



Education &  
Communities

2740



# Newport Public School Annual School Report



# 2017



# MESSAGES

## PRINCIPAL



It is with great pleasure that I present the 2011 Annual School Report for Newport Public School.

Newport Public School prides itself in having delivered outstanding quality education to the Newport community for over 120 years. The school strives to nurture a special place in the sun for every child to shine.

Newport Public School provides the highest quality education for all students, delivering an extensive curriculum focusing on developing skills in literacy, numeracy and technology. Highly qualified and dedicated teachers strive to bring out the best in every child through quality teaching and learning programs delivered in stimulating and supportive learning environments. Specialist support programs assist students experiencing difficulty with their learning, whilst experienced staff provide enrichment and extension for high achieving students. At Newport we aim to meet the individual needs of all our students.

Throughout 2011 our school provided extensive opportunities for students to develop socially, culturally and physically. Our extensive music program continued to excel in their many performances. The Newport dance program enabled our talented dancers to perform at local, regional and state dance festivals. Children also participated with enthusiasm in our choirs, chess, debating, public speaking and drama groups.

Our proud history of sporting achievement is underpinned by extensive sporting opportunities for children, supported by skilled staff and dedicated parents and in 2011 resulted in numerous state titles. Our school sailing and snow sports programs also continued as highly valued aspects of our school.

Our school's expectations of cooperate, achieve, respect and engage continued to be reflected in our student welfare motto, "At Newport we CARE". This code coupled with our proactive welfare and discipline programs, provided a safe and inclusive environment for students. Parents,

students and staff have highlighted the effectiveness of this program.

Newport Public School strives to develop responsible and successful global citizens. This was once again fostered through our outstanding cultural exchange program, the charity work undertaken by the students and our environmental education programs.

Once again the school and parents worked closely together throughout 2011 for the benefit of the school and the children. Hundreds of parents assisted the school in a wide range of roles throughout the year. The P&C Association continued to upgrade school facilities with the installation of air-conditioners, classroom pin boards and retractable walls in our Kindergarten classrooms. Our P&C Association held an outstanding fete, enhancing that great Newport community spirit.

The Annual School Report provides a summary of our achievements in 2011 and gives a structure to communicate our priorities and the focus of our learning in 2012. Ongoing evaluation is an important feature of our school with a commitment and a desire for continual improvement.

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.

**Margaret Charlton**

**Principal**

# MESSAGES

## PRINCIPAL



### P&C Association

Newport School Parents and Citizens Association had another busy year in 2011, continuing to provide a valuable forum for parents to discuss issues concerning their child's school and to gain valuable insight into the operation of the school.

The school community worked hard on fundraising, working bees, classroom activities, garden club and the canteen among many other activities. In 2011 our fundraising committee decided to hold a school fete (after a seven year break)! This was a fantastic day for the school and the community of Newport and we thanked Meg Burke, Anissa Upton and their team for their hard work and good humour in organising the stalls and raising \$40000! Without the enthusiasm and hard work of all of our school families, the P&C Association would not be able to operate as effectively.

During 2011, the P&C Association was able to continue its funding of programs to support the learning of students across the school, with \$39000 allocated to literacy and numeracy programs for students experiencing difficulty with learning and to support gifted and talented students. Funds were also allocated to support the operation of the school, with a further \$5000 to purchase library books. The P&C was also able to support the music program with \$5000.

The newly instituted technology levy was used to purchase computers for classrooms and interactive whiteboards, as well as funding professional learning for teachers in the area of technology.

2011 also saw us farewell a number of long-term contributors to the school. Their contribution to the school community was immeasurable and they will be greatly missed. We look forward to a busy 2012 and thank the school community for its ongoing support.

**Jason Ramsay, P&C President**

### Student Representatives

Throughout 2011 the Newport Public School Student Parliament has held meetings three times a term with all Year 6 students. At our meetings we discussed things that concern us as well as ways we can improve our school. Students would put forward a motion to be discussed and Year 6 would vote to accept or reject the motion. This year many different issues were discussed. These ranged from getting hand dryers in the bathrooms to sending books to underprivileged children in Nepal and many others. Over the year other grades are invited to attend the school parliament, however only Year 6 is able to vote.

Throughout the school year the student leaders were involved in many leadership programs. The House Captains and Ministers went to the Young Leaders Day at the Entertainment Centre. The School Captains and Vice-Captains went to the Peninsula Community of Schools Leadership Program. The School Captains also went Leadership Camp at Collaroy. Our Ministers, Music Captains and Ferry Captains participated in the Peninsula Community of Schools Student Leadership Hub days. All these programs helped us to be better leaders at Newport Public School.

2011 was a great year for us all and we all enjoyed it.

**Kate Kimmorley and Nathan Ramsay**

### School Captains

# SCHOOL CONTEXT

2011

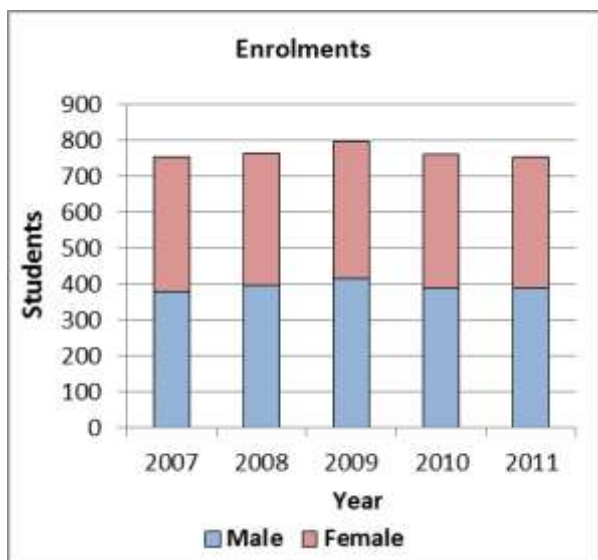


## Student Information

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

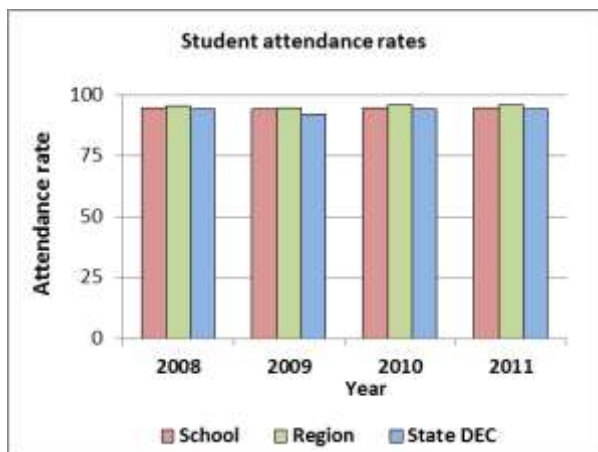
### Student Enrolment Profile

In December 2011, enrolment at Newport PS was 745. There was some student mobility through the year.



