in Year 5 received a Credit certificate.

Students who received a merit or higher have been invited to participate in the 2025 ICAS All Stars Academic Competition.

Below is the Raw Results for each test:



# ICAS REPORT



## English 2024 - Raw Score Results & Awards

Below is a summary of the performance of all your students that participated including award summary data for each year level of participation.

### Performance Overview

### Awards

Year Level	Test Score Distribution	Average Raw Score	Max Possible Score	Std Dev	HD	D	C	M	P	Students
Year 2 School AU		10 19.4	35	5.1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Year 7 School AU		34 31.1	50	7.7	0	0	0	1	0	1

**Award Certificate** For each year level in the state or country/region  
HD = High Distinction  
D = Distinction  
C = Credit  
M = Merit  
P = Participation

**average score**  
 range excluding the top 10% and bottom 10% (not shown if fewer than 10 students)



## Mathematics 2024 - Raw Score Results & Awards

Below is a summary of the performance of all your students that participated including award summary data for each year level of participation.

### Performance Overview

### Awards

Year Level	Test Score Distribution	Average Raw Score	Max Possible Score	Std Dev	HD	D	C	M	P	Students
Year 2 School AU		21 15.9	30	4.8	0	0	1	0	0	1
Year 5 School AU		28 23.7	40	7.1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Year 6 School AU		25.5 25.4	40	2.1 6.6	0	0	0	1	1	2

**Award Certificate** For each year level in the state or country/region  
HD = High Distinction  
D = Distinction  
C = Credit  
M = Merit  
P = Participation

**average score**  
 range excluding the top 10% and bottom 10% (not shown if fewer than 10 students)



## Science 2024 - Raw Score Results & Awards

Below is a summary of the performance of all your students that participated including award summary data for each year level of participation.

### Performance Overview

### Awards

Year Level	Test Score Distribution	Average Raw Score	Max Possible Score	Std Dev	HD	D	C	M	P	Students
Year 5 School AU		29 24.6	40	6.5	0	0	0	1	0	1
Year 10 School AU		19 22.9	40	6.7	0	0	0	0	1	1

**Award Certificate** For each year level in the state or country/region  
HD = High Distinction  
D = Distinction  
C = Credit  
M = Merit  
P = Participation

**average score**  
 range excluding the top 10% and bottom 10% (not shown if fewer than 10 students)

# ICAS REPORT



## Spelling Bee 2024 - Raw Score Results & Awards

Below is a summary of the performance of all your students that participated including award summary data for each year level of participation.

### Performance Overview

### Awards

Year Level	Test Score Distribution	Average Raw Score	Max Possible Score	Std Dev	HD	D	C	M	P	Students
Year 2 School AU		12 18.4	35	6.2	0	0	0	0	1	1
Year 6 School AU		14 24.1	50	8.3	0	0	0	0	2	2
Year 7 School AU		21 23.1	50	9.4	0	0	0	0	1	1

**Award Certificate** For each year level in the state or country/region  
HD = High Distinction The top 1% of participants  
D = Distinction The next 10% of participants  
C = Credit The next 25% of participants  
M = Merit The next 10% of participants  
P = Participation For all remaining participants

average score  
range excluding the top 10% and bottom 10% (not shown if fewer than 10 students)



## Writing 2024 - Raw Score Results & Awards

Below is a summary of the performance of all your students that participated including award summary data for each year level of participation.

### Performance Overview

### Awards

Year Level	Test Score Distribution	Average Raw Score	Max Possible Score	Std Dev	HD	D	C	M	P	Students
Year 7 School AU		22 18.8	33	4.6	0	0	0	1	0	1

**Award Certificate** For each year level in the state or country/region  
HD = High Distinction The top 1% of participants  
D = Distinction The next 10% of participants  
C = Credit The next 25% of participants  
M = Merit The next 10% of participants  
P = Participation For all remaining participants

average score  
range excluding the top 10% and bottom 10% (not shown if fewer than 10 students)

*Mrs Elyse O'Connor*

ICAS Coordinator

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## POLICIES

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**The full transcript of the following policies can be found on the  
Snowy Mountains Christian School website.**

**[www.smcs.nsw.edu.au](http://www.smcs.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.smcs.nsw.edu.au/newsletters-documents](http://www.smcs.nsw.edu.au/newsletters-documents)**

**Copies of these policies can also be obtained from the School Office.  
Student welfare, pastoral care, anti-bullying, discipline and complaints handling is  
infused in all teacher-student-parent interactions and informs development of all  
policies and procedures.**

- **Parent Grievance Policy and Procedure (Complaint Management)**
- **Anti-bullying Policy and Procedure**
- **Student Wellbeing Policy and Procedure**
- **Nurture and Discipline Policy and Behaviour Management Procedure**
- **Child Safe Policy and Procedures**
- **Enrolment Policy and Procedure**





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