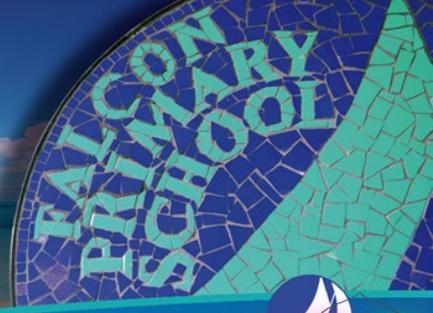


Falcon Flyer

Falcon Primary School Community e-news



Principal: Ms Jacquie Abbiss Thursday 18 December, 2025

Principal's Message

As we wrap up 2025, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our students, staff and families for another outstanding year at Falcon Primary School. This year has been one of growth, consolidation and continued improvement as we brought our 2025–2027 Business Plan to life and strengthened the culture of high expectations across our school.



Throughout 2025, we saw significant progress in the consistency and quality of teaching practice. Our Instructional Framework, Lesson Design, Daily Review, Engagement Norms, and Talk for Writing approaches became more deeply embedded across classrooms. Instructional Coaching continued to play a pivotal role in supporting teachers, refining practice, and strengthening alignment across all year levels.



Our work in data-informed planning has progressed, with teachers using DIBELS, PAT, NAPLAN and phonics assessments to plan for targeted instruction and track student progress. Increased collaboration in Committee meetings, enhanced moderation practices, and a shared focus on student achievement have resulted in greater cohesion across the school.



A major milestone this year was the development of “The Nest”; the establishment of our Student Support Hub, which now brings together our School Psychologist, Chaplain, Learning Support Coordinator, AIEO and visiting therapists to provide a coordinated triage point for student wellbeing and learning needs. The addition of a sensory room has further enhanced our capacity to support students requiring regulation and tailored intervention.

Alongside this, our early years Literacy and Numeracy intervention model delivered by dedicated Education Assistants has enabled targeted support for dozens of Pre-Primary, Year 1 and Year 2 students, ensuring learning gaps are addressed early and effectively.



2025 has been filled with rich learning and leadership opportunities for our students. They have excelled in academics, sport, the arts, languages and citizenship. Highlights included our Faction and Interschool carnivals, RUOK Day Expo, Book Week celebrations, Harmony Day, Science Week, WAGSMS, Speak Up Awards, Art Xploration exhibition, Christmas in July, combined Christmas Concert with Halls Head College and our Zoom Production, not to mention a wide range of excursions and incursions. Our PBS Reward Days once again brought joy, motivation and community spirit to our student, none more so than our FREE ice creams this week!!



Our recent Zoom performance last week was a huge success and I thank Mr Chaudhry for the countless hours of rehearsals that went into this very enjoyable event. It was fantastic to see so many students involved as well as parents and grandparents in the crowd supporting their children and our school. It was a fabulous way to round off the school year and in the lead up to Christmas it was so heartening to see the generosity of our parent community with their donations of non perishable food items to support those less fortunate in our community.

We have recently celebrated the worthy achievements of our students at the Presentation and Graduation Assemblies in academic, sporting, arts endeavour and citizenship domains. It is very pleasing to see so many students making the most of the opportunities available to them to show their strengths and talents at Falcon Primary School.



We wish our graduating class of Year 6 students the very best success in their future endeavours as they head off to high school. They have been a wonderful cohort of students with so many aspiring young leaders amongst the group. They have certainly set a very high standard for the current Year 5 students as they progress into Year 6 in 2026.

Our Year 6 cohort have been exceptional role models. From their Forest Edge camp, to Graduation celebrations, to their final hurrah at Adventure World, they have demonstrated maturity, enthusiasm and leadership. We wish them every success for high school and beyond.





This year saw continued investment in our learning environments, including upgraded classroom furniture, new library design, shelving and furniture, improved signage, a PBS mural, additional playground equipment, establishment of “The Nest” Student Services Hub, including a stunning mural as well as new resources across multiple learning areas. These improvements ensure our facilities remain modern, safe and conducive to high quality learning.



Our enrolments continued to grow strongly, reaching 561 students at the 2025 Semester 1 Census, evidence of community confidence and our reputation as a school of choice.