### Student Attendance Profile

Student attendance rates remain higher than state averages. We will continue to encourage full attendance.



## 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.

Class	Year	Total per year	Total In class
KDF	K	23	23
KGS	K	22	22
KJF	K	20	20
KJG	K	23	23
KSA	K	22	22
1/2JP	1	13	25
1BG	1	23	23
1EE	1	23	23
1EJ	1	23	23
1SN	1	22	22
1/2JP	2	12	25
2JJ	2	24	24
2KC	2	25	25
2KH	2	24	24
2TD	2	24	24
3DD	3	29	29
3GB	3	28	28
3SN	3	27	27
3TR	3	27	27
4/5LL	4	14	29
4EA	4	28	28
4IW	4	29	29
4LC	4	28	28
4/5LL	5	15	29
5PA	5	25	25
5SC	5	27	27
5WW	5	26	26
6AH	6	30	30
6GM	6	30	30
6KK	6	31	31
6SA	6	29	29

# SCHOOL CONTEXT

2011



## Staff Information

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

Our dedicated and caring staff consists of skilled and committed professionals, who cater for the varied needs of our students.

## Staff establishment

Position	Number
Principal	1
Deputy Principal(s)	2
Assistant Principal(s)	4
Classroom Teachers	27.644
Teacher of Reading Recovery	0.42
Support Teacher Learning Assistance	0.2
Teacher Librarian	1.2
Counsellor	0.5
School Administrative & Support Staff	4.872
Total	41.836

## Teacher qualification

All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

Qualifications	% of staff
Degree or Diploma	100
Postgraduate	26.6

## Staff retention

Newport Public School enjoys a high level of staff retention with a number of teachers teaching at the school for many years. This year we have had a number of retirements and farewell John Walsh and Evelyn Adams after many years of tireless service to public education. We will fill four new classroom teacher positions and a Deputy Principal position for 2012.

## Financial summary

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

Date of financial summary: 30/11/2011

**Income** \$

Balance brought forward	394392.93
Global funds	340329.89
Tied funds	81819.00
School & community sources	537064.44
Interest	22318.70
Trust receipts	212879.11
Canteen	0.00
Total income	1588804.07

### Expenditure

Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	185992.03
Excursions	114752.75
Extracurricular dissections	195177.75
Library	21851.49
Training & development	13407.15
Tied funds	92107.59
Casual relief teachers	114275.35
Administration & office	95751.12
School-operated canteen	0.00
Utilities	60437.95
Maintenance	44038.85
Trust accounts	187006.27
Capital programs	72041.80
Total expenditure	1196840.1
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>391963.97</b>

A full copy of the school's 2011 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the P&C Association. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

## ACADEMIC 2011



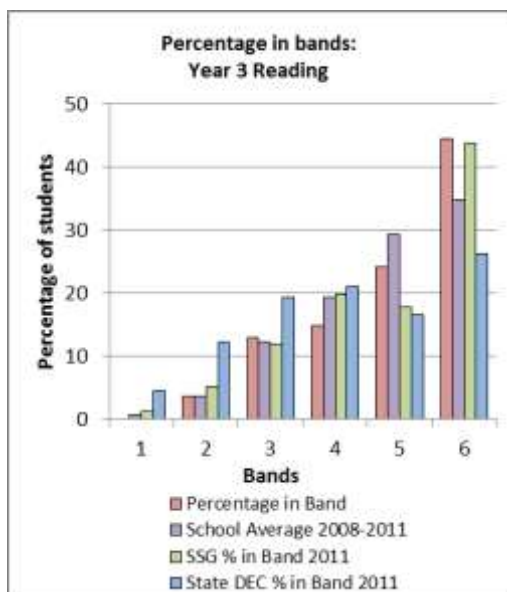
### Academic

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. For Year 3 Band 1 is the lowest and Band 6 is the highest. For Year 5 Band 3 is the lowest and Band 8 is the highest

### Literacy – NAPLAN Year 3

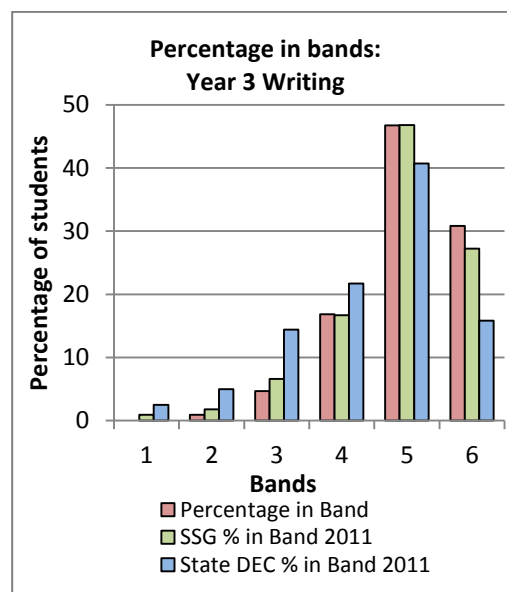
In 2011 students continued to perform very well in comparison with students across the state. Results for girls were better than boys in all strands. Students achieved results above state averages in all strands. School development will focus on the areas of reading and writing.



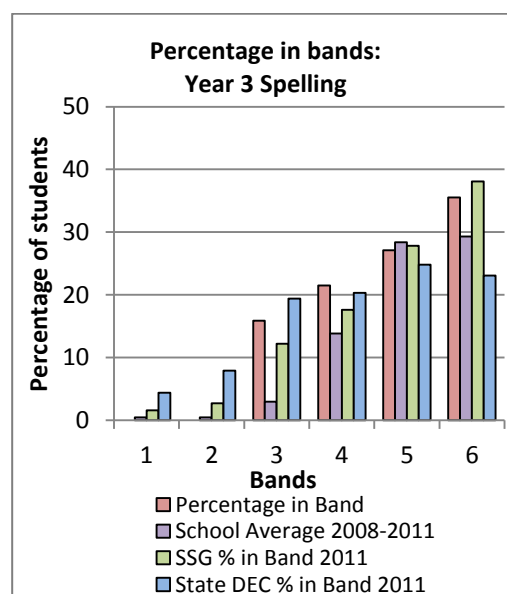
In reading 68% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 47% for the state. With over two thirds of the students in the top two bands, the focus for 2012 will be to address the needs of students in the lower bands.

In writing 78% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 61% for the state.

No students performed at or below the national minimum standard.



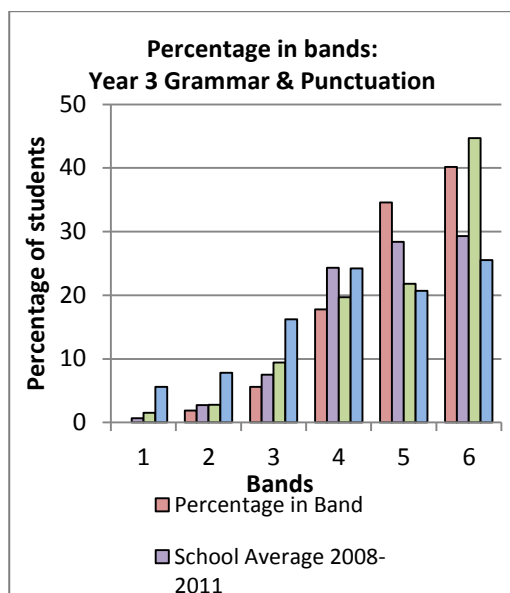
Analysis of results will assist staff in supporting the needs of students in the lower bands.



In spelling 63% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 51% for the state. In grammar and punctuation 75% of students performed in the top two bands compared to 50% for the state.

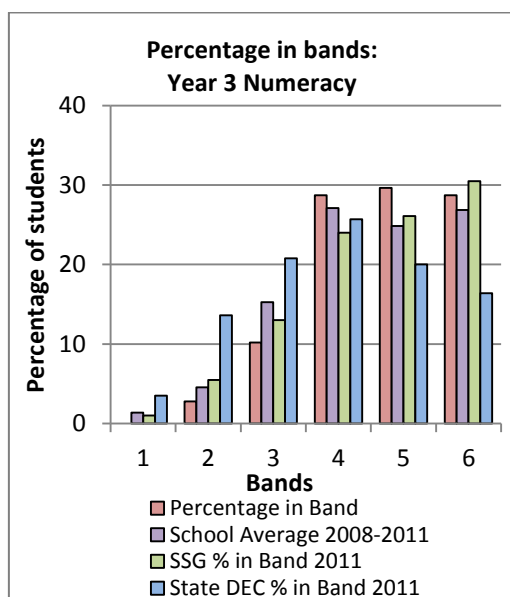
# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

## ACADEMIC 2011



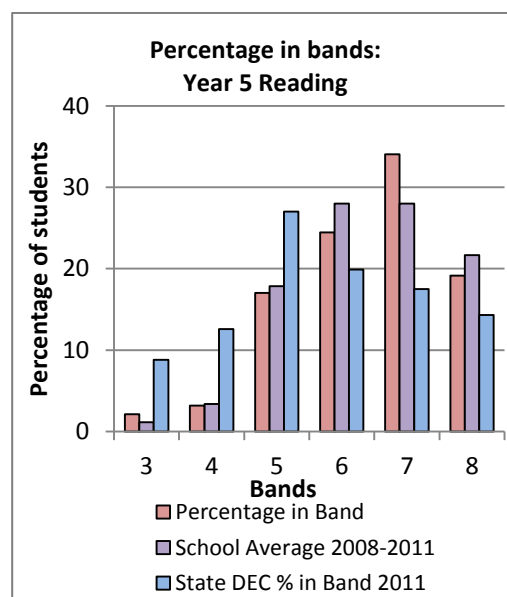
### Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3

Students continued to perform very well in numeracy in comparison to the state. The overall numeracy results saw 88% of students achieve results in Bands 4, 5 and 6 compared to 67% for the state.

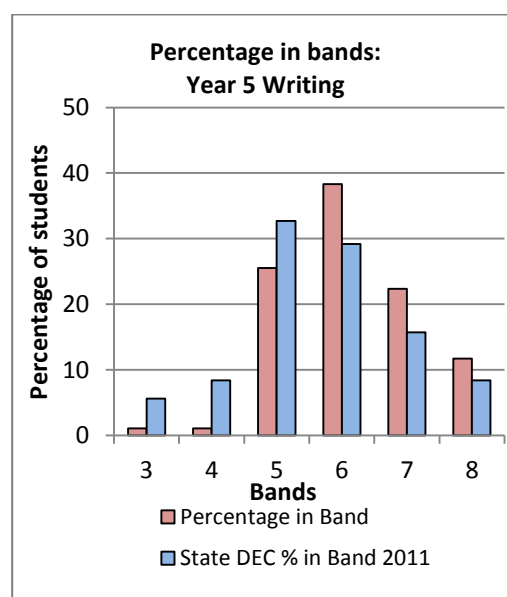


### Literacy – NAPLAN Year 5

In 2011 students continued to perform very well. Students achieved results above state averages in all strands.



In reading 53% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 35% for the state. Learning support will continue to target students in the lower bands

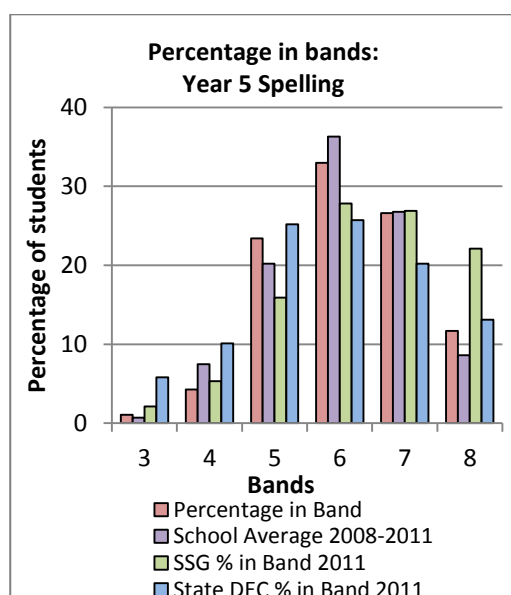


# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

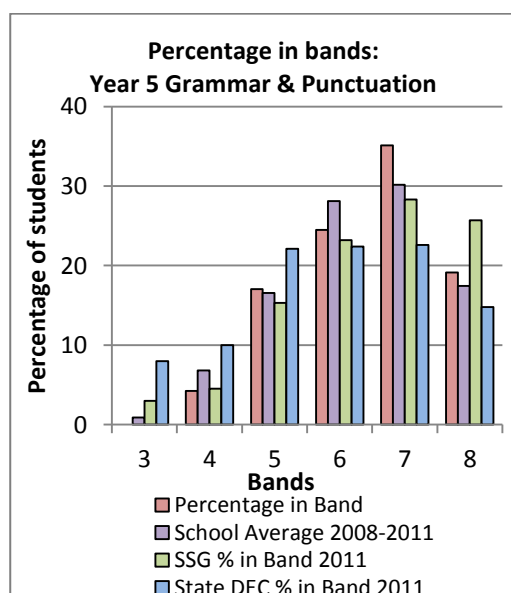
## ACADEMIC 2011



In writing 72% of students were placed in the top three bands compared to 57% for the state. Areas of strength included text structure, elaborating ideas, more complex sentence structure and use of technical vocabulary.



In spelling 72% of students were placed in the top three bands compared to 63% for the state. In grammar and punctuation 78% of students were placed in the top three bands compared to 64% for the state.



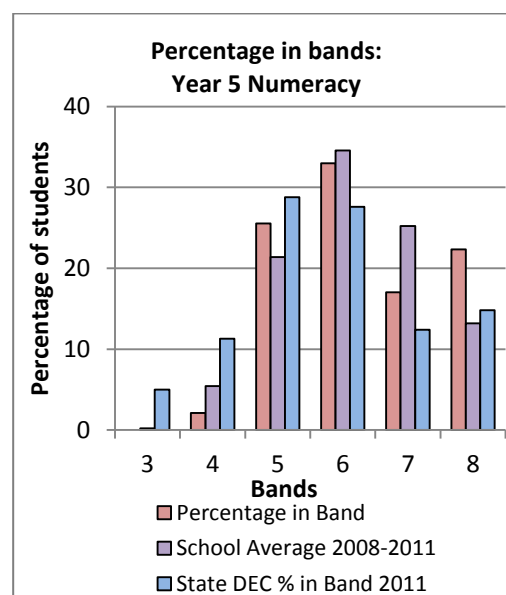
In Year 5 a small group of students was placed in the bottom two bands and will receive learning support in 2012 to improve their literacy skills.

School development will focus on the areas of reading and writing. In reading we will focus on the development of comprehension skills. In the area of writing we will focus on spelling and grammar.

### Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 5

Year 5 students continued to perform well in comparison to state averages. The overall numeracy results saw 72% of students achieve results in Bands 6, 7 and 8 compared to the state average of 58%.

Our students achieved results above state averages in all aspects of numeracy. Results for boys were better than girls.



# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

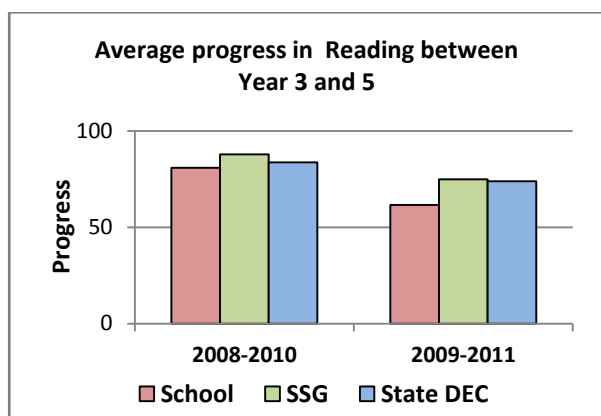
## ACADEMIC 2011



### Progress in literacy

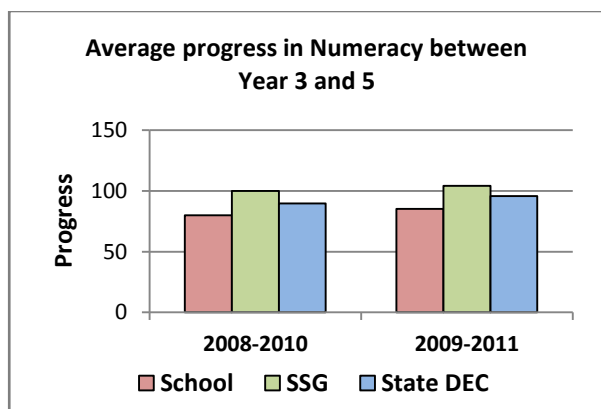
NAPLAN assesses student growth between Year 3 and Year 5 by matching 2009 and 2011 results.

In reading the average growth for students was 63.1 compared to 74.0 for the state. 64.8% of students achieved expected growth. Growth for boys and girls was similar.



### Progress in numeracy

The average growth for students was 84.5 compared to 95.8 for the state. In numeracy 61% of students achieved the expected growth. Girls achieved much greater growth at 95.8 than boys at 71.2.



