Our school at a glance

Bonalbo Central School is situated in the upper reaches of the Clarence Valley, approximately seventy kilometres from Casino and provides a comprehensive K-12 curriculum. The school draws the majority of its students from areas to the north, south and west in approximately equal proportions. The school is committed to the provision of comprehensive, quality educational programs through: quality teaching and assessment practices; an emphasis on literacy and numeracy K-12; inclusive student welfare structures; developing school community partnerships; provision of a broad and balanced curriculum. There are approximately 50 students in Years K-6 and 120 in Years 7-12. Of these 170 students approximately 20% are of ATSI descent.

Messages

Principal's message

2012 has again seen the school develop in its physical appearance and evolve in what is provided educationally for our students. A number of new strategies to improve student performance have been introduced, and the completion of the last of our major infrastructure projects, the Trade Training Centre took place, ending approximately three years of planning and construction. The Trade Training Centre, along with the new Science Centre and Multipurpose Centre, are now being well utilized and enjoyed by both students and staff. Earlier in the year an official opening ceremony was held with Janelle Saffin, the member for Page, unveiling a plaque to recognise this new work.

In addition to these developments, most teaching spaces now have interactive whiteboards, wireless computer access points and air-conditioning installed to further improve teaching and learning environments.

In addition to these improvements the new outdoor Netball/Basketball court was officially opened by Liz Ellis, former Australian Women’s Netball team player and Captain. The day was particularly memorable for many students, as Liz provided a coaching session to pass on her vast knowledge and skills.

The Multipurpose Centre has been put to good use with numerous activities being undertaken including a variety of sports, music and drama performances, examinations, assemblies and the Year 12 Formal. For the first time in many years it was wonderful to see one of Mr Tucker’s musical classics, “Bismo Roach”, again being performed by a large number of our students and staff. Congratulations to Mr Tucker and all involved for staging this memorable event.

The Metals and Engineering section of the Trade Training Centre has been greatly appreciated not only by our students, but some young and older adults who have undertaken a small motors course provided by TAFE. It was pleasing to see the TAFE teacher employed to deliver this course was local businessman and past student, Richard Williams. Adult education has continued in other areas including Art, Textiles and Hospitality, where some have enjoyed the use of our new commercial cookery facilities.

The school will receive three more years of National Partnership and Equity Funding. This funding will allow some existing programs to continue and new educational initiatives to be introduced. This year the funding was used in a variety of ways including the employment of a speech pathologist on an occasional basis, a transition program for preschool students, a whole school Fast Maths program and the employment of additional teachers’ aides and Learning and Support teachers to assist students with their learning.

Term 4 saw the trialing of a Tutorial Centre, based at Tabulam, thanks to the support of Southern Cross Distance Education staff. This centre is designed to help support students with very poor attendance and with difficulties engaging with mainstream education. Application has been made to acquire a permanent Tutorial Centre in 2013.

Apart from the numerous educational opportunities Bonalbo Central offers to students, this year saw a very successful Rural Fire Service training program delivered. Many secondary students and some staff participated in this course and were rewarded with certificates for completing the course at our annual and very successful Multicultural Day held in August. Regional Rural Fire Service leaders presented
certificates and invited the students involved to participate in a statewide Rural Fire Service competition to be held in 2013 as a consequence of the success of the program held at Bonalbo this year.

The effective operation of the school and consequent success of our students would not have been possible without the professional and enthusiastic approach taken by teaching staff, support staff, teachers’ aides and volunteers. In particular, I would like to thank the staff who have relieved in executive and classroom teaching positions and to the casual teachers who have worked in the school.

The involvement of parents, carers and the wider community with education has and will continue to be a focus of Bonalbo Central. Thank you to Nicole Bernhagen for her work as Community Liaison Officer to provide another link between the school and the community.

The work carried out by the P&C has been greatly appreciated by the school. Their support by catering at school events and fundraising to acquire new resources has been excellent. Thank you to the members who work very hard for the P&C.

The continuation of the Breakfast Club thanks to the support of the Lions Club, Red Cross and volunteer workers has been greatly appreciated by the students. We are hoping to continue this program in 2013, but will require the support of volunteers and donations from the community to continue in its current form.

