



| Principal's Report

Principal's report

As we approach the end of a remarkable year I want to share with you some of the school's highlights.

- We employed a school-based therapy team, consisting of a speech therapist (Chloe), occupational therapist (Sarah) and physiotherapist (Hayley) which has been funded by Strathfield Sports Club, St Patrick's college, the Commonwealth Building grant, and Burwood RSL. All therapists worked shoulder to shoulder with the staff to firstly upskill them and implement systems that were integrated in every student's routine.

- Our dance teacher, Miss Charlize, provided a dance program every Thursday to all students across K-12

- Our resident artist, Howard delivered an art program every Wednesday for all students. Howard's, and the students' work was displayed at Strathfield Library to celebrate International Day of People with Disabilities.

- MiniFit, a sports program that all classes participate in every Monday

- The implementation of student communication goals, in consultation with parents, speech therapist and staff. This has included hi-tech or low-tech communication with 55% of students achieving their communication goal this year.

- Literacy & Numeracy has been a big focus across the school and in our school plan. All students have a literacy and numeracy goal which is displayed in their classrooms. As a school, we wanted 60% of students to achieve these goals by the end of 2024. Students have exceeded this, with 90% of students achieving their goals.

What's happening at Chalmers Road School

Term 4 2024

Wednesday 18
December

Last Day school 2024

Term 1 2025

Thursday 6 February

Students return to school

- Transition to post school was another focus – This was led by Richard, Relieving Deputy Principal. He invited parents to an Expo to meet organisations and see what best suits their child's needs. A transition booklet was developed and shared with all high school families. This booklet outlined key transition points and conversations needed for a successful transition. We engaged the Department's transition teacher, Courtney, and she met with families, offering advice and support.

- We know accessing agencies can sometimes be overwhelming and difficult, so Richard organised for external agencies to come to us, including Services Australia, Intellectual Disability Rights Services & NDIS (SSI & LACs) To the staff, I want to express my deepest gratitude. Your hard work, acts of kindness and commitment in serving this school community has not gone unnoticed.

To the students, your resilience, determination and hard work have shone brightly. To the wonderful parents, thank you for trusting us to guide, support and further develop your child's academic and wellbeing needs. Finally, it has been both a privilege and an honour to lead and manage this amazing school community.

Thank you all for working with me, this journey has been one of collaboration, growth and shared accomplishments.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and safe summer break.

Great learning begins **Thursday 6 February 2025.**

Staff Recognition



Helen received the Principals Network Award 2024

Student Recognition



Congratulations Luca and Khoder, Chalmers Road School Captain and Vice Captain 2025

Regards,
Rel. Principal

Jenny Zagas

Deputy Principal's Report

What an incredible year we have had in 2024. With our ongoing focus on teaching and learning, all staff have delivered excellent instruction to students, and parents/carers should be immensely proud of what their young people have achieved.

I recently had the privilege to MC both Presentation Day and Graduation, and what an opportunity to celebrate everything that the students achieved. The guest turnout for both events was incredible, and we are extremely grateful for the number of special guests from our links to the community around Chalmers Road School. Graduation saw 6 students complete their time in public education, with a fitting send-off and recognition of everything they have accomplished in their 13 years of schooling. Each student will transition to either a day program or work program, and we look forward to following their progress.

At the end of each year we are fortunate to have a number of organisations donate to our families. We recently sent our presents to every student in the school, kindly donated by Eurella through their "Tree of Joy" initiative. Gifts were wrapped by Rotary Club of Burwood, and we are grateful for the ongoing relationship with these organisations bringing so much joy to our students. We also recently had another donation from AusRelief consisting of non-perishable food supplies. These were distributed to a select group of families as we aim to ensure an equitable spread of these donations throughout the year.

We also had our Christmas raffle, congratulations to our winners and a big thank you to our P&C for organising.

I would like to personally thank all of our school community for your support throughout the year, and wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday season.



Christmas raffle gifts



Luca and Khoder drawing the raffle

Regards,
Rel. Deputy Principal
Richard Manchee

Parking

Please note that parking at the front of the school has been updated. The area previously marked as No Parking is now designated for 5-minute parking.

Pedestrian Gate

The pedestrian gate must remain closed at all times. Although the gate is not locked, visitors and parents can open it using the slide bolt. Please ensure the gate is securely closed behind you when entering or leaving the school.

P&C Meeting

The P&C meetings are on the 3rd and 7th week of the school term, Monday night via zoom at 7pm. Please join us as we love seeing both new and regular faces.

This gives us an opportunity to connect and see what our Parents, Carers and Community members need and establish much needed support for our small community.

The next meeting for the P&C will be held on Monday 10 February via zoom.

All parents, carers and friends of Chalmers Road School are welcome. Contact the school for the zoom link.

Chalmers Road School
Parents and Citizens Association

E-mail: chalmersroadps@pandcaffiliate.org.au

2025 Position	Name
President	Mira Sandrussi
Vice Presidents	Sharon Gilbert & Melissa Brien
Secretary's	Miriam Ahmed & Gabriele Hanley
Treasurer	Nadia Hussein
Fundraising Coordinator	Hee Won Kim
Grants	Sharon Gilbert & Melissa Brien
Auditor	Paul Barrand

School Uniform

School uniforms encourage students to feel part of our community.

Our uniform is designed to:

- Meet the requirements of occupational health and safety, anti-discrimination, and equal opportunity legislation
- Include items that are affordable, comfortable, and made from easy-care and easy-wear fabrics
- Be appropriate for the full range of school activities
- Learn more about the NSW Department of Education's

[School Uniform Policy](#)

- [Click here to view more information](#)

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2004-0034-08>

If you are having difficulty funding these items, please phone the school to arrange a confidential conversation with the School Principal.

Uniforms are available for purchase from the front office.

- [Click here to download the School Uniform Order Form](#)

Parent Portal

Chalmers Road is using School Bytes where parents can make payments and receive documents and notifications. Thank you to those parents who have signed up to the School Bytes portal and App. If you have not done so, please complete as soon as possible.

- [Click here to view more information](#)
- [Click here to download the School Bytes Parent Flyer](#)

Student Absences

When your child is absent you can-
Ring the school and advise
Email the school to advise
Use the School Bytes Parent Portal App –

For information on how to use the School Bytes Absence use the link below - attendance will go directly to the teacher.

- [Click here to view more information](#)

It is a legal requirement that the school be notified as to why your child is away. You must apply to the Principal for any school time holiday absence. If your child is unwell for more than 2 days, then you will need to supply a doctor's certificate for this absence period in its entirety.

You will receive a phone call from the class teacher or Assistant Principal if these guidelines are not followed as we are legally responsible for the safety and whereabouts of all students.

Please keep students at home if they are unwell. Not having enough sleep isn't considered a justified reason for absence from school.

Thank you for your support in this matter.



Attendance matters means explaining all absences

If your child is:

- Sick
- Has a medical appointment
- Has to travel for family business
- Involved in Sorry Business

Let us know

So we can plan continued support for your child's learning and wellbeing

Every Day Matters



Green

Green Class Wraps Up 2024!

What a fantastic year it has been in Green Class! Students have been actively engaged across all key learning areas. In English, they explored mentor and supporting texts, choosing personal favourites to share. In Mathematics, students categorised objects by colour and favourite fruits, creating bar graphs to present their findings. Science lessons were a splash hit as students experimented with objects to determine if they float or sink. PDH focused on identifying trusted individuals who can help them, building confidence and connections. Visual Art sessions with Mr. Howard continued to captivate the students as staff supported them in creating masterpieces inspired by world-famous artists. Geography lessons included learning about sacred sites and using Google Maps to discover local landmarks. We giggled when we saw McDonalds. We also bid a heartfelt goodbye to Ms Lydia, our wonderful practicum teacher, at the end of Week 8 – she will be missed! While we'll miss school, we're excited to enjoy the holidays and spend quality time with our families. Here's to a joyful break and an exciting 2025 ahead!



Yusha experimenting with objects that float or sink in Science



Anastasia completing an assessment on Data by categorising objects based on colours

Aida and Jess

Blue

We are coming to the end of our learning this year in Blue class. However, that has not stopped us from learning about lots of interesting topics this term. We really enjoyed learning about forces in Science this term. We completed a Science experiment with various items to see if they could float or sink. We then put our knowledge to the test to display which items floated and sank! It was great fun and we all really enjoyed it. We are so excited to continue our exploration and learning next year.