### Minimum standards

The Commonwealth Government sets minimum standards for reading, writing, grammar and punctuation, spelling and numeracy for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

The performance of the students in our school in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy is compared to these minimum standards. The percentages of our students achieving at or above these standards are reported below.

Percentage of Year 3 students achieving at or above minimum standard (exempt students included)	
Reading	100.0
Writing	100.0
Spelling	100.0
Grammar & Punctuation	100.0
Numeracy	100.0

Percentage of Year 5 students achieving at or above minimum standard (exempt students included)	
Reading	97.9
Writing	98.9
Spelling	98.9
Grammar & Punctuation	100.0
Numeracy	100.0

# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2011



### Music Program

Throughout 2011 our highly successful instrumental music program provided many opportunities for our talented musicians. This year all of our ensembles performed at school and community events. In May, all members of the ensembles participated in the Music Camp at The Collaroy Centre. The culmination of the camp was a Grand Finale in which all musicians were represented.

This year the String Orchestra, Concert Band and Performance Band competed in instrumental competitions. The String Orchestra received a Highly Commended in the Ryde Eisteddfod and a Bronze award in the Yamaha Festival. The Performance Band played at the Yamaha Festival and received a Bronze Award. Our Concert Band also played at the Yamaha Festival.

In December the culmination of the year was our Twilight Concert where once again the musicians showcased their talents in instrumental music. 2011 was another successful year for the wonderful musicians of Newport.

### Dance

This year 150 children participated in the school dance program. The children danced in seven performance groups that catered for varying abilities. Three groups performed at the Sydney North Dance Festival; Year 2 Singing and Dancing in the Rain, Year 3 and 4 Welcome to the Tea Party and Year 5 and 6 To Freedom. Our Year 2 performance group was selected for inclusion in the State Dance Festival. Three groups; Year 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 6 performed at the Peninsula Community of Schools Music Festival. The dance groups also performed on Open Day,

at the school fete and in the school Showcase Concert. Thirteen students from Years 5 and 6 performed as part of the Schools Spectacular.

The Dance Program continues to be enthusiastically supported by Sue Brandenburg, Sandra Nicol, Julie Parker, Karen Hulme, Emily Jefferys and Greg Moran. This year Wendy McLean was acknowledged by the Regional Director for her support of our Dance Program with a Regional Directors Award. Although Wendy has left our school, her legacy of beautiful costumes remains.

### Choir

Our three choirs had a very busy year with many wonderful performances. The Performance choir was fortunate to be selected to perform as part of the Schools Spectacular Combined Choir at the Sydney Entertainment Centre, Imagine; a wonderful experience. This talented group also delighted audiences at the Newport Open Day, the Newport Showcase, Anzac Day Ceremony and Presentation Day at Pittwater High School.

The Peninsula Community of Schools Music Festival was held at Barrenjoey High School. Newport once again was a major contributor to this festival. Our Junior Choir and Senior Choir performed alongside ten other Primary Schools, singing songs with a fantasy and make-believe theme. The Junior and Senior PSC Choirs also performed in the Newport Showcase and for Open Day. The Boys Choir performed on Newport Open Day. Well done to all the choir members. Thank you to Tamara Rulli, Jennie Goodall, Brian Franki and Cybele Mannell for the many hours spent rehearsing.

# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2011



### **Sport**

Sport is a highly valued component of the curriculum at Newport Public School. The value of an active and healthy lifestyle has been promoted through a wide range of sporting and leisure opportunities available at the school. In 2011 our students had many wonderful sporting achievements, making us all very proud.

- We had excellent levels of participation from students in swimming, cross country and athletics school carnivals.
- Newport Public School was the Pittwater Zone Swimming Champion School and Athletics Champion School, in both Point Score and Handicap categories.
- Newport was also the Pittwater Zone Cross Country Champion School, in the Point Score category.

### **School Representation**

- Newport entered teams in rugby union, softball, netball, cricket, soccer and touch football knockout competitions. Our PSSA Rugby Knockout Team won the state knockout competition for the third year running. The Boy's Cricket Team also state winners, bringing home the Brian Taber Shield.
- Kristie Edwards competed for the second year in the National Athletics competition. She holds two national titles, winning gold in the 100m and 200m events. Kristie also won silver in the long jump event.

### **Primary Schools Sports Association PSSA**

- Students enthusiastically participated in a wide range of PSSA team sports every Friday, including softball, cricket, eagle tag, netball, rugby league and soccer.
- Newport won both the Spring and Summer Friday Sports competitions.

### **Sailing**

- Sixty students from Year 4 to Year 6, including beginner to intermediate sailors, participated in the Learn to Sail Program in Terms 1 and 4. The program runs as part of our Friday school sports program.
- Our young sailors are introduced to the rudiments of sailing in dinghies. At the end of the season the Pittwater Regatta is held to provide our advanced sailors with the opportunity to compete in a friendly competition. The Pittwater Cup is awarded to the winning school.

### **Snowsports**

- 2011 was another very successful year for Newport P.S. in the Interschool Snow Sports Competition. Newport was awarded School Club Outstanding Achievement of the Year Award by Ski and Snowboarding Australia.
- The Newport Snowsports Team of 30 children competed in the regional, state and national Interschool titles with great success. They competed in Snowboard, Ski and Cross Country Ski events.
- Newport won three national titles; Junior Boys Snowboard GS, Senior Boys Snowboard GS and Snowboard BX. Lucy Neill (Ski Alpine) and Madison Hoffman (Ski X) both came first in their national events and are current National School Champions.



# SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2011



### Drama

The Junior Drama group auditioned successfully for the Arts North Drama Festival with their very amusing rendition of 'The Queen's Knickers'. They were later invited to perform at the State Drama Festival at the Seymour Centre. The Senior Drama group also auditioned successfully for the Arts North Drama Festival with their entertaining adaptation of 'The Lorax'. These groups thrived under the support of Mrs Green, Mrs Parker and Mrs Clements.

