

St Thomas More School



Principal's Report
2013 School Performance Report
AGM
Wednesday 2nd April 2014

St Thomas More School Ethos

St Thomas More School was established in 1960 by the Sisters of Mercy, with Sr Immaculata Coffey as the first Principal and Sr Ruth Mullins as the first teacher. The Sisters of Mercy are dedicated to serving people who suffer from injustices related to poverty, sickness or lack of education. They were founded in Ireland in 1831 by Catherine McAuley (1778-1841). Catherine recognised the needs of those who were marginalised and oppressed by unjust social attitudes and practices of the day. She responded by establishing a House of Mercy in Dublin, which provided educational, religious and social services for women and children who were at risk of homelessness, through exploitation and entrenched poverty. We celebrate Mercy Day on September 24th, the Feast of our Lady of Mercy.

The corporal works of mercy are:

- ~ Feed the hungry
- ~ Give drink to the thirsty
- ~ Clothe the naked
- ~ Shelter the homeless
- ~ Visit the sick
- ~ Visit the imprisoned
- ~ Bury the dead

One of the most respected figures in English history, Thomas More was a statesman, scholar and author. He was noted for his wit and also for his devotion to his religion. Thomas and his family lived happily, sharing their means with the poor. He enforced the laws of England and saw that the poor were protected against injustice. He was beheaded as a traitor for his refusal to acknowledge King Henry VIII's supremacy over the church. Thomas More was canonised by Pope Pius XI in 1935. Our school is proudly named after Thomas More and we celebrate his feast day on June 22nd each year.

Staffing

2013 Staffing

Principal	Peter Mercer (Term 1 & 2) Georgia Dennis (Term 3 & 4)	P.E	Fabian Chevalier
Deputy Principal	Matthew Perry (Term 1) Maria Lupone (Term 3 & 4)	Chinese	Amelia Yong
APRIM	Eugenia Stopyra	ICT	Trish Duncan
Reception/Year 1	Anne Mannella	Creative Arts	Megan Pollard
Reception/Year 1	Trish Olive	Key Literacy Teacher	Matthew Perry (Term 1) Maria Lupone (Term 3 & 4)
Reception/Year 1	Lisa Crossley	Special Education Co-ordinator/POR Release	Monica Haren
Reception/Year 1	Connie Carter	Library	Lesley Swann
Year 1/2	Sonia Elliott	School Counsellor	Sandy Ahearn
Year 1/2	Janie Johnson	Finance Officer	Megan Fitzgerald
Year 1/2	Margot Papillo	Education Support Officers Curriculum	Michelle Black (2 Weeks) Leeanne Adderley Marilyn Kennedy Linda Marsh Sandra Shephard Patricia Smith Raelene Smith Sue Stewart Lesley Swann

Year 3/4	Carisa Cruz-Lees (Term 1) Megan Pollard Eugenia Stopyra	Education Support Officers Administration	Kathy Jackson Sue Stewart
Year 3/4	Amelia Yong Marie D'Occhio	Canteen	Jane Wells
Year 4/5	Rosanna Samarzia	WH & S	Lesley Swann
Year 5/6	Sonia Kilmister	Maintenance	Paul Clift
Year 6/7	Fabian Chevalier Sita Catalano	ESO ECC	Dinah Anternetti Cheri-Ann Barbaro Tammy Breucher Karen Eldred Saara Ownsworth Helzah Somerville Jodene Soper Joanne Williamson
Year 6/7	Kelly Brown (Term 1) Simone Dajeman (Term 2-4)	ESO OSHC	Deanne Black Hayden Bates Cheryl Beilby Di Beilby Rebecca Brooks Ashleigh Deer Barry Penney Nadia Penney Alicia Thackvay Paul Robinson Kate Thede Bonnie Williams

Staffing

1.75 Male FTE Teachers

13.5 Female FTE Teachers

5.25 Part-time Teachers

Total of 20.5 FTE

8 Female Educational Support Officers

Total of 1.9 FTE

Staff Professional Learning

What's the Buzz (Social skills program with Mark Le Messurier)

Dyslexia workshop (Angela Weeks)

Down Syndrome workshop (Anne Squire)

Asthma training

First aid training

Language and speech training (Talking Matters)

Literacy (National Partnerships Coaching with Liz Dickinson)

Oral Language Project

Walker Learning

Early Years Numeracy Assessment Tool

Written Language

National Professional Teaching Standards

Emotional Intelligence

Dare to Lead

Commerce Degree

Contact Officer Training

Leader's Retreat

Early Life Conference

CEO Teacher Induction Days

Manual Handling

Shakespeare in the Classroom

Want Your Life Back

Prophetic Spirituality

Teacher Standards & Qualifications

Diplomas	25%
Bachelors	79%
Graduate Certificates	17%
Masters	17%
Other Graduate Certificates	8%

School Information

St Thomas More School

50 Yorktown Road

Elizabeth Park South Australia 5113

School Type	Primary
School Sector	Catholic – Non-Government
ICSEA value	966
Total Enrolments	February 308 August 326.6
% Indigenous enrolments	3.6%
% Students with disabilities	10.4%

Enrolments by Year Level

	Boys	Girls	Total
Reception	33	24.6	57.6
Year 1	21	32	53
Year 2	32	25	57
Year 3	21	13	34
Year 4	16	20	36
Year 5	15	17	32
Year 6	14	12	26
Year 7	17	14	31
	169	157.6	326.6

Student Attendance – by Year level

Year Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Reception	100%	87.62%	88.74%	94.87%
Year 1	90.48%	87.03%	88.37%	92.94%
Year 2	90.28%	92.94%	91.25%	94.72%
Year 3	94.68%	89.27%	89.91%	93.71%
Year 4	94.77%	91.23%	91.44%	93.73%
Year 5	95.42%	90.06%	88.67	92.33%
Year 6	93.76%	88.82%	89.77%	93.55%
Year 7	94.39%	85.74%	94.61%	90.65%
Averages	94.49%	89.09%	90.35%	93.31%

School Income

State Government Grant	\$727,572
State Government Additional Funding	\$59,945
Commonwealth Government Grant	\$1,907,794.21
School Fees (inclusive of levies)	\$492,321
Other Income	\$486,487.47

Post School Destinations

St Columba College

Xavier College

Thomas More College

Golden Grove High

Blackfriars College

St Mary's College

Fremont College

Salisbury High School

Craigmore High School

NAPLAN 2013

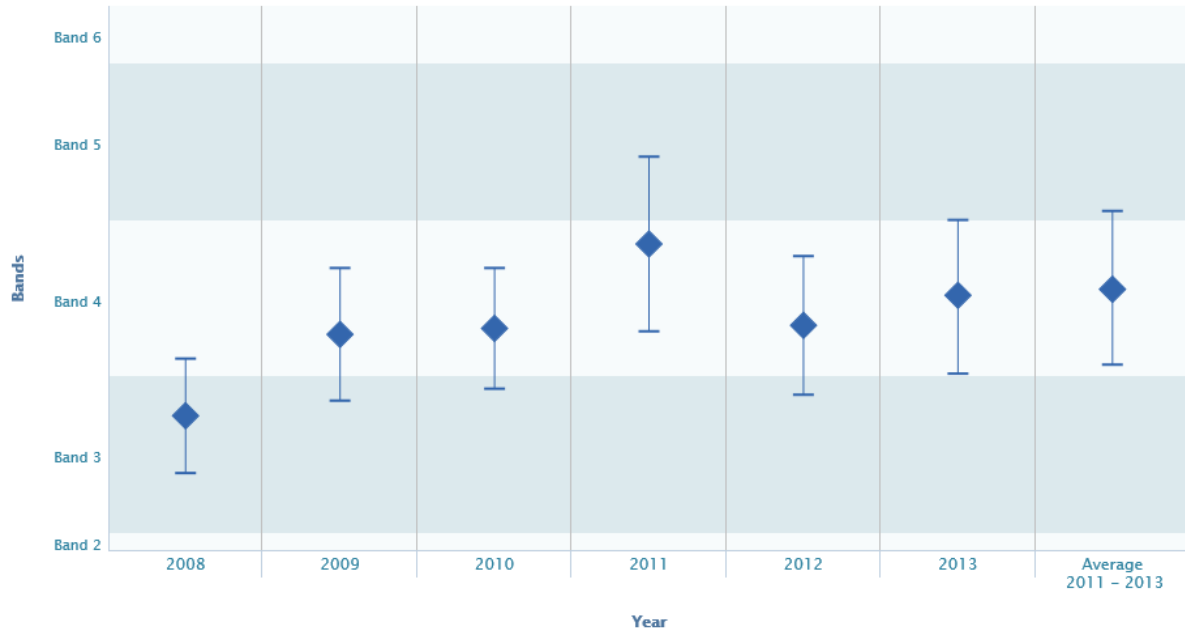
Year 3

	2012 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	2013 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	Mean Score 2012	Mean Score 2013
Reading	94%	100%	391.1	400.7
Writing	100%	100%	405	385.7
Spelling	97%	92%	399.9	382
Grammar and Punctuation	97%	96%	411.9	395.2
Numeracy	97%	96%	376.6	357

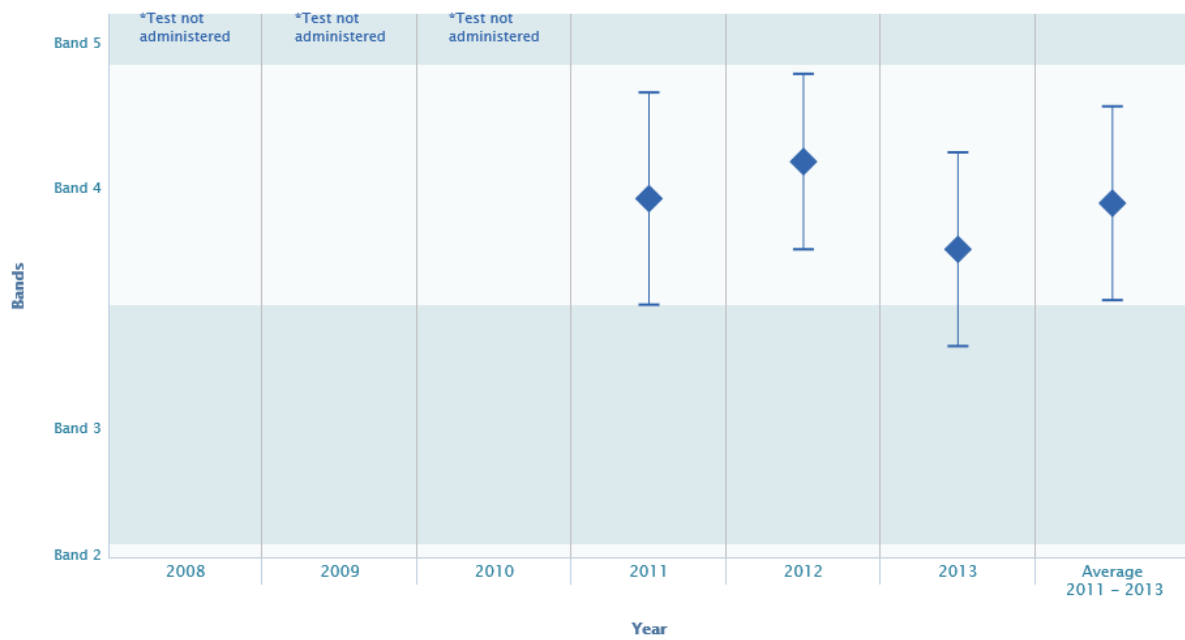
NAPLAN 2013

Year 3

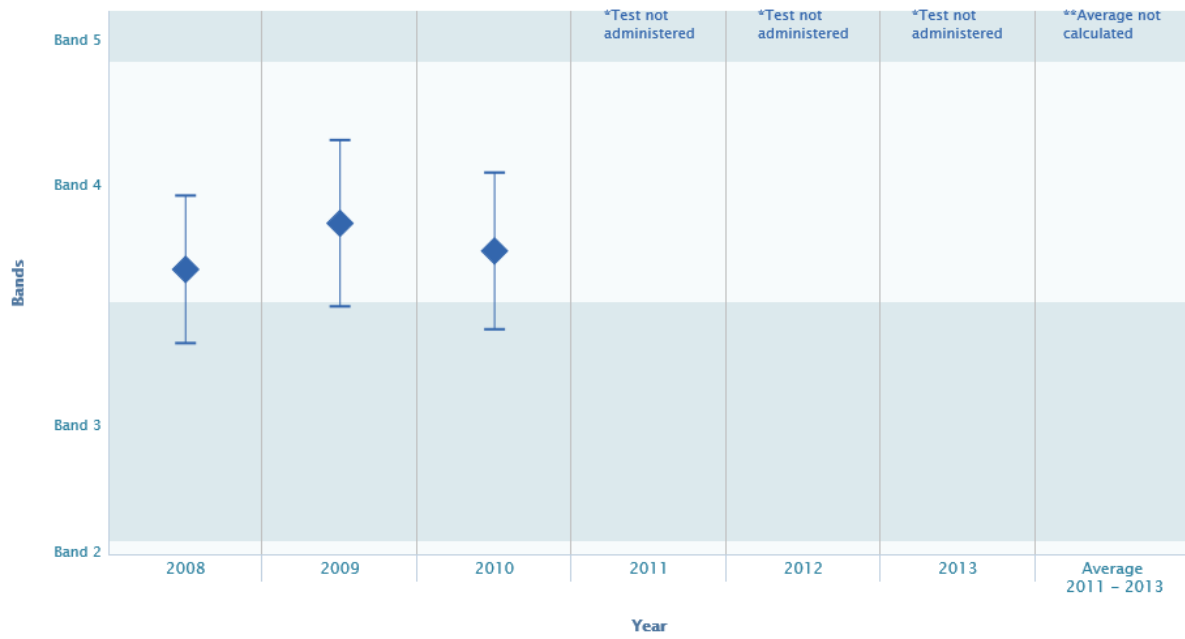
Reading



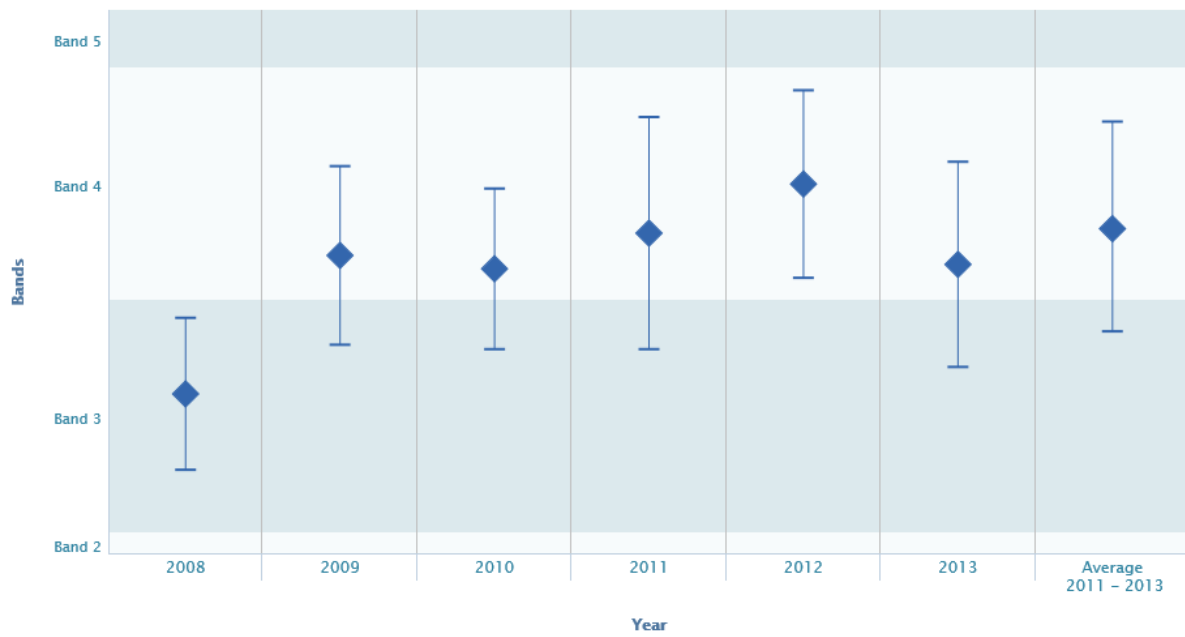
Persuasive Writing



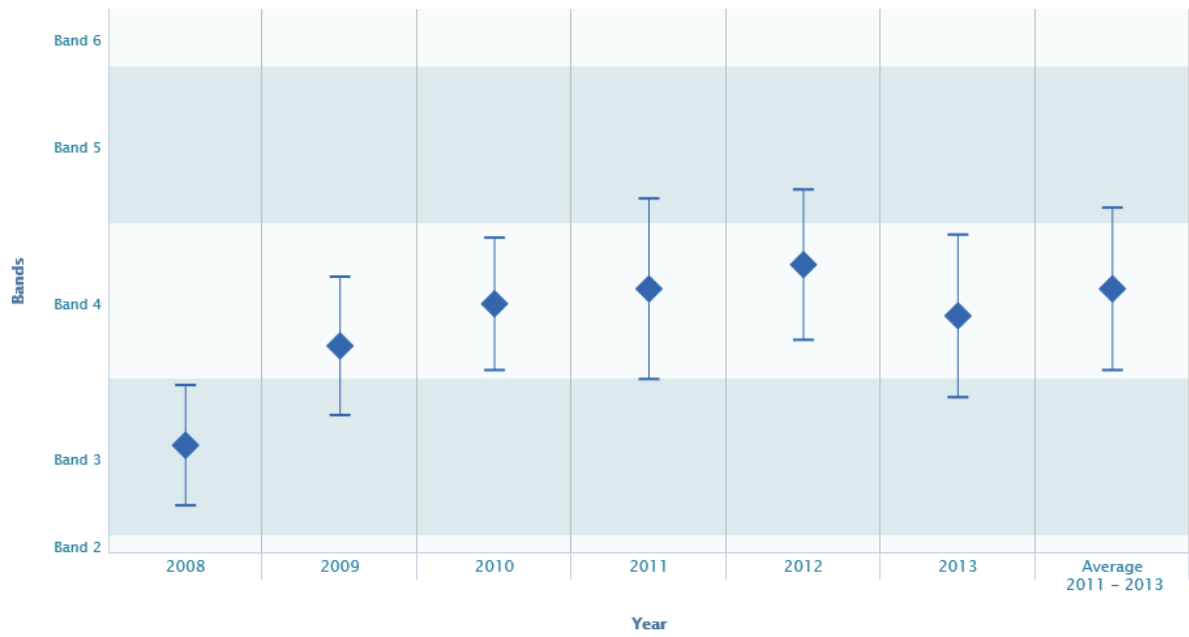
Narrative Writing



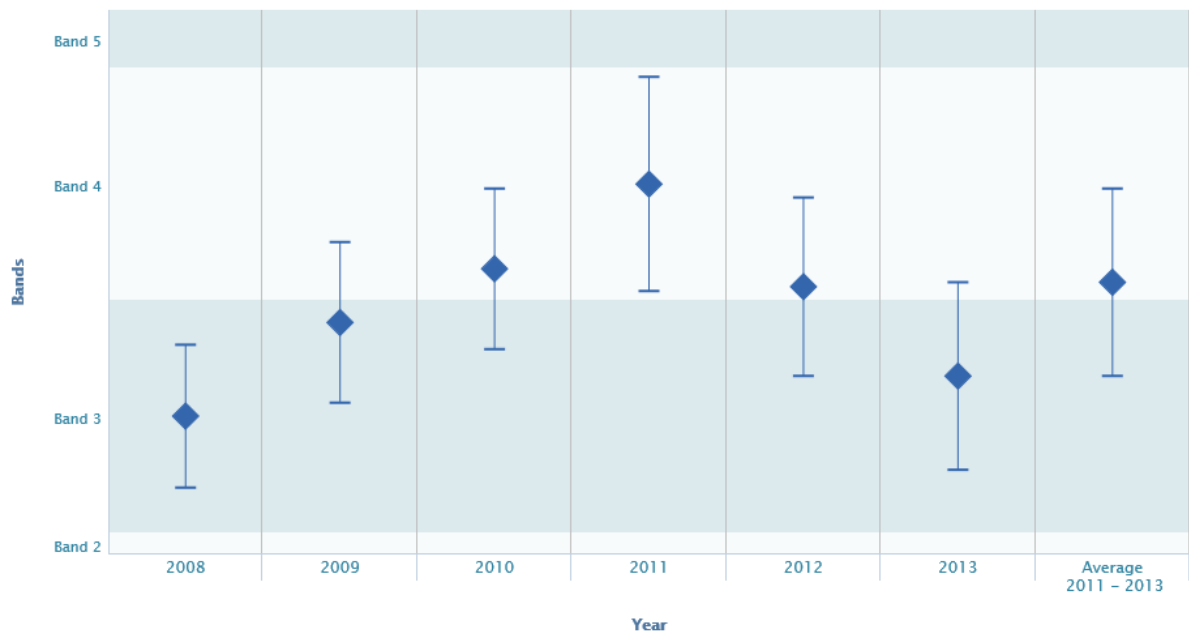
Spelling



Grammar and Punctuation



Numeracy



NAPLAN 2013

