Clare Public School
Annual School Report
Our school at a glance

Messages

Principal’s message
It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity to congratulate Clare Public School’s learning community on its achievements and endeavours throughout 2011. Clare Public School has a firm commitment to quality teaching and learning in a safe, caring and happy environment. By setting high educational, behavioural and moral standards, students are encouraged to reach their full potential.

The school maintains a high level of community involvement and continues to strive to ensure that the community’s values and beliefs are truly reflected in its learning environment.

The school aims to foster and encourage all stakeholders - parents, families and community members to join with the children in maximising every child’s educational opportunities and learning journey at Clare Public School. Thank you to school staff, parents and the wider community of Clare for their commitment to raising expectations and supporting learning outcomes of students.

I certify that the information in this report is the result of a rigorous school self-evaluation process and is a balanced and genuine account of the school’s achievements and areas for development. I certify that the information in this report is the result of a rigorous school self-evaluation process and is a balanced and genuine account of the school’s achievements and areas for development.

Melanie Scott  Principal

P & C message
2011 where has it gone? It only feels like I was reading last year’s President Report and what a year we have had!

In February the Clare Public School P&C held its ball numbers were down considerably but profit was up. This year it rained like there was no tomorrow which in turn affected the attendance, but thanks to the generosity of the people who attended all 85 of them we raised $4942.89. The year previous to this we only raised $2595.00 and we had 124 people. Like anything the more you do a fundraiser the easier it is to come up with ideas of making money. Thank you to the P&C families who donated sheep to be auctioned that really helped bring our profit up and make it a successful night. Unfortunately it was decided to drop the ball as it was felt by doing both the Melbourne Cup and the P&C Ball it was too much of a financial expense for the families involved.

As always the very hands on mothers started travelling and travelling for the swimming, running, cross country, Paul Kelly Cup and a lot of various carnivals such as Small Schools, District and Riverina. A lot of miles have been done this year to give the students at Clare Public School the same advantages as those from less isolated schools, and I want to thank the families for their dedication in making sure the children do not miss out on these important experiences. As always the students represented our wonderful little school with pride and every student did extremely well and most people who had never heard of our school now knows of the Clare Public School. The students get a lot out of the carnivals they get to mix with other children and get to demonstrate their individual talents.

This year the 13 students were lucky enough to go to the Grampians and Geelong for their annual school excursion. This is one thing that makes us realize the importance of our hard work at fundraising as the P&C donate $4000.00 towards this trip to make it possible. The students went Rock climbing, Abseiling, The Wool Museum, The
Ford Discovery Centre, Maritime Museum, Helicopter rides, Ferry rides, The Carousel ride, The Fairy Park, Art Gallery, they went to Kardinia Park and played on the Skilled Stadium and saw the facilities the Geelong footballers get to use. A big thank you to Mrs Scott a lot of organizing goes into the excursion to make sure it runs smoothly. The students and mothers all had a fabulous time with a lot of memories to keep and fondly look back on. The excursion gives the students an opportunity to experience everyday activities that they would otherwise never do.

November is Melbourne Cup time the P&C major fundraiser of the year. As always we have such a generous group of sponsors that without their annual support the day would not happen. Melbourne Cup this year was held at the Clare Hall with 46 people attending. We raised the gate fee by $5.00 to meet the increase in the rising cost of goods. We also did extra things such as a gate raffle and spinning wheel draws. The very generous support of Mildura North Star Motors and Waycon (Wayne and Connie Campbell) really helped as they both donate $400.00 each a huge saving for the P&C. We raised $3695.09 on the day in that total, though $500.00 in cash was donated, $446.00 on the spinning wheel, $178.00 on the esky gate raffle. The major raffle raised $1018.00. Also this year all the food was purchased by the parents we only purchased the cooked chooks and 5kg of sausages this also saved an incredible amount of money. These little extras are what are needed to make this day so successful, so I thank the parents for their kind donations and digging deeper into their pockets. Thank you to all the hard working parents who attended the working bees. It is a lot of work, we all know that but we agree to have this social fundraising day for the Clare Public School and the community and this is what is involved to make this happen. Remember this is for all our children to provide the extra things needed that the school budget can’t, at the end of the day the students are what is important.

In December the P&C catered for the Magenta clearance sale, thank you to Rob and Trish Williams for giving the P&C the job and we raised $2381.86.

The ever hard working P&C worked overtime this year and have out laid quite a generous amount of money, $4000.00 towards the school excursion, $180.00 on school dresses, $390.00 Mathletics, $50.00 donation Royal Far West, $100.00 donation to Royal Flying Doctors, $72.00 on defibrillator pads, $1285.35 on outdoor seats for the school, $385.14 on insurances and other donations, $150.00 to Clare Hall in either a satellite dish or donation.

Also this seems to be the year of farewells firstly we say goodbye and good luck to Fred Turner who leaves this year to attend Scots in Adelaide next year. The students and families will really miss Fred but wish him all the best and know he will flourish and enjoy the opportunities that await him. Fred is lovely young man and it will be a huge loss for the school. I would like to personally take this opportunity to thank Greg and Fleur Turner who have had students at the school for eleven years but their involvement started years earlier, also thank you to their wonderful parents Graham and Judy Turner and Bruce and Robyn Edwards. We will not say good bye because we know they will still be involved but I want to thank them as they never missed a working bee and they both are always willing to help. Your continued support and efforts is greatly appreciated, you are both a great
example of what sort of families are needed to make such a successful P&C.

Goodbye and Good luck also to Joanne, Josh, Grace, Ruby, Harry and Lily Scott who will also be sadly missed as they leave us to move back to Swan Hill to begin a new phase in their lives. A huge thank to Joanne who has been Treasurer the past two years the other mums will really miss your hard work and dedication, we will miss seeing your cheerful self each day on the school run. We are a small community and when wonderful people such as yourselves move away it is felt greatly we will miss you both, but wish you and your family all the best in your move. I’m sure Grace, Ruby and Harry will enjoy school at St Mary’s in Swan Hill.

The P&C would like to wish Miss Megan Baker good luck next year in accepting a position at the Balranald Central School. Megan’s fresh enthusiasm will be missed especially by the students we hope Megan has got a lot out of teaching at Clare as much as the students have by having Megan teach them. We wish Megan all the best for the future and thank her for being such a welcomed inclusion to our school.

Goodbye also to Trish Williams, Trish is one person that is greatly respected after 20 plus years at the Clare and Hatfield Public Schools how can thank you be enough. Trish has always been there when the school needed someone to fill in for a day, week and sometimes a term nothing has ever been a problem and the gap that will be left can never be filled as Trish’s experience and knowledge is irreplaceable. The families and students will really miss seeing Trish at Clare School it will never be quite the same again in her absence. So thank you Trish for your dedication towards our school and guidance in whatever the students and especially parents needed, the P&C wish Rob and Trish all the best as it is an exciting time for them as they begin a new journey in their lives.

Our final goodbye goes to our teacher Melanie Scott and also Michael, Jack and Sam Scott. Melanie and her family are leaving us to return to Echuca. It is hard to believe three years has past by so quickly but it has! Melanie has really lifted the literacy level of the students at the school, which for the parents has been an appreciated relief. Teaching her own children could not have been an easy task but Melanie has successfully done this, as well as teach 13 to 14 students all at different year levels. Clare School is a unique school with lots of challenges Melanie has always taken these challenges head on by adding an extra classroom, help secure a RAR teacher at Clare, resurfaced the tennis courts and updating all the reading programs, purchased I pads, laptops and numerous other projects. You only have to look around at the school to see all Melanie’s hard work. We wish Melanie all the best in her new position at Moama Grammar, and we will miss her experience in which has seen our children come along in leaps and bounds. So we thank Melanie for all her efforts and we will miss her not only as a teacher but also as a friend. Not to forget Michael, Jack and Sam we will miss them greatly too life at the school house will never be so entertaining again. I’m sure Jack and Sam will love their new school and take a lot of fond memories with them as of those of the ones they have left for us.