### Public Speaking and Debating

In 2011 students were involved in the Arts Unit's Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition. Twelve students from Stages 2 and 3 presented their speech to the school during assembly. From this cohort teachers selected two students from each stage to represent Newport Public School at the local final at Collaroy. Students presented their prepared speech and an impromptu speech on Multicultural Topics to an adjudicator.

Stage 3 students were involved in the Northern Sydney Regional Interschool Debating Competition, participating successfully in interschool debates with schools from our region. Students from Stage 2 and Stage 3 also participate in a full day Debating Seminar to learn new skills and techniques of successful debating from a trained adjudicator. Mrs Clements worked hard to support the children throughout the year in both public speaking and debating.

### Chess

The Newport Chess teams had another busy year in 2011 with social and competition games. Teams competed in the one day events as well as the ten week After School Tournament. For the third consecutive year our Junior team was After School Tournament Champions in the Manly Warringah region. The Senior team won the Manly Warringah One Day Tournament, giving them state selection to play in the state finals at Lidcombe. Our girls won the female category at

Mona Vale's Northern Beaches One Day Tournament.

Newport continues to run its targeted Kindergarten program. This is a very successful initiative developing strong junior competition players. Mark Tickle and Edson Ortiz continue to coach and support this valuable program.

### Young Achievers Program

Every year Newport Public School runs a variety of Young Achiever programs. In 2011, Young Musicians, Young Dramatists, Young Writers and Young Artists programs were held. Our Young Musicians Concert concluded with a fabulous performance for the school community. This year the Young Dramatists Program focused on integrating drama into class programs. Mrs Green and Miss Jefferys provided professional development for staff to facilitate this program, with great success. Assemblies were held to showcase the work of the students. The Young Artists program finished the year with an art display in the hall showcasing our talented young artists. Our Young Writers Award acknowledged students achievements in writing by publishing an outstanding piece of work each week in our school newsletter, The Natter. These programs gave the opportunity for many of our students to shine and show their wonderful talents.



# SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

2011



## Aboriginal education

Newport Public School is committed to promoting the educational achievements of Aboriginal students and to enhancing the knowledge and understanding of all students about Aboriginal Australia. Our school ensures that Aboriginal perspectives are included in appropriate units of work across all key learning areas, promoting a greater understanding of Aboriginal culture, history and contemporary life.

Throughout the year, staff participated in professional learning to develop a deeper understanding of Aboriginal histories, cultures and experiences. Staff worked to implement the Aboriginal Education Policy with a focus on embedding Aboriginal knowledge, culture and history within key learning areas.

NAIDOC Week was celebrated at Newport with a fundraiser for the Koori Kids Foundation and a school disco also raised funds for the Ian Thorpe Foundation of Youth to purchase Literacy Backpacks for Aboriginal students in remote areas of the Northern Territory. Local Aboriginal Elder Neil Evers addressed our NAIDOC Week assembly.

## Multicultural education

Multicultural education influences all areas of the curriculum, as it builds the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for our culturally diverse society. Students learn about other cultures and celebrations around the world, developing an understanding and respect for others values.

Our Punchbowl Exchange program once again supported students' understanding and respect of other cultures. Year 4 students from Newport and Punchbowl exchanged letters and emails throughout the year and visited each other's schools in Term 2 and Term 4. In our visit to Punchbowl Newport students were involved in a wide range of language classes, some of the many activities that broadened our students' view of different schools and communities.

Tolerance and acceptance of diversity are actively promoted through this program.

## Respect and responsibility

Positive Behaviour Engaging Learners is a whole school approach to developing and maintaining positive relationships, effective learning environments and academic success. This program is in its second year at Newport.

After specifically learning the school code (Cooperate, Achieve, Respect and Engage) in 2010, students this year continued to develop their understanding and implemented the code in their classrooms, in non-classroom settings and when representing Newport outside of the school.

In 2011, the program improved values education in the school by providing a common language for students and teachers to use when learning specific social, organisational and interpersonal skills. These skills have been demonstrated by students during assemblies, after being specifically taught the appropriate behaviours for these public forums.

The PBEL program will continue next year, teaching Newport students specific skills and expectations for a range of situations in the school and community.



# SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

2011



## Leadership

In 2011, Newport Public School provided many formal leadership opportunities with students participating in a range of programs. The School Captains took part in the regional Leadership Camp and joined the Vice Captains in the Peninsula Community of Schools Leadership Program. The Parliament Ministers House Captains and Band Captains went to the Young Leaders Day at the Entertainment Centre.

The House Captains did an outstanding job at all the school sporting carnivals, organising house relay teams and boosting team moral by leading a variety of songs and chants.

The Ferry Captains worked diligently to ensure all children, especially the younger children, caught the appropriate ferry and travelled safely.

The Band Captains worked conscientiously to organise stage props, manage the bands back stage and liaise between the conductors and other band members.

Those students involved in formal leadership roles this year have represented Newport Public School in a mature and diligent way. They should be proud of their efforts and the leadership skills they have developed.

## School parliament

School Parliament is a forum that provides the student body a voice in the management and organisation of the school. It also allows them to put forward ideas so the school can help the wider community. Throughout 2011 the School Parliament meetings were held twice a term.

The School Parliament ministers in 2011 were; Kate Kimmorley, Nathan Ramsay, Kristie Edwards, Keelan Smith, Taylah Maxwell, Kyle Nettleton, Naomi Bronier, Patrick Gilliland, Jessica Tetlow, Toby Wilson, Emma Kuhl and Saxon Wright-Casanova.

The successful motions that were implemented by parliament this year were: fundraising events

to raise money for Stewart House and underprivileged children in Nepal; to improve the school's carbon footprint by conducting a waste audit and installing recycling bins around the school; promoting reading in the school by having Year 6 and Kindergarten reading sessions; to support a clothes drive for Stewart House and to collect and send old school magazines to Nepal.

## Environmental education

In 2011 Newport Public School's work in sustainability was recognised with a Highly Commended Award in the Pittwater Council's Sustainability Awards. This year Newport established an Environmental Management Team, which coordinated a number of activities throughout the year.

Green Day integrated sustainability into the curriculum. All students were engaged in learning sustainable practices through activities conducted throughout the school. In particular, Year 5 and 6 students along with Pittwater Council's Environmental Compliance Education Unit carried out a Waste Audit. This set a benchmark from which waste reduction goals may be set.

Students participated in a wide range of activities throughout the year, including:

- No Wrap Lunches;
- E-tweets, involving student communications about environmental issues;
- The Green Book, which enabled communication between students and teachers about maintenance issues; and
- student leadership visits to Kimbriki Ecohouse and Garden.

Our Green team has been coordinated throughout 2011 by Nicola Elliot and Shane Clements.

# SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

2011



## Peninsula Community of Schools

The PCS is a collaborative learning community that has pooled the resources of our three local high schools and ten area primary schools to partner with each other and with Macquarie University to provide over 8,000 students from diverse backgrounds from K-12, with new and dynamic learning opportunities.

A range of programs are offered each year by the PCS for students from Kindergarten to Year 12. Activities are created by the PCS Coordinators, Macquarie University staff and teachers from the PCS and are delivered in schools and on campus as an enrichment program. Identified experts modelled activities and created resources for class groups as well as staff to ensure a high quality delivery. Year 4 and Year 6 students visited the Macquarie University Campus for the first time participating in leadership, sustainability and Indigenous education programs.

Staff have been able to participate in specialised workshops each term, supported by guest speakers such as Melinda Tankard Reist and Peter Blasina, university staff, teachers and community partners. Staffs have been immersed in innovative teaching and learning practices with over 25% of workshops on offer focusing on the effective use of new technologies in the classroom.

## Programs for students with additional educational needs

Our active Learning Support Team reviewed individual students' learning needs and determined how these needs could be best met through available school programs.

The Reading Recovery program provided special help to students in Year 1 to become better readers. Throughout the year selected students have received daily individual lessons with Mr Franki. Children took part for approximately twenty weeks depending on their progress. This

program has been successfully supporting young readers at our school for a number of years.

During 2011 the P&C Association and the school funded a teacher four days per week (\$52,000) to support students experiencing difficulty with learning. Additional literacy and numeracy support was provided to 97 students at Newport Public School. The MULTILIT reading continued this year with our Grandfriends Tutors trained in the MULTILIT program. These dedicated women worked every Thursday to assist children with special reading needs.

Newport Public School continues to cater for gifted students by cluster grouping of students. This involves placing a small group of gifted or talented students in one class in a grade. Teachers of these classes were once again supported in a variety of ways by Mrs Lomas. Team teaching, planning and evaluation of lessons in thinking skills and mathematics enabled them to extend the cluster group.

This year use of the funding from the P&C Association to assist teachers to cater for Gifted and Talented students was broadened to incorporate technology. Groups of teachers worked with our Gifted and Talented and Technology coordinators to develop rigorous class programs that challenged our highest achievers across Key Learning Areas. Teachers used a variety of programming models that developed students' thinking and information technology skills. Students created a range of products using narrative and presentation-based software. Some classes put their end products on their class blogs to share with parents. Students in Stage 3 were also involved in withdrawal enrichment classes, including an internal Tournament of Minds program and entry into the National Mathematics Challenge.

# TARGETS FOR 2012



## Student Welfare

### Background

This evaluation focussed on our school code, reward systems, managing discipline, welfare programs including anti-bullying and our school environment. It was undertaken to evaluate the effectiveness of our practices and identify any areas for development.

### Findings and conclusions

#### Parents

82% of parents were aware of our new school code through our school newsletter, feedback from their children, noticeboards and merit awards. The majority of parents supported our award system and believed that the positive recognition is motivating and appropriate. One third of parents stated that their child had reported an incident of bullying this year and of those who reported this to the school, 91% were happy with the way the school handled the issue.

#### Students

The majority of students recognised that the importance of our school code relates to staff and students working well together, learning and being safe. They valued our assembly awards and Gold Awards and many comments expressed that students felt happy and safe and supported at Newport PS. Whilst 72% of students reported no incidences of bullying, 28% of students had reported an incident of bullying, the majority occurring in the playground.

#### Staff

Staff reported that our assembly awards, chook lottos and class awards are relevant for recognising students following our school code and found the PBEL lessons to be an effective way to reinforce the new school code. Some staff reported that the Gold Award system is less effective in recognising student achievement. The majority of staff rated classroom management strategies, our referral system and behaviour

contracts as effective in addressing student welfare issues. Some staff believed the Blue Book and counselling strategies as average or fair in addressing welfare issues.

### Future directions

- Further implementation of the PBEL program will continue to focus on issues outside the classroom and also begin to develop our Newport code in classroom settings.
- The strengthening of our school's anti-bullying policy and practices will see a review of K-6 lessons, inclusion of cyber-bullying, a focus on developing resilience and the development of guidelines for staff when dealing with bullying issues.
- The Student Welfare Committee will review our gold award system to ensure consistency across the school as well as ensuring effective recognition of student achievement.

## Creative Arts

### Background

At Newport PS students attend weekly music lesson provided by Mark Tickle. Visual Arts is integrated into classroom learning programs. Students also participate in the Young Achievers Programs which cover visual arts, drama, musicianship and public speaking. A range of extra-curricular activities support the Creative Arts program including dance, choir, strings and band. This key learning area was evaluated using surveys of students, staff and parents.

### Findings

- Students enjoyed participating in all areas of Creative Arts at Newport PS, both in classroom and the extracurricular groups.
- Parents valued the music program provided but would like a greater variety of exposure to varied instruments.

# TARGETS FOR 2012



- Staff integrate Visual Arts into the classroom program with the greatest success and lessons are appreciated by students and parents.
- Greater exposure to drama and dance within the classroom would be beneficial.
- Staff require a focus on professional learning, especially how to assess Creative Arts.
- Parents would like increased communication about the school's Creative Arts programs.

## Future directions:

- The Young Dramatists and Communicators programs to focus on supporting teachers to incorporate lessons within the classroom.
- The provision of staff professional learning to increase confidence in the implementation of Creative Arts within the classroom.
- The creation of a central art store for easy location of equipment.

## Parent, teacher and student satisfaction

In 2011 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school. Results indicated a high level of satisfaction within our school.

On average 95% of parents responded positively to the survey questions; with their children feeling happy and safe at school, that learning is interesting and staff help their child to do their best. Parents were satisfied with the quality of teaching, the new facilities, our Newport code, extra-curricular activities and environmental initiatives. Parents felt bullying incidents were well managed by staff.

Staff indicated a strong satisfaction with the school's working environment, identifying staff collegiality and team work as special features. Teachers valued collaborative planning time for

teaching and learning, the improved school environment and our Newport code.

On average 92% of students felt very pleased with the school. They were particularly happy with the range of extra-curricular programs and opportunities which they were able to access.

Areas identified to address in 202 included:

- improvements to the canteen, including healthy and more interesting food options;
- more play equipment on the playground;
- greater access to computers in classrooms;
- improvements in the teaching of visual arts; and
- improvements to the school website.

## Professional learning

The impact of ongoing quality teacher professional learning upon students' learning outcomes and school improvement is significant. The school values and encourages active participation in professional learning. To this end significant funds were expended in this area and a quality professional learning program was implemented across the school for all staff. This professional learning related to the school's targets and priorities and the needs of the staff and included:

- support for curriculum implementation in writing, mathematics, technology and assessment;
- the implementation of the Team Leadership for School Improvement program, designed to enhance literacy and numeracy outcomes for students;
- regular grade planning sessions to develop consistency in curriculum delivery and student assessment across every grade; and
- staff participation in a wide range of PCS professional learning activities

# TARGETS FOR 2012



## Target 1

**To further enhance student achievement in literacy, with a focus on writing and spelling.**

Our achievements include:

- 100% of Year 3 students and 99% of Year 5 students achieved at or above the minimum standard for both spelling and writing in NAPLAN assessments;
- percentage of students achieving desired growth in spelling increased from 43.8% in 2010 to 54.4% in 2011;
- use of common assessment tasks and marking rubrics enhanced the systematic and explicit teaching of both writing and spelling;
- Kindergarten Best Start data indicated significant progress in the literacy skills of students;
- on average, 91% of students from Years 1 to 6 achieved desired syllabus outcomes in writing;
- on average, 88% of students from Years 1 to 6 achieved desired syllabus outcomes in spelling;

## Target 2

**To further enhance student achievement in numeracy, with a focus on working mathematically.**

Our achievements include:

- the percentage increase of students achieving in the top two bands was above the 2011 target in both Years 3 (48.72%) and 5 (12.59%);
- the average growth for girls was 95.8 compared to 93.5 for the state;
- 100% of Year 3 students and Year 5 students achieved at or above the minimum standard for numeracy in NAPLAN assessments;

- the use of common assessment tasks and marking rubrics enhanced the inclusion of working mathematically strategies in number;
- Kindergarten Best Start data indicated significant progress in the numeracy skills of students;
- on average, 91% of students from Years 1 to 6 achieved desired syllabus outcomes in number;
- on average, 90% of students from Years 1 to 6 achieved desired syllabus outcomes in the working mathematically strand;

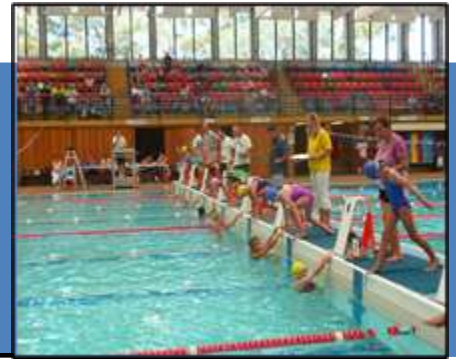
## Target 3

**To expand the integration of technology in teaching and learning programs to further enhance quality teaching.**

Our achievements include:

- completion of the installation of interactive whiteboards into all classrooms;
- continuation of our ICT/GATs mentoring program effectively supported teachers to embed technology, quality teaching and higher order thinking skills into programs;
- provision of professional learning including Photostory 3, use of new digital video cameras, Abode CS4 suite, LEGO NXT; developed teacher capacity to embed technology in learning programs;
- classes across the school integrated digital stories into learning programs as the Integration Guide was applied;
- all staff reporting improvement of their own ICT integration skills and improved student use of technology; and
- information seminars on cyber safety presented to students, staff and parents.

# TARGETS FOR 2012



## School development 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

Increased levels of literacy for every student.

##### 2012 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- increased percentage of students achieving above National Minimum Standards in reading from 95% to 97%.
- increased percentage of students meeting National Proficiency Standards in reading from 61% to 63%.
- increased percentage of students achieving at or above expected grade level in overall literacy on school based assessments from 94% to 96%.

##### Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- the ongoing analysis of student performance data to inform learning programs;
- the implementation of innovative programs to develop reading and comprehension skills, based on best practice and underpinned by the Quality Teaching Framework;
- the use of gap analysis to target the development of effective writing skills for students, with a focus on grammar and spelling;
- using the NSW DEC Literacy Continuum to develop effective learning programs and assessment strategies;

- the purchase and maintenance of quality literacy resources to enhance student learning and engagement.

### School priority 2

#### Outcome for 2012–2014

Increased levels of numeracy for every student.

##### 2012 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- increased percentage of students achieving above National Minimum Standards in numeracy from 98% to 100%.
- increased percentage of students meeting National Proficiency Standards in numeracy from 49% to 51%.
- increased percentage of students achieving at or above expected grade level in overall numeracy on school based assessments from 94% to 96%.

##### Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- the ongoing analysis of student performance data to inform learning programs;
- professional learning for staff on the teaching of fractions and decimals and Working Mathematically;
- differentiation of learning to meet the needs of all students;
- emphasis on visualisation techniques, the use of hands on materials and language scaffolds in mathematics;
- using the NSW DEC Numeracy Continuum to develop effective learning programs and assessment strategies; and
- the purchase of practical numeracy resources to support the implementation of quality teaching programs.

## 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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Parents can find out more information about Annual School Reports, how to interpret information in the reports and have the opportunity to provide feedback about these reports at:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/asr>

