Bellata Public School
Annual School Report

2012
Our school at a glance

Students
The best of any community is reflected in its youth. The students at Bellata Public School are generous of time, caring of each other and environmentally aware of their impact on the world as a whole.

Staff
Bellata Public School has caring and committed staff that value the delivery of quality education. All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

Messages

Principal’s message
Bellata Public School is nestled in leafy grounds of both native and exotic trees which provide safe habitats for a variety of birds and animals. A caring environment is at the heart of the school community which extends beyond the classroom windows.

As a school, the teaching and learning programs of both students and staff are enhanced through the addition of funds from the Country Areas Program (CAP). Our Parents and Citizen’s Association (P&C) is also an extremely valuable source offering assistance both financially and physically.

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.

Vivianne Fouracre

P & C and/or School Council message
As president of the P&C, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the committee members and volunteers for helping to contribute to the success of our school through fund raising efforts for both the students and the school throughout the year.

I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Ivan and Glenda Bettens and Mr Peter and Victoria Fulton-Kennedy for their years of hard work they have contributed whilst at the school.

I would also like to thank the teachers and staff for making learning enjoyable and to John and Ivan for transporting them safely to wherever it may be.

Finally, good luck to our Year 6 graduates- I wish you well for your future.

Alistair McPherson

Student representative’s message
This year went so quickly. We started off with our school swimming carnival where Goolagong won.

There were a lot of kids that made it to the Zone Carnival in Narrabri including myself Patrick and Sophie.

Next up was cross-country. Let’s just say it was okay. There were six kids that made it to the Zone carnival at Coolah. The course was a lot more different than the Bellata Golf Club one.

Next up was the athletics carnival and quite a lot of kids made it on to the Zone Carnival at Wee Waa. Bella Stewart made it on to the regionals, then the State Carnival and finally the Interstate Carnival where she got 4th in High Jump.

After that we had Clean up Australia Day, a Rugby Union day in Moree and the Narrabri Eisteddfod. Beau and Prim’s Nan made a great horse prop for our play. So I’d like to give her a big “Thank You!”

We celebrated the Biggest Morning Tea with yummy cakes and slices, the CWA International Day on Timor Leste, the Quad Sports at Rowena and had an excellent excursion to the Small Schools’ Camp at Lake Keepit.

Jeans for Genes Day, Book Week Parade and Grandparents’ Day, a Science Day in Narrabri and a Puberty talk were also highlights of our year.

It has been a great year. I wish next year’s leaders all the best. So that’s all from the 2012 captain.

Hamish Christie
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

Bellata Public School’s numbers have continued to remain stable at 30 students in 2012.

The community and Preschool continue to encourage parents to send their children to their local Public School rather than transporting them elsewhere.

Management of non-attendance

At Bellata Public School, students are encouraged to attend school regularly. Attendance is monitored monthly, with reminders to parents of their legal responsibility published in the newsletter when necessary.

Parents of students with poor attendance are interviewed and action taken as necessary.

Staff information

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

In 2012, students at Bellata Public School were able to access additional support teaching services through the District Support personnel, the Intensive Reading Class and our Support Teacher Learning Difficulties.

Bellata Public School continues to access high quality casual teaching staff as the need arises.

Staff establishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal(s)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal(s)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Teachers</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Emotional Disabilities</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Mild Intellectual Disabilities</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Reading Recovery</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Teacher Learning Assistance</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of ESL</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Currently there are no identified indigenous members employed at Bellata Public School.
Staff retention
The staff at Bellata Public School remained the same as in 2011.

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

Qualifications

<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>0</td>
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</tbody>
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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>30/11/2012</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>44880.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>61498.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>41348.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>10623.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>2500.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>9433.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>125402.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenditure
Teaching & learning
  Key learning areas
  Excursions
  Extracurricular dissections
  Library
  Training & development
  Tied funds
  Casual relief teachers
  Administration & office
  School-operated canteen
  Utilities
  Maintenance
  Trust accounts
  Capital programs

| Total expenditure          | 130792.19  |
| Balance carried forward    | 39491.48   |

A full copy of the school’s 2012 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School Council and/or the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

School performance 2012
Achievements
Arts
The students at Bellata Public School have continued to excel in all areas of the arts. In 2012 students were tutored in drama and music by Mrs. Mary-Ann McPherson and in visual arts by Mrs. Kim Kirkby.

Students performed at the Narrabri Eisteddfod in the drama and music sections with excellent results and entered works of art and design in the Narrabri Show. Students from the extension Visual Arts class entered works in a Margaret Ollie competition with Bella Stewart having her work selected and published in a collection of artworks.

Sport
Bellata Public School strives to provide the students with a variety of opportunities to participate and excel in sports.

This year students were fortunate to participate in Rugby and Touch Football as well as the usual events.

Swimming
The school swimming carnival was this year won by Goolagong house.

The swimming champions were senior boy-Patrick Johnston, senior girl-Matilda Hann, junior boy-Tom Johnston, junior girl-Bella Stewart and minor boy- Max Christie

Zone Carnival representatives was Bella Stewart.

Athletics
Bellata Public School hosted the Quad Sports Carnival with the students competing against Mallawa, Bullarah and Rowena. It was a great day of friendship and sportsmanship.

The school’s athletics carnival was won this year by Chappell.

The athletics champions were senior boy-Nicholas Boaden, senior girl-Madelynn Child, junior boy-Will Fulton-Kennedy, junior girl-Bella Stewart, minor boy- Max Christie and minor girl-Mia Stewart.
Zone level representatives were Sophie Hann and Bella Stewart.

State level representative for 2011 was Bella Stewart.

Our Cross Country representatives at the Zone level were Matilda Hann and Bella Stewart.

**Intensive Swimming**

A ten-day intensive swimming program was held for all students this year which have led to significant improvements in style, stroke correction and confidence.

**Academic**

The My School website provides detailed information and data for national literacy and numeracy testing (NAPLAN).

Click on the link [http://www.myschool.edu.au](http://www.myschool.edu.au) and enter the school name in the Find a school and select GO.

**Significant programs and initiatives**

**Aboriginal education**

Bellata Public School provides programs across all KLA to educate all students about the history, and culture of Aboriginal Australia.

This year students attended a performance in Bingara called Big River Dreaming and studied aspects of traditional Aboriginal culture through the Museum-in-a-box program.

**Multicultural education**

Bellata Public School focuses on multicultural education by providing programs which develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to live harmoniously in a diverse society.

This year our country of study was Timor Leste culminating in a sharing session with the Country Women’s Association, Bellata Branch, at our local hall. Children heard about life in Timor Leste and completed a topic quiz.

**Respect and responsibility**

The values of Respect and Responsibility are embedded in all teaching programs. Students are encouraged to support community projects and annually participate in the local Anzac Day Service, Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea, in conjunction with Country Women’s Association (CWA), Jeans for Genes Day, and Jump Rope for Heart. Students are committed to initiatives such as Clean up Australia.

**Connected learning**

This year the K-2 room was upgraded to a connected classroom. A new Smartboard, television, microphones and cameras were installed. The old Smartboard was reinstalled in the library to further enhance students’ access to technology.

**Other programs**

**Country Areas Program (CAP)**

Bellata Public School receives a significant amount of funding from CAP which comes under the equity umbrella. This provides opportunities for the whole school community to improve the educational outcomes of students who are geographically isolated.

Initiatives undertaken in 2012 included:

- attending the CAP Chef day to enhance ideas in both boys and girls education;
- the employment of a temporary teacher for two hours a day to focus on improving Visual Arts skills for students showing specific talent in the field;
- attending an ongoing program of Prioritizing Grammar to enhance teaching skills in this area; and
- enhancing existing educational programs within our school.

It is anticipated that Bellata Public School will continue to receive Equity Funding in 2013 to continue to provide access to quality learning activities for the whole school community.

**Progress on 2012 targets**

**Target 1**

**Repeat target for 2012 from 2011 report**

*To increase the number of students attaining proficiency in all aspects of Numeracy.*

Our achievements include:

- 75% of the Year 3 students achieved Band 4 or above;
- all Year 5 students achieved Band 5 or above; and
• school-based assessment indicates a growing strength in Data, Measurement, Space and Geometry.

**Target 2**

To improve the number of students attaining proficiency in all aspects of literacy.

Our achievements include:

- Naplan results indicate a growth in reading, writing and grammar, whilst spelling remains stable for Year 5 students with similar results for Year 3 students; and
- focusing our support programs on Early intervention is beginning to make an impact for students that struggle with all aspects of Literacy.

**School evaluation**

NSW public schools conduct evaluation to support the effective implementation of the school plan. In 2012 our school carried out evaluations of Learning and Reading.

**Management Practice**

**Background**

The management practice area selected for evaluation in 2012 was learning and the quality of the learning environment. This was chosen to assess the degree to which elements of a quality learning environment are present in the classroom as assessed by staff and students.

**Findings and conclusions**

- All staff indicated that student engagement in learning is widespread with most students taking their work seriously and trying hard;
- students were working well but not being challenged enough to think independently; and
- the physical environment was not conducive to learning with new technologies in mind.

**Future directions**

- Staff to investigate other ways of presenting information to encourage new learning;

**Curriculum**

**Background**

The curriculum area selected for evaluation in 2012 was reading. This was chosen after careful analysis of our Naplan results from 2011. Data was collected from running records and listening to children read on a regular basis to ascertain their reading recovery levels.

**Findings and conclusions**

- Most students can access text at the appropriate level but have issues with fluency in reading;
- time is set aside in both rooms to focus on reading and reading strategies;
- some students are choosing not to challenge their reading and as a result are not developing a wider vocabulary; and
- home readers are available from the school but are not being accessed by the majority of poorer readers.

**Future directions**

- a parent reading program will be developed where parents and community members can drop in and listen to children read from leveled texts,
- staff will continue to attend professional learning activities to enhance their ability to teach reading;
- support will continue to focus on early intervention to give students the best start to their formal schooling; and
- additional reading resources will be purchased to supplement those already available.
Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction

In 2012 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school. This year we used an online Survey Monkey to obtain a broader spectrum of the school community.

Questions were based around the safety of the school environment, communication and the overall performance of the school.

From the responses received, all stakeholders felt that the school environment was a safe place to work and learn, but some students’ behaviors need closely monitoring.

The area that still needs work is parent teacher communication. This will be further investigated to get a better understanding of where the staff needs to develop further in this field.

Students were happy with the newly developed Students’ Representative Council.

Professional learning

In 2012, staff attended a variety of professional learning courses to further develop their skills and introduce new concepts to the classroom.

In 2012 staff attended:

- Prioritizing Grammar in the Classroom;
- Musica Viva teachers class;
- Smarter and Sassier for administrative staff;
- the Small School’s Conference; and
- our K-2 teacher was released to professionally develop teachers in other schools about Teaching Early Numeracy strategies.

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

To increase the number students attaining proficiency in all aspects of Numeracy.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- To increase the number of students in Year 3 at proficiency level using NAPLAN data in Numeracy by 30%;
- to increase the number of students in Year 5 at proficiency level using NAPLAN data in Numeracy by 20%; and
- to increase the number of students Kindergarten – Year 6 achieving at appropriate stage level in Numeracy by 20% using SENA and school-based data.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Analysis of areas for improvement from NAPLAN results;
- continuing to trial the North Coast Mathematics program across all classes; and
- introducing Mathletics as a home and classroom extension program.

School priority 2

Outcome for 2012–2014

To increase the number students attaining proficiency in all aspects of Literacy.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- To increase the number of Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 students reading at age appropriate PM readers by 20%;
- to increase the number of students in Year 3 at proficiency level using NAPLAN data in Writing by 50%;
- to increase the number of students in Year 5 at proficiency level using NAPLAN data in Writing by 20%; and
- the use of school-based support for individual withdrawal.
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.

Vivianne Fouracre      Principal
Melinda Squire       Classroom Teacher
Helen Hubbard        Teacher/Librarian
Gail Eulenstein     Administration Manager
Ivan Bettens         General Assistant

School contact information

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School Code: 1175

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: