



Newport Public School Annual School Report

2024



MESSAGES

PRINCIPAL



Principal

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2014 Annual School Report for Newport Public School.

Our school prides itself on delivering a curriculum focused on meeting the needs of all students whilst providing our students with a variety of outstanding opportunities. Our highly qualified, professional staff, strive to achieve the best for our students by providing an engaging, quality learning environment. Specialist support programs ensure students experiencing difficulty receive appropriate support. Our extensive Gifted and Talented program caters for the diverse learning needs of our high achieving students by embedding effective differentiation strategies in every classroom.

Throughout 2014 our school provided its students with extensive opportunities to develop socially, physically and culturally. Our music program, generously supported by our wider school community provides all students with the opportunity to participate in a range of band and performance groups. The Newport Dance Program excelled again in 2014 with opportunities for our students to perform at local, state and regional dance festivals.

Newport Public School has a proud history of sporting success, supported by skilled and dedicated staff. This year, we set a new benchmark in sporting success, winning state championships in rugby union, netball, softball and girls' cricket. Our school sailing program continued to go from strength to strength with

our continuing affiliation with Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club.

This year our teachers participated in a range of high quality professional learning activities supporting the introduction of the new Australian Curriculum. Teachers worked in a new format of professional learning, engaging in a process of classroom observation and critical reflection. This promoted collaboration amongst staff, both in curriculum content and pedagogy.

Once again the staff and parents worked closely together throughout 2014 for the benefit of the school and the children. The vast majority of our parents assist the school in a wide range of roles in and out of the classroom, throughout the year. The P&C Association continued to work in collaboration with the school to provide invaluable support for students across the school.

The Annual School Report provides a summary of our achievements in 2014 and gives a structure to communicate our priorities and the focus of our learning in 2015. 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.-

Anthony Moran

Relieving Principal

MESSAGES

COMMUNITY



P&C Association

Newport Public School Parents and Citizens Association had another busy year in 2014, continuing to provide a forum for parents to discuss issues concerning their child's schooling and to gain a 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.

During 2014, the P&C Association was able to continue its funding of programs to support the learning of students across the school, with \$26000 allocated to literacy and numeracy programs for students experiencing difficulty with learning and to support gifted and talented students. A further \$20000 was allocated to provide a new photocopier for the school. 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. Thanks especially to Dennis Fitzgerald, our treasurer, and Caroline Thomas, our secretary, for their mountain of work in making that happen.

In 2014 we were able to raise enough money to end the year in our best financial position ever. Many thanks go to our wonderful fundraising coordinator, Shani Law, who worked tirelessly all year. Our canteen and uniform shop were also able to make significant contributions out of their surplus.

We look forward to another great year in 2015 and we want to thank all those parents and teachers who go far beyond what is necessary to help our school and our children.

Jason Ramsay, P&C President

Student Leaders

Throughout 2014, our school ran a school parliament. In our parliament we were represented by ministers who manage portfolios across a wide range of areas.

During 2014 we met and voted on a range of issues that affect our school life. The ministers met with Mr Hearne, Mr Moran and other teachers within our school, to discuss how we could best solve issues that were raised in parliament.

During the year, we were involved in a wide range of leadership activities including the Peninsula Community of Schools Leadership Program. This program brought together student leaders from all of our other local schools to work together on Project Green Sea Turtle.

At Newport we have a range of other leadership activities for students. Each year, band captains are elected to lead our school band program and sport captains are elected to lead our school sporting houses. Ferry captains are elected to assist in ensuring all students from our offshore communities get to school safely each day.

Newport Public School Parliament 2014

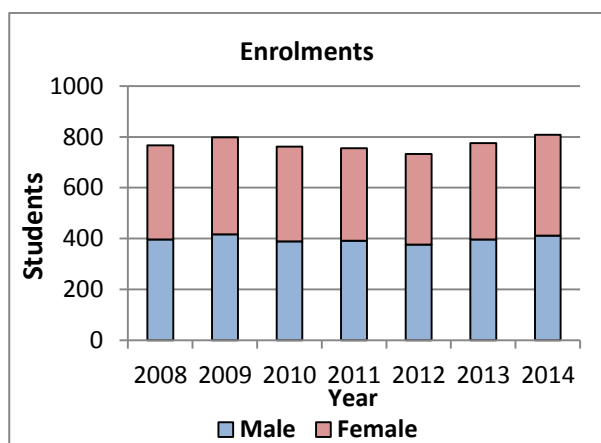


SCHOOL CONTEXT



Student Enrolment Profile

In December 2014, enrolment at Newport PS was 808 students. 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 of students.

	Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
School	K	94.5	95.1	95.6	95.2	96.3	95.1
	1	94.7	95.1	93.6	94.2	95.1	95.7
	2	95.1	95.7	95.1	93.9	95.4	96.0
	3	94.1	94.5	95.3	95.5	95.2	95.3
	4	94.6	94.2	95.2	94.2	95.2	96.0
	5	93.4	93.1	94.3	94.8	95.0	94.9
	6	94.6	94.7	93.4	94.8	96.1	95.0
	Total	94.4	94.6	94.6	94.6	95.5	95.4
State DEC	K	94.3	94.7	94.7	94.3	95.0	95.2
	1	93.7	94.2	94.2	93.9	94.5	94.7
	2	94	94.4	94.2	94.2	94.7	94.9
	3	94.1	94.5	94.4	94.4	94.8	95.0
	4	94	94.5	94.3	94.3	94.7	94.9
	5	94	94.4	94.2	94.2	94.5	94.8
	6	93.6	94.0	93.8	93.8	94.1	94.2
	Total	92.1	94.4	94.3	94.2	94.7	94.8

Workforce 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	29.728
Teacher of Reading Recovery	0.42
Learning and Support Teacher	0.8
Teacher Librarian	1.4
Counsellor	1.0
School Administrative & Support Staff	5.072
Total	45.42

Teacher qualification

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

Qualifications	% of staff
Degree or Diploma	100
Postgraduate	16
NSW Institute of Teachers Accreditation	31
Maintaining Accreditation at Proficient	31
Undergoing Accreditation at Proficient	17

Beginning Teachers

Funding under Great Teaching, Inspired Learning has been used to support beginning teachers at Newport PS. Teachers have been released from class to undertake lesson observations, collegial workgroups have been established and teacher mentors have been released from class to support beginning teachers where required.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE



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	30/11/2014
Income	
Balance brought forward	\$463,011.081
Global funds	\$437,585.45
Tied funds	\$222,447.85
School & community sources `	\$572,590.77
Interest	\$16,276.18
Trust receipts	\$271,354.78
Canteen	0.00
Total income	\$1,983,266.84
Expenditure	
Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	\$197,269.58
Excursions	\$133,545.02
Extracurricular dissections	\$43,354.80
Library	\$23,317.84
Training & development	\$66,844.85
Tied funds	\$169,474.60
Casual relief teachers	\$149,159.84
Administration & office	\$119,104.79
School-operated canteen	0.00
Utilities	\$87,648.60
Maintenance	\$49,069.20
Trust accounts	\$469,043.23
Capital programs	\$58,433.30
Total expenditure	\$1,479,559.05
Balance carried forward	\$503,707.79

A full copy of the school's 2014 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the P & C. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

Academic achievements

NAPLAN

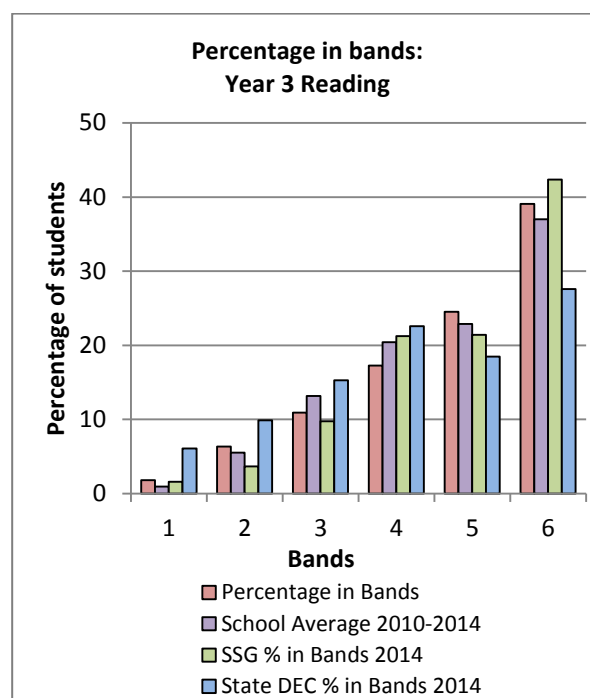
In the National Assessment Program, the results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10.

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

Year 3: from Band 1 (lowest) to Band 6 (highest for Year 3)

Year 5: from Band 3 (lowest) to Band 8 (highest for Year 5)

NAPLAN Year 3 - Literacy



In reading 63.7% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 46.1% for the state.

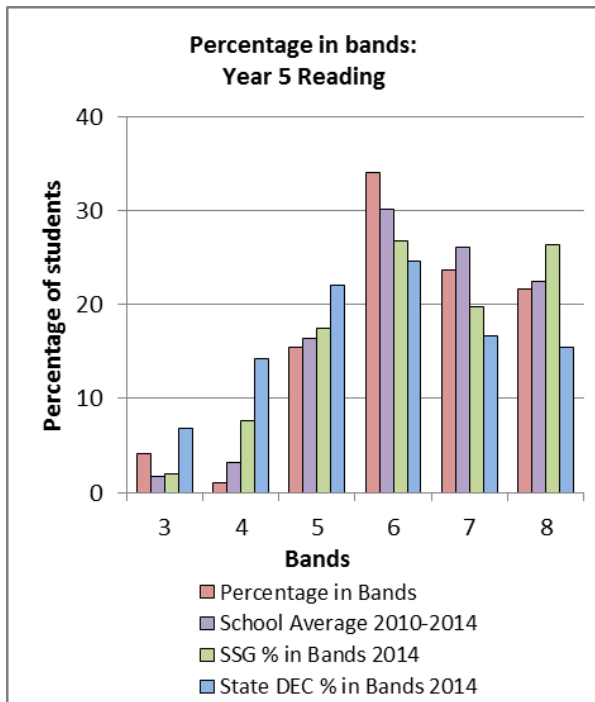
In writing 60.4% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 43.4% for the state.

In spelling 58.5% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 48.6% for the state.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE



NAPLAN Year 5 - Literacy



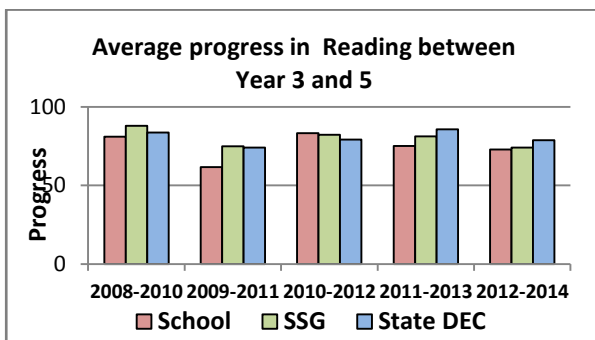
In reading 45.4% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 32.1% for the state.

In writing 15.5% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 15.6% for the state.

In spelling 46.4% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 41% for the state.

Progress in literacy

NAPLAN assesses student growth between Year 3 and Year 5.



In reading the average growth for students was 72.8 compared to 78.8 for the state. 56.4% of students achieved expected growth.

Future Directions

Analysis of student achievement data identified a need to focus on:

- A K-6 focus on grammar in context.
- the continued implementation of explicit strategies to improve students' comprehension.

At Newport, we will continue the use of gap analysis to target the development of effective comprehension, spelling and writing skills as part of the writing teaching and learning cycle.

School based data

Students' achievement at or above the required syllabus outcomes was monitored in English.

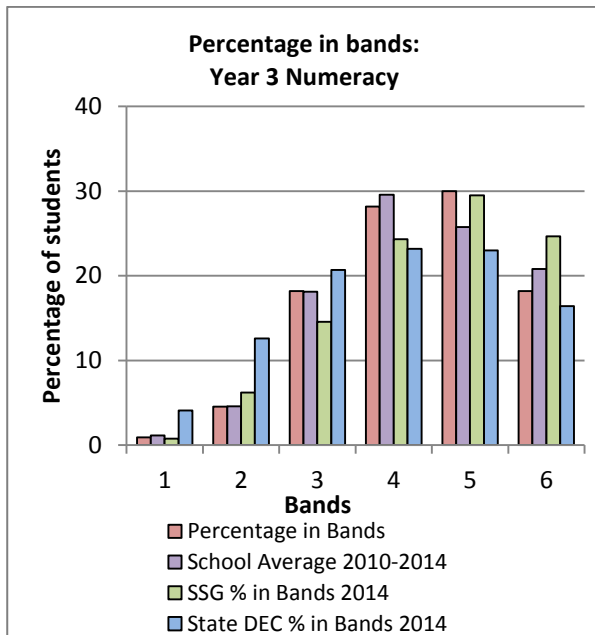
Kindergarten	97%
Year 1	93%
Year 2	88%
Year 3	90%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	98%
Year 6	100%



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

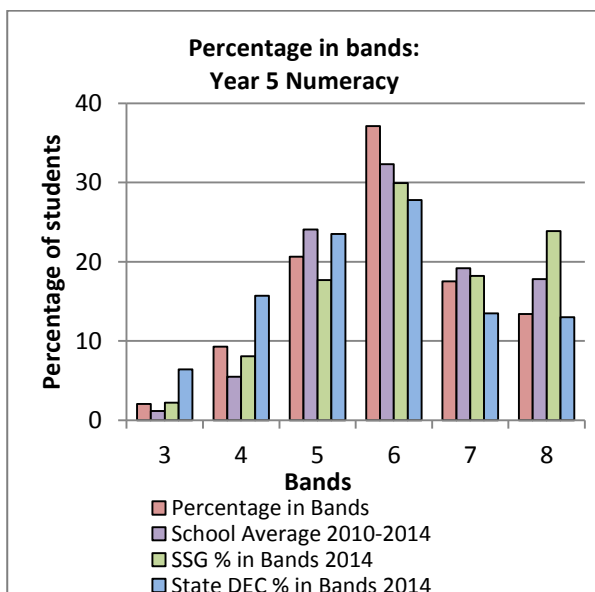


NAPLAN Year 3 - Numeracy



In numeracy for Year 3, 48% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 39% for the state.

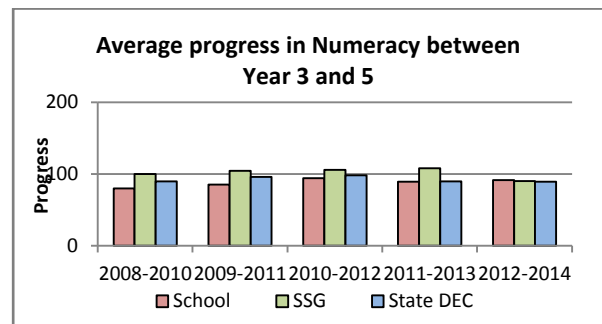
NAPLAN Year 5 - Numeracy



In numeracy for Year 5, 31% of students were placed in the top two bands compared to 26.5% for the state.

Progress in numeracy

NAPLAN assesses student growth between Year 3 and Year 5 by matching 2011 and 2013 results.



In numeracy, the average growth for students was 91.3 compared to 89.1 for the state. 58.5% of students achieved expected growth.

Future Directions

Analysis of student achievement data indicated a need to continue our emphasis on consistency in the teaching of Mathematics across the school. This will be achieved through:

- Continued focus on lesson differentiation
- Ongoing professional development for staff with particular respect to the National Curriculum
- A focus on consistent teaching practices
- An emphasis on strategies for engaging in formal test procedures

Students' achievement at or above the required syllabus outcomes was monitored.

Kindergarten	97%
Year 1	92%
Year 2	92%
Year 3	94%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	94%
Year 6	98%

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRAMS



Other achievements

Music

The Newport Music Program was once again a success in 2014. Whilst many schools have either a wind or string Program, Newport is fortunate to support both programs with 7 ensembles: V1s, V2s, String Orchestra, Training Band, Concert Band, Performance Band and Stage Band.

Each ensemble performed at numerous assemblies as well as at school and community events. The Music Camp at Collaroy was once again a highlight for the students, with many past Newport students returning to tutor the various ensembles. As always, the performance involving all ensembles at the end of the weekend was outstanding.

The Festival of Instrumental Music held at the Opera House brings together gifted musicians from all over the state. Twelve of our most talented violin and cello players were involved in this spectacular showpiece.

The Twilight Concert held at Pittwater High School is a more informal setting where students and parents enjoy an entertaining and fun night. Each ensemble plays several pieces, highlighting how far the students have progressed throughout the year.

This was a great end to another successful year for the Newport Music program and we look forward to 2015.

Choir

2014 was a very busy and successful year for both our school choirs. The Junior Choir had a fantastic time impressing their audience at the Peninsula Community of Schools Music Festival held at Pittwater High School in September. They

performed alongside ten other local primary schools, singing songs that were aligned to the 'Giggle and Grin' theme.

Our Senior Choir formed part of the Arts North Primary Choral Concert which culminated in a brilliant concert in the Sydney Town Hall. The students were excited to perform in such a beautiful and prestigious venue and it was a night to remember. Well done to all of our choir members for 2014.

Dance

Dance continues to provide many opportunities for our students at Newport to extend their skill levels and experience new challenges in the performing arts. This year 145 students participated in the school dance program. The children rehearsed and performed in groups that catered for varying abilities.

Three groups performed at the Sydney North Dance Festival during Term 2; Year 2 "If I Only Had A Brain", Years 3 & 4 "Ritz & Glitz" and Years 5 and 6 "Gypsy Glen". This year, the Year 2 and Years 3 & 4 groups were both selected to represent our school in the State Dance Festival in Term 3. As well as performing in the regional and state dance festivals, Newport was also represented at the local Peninsula Community of Schools Music Festival. Our Years 3 & 4 PCS Group performed "Seuss!" and the Year 6 girls group performed "That Special Word" in a 'Giggle & Grin' themed festival.

All dance groups performed at Newport Open Day during Education week in Term 3. They were joined by the Year 2 Newport School group that performed "Dancing in the Street" and the Years

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRAMS



2 & 3 boys performed their routine to, “Knockout Boys”.

Drama

KJP and KAJ entered in the Arts North Drama Festival and performed their play ‘Numbers In My Head’ at NIDA in July. The play was about a Kindergarten student’s exposure to numbers through counting, rhymes and songs and how he dreams about his day at school and learning how to count and write his numbers.

The children were outstanding in their performance and were asked to perform at the State Drama Festival in September.

The play was written by Julie Parker and directed by both Anita Rosser and Julie Parker.



Public Speaking and Debating

In 2014 Newport Public School has continued to show growth in the area of Public Speaking and Debating. Students across Stages 2 and 3 were involved in the Multicultural Perspectives Speaking Competition. Students presented speeches to the school during assembly, which provided the speakers with a large audience and the assembly benefited from the high standard of speeches. Two students from each stage were

selected to participate in the local final with other schools from the peninsula. Edward Ashe from Year 4 won the local final and represented Newport Public School at the regional final where he presented two speeches.

A team of six Year 6 students competed in the Premier’s Debating Challenge in 2014. Newport Public School successfully won the zone round robin competition and competed at the Northern Region Final at the Collaroy Centre. All students were commended for their enthusiasm and skills displayed during this competition. Year 5 students participated in the Northern Sydney Regional Friendly Debates where they were able to meet other schools and refine their skills. Four students attended the Regional Debating Camp held at the Collaroy Centre over three days.

Chess

It was another busy year for the Newport PS Chess Club in 2014, with competitions and social play. Teams competed in one day interschool events as well as the ten week after school tournament. The Senior A Championship team and the Junior team both finished first overall in the NSW Junior Chess League's ten week tournament. Our Senior team also gained selection from the Regional NSW Junior Chess League One Day Tournament to play at the state finals in North Sydney.

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

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRAMS



Sport

A healthy and active lifestyle is highly valued and strongly promoted at Newport Public School. All students participate in a wide variety of sporting and leisure activities. Once again, 2014 was a very successful year for Newport.

Numerous students represented Newport at zone, regional and state level in swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals.

Newport Public School was crowned the Pittwater Zone Athletics Champion School.

School Representation

Newport entered teams in eight NSW PSSA State Knockout competitions, managing to win four of these with success in Rugby Union, Netball, Girls' Cricket and Girls' Softball. This is a truly outstanding result.

Many of our students progressed to regional and state levels for various PSSA sports including Rugby Union, Softball, AFL and Cricket.

Primary Schools Sports Association PSSA

Each Friday afternoon our students participate in a wide range of PSSA team sports, including softball, cricket, eagle tag, netball, rugby league and soccer.

Newport was again the dominant school in the Zone winning over half of the competitions. We had champion teams in tee ball, boys' and girls' softball, netball, Eagle Tag and cricket.

Newport is a proud sporting school and has maintained its strong sporting culture throughout 2014.

Snowsports

2014 was another very successful year for Newport in the Interschools Snow Sports Competition. The team competed in regional, state and national titles with great success. Children entered in the disciplines of ski, snowboard and cross-country ski.

Newport Senior Boys' Snowboard Team won the National Giant Slalom and was runner up in the Boarder Cross. The Senior Boys' Cross-Country Ski Team was runner up in both the Freestyle and Relay.

Finnley Sadler (ski) won both the National Senior Boys' Cross-Country Freestyle and the downhill Skier X individually. Mac Omm (snowboard) won the National Snowboard GS individually.



Sailing

Sixty students from Years 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.

During 2014, Newport PS shifted its sailing program entirely to Royal Prince Alfred Yacht

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRAMS



Club. Our school sailing program is run by coaches accredited by Yachting Australia.

Technology

Newport is fortunate to have a wide range of technology available to support student learning. Our technology labs continue to provide students across the school with the opportunity to research, publish, be creative and enhance their learning.

We have, through the Technology Levy, continued to upgrade and improve our technology resources across the school and have rolled out the final stage of our wireless access points, allowing all students K-6 to access wireless internet when using netbooks or iPads in classrooms.

Technology mentoring has continued to provide an opportunity for students and teachers to develop new skills and for teachers to learn new ways to integrate technology seamlessly into their lessons to further enhance student learning.

Students are becoming efficient users of technology and have been made explicitly aware of cyber safety through specific lessons and a presentation by CyberSmart. The program focused on the importance of protecting their private information online, taking responsibility for themselves and their actions, and appropriately interacting with others online.

Peninsula Community of Schools

The Peninsula Community of Schools (PCS) was established at the beginning of the 2007 school year. The PCS comprises of three high schools and ten primary schools. Our school is part of this collaborative learning community, pooling the resources of our three local high schools and ten

area primary schools to partner with each other and with Macquarie University. Over 9000 students from K-12 have been provided with new and dynamic learning opportunities. The 2014 strategic plan included the following targets:

- To provide relevant and appropriate professional learning opportunities to support quality teaching and learning and improved practice.
- To enhance the opportunities and delivery of technology enabled schooling.
- To extend enrichment opportunities for students through links with our partners Macquarie University, Warringah Council, Pittwater Council.
- To increase opportunities to build social cohesion and participation in the wider community.

The Peninsula Community of Schools is constantly evolving as a learning community. A strong focus on our STEM programs will continue through the Science Committee, participation in the Youth Eco Summit and Robotics programs. Professional learning for staff and enrichment programs for students will continue to be at the core of our operation.



SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRAMS



Aboriginal education

Newport Public School is committed to promoting and celebrating Indigenous achievement in all areas of the curriculum. Throughout the year, students learned about Indigenous history and culture by studying 'Sorry Day', Indigenous art, and Indigenous men and women in the armed services.

NAIDOC Week was celebrated at Newport in line with the Peninsula Community of Schools, where a camp was held at Mona Vale Public School. During the camp Newport's Indigenous students and their friends participated in lessons about Indigenous dance, craft, music, language and art. The students feasted on traditional Indigenous cuisine and shared dreamtime stories before bed.

Newport PS was one of the schools visited by a travelling Indigenous art show this year. Some of these artworks were entered into the Peninsula Community of Schools' Indigenous art display at Mona Vale PS.

Our NAIDOC week assembly taught students about the Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country practices as well as reflecting on the students' experiences at the 'Lands Beyond the Sand', NAIDOC week camp.

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/Newport Exchange Program once again supported students' understanding and respect of other cultures. Year 4 students from Newport and Punchbowl Public Schools exchanged letters and emails throughout the year and met up with each other at Sydney Olympic Park during Term 3. Tolerance and acceptance of diversity are actively promoted through this program.



SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRAMS



Low level adjustment for disability

At Newport PS, personalised learning and support programs are developed by teachers to ensure students' individual learning needs are met in every classroom. Funding is used to provide two School Learning Support Officers who work alongside classroom teachers in the delivery of teaching and learning programs and in ensuring low level adjustments are made to ensure all students have equal access to the curriculum. Linda Maclaurin, our Learning and Support Teacher, is employed on a full time basis, working with teachers in the design of differentiated teaching and learning programs, the developments of individual learning programs and in providing one to one support for students where required.

Leadership

In 2014, Newport Public School provided many formal leadership opportunities for students. School Captains, Vice Captains, Parliament Ministers, Band and Ferry Captains and House Captains were elected by the student body and performed their duties to the highest standard.

The students in formal leadership positions had the opportunity to develop their skills by participating in a range of programs. The School Captains took part in the Leadership Camp at Collaroy and joined the Vice Captains at the Peninsula Community of Schools' Leadership Program, which ran during Term 1 and culminated in a fantastic presentation at the Warringah Council Chambers. The Parliament Ministers and House Captains participated in the Peninsula Community of Schools' *Take 3 for the Sea* program.

As part of this program our leaders learnt about the plight of the Green Sea Turtle and other marine species due to the overwhelming amount of plastic in our oceans. Our leaders created a *Take 3 for the Sea* campaign across our school to pass on the message that we can all have a positive impact in reducing pollution if we take 3 pieces of rubbish from the beach every time we go.

The results of their campaign were presented to other Peninsula Community of Schools leaders at Taronga Zoo.

School Parliament meetings held twice a term provided more leadership opportunities. School Parliament is a forum that provides the student body, a voice in the management and organisation of the school. School Captains, Vice Captains and Ministers organise the School Parliament sessions with all of Year 6 in attendance. During these sessions, student issues are discussed and voted upon, those successful motions being taken to Mr Anthony Moran for his consideration.

School Parliament implemented school discos and mufti days to raise money for Stewart House.

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

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 EVALUATIONS



Program evaluations

Action Learning

Background

Research on effective professional learning tells us that it needs to be organised around collaborative problem solving and provide opportunities for collegial inquiry, observation, critique, reflection and group support. During Term 3 2014, we structured our professional learning to be led by staff, with the aim of developing their knowledge and skills to examine effective classroom practice through action learning and to have the opportunity to work collaboratively for this purpose.

Findings and conclusions

A survey conducted prior to and following the Teacher Professional Learning(TPL) project, focussed on staff rating their knowledge, understanding and confidence with the new maths syllabus and the model of TPL, on scales of 1-5 (developing-high).

Prior to conducting the professional learning, 25% of staff rated their knowledge of the content of the new maths syllabus, for their stage between 1-3. Following the professional learning, 92% of staff rated their knowledge as 4-5.

75% of staff rated their knowledge of conducting action learning as a 4-5 (high), following the professional learning, compared with 11% prior to starting the project.

83% of staff rated their ability to incorporate opportunities for students to reason, communicate and problem solve in maths as a (4-

5) high, compared with 43% prior to the professional learning.

Future directions

Stemming from the review of the action learning project it was recommended the model be implemented more frequently. Staff will work to develop a process for supporting this across the school, perhaps utilising buddy classes, and release from face to face.

In addition, staff expressed a desire to employ an expert to work alongside them in embedding evidence-based teaching/learning practices throughout the professional learning



SCHOOL EVALUATIONS



Engagement

Background

This year, Newport Public School evaluated the effectiveness of teaching and learning programs across K-6. Specific emphasis was placed on evaluating how effectively Newport PS promotes a culture of high student engagement and how our school's teaching and learning programs promote this. Continued improvement in student engagement is an important goal for all staff at Newport.

Findings and conclusions

Staff outlined a wide variety of teaching and learning programs and strategies that specifically promote high levels of student engagement. These included specific strategies for the differentiation of the mathematics curriculum as well as teacher mentoring programs in the areas of ICT and Gifted and Talented Education. The success of these programs is evidenced by continued improvement in data collected in the Instructional Practices Inventory process, in data collected from parents and in teachers' class based and whole school data.

Future directions

By allowing more time to explore concepts it is hoped students will be able to engage more deeply with the curriculum. Continuing to place emphasis on the use of specific student engagement strategies will ensure all teaching and learning programs include evidence of teaching strategies, actively promoting high levels of engagement.

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 year, staff participated in a new form of professional learning, focusing on lesson observation, critical reflection and refinement.

Based on the model of "peer reflection," in pairs or trios, staff examined evidence of student work and reflected on their own learning needs as well as those of the students, to establish a question to be explored. For example, "which learning experiences give students the opportunity to articulate and develop their reasoning skills?" "What happens to the students' use of mathematical language when learning intentions are made explicit?"

Staff spent time examining syllabus content, reviewing current student work, viewing and reflecting on relevant Adobe Connect sessions and planning lessons. Each teacher taught a lesson over a two week period, while colleagues observed and participated. They gathered data from students during the lesson, asking questions such as; "What are you learning about today and how will you know if you are successful?" Teachers reflected on their findings and shared their process, lesson plans, student work and the data gathered with colleagues.

SCHOOL EVALUATIONS



Parent/caregiver, student, and teacher satisfaction

In 2014, Newport Public School sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the success of our school. The results indicated an overall high level of satisfaction with the school.

The survey asked parents how well Newport PS prepares students academically (1-10 scale). 88 responses were received with an average score of 6.8. 10% of respondents indicated that students could be better prepared for high school. Respondents were also asked whether they would recommend Newport PS to other families with primary aged children. 86 responses were received with 94% of respondents indicating they would recommend Newport PS to other families.

All staff indicated high levels of satisfaction at Newport, valuing most, the collaboration and support across the school. Staff indicated increased communication throughout the school would be of benefit.

Students expressed high levels of satisfaction with the school. Results indicated that over 97% of students would recommend their school to a friend, with the wide range of opportunities available to students listed as a key feature of our school.



PROGRESS ON 2014 TARGETS



Target 1

Increased levels of literacy achievement for every student with a focus on writing and spelling.

Our achievements include:

- 100% of Year 3 students are at or above national minimum standards for writing and spelling;
- 99% of Year 3 students are at or above national minimum standards for grammar and punctuation;
- 98% of Year 5 students are at or above national minimum standards for reading;
- 100% of Year 5 students are at or above national minimum standards for grammar and punctuation;
- Kindergarten Best Start data indicate excellent progress in the literacy skills of students;
- Continued focus on effective comprehension strategies in all grades resulted in improvements in reading outcomes for students;
- On average, 94% of students from Years 1 to 6 achieved desired syllabus outcomes in English.

Target 2

Increased levels of numeracy for every student.

Our achievements include:

- 99% of students in Year 3 and 98% of students in Year 5 are at or above the national minimum standard for numeracy;
- The percentage of Year 5 students in Band 7 and 8 exceeded that of the State (by 4.5%);
- The percentage of students achieving in the intervention bands (1 & 2) for overall Numeracy was less than 6%;
- Kindergarten Best Start data indicated excellent progress in the numeracy skills of students;
- Professional learning for staff that resulted in improvements in the consistency of delivery of teaching programs;
- On average, 95% of students from Years K to 6 achieved desired syllabus outcomes in Mathematics.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

2015-17



School Planning Processes

Staff, students and the school community were consulted extensively in the development of the school vision and the establishment of the strategic directions. Consultative strategies including community and staff forums and student and community online surveys were used to inform the planning process.

2015-17 Strategic Directions

Strategic Direction 1

Engaged, Responsible, Successful Learners

To develop critical and creative thinkers who are connected to and engaged in their learning, demonstrating independence and resilience as lifelong learners.

Students at Newport will be confident learners who are engaged and self-regulated, taking responsibility for their learning.

Strategic Direction 2

An Expert Teaching Team

To develop a professional team of highly effective teachers and leaders who demonstrate personal and collective efficacy and responsibility for student learning success and well-being.

Teachers understand and use evidence-based pedagogy to maximise student learning, ensuring all students experience success and achieve their potential.

We seek to ensure that student learning is underpinned by high quality teaching and leadership.

Strategic Direction 3

Proactive Partnerships

To develop a professional team of highly effective teachers and leaders who demonstrate personal and collective efficacy and responsibility for student learning success and well-being.

Teachers understand and use evidence-based pedagogy to maximise student learning, ensuring all students experience success and achieve their potential.

We seek to ensure that student learning is underpinned by high quality teaching and leadership.

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>