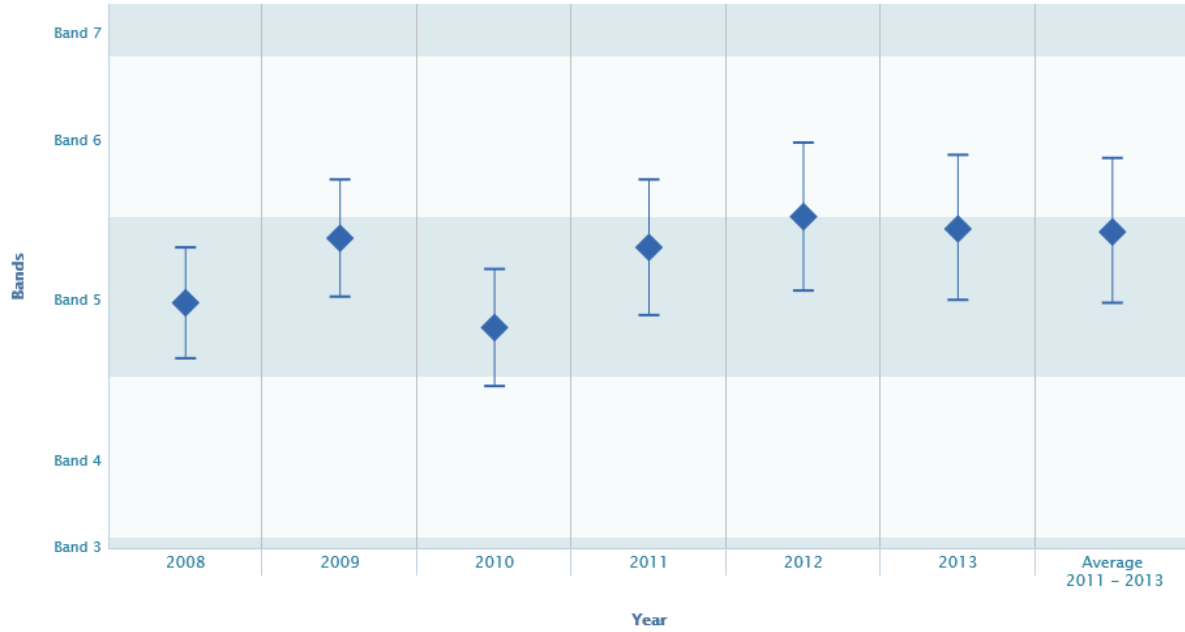
Year 5

	2012 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	2013 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	Mean Score 2012	Mean Score 2013
Reading	83%	96%	477.9	474.4
Writing	89%	96%	440.8	450
Spelling	86%	100%	476.4	470.1
Grammar and Punctuation	79%	96%	458.7	470.4
Numeracy	79%	93%	467.1	445.3