Bonalbo Central School is highly regarded across the state as a school which delivers high quality educational programs. This will continue in 2013, providing all stakeholders are working together positively to support the education of our students.

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

Keith Larsson
Principal

P & C message

Another year over and what a busy year it has been for the P & C.

Things that have been achieved in 2012 include:
Canteens for: Primary Cross Country, K-12 Athletics Carnival, Primary Bounce Back Day, Secondary German concert, Bismo Roach concert, Bonalbo Bull Ride, Primary Concert night, Family Fun night with Christmas Carols and Presentation Night.
Catered for a luncheon for the Melbourne Cup Day, Year 12 Formal dinner, morning tea for CWA International Day, Winter pie drive and Easter bun drive.
Items that we have purchased for the school: Every Primary student is supplied with a school hat, new blazers for the Secondary Captains, sports ribbons for Athletics, school polo shirts and hats for next year’s Kindergarten students, play mats for Primary, small shade structure and wall, linen tablecloths and crockery for catering purposes.
Money that we have donated to assist the school: $10 each 4/5/6 student to attend NAIDOC Day at Tabulam, $1174 to help fund the 5/6/7/8 Brisbane excursion, and paid for a Yoga teacher to come in and teach yoga to Primary students.
We have achieved a lot this year, thanks to our volunteers and supporters.

Hellan Whitney
President

Student representative’s message

The secondary Student Representative Council continued its good work this year. The SRC meets every fortnight, with 2 representatives from each year group meeting and discussing and planning. The representatives change at mid-year to enable more students to be involved in leadership development.
Some of the SRC activities included: Support of charity fundraisers including Footy Colours Day and Loud Shirt Day; Organising school socials; Participation in district and regional leadership events including Rising Generations; Video conferencing with other SRC
students across the region; regular meetings with the Principal; discussion and decision making about school issues affecting students; running afternoon and Monday assemblies; support of the new environmental group.

Congratulations to our new captains and vice captains - Mimi, Rochelle, Gary and Sam. The school is looking forward to a strong year of leadership in 2013.

Finally, thank you Mr Larsson for your support.

Sharon Tucker
SRC Co-ordinator

School Chaplain Report
This year has been one of frustration and consolidation, but rewarding at the same time. Let me explain. It was frustrating because the plans we had to expand the chaplaincy/pastoral care role did not happen. It was just a series of things that conspired to halt plans. But as they say there is always next year! The goal will always be to work alongside others who have the same goal – that is to help students, staff and the school community to reach their true potential.

Midway through the year the principal of Tabulam Primary School asked if I would consider becoming their chaplain/pastoral care worker in 2013. I thought this would be a good opportunity to help with the transition of Year 6 students to Bonalbo Central School. To help in this process I upgraded my qualifications.

I look forward to working with students and staff from both schools to help bring about the best possible outcome for the school communities.

Peter Boughey
Chaplin

Community Liaison Officer Report
We have had so many great and memorable events in the last year, since I took up the position of CLO, but I must say that the highlight for me would have to be our Multicultural Day which was held on the town oval on the 10th August 2012. This was a wonderful opportunity for the school community to come together and work with the wider community on what turned out to be an entertaining and educational event.

My role this year has been predominantly to get the word out to parents, carers and the community in general, about any upcoming events involving the school. In doing this I have met and spoken to many wonderful people who have much to share and contribute to our school. I have had a wonderful year and have had the privilege of witnessing the support that the community gives the school and vice versa.

Nicole Wright-Bernhagen
CLO

Bonalbo Red Cross- Good Start Breakfast Club
The aim of breakfast club is to ensure that every child has breakfast before they go into class. The Breakfast Club at Bonalbo School is run three days a week - Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and is managed and staffed by Red Cross volunteers between 7.30 and 9.30 am. Over the last year 5742 student breakfast were served. The first Monday of the month the Upper Clarence Lions Club holds a sausage sizzle before school.

Thanks to the many volunteers who make it possible to run this worthwhile program.

Student context

Student information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>34</td>
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<td>Female</td>
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<td>28</td>
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Secondary Enrolment Profile

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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>57</td>
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Secondary Student Attendance Profile

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<th>2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
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<tr>
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<td>86.8</td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td>73.6</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>80.1</td>
<td>88.1</td>
<td>94.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>86.5</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>81.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
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<td>83.6</td>
<td>83.2</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>86.0</td>
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<td>82.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>80.4</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>88.8</td>
<td>83.3</td>
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</table>

Management of Non-Attendance

Letters are forwarded to parents and carers on a weekly basis for unexplained absences. Attendance is promoted through Newsletters, Assemblies, community meetings and phone contact by the Principal and executive staff. Referrals to Home Liaison Officers to assist in returning students to school takes place for poor 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 2012 Class Size Audit conducted on March 18, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roll Class</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total per</th>
<th>Total in</th>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5/6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Retention to Year 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SC06-HSC08</th>
<th>SC07-HSC09</th>
<th>SC08-HSC10</th>
<th>SC09-HSC1</th>
<th>SC10-HSC1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>63.6</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEG</td>
<td>47.1</td>
<td>52.3</td>
<td>48.1</td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td>53.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>62.7</td>
<td>64.7</td>
<td>63.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Post-school destinations
42% of students have gained full-time employment. 17% of students are seeking employment and 33% of students are furthering their education at University. One student returned to school.

Year 12 students undertaking vocational or trade training
Seven students (from a cohort of thirteen) undertook Vocational Education courses at TAFE and six students undertook School VET courses.

Year 12 students attaining HSC or equivalent vocational educational qualification
66% of Year 12 students attained a HSC or equivalent educational qualification in 2011.

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

Staff establishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal(s)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal(s)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Teachers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>% of staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree or Diploma</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of financial summary</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>316,682.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>200,423.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>445,954.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>60,953.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>16,108.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>8,234.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>72,850.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>804,524.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenditure

Teaching & learning
  - Key learning areas 62,950.50
  - Excursions 20,305.47
  - Extracurricular dissections 42,147.20

Library 7,717.20
Training & development 579.81
Tied funds 389,011.70
Casual relief teachers 42,430.30
Administration & office 46,620.49
School-operated canteen 69,501.76
Utilities 70,444.44
Maintenance 18,940.24
Trust accounts 9,818.51
Capital programs 13,532.52
Total expenditure  794 000.14  
Balance carried forward  327 206.99  

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

Primary Department
2012 has been another productive year for the Primary Department of Bonalbo Central School, as we engaged in quality literacy and numeracy programs, sports activities and creative and performing arts.

Positions in the primary remained unchanged this year, with Mrs Armfield teaching K-1, with Mrs Collins teaching on Mondays and Mrs Hellan Whitney as SLSO support. Mrs Davies ran the 2-3 classroom with SLSO support from Amanda Close-Bowman, and Ms O’Meara continued with Years 4/5/6, with Adam Woods as SLSO support. Students in K-6 also benefited from Mr Tucker’s expertise for Music.

The SRC has had a successful year hosting events such the Art Auction and some cake stalls. All money raised by the SRC either goes to various charitable organisations or towards subsidising events in the Primary. Thanks to all parents and community members who supported our fundraising efforts.

Students in Years 3 and 5 sat the NAPLAN tests. Results showed growth in most areas of Literacy and Numeracy. Year 3 was a standout with all students performing at a high level. Well done to Mrs Davies and the students. Many students from Years 3 to 6 also completed the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools run by the University of NSW, with some excellent results.

Again this year we were able to offer an extended Transition Program for students attending Kindergarten in 2013. Transition students attended each Friday in Terms 3 and 4. The aim of the program was to allow students to become familiar with the school setting before starting in 2013. Also, due to Bonalbo’s location and limited amount of preschool experience, we felt it was important to give these students a solid platform to leap into Kindergarten.

Once again we attended the Kyogle/Casino Performing Arts Festival. Students in Kindergarten to Year 3 performed “Marry You”, a dance routine and Years 4 to 6 students sang and danced to “Price Tag”.

This year we changed our excursion set up and held three trips away. K-1 had a day-trip to Macadamia Castle, enjoying all the sanctuary had to offer. Years 2/3 travelled to Lennox Head Lake Ainsworth Recreation Centre for an overnight camp participating in rope and abseiling activities. Students in Years 5-8 travelled to Brisbane for a three day camp, visiting Australia Zoo, climbing the Story Bridge and visiting the Queensland Museum amongst other things. Feedback from all camps was very positive.

‘Aim High’, ‘Be Safe’ and ‘Be Fair’ are the mottos alongside ‘Respect, Integrity and Participation’ as we merge into a whole-school values and reward system. This year we are trialling a whole-school end of year reward day, travelling to Lismore Ten Pin Bowling. Students follow a clear set of expected behaviours, or values, and develop a deeper understanding of consequences and the process of self-monitoring their behaviour. R.I.P Awards (RIPAs), Merit Certificates and Rewards Days are part of the Positive Rewards System. In 2012 there were many students who earned the Silver Reward privileges.

Our primary students have demonstrated a high level of sportsmanship when taking part in and representing Bonalbo Central School at all sporting events. During 2012 Bonalbo Central School primary students have participated in a number of sports, with many students going on to represent the school at district and zone levels. All of our sports events have been well attended by both parents and students, and our appreciation and thanks go out to all those parents who volunteer on these days. This year our K-12 Athletics Carnival was again a success, and next year we look forward to a re-vamp of our sports organisation, procedures and planning, as well as trialling whole-school sports for students from Years 5 to10.

Primary Staff
Achievements

Arts

Music Report
2012 has been another big year for music. Any year that you undertake a school musical is bound to be a big year. Bismo Roach showcased the talents and contribution of forty people. There were students from Year 5 to Year 12, and twelve staff members (three quarters of the secondary staff) working on the show. It was wonderful to see students developing stage skills and really taking charge of their roles, and I know audiences were astounded at the teachers’ acting talents. Over $500 was raised for the Children’s Medical Research Foundation. We thank the P&C for their catering and support.

Congratulations to all the Primary students who worked so hard preparing for the Casino Performing Arts Festival and the recent Primary Concert. Students from Kinder to Year 3 have all had the opportunity to try trumpet and clarinet this year.

Our Year 7/8 Concert, organised by the students themselves, gave every student an opportunity to prepare and participate in at least two items on stage. An important part of the project was the student self-assessment and parent assessment of the performances, and we thank parents for their support and perceptive comments.

Our band, The Giant Rat of Sumatra, performed at several school and community events during the year including Seniors’ Day, Old Bonalbo Fireworks, CWA, our Anzac Day commemoration and The Next Big Thing Festival at Tabulam. Mr Kilroy has been training up an excellent group of Year 7 musicians and singers to keep the Rat tradition alive. After many years of busking, fundraising and saving, The Rats have bought a 20 channel mixer and powered speakers to improve the sound of our performances.

Our Year 12 musicians have had an excellent year. Anna, Jack, Rachelle and Reuben all had principal roles in the musical. Reuben was chosen to perform on guitar in the North Coast Music Enrichment Days concert. Rachelle played saxophone in The North Coast Region Concert Band and was selected to perform with them at the Sydney Opera House. She has passed her audition for a Music degree at Queensland University of Technology and has been offered early entry to a Music degree at Southern Cross University. Rachelle was recently announced as Runner Up in the Youth Mentorship Program at the Mullumbimby Music Festival.

We are always happy to support students in their music making; all you need to do is ask.

Dave Tucker
Music Teacher

Sport
There have been some memorable sporting moments during this year. The Swimming Carnival in Term 1 with a number of our students going on to represent the school at the Zone Swimming Carnival. In Term 2 the Cross Country was held and some of our students represented the school at Regional Cross Country. The Athletics Carnival was postponed until Term 3 due to inclement weather and again we had students represent the school at the Regional Athletics Carnival.

Fifteen netballers travelled to Inverell to compete in the Central Schools Carnival and one of our Rugby Union players was selected to play in the North Coast Rugby Union team.

During sport on Wednesday afternoons the “Bloodwood Shield” was contested between our two houses in soccer, netball and Oz-tag.