Miran is proud of his work in Science



Armani testing some items in our experiment

Aine and Daphne

Red

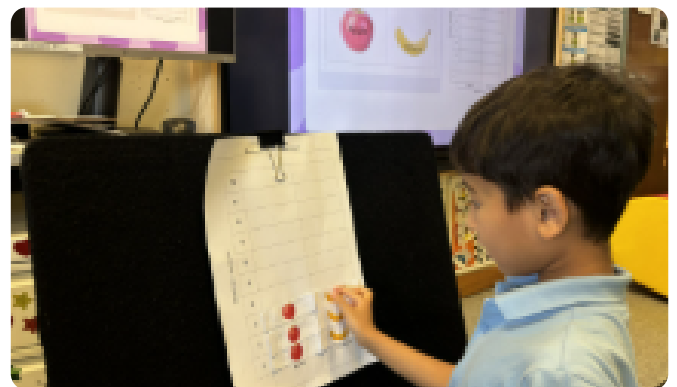
What an incredible end to the term for the Red class! We've had an amazing journey together, hitting some huge milestones in communication and building wonderful friendships. The students have had an absolute blast getting active with MiniFit, and Drama class has been full of energy with costumes, music, and plenty of imagination.

In Maths, our students have been busy learning about 2D shapes, fractions and data in ways that made learning feel like an adventure. English has been full of creativity, from phonological awareness to practising making sentences. We've also explored Geography, discovering how the weather and bushfires shape our environment. In Science, the students have loved experimenting with the physical world, especially when it comes to testing out what floats and sinks—so much fun! Students have also worked well with distinguishing safe choices during PDHPE. It's been an unforgettable year full of learning, laughter, and growth. Wishing everyone a safe, relaxing, and absolutely fantastic holiday!



Making 'safe choices' for bike riding

Nat P Carmen and Erica



Collecting data of who likes apples or bananas

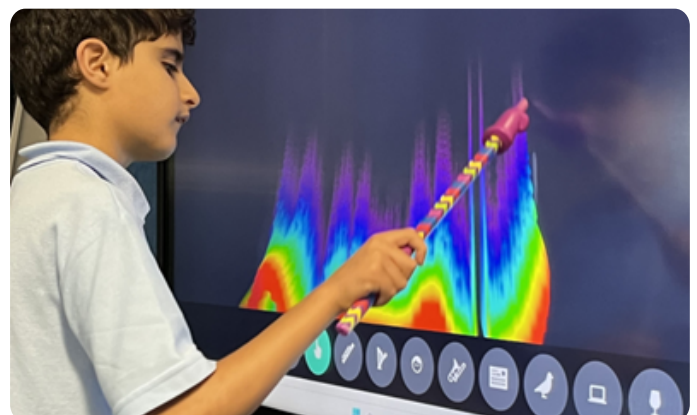
Pink

As term comes to an end, we would like to acknowledge the wonderful efforts of Analise, Gabriel, Orlando, Siilen, Sophia and Zac over the year. We also remember Reon and Angelina and wish them all the best in their new schools. One area of learning focus this term has been SATPIN letter sounds and sight words. Practising recognising, tracing and writing these six letters and saying their sounds builds our reading. In addition, students are exploring exciting concepts across the curriculum, such as sound energy in Science. MiniFit on Monday, Art on Wednesdays, and Dance on Thursdays have continued to be favourite times of the week. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday!



Orlando is standing to trace his name

Ross and Shelly



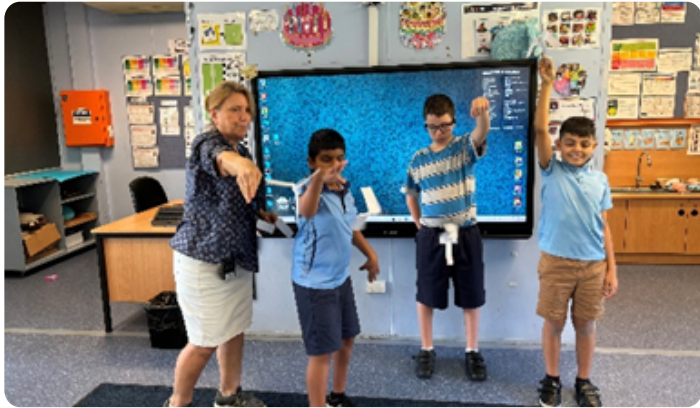
Gabriel experiments with sound in Science

Magenta

Magenta Class has had a great year, we have loved making new friends and learning lots of exciting things.

This term we dived into learning about how we can keep ourselves and others safe in various scenarios, experimented with the forces of push and pull on different objects, explored familiar and some extreme weather events, identified familiar shapes in our environment and started to grow our own "Secret Garden".

We wish our students all the very best for next year and hope all families have a wonderful holiday period.



Conducting a Science experiment to change how fast a paper helicopter falls



Looking at road signs and what they mean to keep us safe

Nikki and Yoko

Teal

As Term 4 comes to an end, we are reflecting on the past year and celebrating the achievements of all the students. We are so proud of the progress of the students in Teal Class, not only in their class work, but also in their social skills, behaviour and communication.

Our favourite highlights were the MiniFit Sports program, Art lessons with Mr Howard, Dance lessons with Miss Charlize and planting seeds during our Geography lesson.

We would like to wish you a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you in 2025.



Students engaged in a Geography lesson planting seeds



Students engaging in dance lessons with Miss Charlize

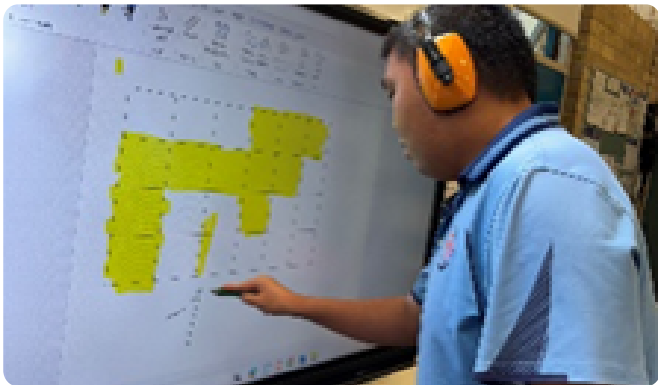
Tamie and Linda

Orange

Orange Class has engaged in a variety of learning inside and outside of the classroom. We have enjoyed our cooking lessons where we have been exploring food from a range of cultures, we also have been exploring exciting concepts in Science where we have been able to create weather systems to test and predict weather. We were able to celebrate the success of our two graduating students in Orange Class along with the success of all students with their work this year.

Our favourite highlights from the year have been the Dance program with Miss Charlize, the Art program with Mr. Howard and MiniFit where we have been able to practise a range of sports and socially engage with our peers!

Miss Shannon and Miss Lubna are very proud of all the students in Orange Class this year and are excited to see what 2025 brings for the students in Orange Class.



Cameron finding area in mathematics



Students completing learning tasks in the playground

Shannon and Lubna

Banksia

As 2024 draws to a close, Banksia has embraced a variety of enriching learning experiences. This term, we focused on deepening our understanding of measurement in Mathematics. One of our standout activities involved exploring daily weather patterns, where students diligently recorded the weather each day. Through this hands-on project, Banksia students also applied their knowledge to practical decision-making, learning how to choose the appropriate attire for sunny, rainy, and windy days. It's been a term of growth, exploration, and real-world application!



Measuring the area of objects in our classroom



Dressing for the weather

Joanne and Emar

Waratah

What a great year we have had. Thank you to all the students and parents for your support. We wish you all a relaxing time in the holidays to rest and recuperate. Waratah students have had a fantastic year. We have learnt so much and have great times together. I think our best times have been learning about Shakespeare and doing experiments. Students always enjoyed MiniFit and swimming throughout the year. Our favourite times have been creating amazing artworks. Thank you to the SLSOs that have been on Waratah to make our time throughout the year run smoothly. Wishing you all a Great Break.



Naftanan doing experiments



Jacob enjoying art

Tania, Alex and Rebecca

Wattle

As the year comes to a close, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the parents and caregivers for their unwavering support in helping our students achieve their goals. A special congratulations to our two graduating students from Wattle Class! Your time at Chalmers Road School was a remarkable journey, and as you step into this new chapter of your life, remember to never give up and always keep striving for success. We are so proud of you and wish you all the best for the future. I'd also like to congratulate Jason on receiving his medal from the Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) team. This is a fantastic achievement, and we are all so proud of his hard work. This semester, the high school team and students have dedicated their efforts to creating a school garden. This wonderful space will be a place for all students to enjoy, with the added benefit of experiencing the fruits of their labour. Wishing everyone a happy end of term, a joyful holiday season, and a safe and restful break.



Jason received his PRC medal and tomatoes growing in the high school garden



The High School Garden

Audrey and Gavin



Presentation Day 2024

Celebrating students' achievements





Year 12 Graduation

Wishing our graduated students all the best in the next chapter of their lives.



School Community Charter

Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.



We work in partnership to promote student learning.



We treat each other with respect and fairness.



We communicate in a positive and constructive manner.



Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel safe and respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

Unacceptable behaviour:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.

We all play a part