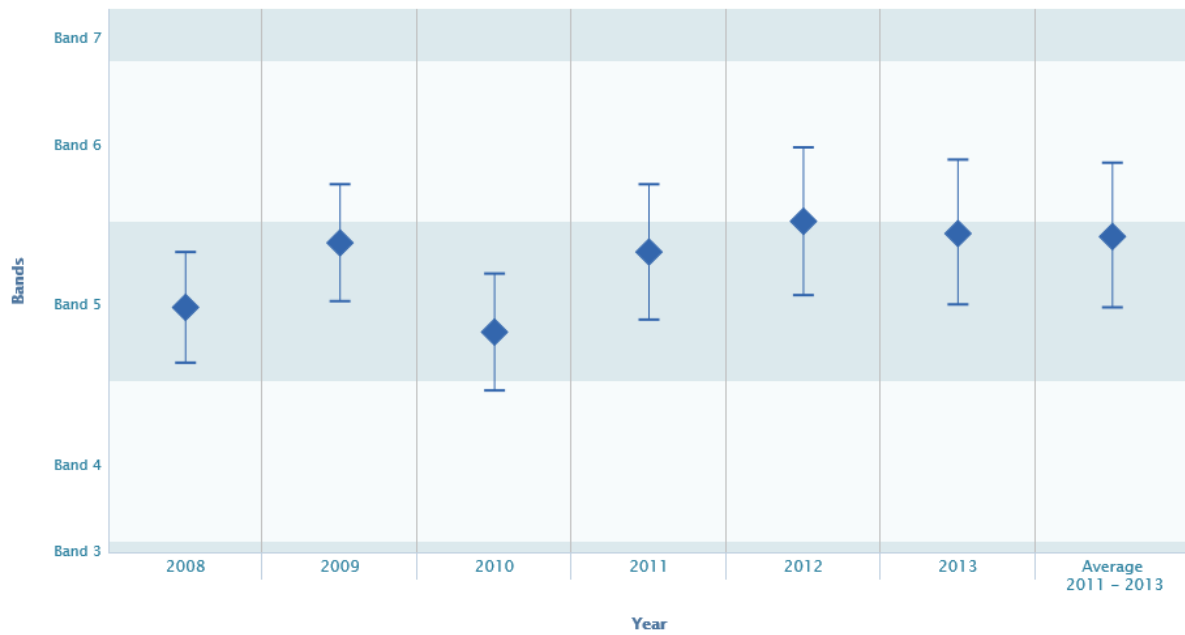
NAPLAN 2013

Year 5

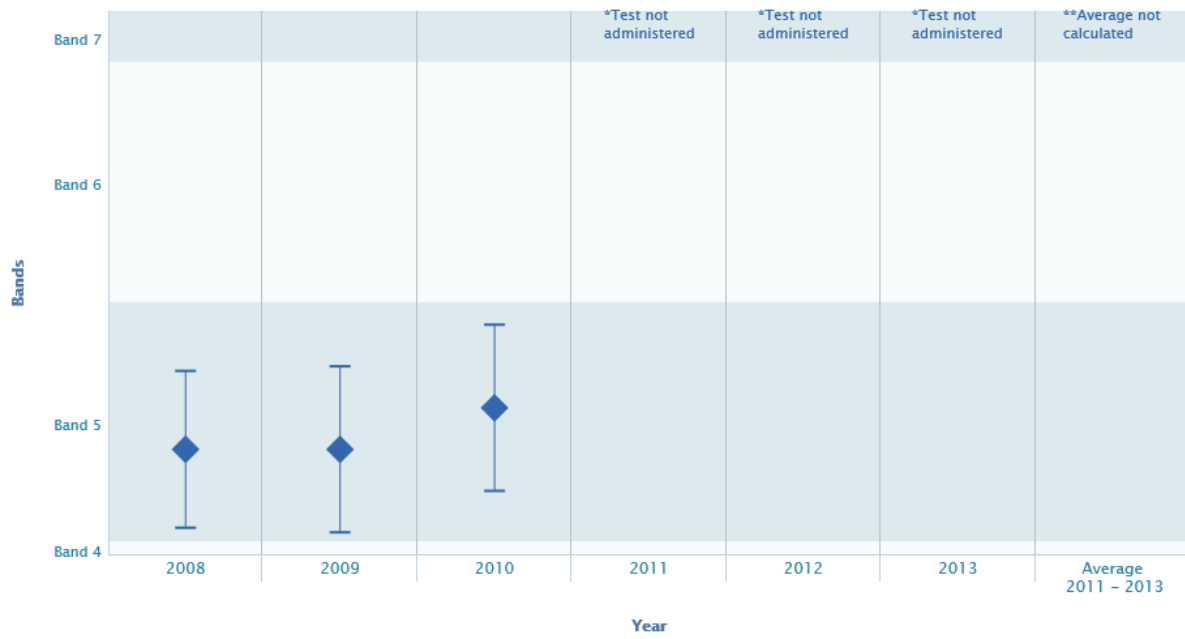
Reading



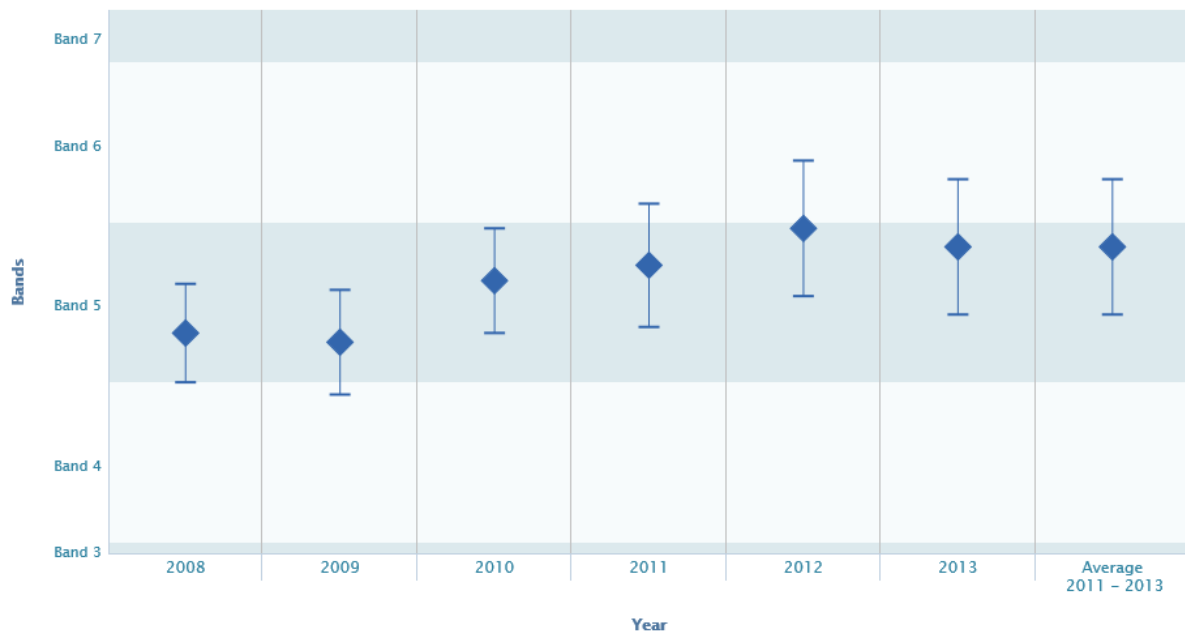
Persuasive Writing



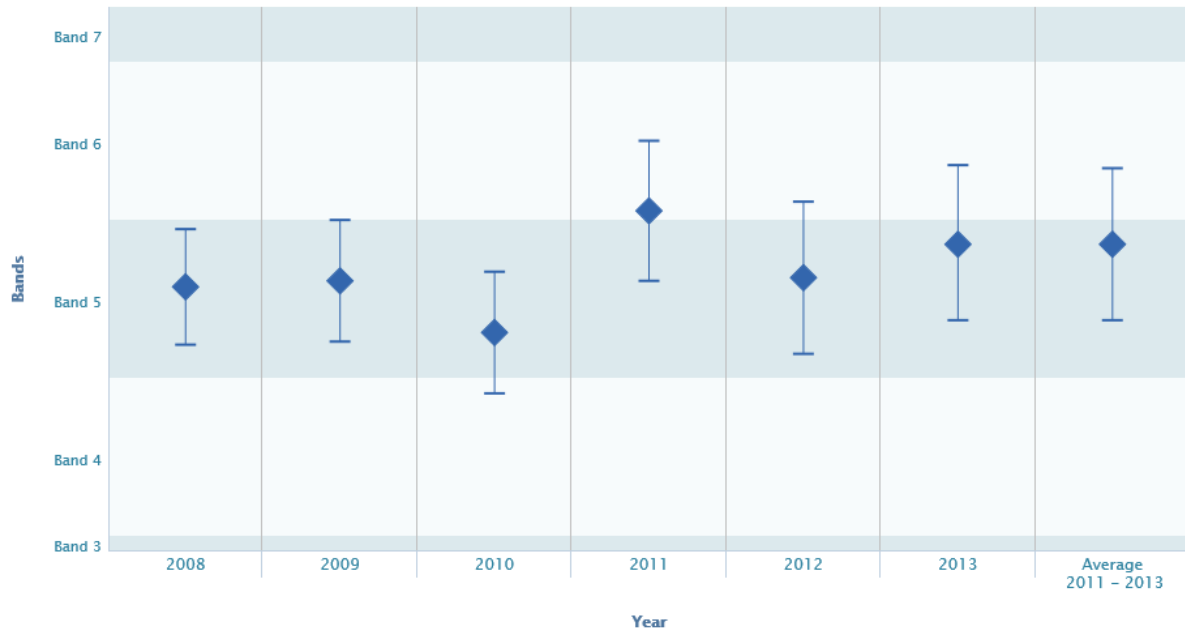
Narrative Writing



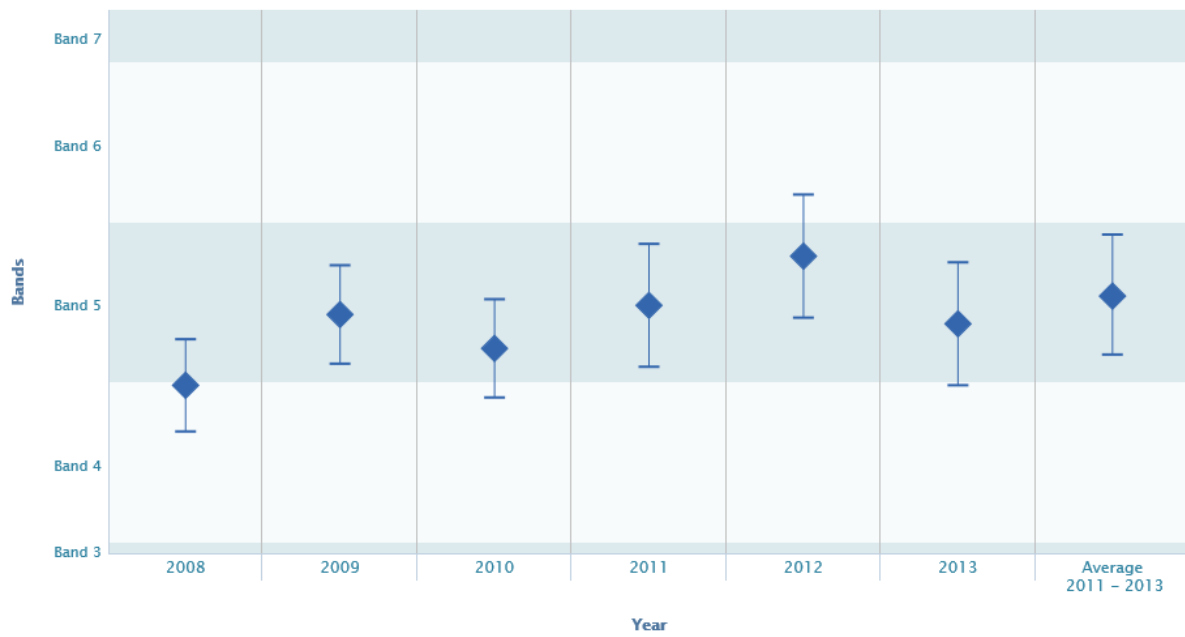
Spelling



Grammar and Punctuation



Numeracy



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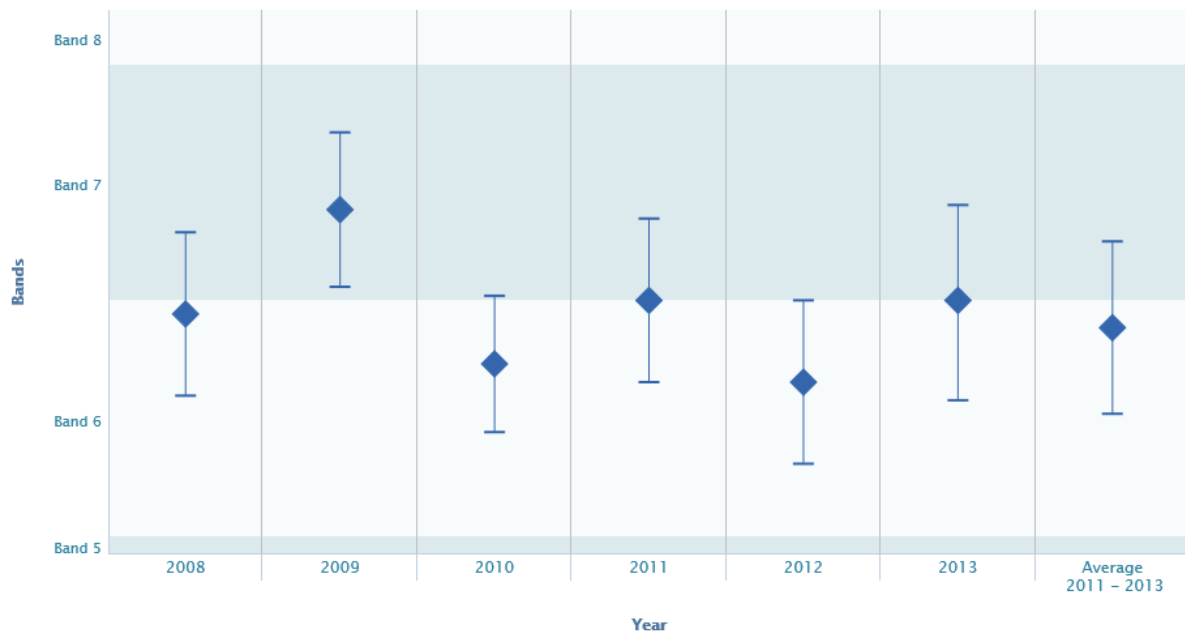
Year 7

	2012 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	2013 % who achieved the National Minimum Standard	Mean Score 2012	Mean Score 2013
Reading	92%	89%	511.6	529.6
Writing	94%	93%	525	511
Spelling	83%	100%	522.1	544.7
Grammar and Punctuation	94%	100%	513	520
Numeracy	94%	100%	488.3	513.2

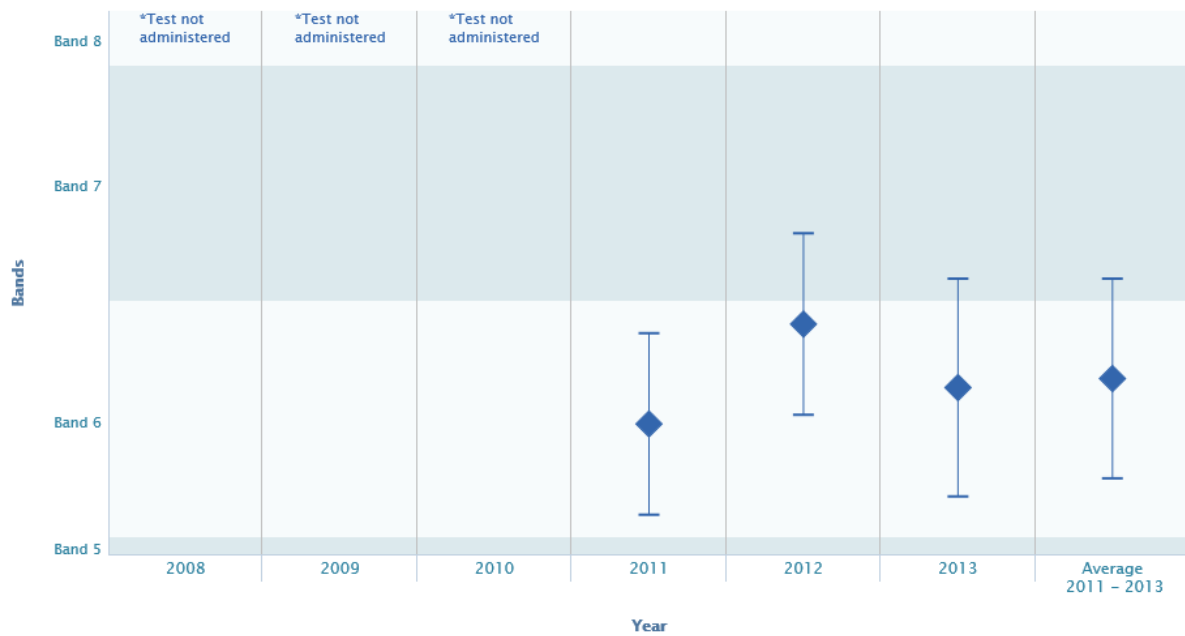
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Year 7

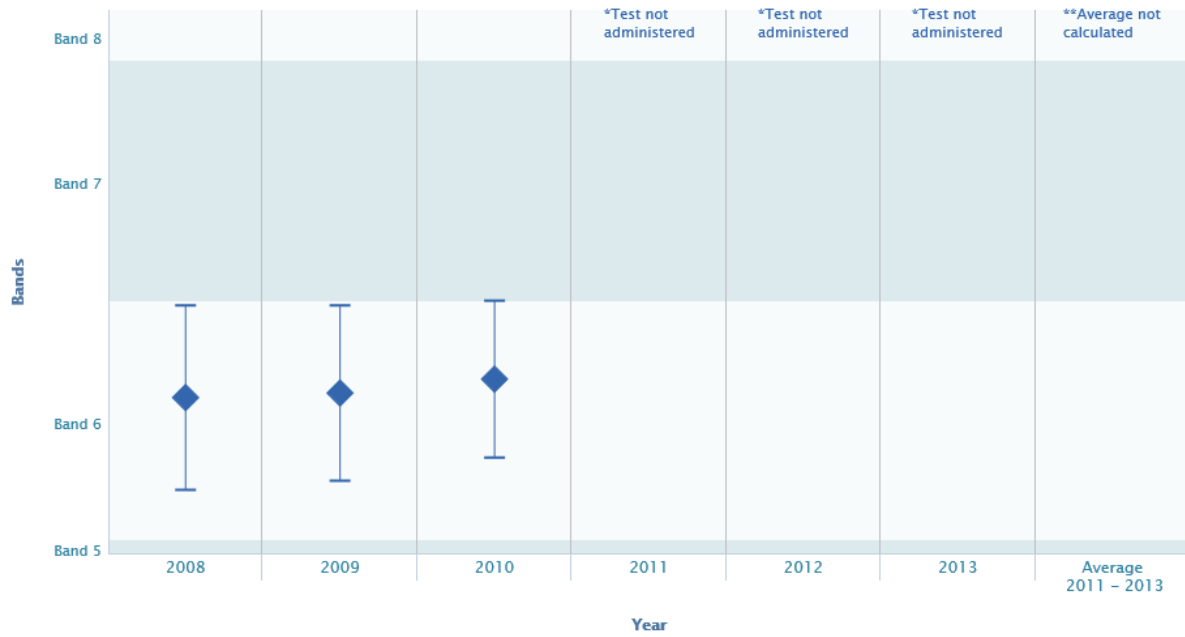
Reading



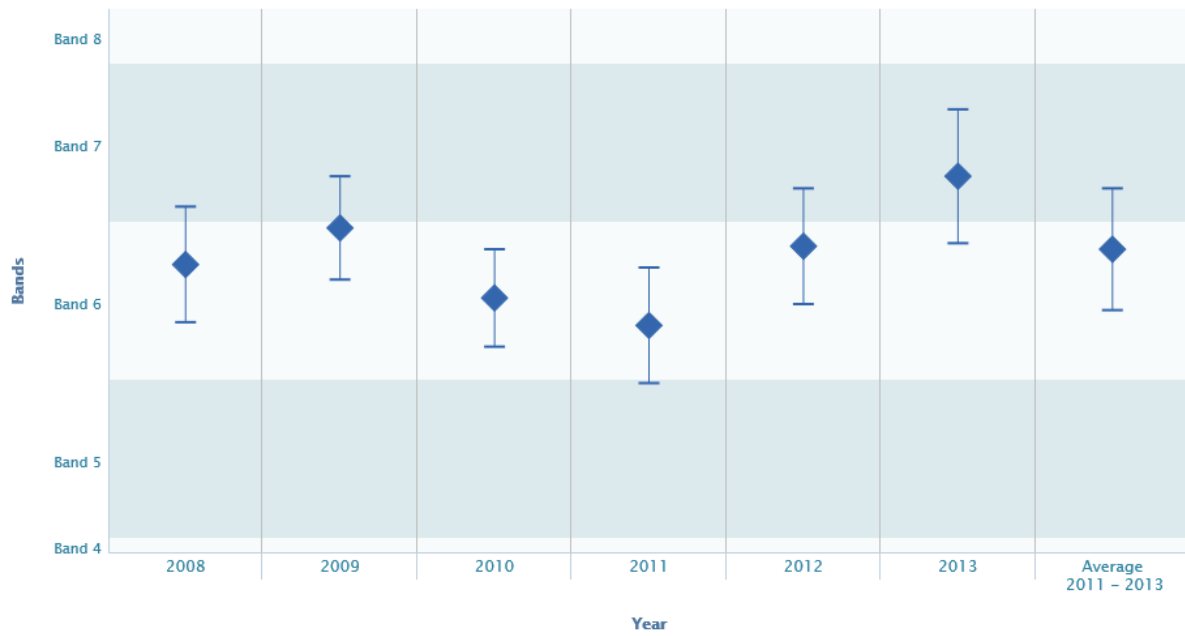
Persuasive Writing



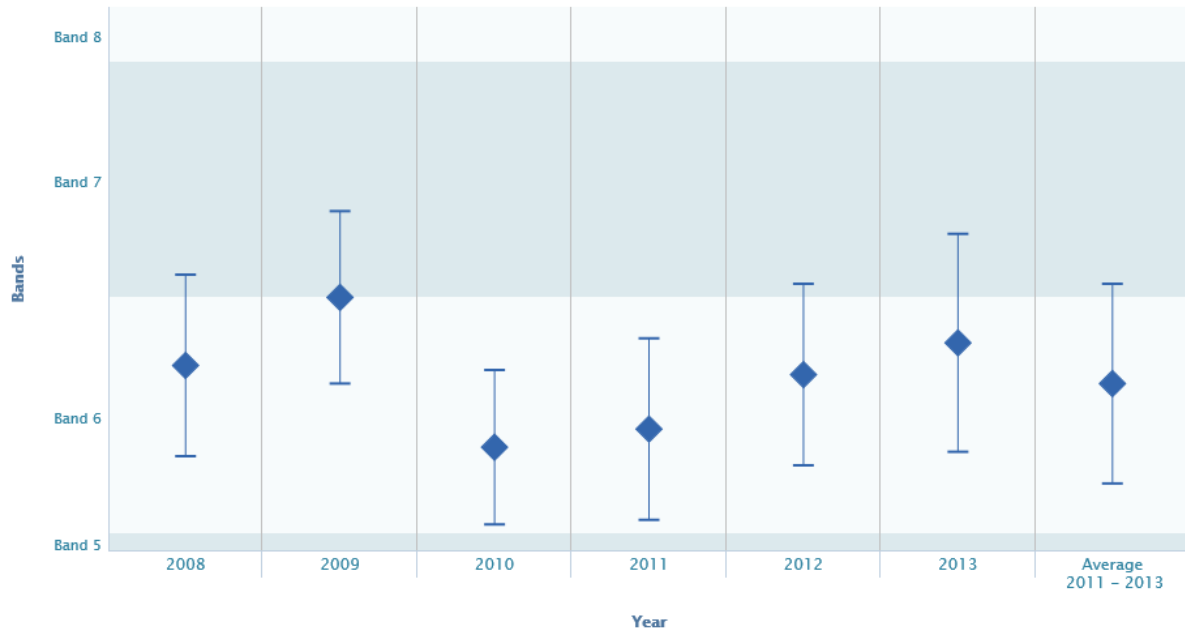
Narrative Writing



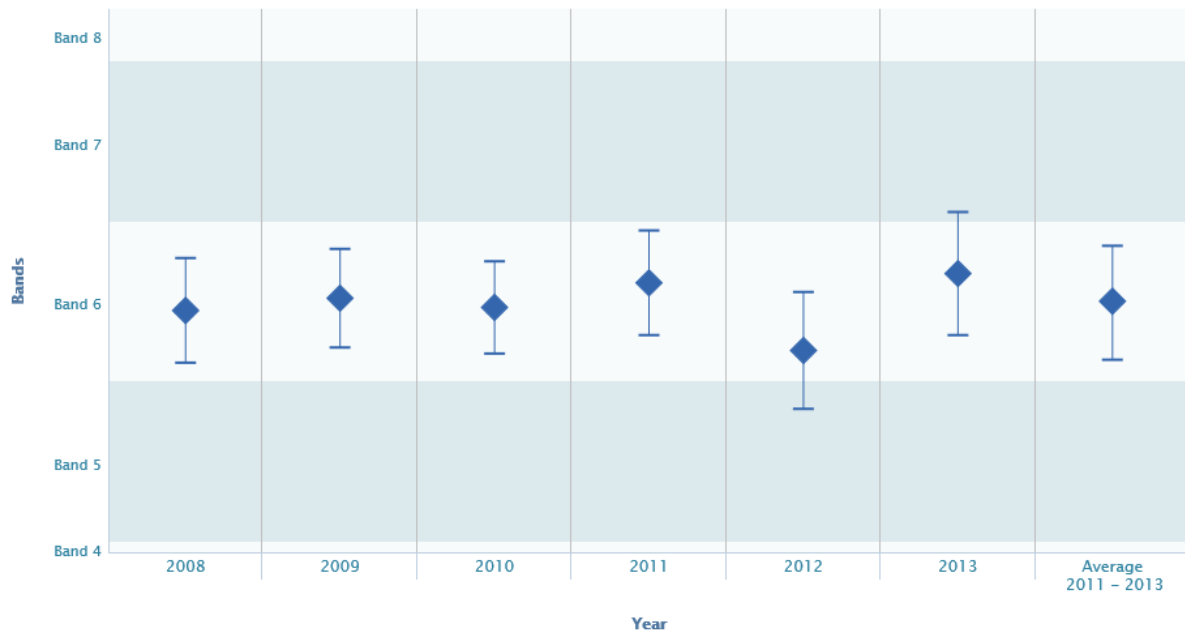
Spelling



Grammar and Punctuation



Numeracy

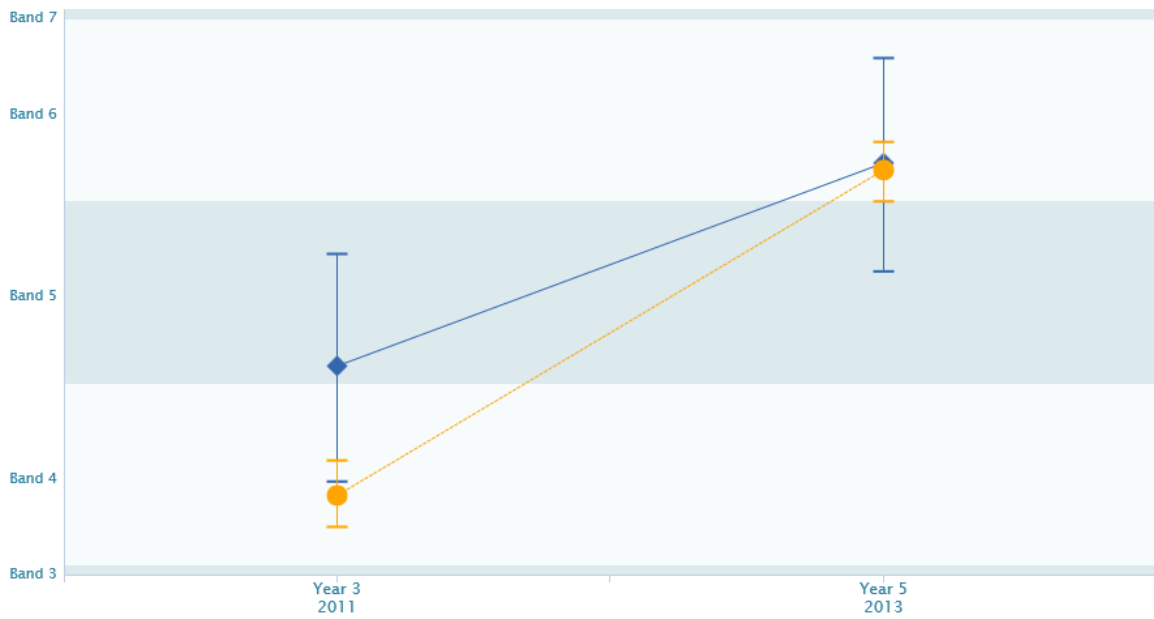


NAPLAN 2013

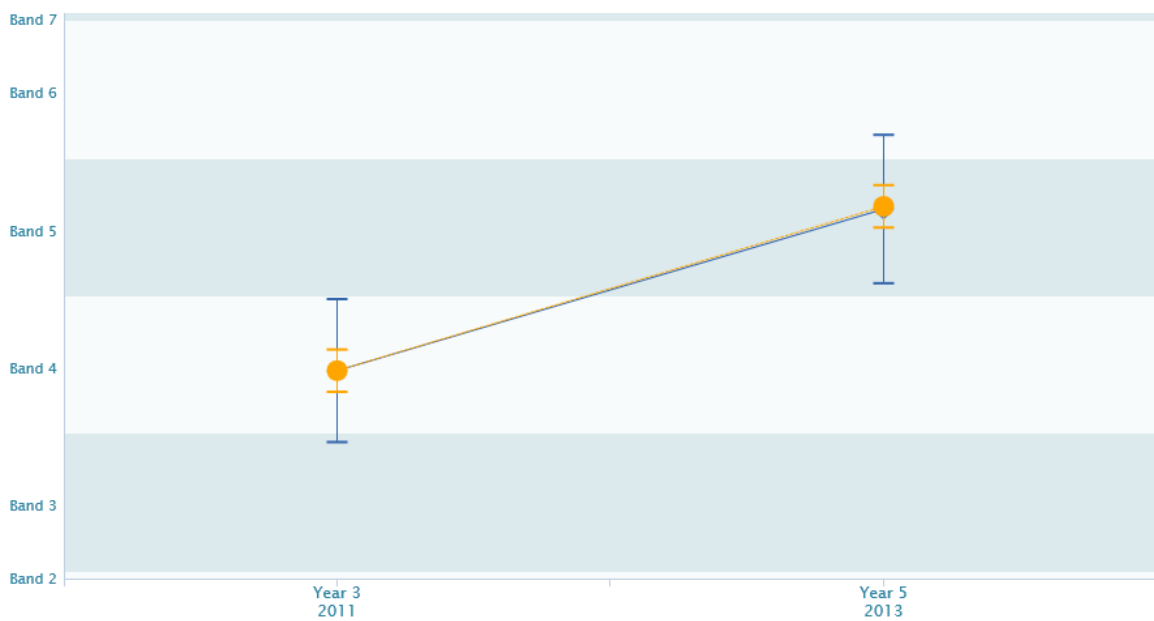
Student Gains

Year 3-5

Reading



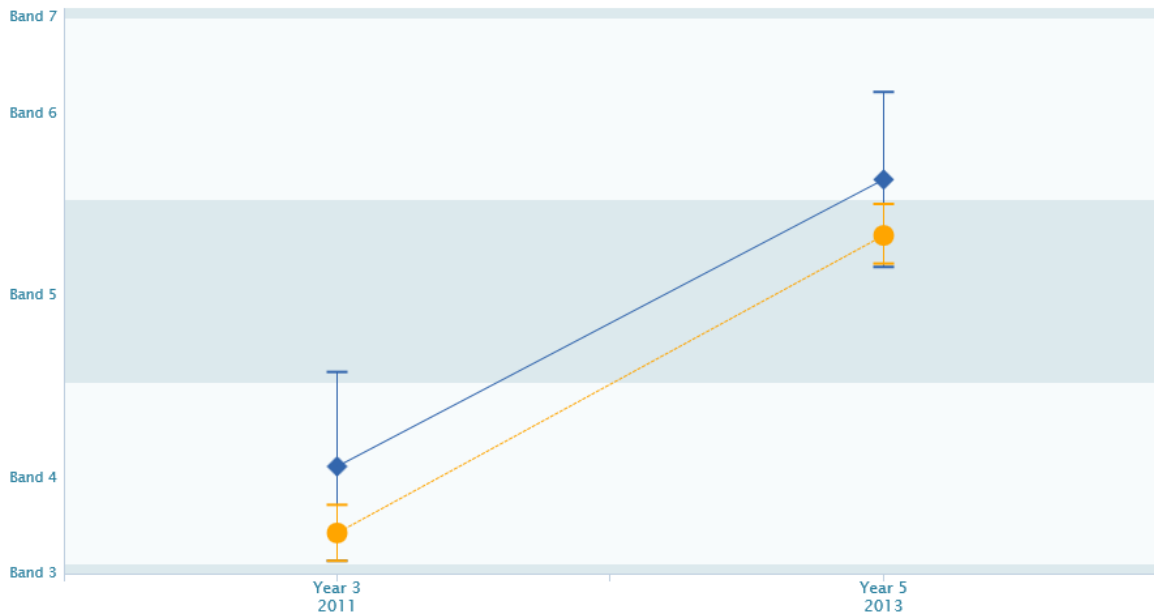
Persuasive Writing



Narrative Writing

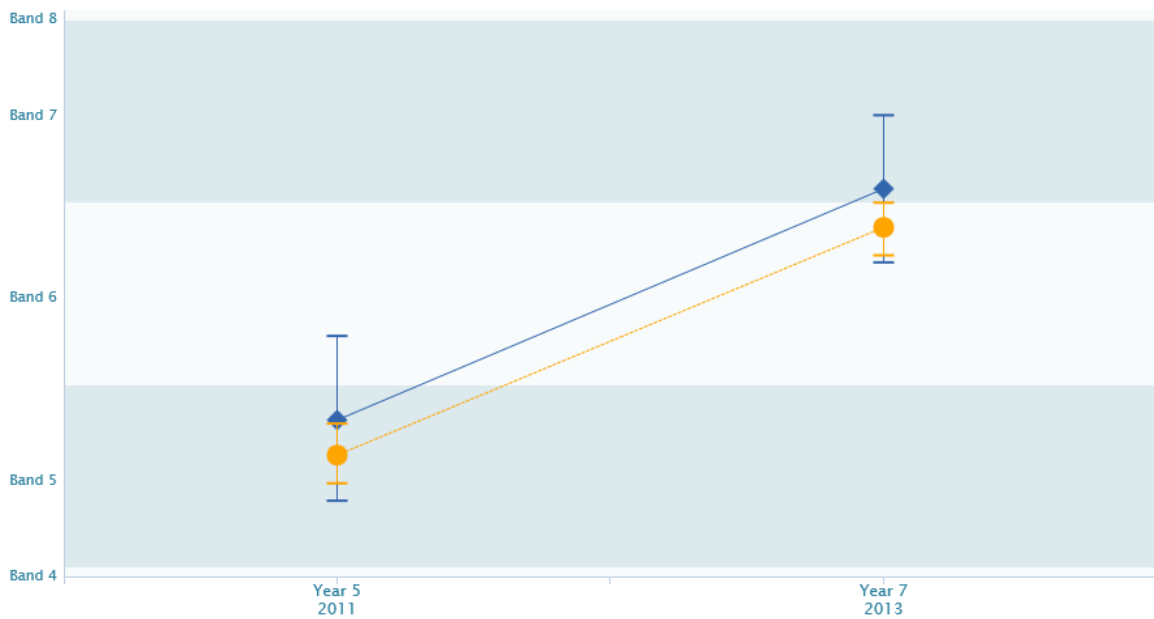
Not tested.

Numeracy

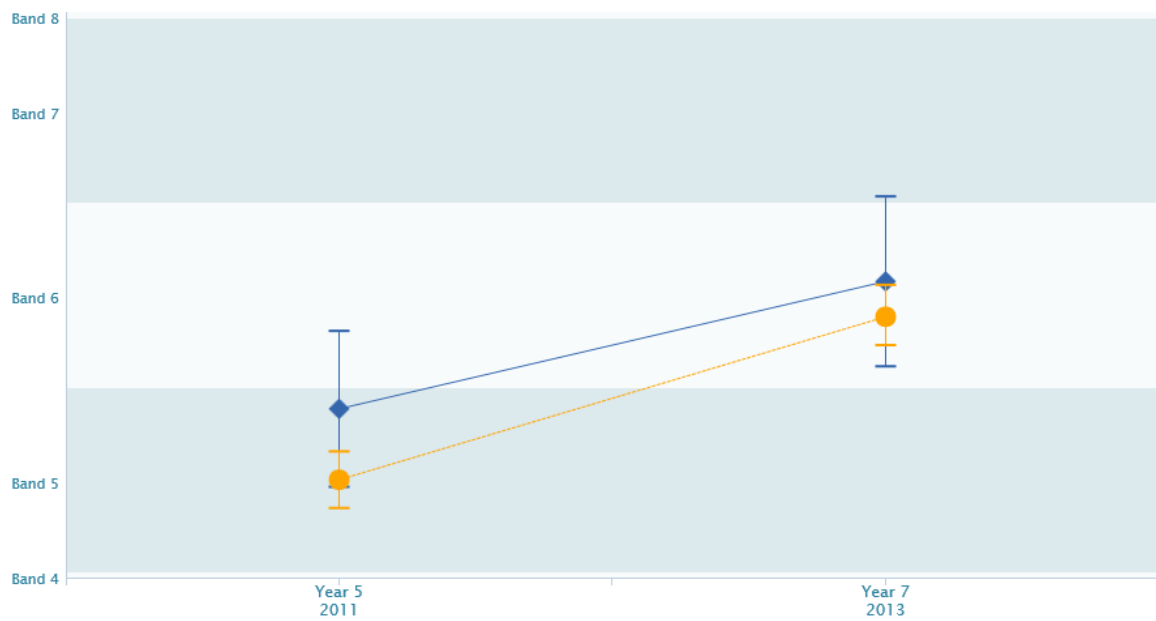


Year 5-7

Reading



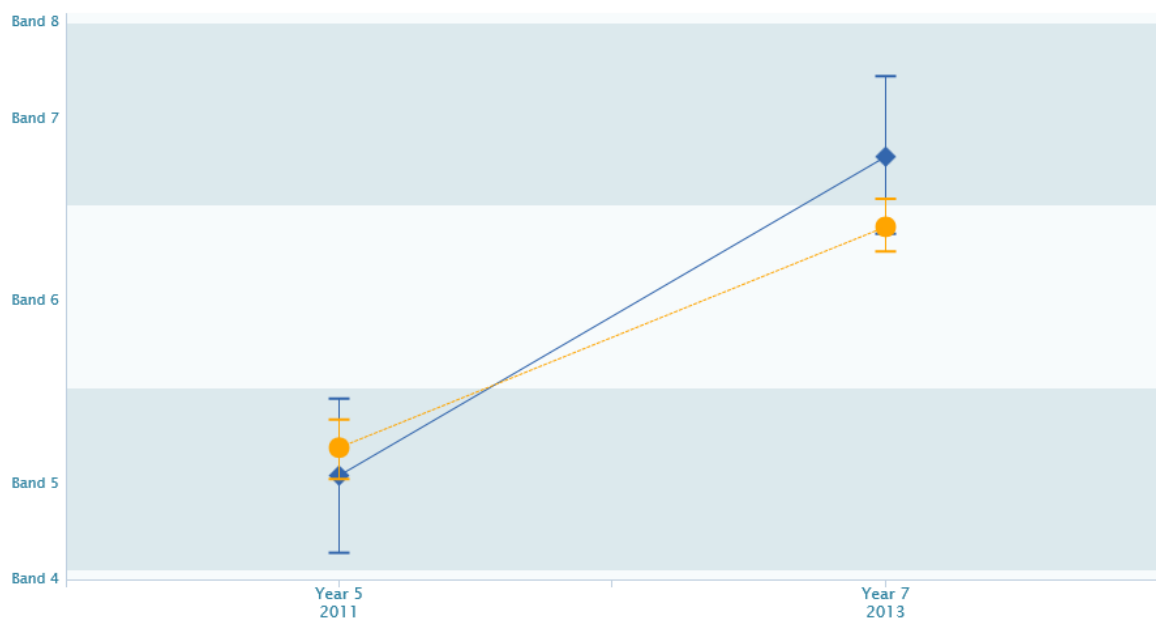
Persuasive Writing



Narrative Writing

Not tested.

Numeracy



2014

Whole School Goals

Parental Engagement

Reading

Student Well-being

Australian Curriculum

The Australian Curriculum has eight learning areas. Some learning areas include more than one subject.

Learning areas	Subjects	Endorsement by the council of federal, state and territory education ministers
English	English	Endorsed in December 2010.
Mathematics	Mathematics	
Science	Science	
Humanities and social sciences	History	Endorsed in May 2013.
	Geography	
	Economics and business	Awaiting final endorsement. Noted in November 2013 and agreed that curriculum could be made available for state and territory use. Decisions about the use of these curriculum are to be taken by relevant authorities in each state and territory.
	Civics and citizenship	
The arts	Drama	Endorsed in July 2013, subject to further consultation with Western Australia.
	Dance	
	Media arts	
	Music	
	Visual arts	
Technologies	Design and technologies	Awaiting final endorsement. Noted November 2013 and agreed that curriculum could be made available for state and territory use. Decisions about the use of these curriculum are to be taken by relevant authorities in each state and territory.
	Digital technologies	
Health and physical education	Health and physical education	
Languages	Under development	

Term 1 Achievements in Relation to These Goals

- Parental Engagement
 - Parent/Teacher Meet & Greet times
 - Reading workshops outlined below
 - Greater attendance at School Assemblies and class liturgies
 - Built on existing connections with our Indigenous families
- Reading
 - Early Years Oral Language Workshop
 - Early Years Reading Workshop
 - CMaD Implementation Plan
 - PLC reading goals
- Well-being
 - Created class norms
 - Created school norms
 - Introduction of consistent positive reinforcement strategies
 - Reviewed teacher responses to yard behaviour
 - Structured class step system for inappropriate behaviours

Beyond Term 1

- Parental Engagement
 - Mark LeMessurier workshop
 - Workshops i.e. Walker Learning Approach
 - Principal meetings
 - Parent satisfaction surveys
- Reading goal
 - Reading pack for Early Years parents
 - Teacher Agreed Practices
 - Improvement in student learning outcomes measured using a variety of assessments
- Well-being
 - Providing families with relevant information
 - Mark LeMessurier workshop in Term 3 (What's the Buzz? Program)
 - Exploring Positive Psychology (Martin Seligman's work)
 - Exploring Restorative Justice

St Thomas More School Norms

RESPECT EACH OTHER AND THE
ENVIRONMENT

TREAT EACH OTHER EQUALLY

WORK AS A TEAM

ACT IN A SAFE WAY

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

2014 and Beyond

Strategic Planning

Continuous Improvement Framework for Catholic Schools

Australian Curriculum

Kaurna Language

ICT infrastructure

Building Projects

Walker Learning

Acknowledgements

- School Board/Parent Community
- Fr Pat Woods- Parish Priest/Parish Community
- Staff
- Students

On behalf of Peter Mercer, Georgia Dennis and the entire school community, I sincerely thank the many groups and individuals who so willingly gave so much of themselves to make St Thomas More School a place of great learning in 2013. A school community does not flourish without the support given from the groups listed above. The efforts of each individual and group is both appreciated and deeply valued.

I would like to especially acknowledge the work of Lillian Murphy, Chairperson of the School Board, and all members of the School Board. Thank you also to Megan Fitzgerald for her guidance and sound financial management of the school.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of Eugenia Stopyra, APRIM at St Thomas More School. Eugenia brings wisdom and experience to the leadership team and I thank her for her efforts in 2013. Thank you to Matthew Perry, Acting Deputy Principal in Term 1 and Maria Lupone, Assistant to Georgia Dennis in Term 3 and 4.

To all the staff, thank you for the professional way in which you conduct yourselves on a daily basis and for ensuring that teaching and learning remain our core business. Thank you to the Administration and Curriculum ESO staff, the work you do is appreciated by all in the school community.

A special mention to must go to two retiring staff in Monica Haren and Sue Stewart. Monica spent 22 years at St Thomas More, most of which were as Special Education Coordinator. Sue spent 27 years with us as a Curriculum and Administrative Education Support Officer. Thank you to both Monica and Sue for their dedication and commitment to providing the best possible opportunities for our children and parent communities.

I look forward to being a part of the St Thomas More School Community for 2014. I feel blessed to have been given the opportunity to work with students, parents, teachers and the wider Parish Community. I have great hope and enthusiasm that 2014 will be a rewarding and productive year of educational excellence.

Joe Blefari

Principal