Wednesday afternoon sport allows our students the opportunity to choose from Canoeing, Bowls, Golf, Tennis, Swimming and Oz Tag— to name just a few. The students have enjoyed the wide selection of sports. Thank you to the Bowling Club and to Kyogle Council for allowing our students the use of their facilities.

Next year there are even more opportunities for our students to be involved in sport. Well done to everyone involved this year and I would like to personally thank you all for your help and support at Bonalbo Central School.

Shaun Flannery
Sports Co-ordinator
Canoeing
The Bonalbo Central School Canoeing team have had another successful and eventful year. This year canoeing has gone from strength to strength.

A small team of Bonalbo Central canoeists (4) travelled to Tasmania to compete in the Australian Schools Whitewater National Championships held on the Forth River on the 9th to 11th January 2012. The combined efforts of these students resulted in the school placing 5th out of 33 schools competing at the National Championships.

Unfortunately, the power station at Nymboida Canoe Centre was due to be closed in April for repairs so the Combined High School Regional and State Canoeing Championships were moved forward to the 19th March and combined. This resulted in a rushed training regime for our competitors leading up to the event. This did not dampen the team spirit and participation. We experienced one of our most successful championships, members of our team gaining Combined High Schools State Open Boy Champion and Combined High Schools North Coast Boy, Champion Senior Girl Champion – North Coast Regional Canoeing and Sub-Junior Girl Champion – North Coast Regional Canoeing. Which lead to our school winning the all school Regional and State Canoeing Championship. Every student that participated in the Championships from Bonalbo Central School gained a place on the podium over the duration of the event.

The community commitment to the sport of canoeing at Bonalbo is greatly appreciated.

Melissa Ellis
Canoeing Co-ordinator

Agriculture
Agriculture is continuing to grow and achieve great outcomes at Bonalbo Central. The highlight of 2012 for Agriculture was winning the lightweight carcase competition at Casino Beef Week. 2012 also saw the reintroduction of Primary Industries (Agriculture Certificate II) to Year 11. The Year 7 course focused on chicken and vegetable production. Each semester students were allocated day old chickens to raise through to mature birds. The hens were kept at school for egg production, while the roosters were plucked and prepared for eating. A wide range of fruits and vegetables were grown by the students including: tomatoes, cucumbers, beans, beetroot, lettuce, radish, potatoes and corn just to name a few. On Friday of Week 10, the students will prepare and eat a lunch made from produce they had grown on the school farm. The menu will include chicken kebabs, potato chips, eggs and various vegetables.

The Year 9/10 class once again prepared cattle for the Bonalbo Show and Beef Week. This year we had 2 steers which resulted in a steer winning the lightweight carcase competition at Beef Week and our other steer ranking 6th. A mountain of preparation goes into getting a beast ready for showing. The students have to handle the animals at every opportunity to ensure they will be manageable in the show ring. This preparation included several laps of the Bonalbo main street!

Year 9/10 also studied pastures, tractors, sheep and alpaca units this year. In the tractor unit all students drove the tractor. Most students can now conduct a pre-start safety check, drive safely and operate the slasher. As far as livestock goes, we have 5 commercial steers fattening on the school farm.

It was our most successful year for lambs producing 9 lambs from 6 ewes. The sheep and lambs in particular are a favourite amongst students. They always enjoy feeding, handling and drenching them.

The reintroduction of Primary Industries resulted in an increased workload and activity on the school farm with new fences erected, extra tractor driving, oats sown for winter feed and more livestock handling activities.

In late November we had our first Ag camp, we camped at the Bonalbo Showgrounds and visited various local producers. It was a great success with students being exposed to new enterprises
and a greater appreciation for Agriculture in the Bonalbo area.

Stephen Gray
Agriculture Teacher

Mindle Ladies’ Sewing Group
The Mindle Ladies’ Sewing Group has been in full swing each Wednesday this year as an Adult education class. The term ‘Mindle’ means clever in Bundjalung language and the ladies have certainly lived up to their name. With their teacher Sandy Cousins who followed in the footsteps of Louise Tart (who started the class originally), the students have learnt a wide range of skills and have produced a variety of beautiful patchwork quilts. In order to produce the quilts, the ladies have displayed a great willingness to learn and the perseverance to succeed. Some had to overcome their initial lack of confidence in their sewing ability, but now all are self-proclaimed sewing addicts!

Careers
With the school leaving age now at 17, very few, if any, students leave school at the end of Year 10. Consequently, Work Education was dropped from the Year 10 subject lines and we catered for Year 10 needs in alternative ways.

Work Experience in Year 10 became optional (in line with the trend of more and more Year 10 students over recent years choosing not to organise work experience) and those who have elected to do Work Experience have done so later in the year so that it has become less disruptive in their lead up to their completion of their School Certificate.

Work Studies was included in the Year 11 subject lines.

2012 has seen a dramatic increase in the number of students showing an interest in a School Based Traineeship/Apprenticeship which allows the student to be signed up with an employer, doing paid work for approximately 1 day per week over Years 11/12 and completing relevant TAFE qualifications as part of their HSC load. 3 students had School-based Traineeships/Apprenticeships in 2012. With growing interest among other students, 3 Year 10 students took the opportunity to do Work Experience for 1 day/week at the local Pre-school and, as a result, one student is now signed up as an SBAT there in 2013. Another of the three has started an SBAT with the Commonwealth Bank in Casino. School-to-work planning for Year 12 students has been on-going with career planning on an individual basis. 4 of our 13 school leavers have been offered early entry to their chosen university courses. One Year 12 student has been successful in obtaining a Nursing and Allied Health Undergraduate Scholarship towards her Bachelor of Nursing. Others will be waiting to see what is offered after their HSC results are released in the next few weeks.

Jan Maslen
Careers Advisor

Academic-NAPLAN
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 and enter the school name in the Find a school and select GO.

Higher School Certificate
Year 12 have improved their average score difference by 8 points in the test aspect of English.

Between 2011-2012 a majority of students have shifted up one band in English.

In General Maths our results continue to be solid with some room for improvement.

In Music 100% of students gained a Band 5.

Significant programs and initiatives
National Partnerships and Equity funding Programs

National partnership programs
The funding for National Partnerships along with the equity funding has provided a wide range of opportunities to improve learning outcomes for Bonalbo students in 2012.

Our motto is ‘Lifelong learning for a better future’ and we have characterised our main targets across the school in terms of the ‘transition’ points in schooling which are: starting school;
starting high school and leaving school. The aim is to improve the overall outcomes in learning for students so that these transitions happen smoothly and students eventually move on to have successful adult lives. National Partnerships money has enhanced our ability to work towards this aim. The specific programs have included:

Kindy transition program: this program runs in second semester each year, one day per week, teaching the little ones skills they need to prepare them for school in the following year. The program has run successfully for 2 years now, with all students able to join the Kindergarten classroom with the basic benchmark skills for school.

The middle primary class was supported with extra funds to maintain a separate third class. The success of this support was demonstrated by excellent NAPLAN results.

A speech Therapist was engaged to both work with students and to train staff. The students involved have shown significant improvement and staff have gained skills to continue and support the program.

Fast Maths has been implemented in 2012 across all classes from Kindergarten to Year 10, across all Key Learning Areas. Fast Maths is implemented each morning from Monday to Thursday. All staff are involved in the Fast Maths Program to some degree. Fast Maths has been well received by both staff and students and results indicate that they are moving through the levels consistently. By the end of the year some students will have completed the program (100 levels).

Staff development has been ongoing throughout the year including training in data analysis to better utilise NAPLAN and other data to drive more targeted teaching and learning for improvement in student results.

School to work and the transition beyond high school has been reported on elsewhere. Our students continue to perform well at Higher School Certificate level and to have post school goals and plans in place when they leave school. Adult and community classes have continued in a variety of areas with Visual Art, Hospitality and the Mindle Ladies’ sewing group being well-established after many years of operation.

Progress on 2012 targets

Target 1

Literacy

Increase the number of students in the top two bands by at least two students across all years by 2013

Target 2

Numeracy

Move all students including indigenous students along the K-10 Maths continuum by two bands.

Target 3

Review welfare discipline policies and student engagement for Primary and Secondary

Our achievements include: Investigate Positive Behaviour for learning by reviewing and implement rewards and values certificate system. Professional learning days for staff, to learn techniques for managing students with challenging behaviours and supporting students with learning difficulties.