Our 2025 attendance data shows that attendance must be a major focus for our school and families in 2026. Overall, only 54.7% of students were in the *Regular Attendance* category this year, significantly below both Like Schools (63.9%) and WA Public Schools (64.0%). At the same time, the proportion of students in the *At-Risk* categories increased to 31% Indicated, 11% Moderate, and 3.3% Severe, all higher than Like Schools in 2025.

- Pre-Primary, Year 2 and Year 5 have the *lowest levels of regular attendance* (47%, 46% and 51% respectively).
- Across all year levels, Falcon PS recorded *more students in At-Risk categories* than the WA Public Schools average.

Most concerningly, every year level has fewer students in the Regular category than the WA average, and higher proportions in the Indicated and Moderate categories.

These patterns make it clear that attendance must be a shared priority for our school community in 2026. Regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of academic success, wellbeing, and long-term learning outcomes. Next year, we will be strengthening early intervention, increasing follow-up for at-risk families, and working closely with parents to build strong daily attendance habits especially in the early years and in cohorts where regular attendance has declined. A united approach from both school and home will be essential to improving these results.

As we move into 2026, we have some staffing changes.

We farewell:

- * **Mrs Teena Dixon and Mr Hugh Ellard**, who are retiring.
- * **Mrs Paula Shanahan, Ms Maureen Willcock, Ms Claire Foulkes, and Mrs Jenny Humble**, who are taking a year of leave.
- * **Mrs Kruger**, who is taking maternity leave.
- * **Mrs Asher Rhodes-McMillan**, moving to Riverside Primary School.
- * **Ms Jessica Jongen**, moving to Glencoe Primary School.
- * **Ms Kelly Clements-Shepherd and Mrs Wendy Olsen** who concludes her contract with us.
- * **Mrs Gill** who is resigning to pursue further study.



Whether their time at Falcon has been one term or many years, I sincerely thank them all for the contributions they have made to our students and school.

We especially acknowledge:

Mr Hugh Ellard, retiring after 31 years with the Department of Education, including the last two years at Falcon Primary School.

Mrs Teena Dixon, retiring after an extraordinary 39 year career, including an exceptional 31 year commitment to Falcon Primary School. Mrs Dixon has been a highly respected colleague, teacher and mentor.

We sincerely wish both Mrs Dixon and Mr Ellard joyful, fulfilling retirements. This year, Mrs Dixon received a Medallion of Excellence on behalf of Falcon Primary School in recognition of her outstanding dedication and service.



We welcome some fabulous new staff to Falcon PS in 2026. Ms Jade Henwood will be taking a position in Year 4. Ms Holly de Hoog also joins us in Year 4. Mr Phillip Kasuma joins us as Japanese Language teacher. Ms Louise Blackmore joins the Year 1 team. Ms Nicole Adams joins us in Pre-Primary and Ms Jessica Stevens joins us in Kindergarten. I look forward to the strengths our new recruits bring to our staff in 2026 and beyond.



I would like to acknowledge our P&C for the countless hours they have contributed to fundraising and supporting our school this year. Thank you for everything you do to enrich the opportunities available to our students.

To our School Board, thank you for giving your time and providing thoughtful representation of our community's ideas, aspirations and priorities. Your support helps shape the direction and success of our school. Ms Lisa Munday finishes her term on our School Board. She has represented the Board at significant events such as Presentation and Graduation ceremonies, being our conduit to the wider community and giving back to our school constructively and positively. We sincerely thank Lisa for her contributions to our school.

As we move into 2026, we look forward to continuing our journey of improvement with a focus on:

- * embedding whole-school instructional routines with even greater consistency
- * strengthening literacy and numeracy blocks
- * strengthening attendance interventions
- * expanding early intervention pathways
- * deepening the use of data to monitor growth
- * enhancing wellbeing and inclusive practices through our Student Services Hub

Thank you all for your contributions to Falcon Primary School throughout 2025. I am incredibly proud of the progress we have made and excited for the ongoing improvements ahead.

I wish all students, families and staff a safe, joyful and restful Christmas break.

Warmest regards,

Jacquie Abbiss
Principal



2026 Important Dates !

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| Tues 27 Jan | Front Office Opens 8.00am-4.00pm |
| Mon 2 Feb | Students Return to School |