On a personal note I would like to thank Kara Scott as Secretary, Joanne Scott as Treasurer holding positions on the committee is time consuming but rewarding so thank you. To the other mums and dads thank you for your support I have felt this year has had several challenges and with your support it makes my job feel like a breeze. We have a wonderful network in our P&C everyone does what is needed and I thank each person as our children do appreciate everything we do for them. Thank you also to our ever dwindling community for your ongoing support is very much appreciated.

Mrs Delee Fitzgerald P&C President
Student representative’s message

Our school year has been very busy and as leaders we have had a fun time and enjoyed every moment and learning opportunity we have had at Clare Public School this year. Mrs Scott took us to the Young Leaders Conference in Melbourne at the start of the year. We have displayed and taught our younger peers how to be accepting of others, respectful and the keys to success those being resilient, organised, confident, and persistent and how to get along with others.

This year our school has maintained 13 students. We have had students in every grade except Kindergarten. We have enjoyed being in the new BER classroom and we have split the infants and primary students at times to have a classroom each. Thankfully we have been able to make the most of the extra great support we get from Mrs Williams, our new RAR teacher Miss Baker, Mrs K, Fleur & Kerrie sometimes.

Thanks to Kaylene who works hard in the office and in the library. A big thanks also to Geoff for ensuring our school grounds always look neat and presentable. I would like to say thank you to Delee our school cleaner who makes sure our school is always neat and tidy especially after the flies, the mice, the dust and the mud.

Our school has benefitted from school swimming in Dareton, competing at school sports carnivals with Moulamein PSSA including swimming, cross country athletics and AFL. We enjoyed our school excursion to the Grampians and Geelong and made the most of our days at Balranald Central School for, footy days and sports days. All the students made the most of the circus challenge visit we learnt about diablos, juggling and spinning sticks. The school visited the hawthorn football players in Swan hill and participated in a clinic Jordan Williams Mrs Scott’s old student was there. We looked forward to the visits from Reverend Jorge Robeldeo and some of his friends came to visit Clare too.

Working with “Phiggles” the Flying Scientist in the Clare woolshed and being in the Vegemite advertisement would have to be the highlight for the year. Because now we are all famous!
practicum and Regan Stephenson Mrs Scott’s cousin.

The Clare school is looking a little different now with a sealed road into the school and the trees that Nash, Geoff and I planted as part of the creative catchment kids program.

We have our own garden beds and have harvested some vegies with the help of some water from the new rainwater tank. Thanks Mrs Scott for ordering the 4 new laptops and I-pads we think they are pretty great too.

We would like to thank Mrs Scott, Mrs Williams, Miss Baker all the rest of the staff at Clare Public School for their help and encouragement throughout the year to help us reach our full potential.

We would also like to thank our hard working P&C who work hard throughout the year to raise funds for our school. Our new tables and chairs are great. The P&C put lots of funds towards our excursion, literacy resources and online literacy and math programs Mathletics and Fast ForWord.

A big thanks also to all our parents and our families for their love and support to help us be our best and follow the school motto “Take the Challenge”. We would also like to thank the Clare community for their ongoing support of us and our school activities.

Fred Turner School Captain

Nash Fitzgerald Vice Captain

School context

Student information

It is a requirement that the reporting of information for all students must be consistent with privacy and personal information policies.

Student enrolment profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The vegie patches in new garden beds
Management of non-attendance
Non-attendance is followed with personal contact with families.

Class sizes
Primary class sizes are included in the annual school report in order to provide parents with as much local information as possible. The following table shows our class sizes as reported at the 2011 Class Size Audit conducted on Monday 21 March 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roll class</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total per year</th>
<th>Total In class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Structure of classes
Clare Public School consists of one multi-age class ranging from Kindergarten to Year 6. The class is supported by a school learning support officer during the literacy and numeracy sessions.

Staff information
It is a requirement that the reporting of information for all staff must be consistent with privacy and personal information policies.

In 2011 the staff was staffed in the following way:

Staff establishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
<td>0.695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The National Education Agreement requires schools to report on Indigenous composition of their workforce.

Currently the school employs no Indigenous people.

Staff retention
The school retention rate from 2010-2011 was 100%.

Teacher qualifications
All teaching staff meets the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

At Clare Public School the staff qualifications were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>% of staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree or Diploma</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial summary

This summary covers funds for operating costs and does not involve expenditure areas such as permanent salaries, building and major maintenance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of financial summary:</th>
<th>30/11/2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>64802.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>37567.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>26554.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>9240.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>3577.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>177.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>141920.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; learning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key learning areas</td>
<td>12496.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excursions</td>
<td>6507.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular dissections</td>
<td>566.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>101.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training &amp; development</td>
<td>2037.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>27316.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual relief teachers</td>
<td>1048.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; office</td>
<td>8569.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-operated canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>6267.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>11925.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust accounts</td>
<td>177.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital programs</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td>77013.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance carried forward</strong></td>
<td>64906.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A full copy of the school’s 2011 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

School performance 2011

Achievements

Arts

Students have participated in a variety of activities throughout the year. The Circus Challenge visited our school. The students learnt the skills to use diablos, juggling and spinning sticks. The students performed a circus act from the skills that they had learnt and performed in front of the parents to finish the day. The show was highly successful and fun was had by all.

The Circus Challenge Performance

All students K-6 participated in weekly Visual Arts sessions. Lessons were planned using syllabus outcomes and greatly enhanced the student skills. Artwork was displayed prominently around the classroom.

Our school travelled to Mildura Mercy Theatre to attend a ballet performance by students from the Mildura Ballet & Dance Guild presenting the magical interpretation of “Aladdin”.

 Whilst we were on the school excursion the students visited the Geelong Art Gallery and participated in a workshop to make sculptures out of rubbish.

Sculptures made at the Geelong Art Gallery

The end of year performance at Clare Hall was a showcase of entertainment with all students’ preschool to Year 6 performing in front of a large audience. The children all had individual parts in the Christmas play “Prickly Hay”. The students had to practice many lines, songs and dances to perform on the evening.
Sport

Intensive swimming lessons were provided during Term 1 at Dareton swimming pool with all students receiving swimming awards.

The students competed well at the small schools swimming carnival held at Moulamein.

Seven of the students went on to swim at the district swimming carnival at Swan hill. The junior P6 relay team and Jess Scott qualified for the Riverina swimming carnival in Albury. Jess was the only student who travelled to Albury for the Riverina carnival competing in his age race 8yrs boys 50m. Jess came 5th in his heat and 22nd overall.

The Small Schools Cross Country carnival was held at Mallan this year with the students gaining the following results:

- Year 1 - Jack J 1st, Sam 2nd, Liam 3rd, Ruby 5th
- 8/9 Boys - Jess 5th, Jack S 7th
- 8/9 Girls – Harriet 2nd, Grace 3rd, Charli 7th
- 10 Boys – Logan 1st, Beau 4th

The students competed well at the District cross country again held at Mallan with Harriet coming 1st, Grace 2nd, Nash 4th, Logan 5th and Fred 5th. Harriet, Grace, and Nash qualified to compete at the Riverina PSSA Cross country in Deniliquin in June.

The Small Schools Athletics Carnival was held at Wakool this year. The students performed extremely well on the day and displayed fantastic sportsmanship. Sam was Sub Junior Boy Champion, Logan Junior Boy Champion and Nash Runner up 11 yr old Boy Champion. The students then went on to compete at Tooleybuc for the District athletics carnival and Grace and Harriet qualified for the Deniliquin carnival.

The students also dressed up and took part in a “Footy Colours Day” at school completing AFL related activities. Primary students also participated in AFL gala days in Deniliquin and Balranald throughout the year. Our school also travelled to Swan hill to participate in a footy clinic day with Hawthorn
football players with other schools in our district Balranald and Tooleybuc.

Other
The school provided many valuable opportunities for students. These included:

- University of NSW competitions for students in Year 3-6
- School Captains participated in The Young Leaders conference at Melbourne
- Grade 5/6 students involved in Murray Creative Catchment Kids program
- Kindergarten transition program in term 4 preparing 3 new Kindergarten enrolments
- Students helped at school fundraiser Magenta clearing sale
- Students in Year 2-6 completed the Literacy Fast ForWord program
- All students participating in the Healthy Harold program

Academic
In the National Assessment Program, the results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10.

The achievement scale represents increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in these assessments.

Yr 3: from Band 1 (lowest) to Band 6 (highest for Year 3)
Yr 5: from Band 3 (lowest) to Band 8 (highest for Year 5)
Literacy & Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3
Percentage of Year 3 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punctuation and grammar</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Literacy & Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 5
Percentage of Year 5 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punctuation and grammar</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Significant programs and initiatives

Aboriginal education
Aboriginal perspectives are taught through all KLA areas throughout the year.

Multicultural education
Throughout 2011, the school has promoted student understanding through the teaching of integrated units of work that focus on different cultures, their beliefs, similarities and differences. Current issues, significant events and celebrations are acknowledged and incorporated into student learning.

National partnership programs
Our school did not participate in this program.

CAP
Students were supported with a language experience program that increased their expressive language that is delayed due to isolation factors. The program increased their independence, built their vocabulary and their understanding of language structures. Student technology outcomes were enhanced so they have 21st century skills to connect to the global community. Children accessed a range of experiences outside their school environment. This included travelling to a range of sporting and cultural events. The students engaged in a FISH workshop to have a positive attitude and how to work well with others.

Progress on 2011 targets

Target 1
All students to achieve stage based outcomes in writing
Our achievements include:
• Year 3 & 5 achieved national benchmarks
• School based assessment data showed growth
• Work samples demonstrate achievement of stage based outcomes

To develop students’ skills in HSIE as measured by stage based outcomes
Our achievements include:
• HSIE scope and sequence reviewed
• Excursions linked to HSIE unit developing students understanding
• Participated in cultural activities at our school

Our achievements include:
• Exceptional improvements in HSIE student work and skills
• Engaged students in class activities and on school excursions
• Excited students about the topics covered in the HSIE curriculum.

Key evaluations
It is a requirement for all NSW public schools to conduct at least two annual evaluations – one related to educational and management practice and the other related to curriculum. In 2011 our school carried out evaluations of school culture and writing and spelling.
Educational and management practice

Survey of School Culture
In 2011 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school culture within the school.

Findings and conclusions
The student results from the survey indicate satisfaction by:

- Teachers encouraging students to do their best
- Teachers encourage everyone to learn
- Teachers listening to students when they are speaking
- Students are proud of their school

The parent results from the survey indicate satisfaction by:

- The school knows about the families and community in which it serves
- The school often praises and rewards individuals who are successful
- The school is continually finding ways to improve what it does
- When necessary, the school makes important changes to what it does

The staff results from the survey indicate satisfaction by:

- Meeting the needs of students is the school’s main priority
- Staff support what is happening at the school
- The school encourages everybody to be a continuing learner.
- The school recognises and celebrates achievement.

Future directions
It is imperative that the school continues to keep its parent and students well informed via avenues such as P&C, school newsletters the school website and parent meetings.

Curriculum – Student Writing & Spelling

The teaching and learning of Writing and Spelling was chosen as a focus area in 2011 as it was part of the schools cyclic evaluation of programs.

Background
Spelling and writing was earmarked as an area for improvement following analyses of recent NAPLAN results.

Findings and conclusions
All students agree that:

- Teachers explain why they are doing a writing task.
- Their spelling in writing has improved this year
- They learn spelling rules and words each week

All parents agree that:

- Their child/ren have developed new skills in spelling
- They are satisfied with the level of spelling taught at school
- Formal and structured spelling lessons (lists, homework, and weekly dictation) with a focus on spelling rules improves my child’s spelling
- Their child/ren have developed new skills in writing

Staff are happy implementing the Thrass program as part of spelling into classroom practices and implementing the text type posters and structure for a writing focus.

Future directions
Further training in Writing skills and analysis of NAPLAN for staff and parents would be beneficial to assist ongoing student learning. Students participating in writing workshops, with visiting authors would also be highly beneficial. Referring to writing rubrics would also help students gain their full potential. Students need to be encouraged to take more risks to use challenging words in their writing and present their work using neat foundation handwriting.
Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction

In 2011 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school. Their responses are presented below.

Results from the survey returned by families indicate satisfaction with:

- The school is connected to its community and welcomes parental involvement
- The school is a friendly school that is tolerant and accepting of all students
- The students are the school’s main concern
- The school maintains a focus on literacy and numeracy
- CPS has competent teachers who set high standards of achievement

Areas identified for improvement include:

- Access to connected classroom facilities to improve technology programs and resources.

Professional learning

Priorities for professional learning have been in line with the Riverina Regional Priorities. Staff have been provided with opportunities to attend principal conferences, principals’ essential training, Riverina forum for the future, SASS conference, Technology training and small school initiative days. Our relief teacher attended Thrass training.

All professional learning programs are used to build the capacity of our staff to provide quality teaching and learning programs and service for students.

School planning 2012—2014

The school planning policy provides direction for the preparation and implementation of school plans including the identification of priority areas, intended outcomes and targets that are consistent with the NSW State Plan and the Department’s planning documents.

School priority 1

Outcome for 2012–2014

Improved writing skills evidenced by school-based assessment using Consistency of Teacher Judgement on the A-E scale and NAPLAN results with students achieving at or above the Riverina Regional targets.

Improved numeracy skills evidenced by school-based assessment using Consistency of Teacher Judgement on the A-E scale and NAPLAN results with students achieving at or above the Riverina Regional targets.

2012 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Developing a School Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan to address use of syllabuses, programming and explicit teaching of skills and understandings needed to achieve improvement for each student.
- Undertaking an analysis of student work samples (using Consistent Teacher Judgement) and NAPLAN results against syllabus outcomes to identify specific areas for improvement in Literacy and Numeracy.
- Using Best Start analysis to inform individual learning needs in Kindergarten.
- Employing a (SLSO) School Learning Support Officer to assist with targeted support for students as determined by the School Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- The successful implementation and ongoing assessment and evaluation of the School Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan.
- Achieving NAPLAN and school-based assessment targets.
- School based data showing each student achieving individual learning goals in relation to Stage outcomes for Literacy and Numeracy.
- Specific learning support successfully targeting areas of need in Literacy and Numeracy.
School priority 2

Outcome for 2012–2014

To improve cultural education to foster students’ understanding of the diversity of children and of communities that are different to theirs.

2012 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Developing a School Cultural Education Action Plan to address use of syllabuses, programming and explicit teaching of skills and understandings needed to achieve improved outcomes in this area.

- Using technology to allow students to interact with a diverse range of students and communities outside our local area.

- Participating in excursions to support cultural education.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- The successful implementation and on-going assessment and evaluation of the School Cultural Education Action Plan.

- Students engaging successfully in school activities to foster an understanding of the diversity of children and of communities that are different to theirs.

- Values of respect and dignity being evident in student interactions with others from varied backgrounds.

About this report

In preparing this report, the self-evaluation committee has gathered information from evaluations conducted during the year and analysed other information about the school’s practices and student learning outcomes. The self-evaluation committee and school planning committee have determined targets for the school’s future development.

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