Target 4

Continue to “Close the gap” with Aboriginal Education

Our achievements include:

Meaningful Aboriginal perspectives embedded into the curriculum. Bundjalung continued in Year 7 LOTE. Mindle Mondays continued with child care and bus support. Elder employed to support Aboriginal Education Officer and student learning. NAIDOC day activities expanded. Elders involved with Primary story sharing.

Target 5

School Infrastructure Improvements

Our achievements include:

Completed the renovation and construction of a Multipurpose Centre and Library using Building
Education Revolution funding and completed the construction of a Trade Training Centre. Relocated air conditioning to 7 classrooms and offices and relocated Primary play equipment as a consequence of the closure of Mallanganee Public School. A joint community and school outdoor Netball/ Basketball court was completed.

**School evaluation**

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

**Educational and management practice:**

**Attendance**

**Background**

For K-6, average attendance rates for 2008-2012 (83%) are slightly below Region (86%) and State (85%) For Years 7-12, average attendance rates for 2008-2012 (73%) are well below Region (85%) and State (89%). School records indicate a large drop in attendance for Aboriginal students in the early years of high school. For the current Year 10 cohort, 5 Aboriginal students enrolled in Year 7 but only two still attends.

**Findings and conclusions**

Student attendance data, especially for Aboriginal students in the early years of high school, are very poor. Readiness for school at pre-school age is also well below expectations.

**Future directions**

*PLPs* to be incorporated into programming and planning practice for all teachers STL to co-ordinate effective targeting of SLSO support to students at risk.

Include PLPs in ‘return to school’ parent/carer meetings for students returning from suspension. Research and develop a consistent Welfare Discipline program across the community of schools BCS and partner schools (possibly PBL)

**Student retention**

Student retention from Year 10 to Year 11 has remained static.

Year 10 to Year 11 retention rates are above the State and SEG averages.

Year 7 to Year 11 retention rates for Aboriginal students are very low

**Findings and conclusions**

A broad range of curriculum offering has enabled the school to support student engagement and retention.

Staff has continued to develop more effective teaching and learning strategies supported by executive.

**Future directions**

Pre- school-Kindergarten: Increase to 100% able to write own name and hold a book.

Year 6-Year 7: Increase the attendance rate of secondary students by 10%.

**School to work:** Increase the value-added from Year 10 to Year 12 to a positive value for low, middle and high

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

Embed the Transition P-K program into school Practise (semester 2 each year, 1 day per week). Employment of STL + transition teacher to implement the program and support the students; (RSA= Returning Student Advocate)

Introduce new curriculum choices to engage lower achieving Stage 6 students as well as community members CEC English; BEC Applied Maths; TVET Beauty at BCS.

**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**

Improve Literacy and Numeracy

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

Increase the number of students in the top two bands by at least two students across all areas and years (NAPLAN) by 2013

**Strategies to achieve these targets include:**

Weekly: All staff to mark a piece of writing for each student for spelling, grammar and
punctuation- initially collegial marking to improve staff skills.

Daily introduce into daily routine the spellwell program.

School priority 2

Outcome for 2012–2014

More involvement of parents and carers in the school and community communications enhanced.

2012 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

Create A ‘Super’ Wednesday to include: Mindle patchwork group and ‘yarn up’ - open to all; Commercial Cookery specialisation (Hospitality Cert II on another day of the week); TVET Tafe delivered Beauty.

Ensure each newsletter contains work samples from a Primary and two Secondary classes.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

Adults from all surrounding communities are welcome to enrol in these classes numbers permitting.

Include positive stories about student behaviour and staff involvement in local media

Information about the levels rewards system and the behaviour policies in Newsletter

(CLO) Update parent register of interest and skills and promote involvement in school activities

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.

Keith Larsson  Principal
Corinne Miller  Deputy Principal
Megan O’Meara  Assistant Principal
Lynne Davies  Teacher
Stephen Gray  Teacher
David Tucker  Head Teacher

Sharon Tucker  Librarian
Melissa Ellis  Teacher
Shaun Flannery  Teacher
Hellan Whitney  P&C President
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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: