"Always Ready"

Messages

Principal's message

It is with great pleasure that I present this report to the school community of Tirranna.

2008 has been a very successful year for students, staff and families of Tirranna. Tirranna Public School highly values Literacy and Numeracy and the provision of diverse quality educational programs, positively shapes the individual talents, abilities and interests of our students.

Our academic achievements have been extremely pleasing with every student demonstrating growth in Numeracy and Literacy, especially in the areas of Reading, Writing and Problem solving.

Our peer support program has developed confidence, self esteem, cooperation, leadership skills and social responsibility. Our students learn to work effectively as part of a team.

Technology is integrated with all Key Learning Areas. Skills continue to expand with the assistance of Mrs Ball our teacher/Librarian. New skills have included emails and exciting special effects in powerpoint presentations.

We are proud of our balanced curriculum which provides opportunities for all students to participate in a wide variety of Sport and Creative Arts activities. In 2008 all students performed at the Goulburn Community of Schools Concert and participated in many sport carnivals and gala days.

Changes to the school during 2008 have seen the establishment of the Outdoor Learning Areas in the vegetable garden, the bird aviaries and chicken coop, the completion of the COLA and stage area, the installation of the play equipment, a new flagpole and a new kitchen.

Thank you to the P & C for their support during the year. Our joint fund raising venture by the establishment of the Tirranna Country Produce label and participation in the Goulburn markets has been an opportunity for parents and students to work together, has raised the profile of Tirranna Public School in the local community, raised revenue for the school and has, I believe, been fun.

Finally, I wish to thank my hard working staff for their support, commitment and generosity throughout the year.

Tirranna Public School is what Public Education is all about – Quality Education, Staff commitment, partnerships and community spirit. I consider it a privilege to work in such a child centred learning environment.

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.

Suzanne Cartwright

P&C and/or School Council message

Our P &C has out done themselves with great motivation and input. We had many fundraisers including Dominoes, a wood raffle and a bus trip. We also came together with our teachers and students to produce our own stall for the markets. Parents cooked and the students made jewellery and sold garden vegetables, which they grew themselves. Everyone enjoyed this new project especially the children who ran the stalls. All this allowed us to support our teacher’s aide Janna House and partly contribute to excursions, which benefits our children greatly.

With our new principal Sue Cartwright there wasn't much time for rest. She is highly motivated and kept everyone's spirits high making for a fun year.
I also want to take this opportunity to thank the other parents and grandparents for their support for our small school. After two years as P & C president I am now taking a break for family commitments. I have enjoyed the last two years and hope to still support Tirranna P & C in the future.

Katrina Noack

Student representative's message

2008 was a busy year. We have helped raise money for SIDS, the cancer council as well as for school projects.

We have enjoyed many excursions, especially the three days in Sydney and the Year 3-6 camp at Long Beach.

Everyone enjoyed presentation night. We have enjoyed being school leaders.

Brandon McDonald, Tyler Hollingworth-Dessent, Isabella Webb.

Our school at a glance

Students

Thirteen students were enrolled at Tirranna Public School at the beginning of 2008. Two new families joined the school during the year with the final enrolment being fourteen.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total per Year</th>
<th>Total in Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Structure of classes

There is one multi-age class at Tirranna Public School.

Staff information

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

Tirranna is staffed by 1 full time Teaching Principal who is supported part time by a Teacher Librarian, a Teacher’s Aide, a School Administrative Manager and a General Assistant.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Aide</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School administrative</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manager</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>On call</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Teacher Learning</td>
<td>14 days/</td>
<td>year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff retention

Tirranna Public School retained the same number of staff in 2008 as in 2007. Neville Robertson joined our staff as General Assistant in Term 3 when Paul Taylor relinquished his position at Tirranna Public School.

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>100</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.

2008 saw the completion of the COLA area and the playground equipment provided by the Federal Government’s Investing In Our Schools Program.

A full copy of the school's 2008 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.

Significant programs and initiatives

ACADEMIC

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 3

Four students in Year 3 sat the Literacy NAPLAN in 2008. Due to the small number of students, detailed results cannot be reported for privacy reasons.
Literacy – NAPLAN Year 5
Two students in Year 5 sat the Literacy NAPLAN in 2008.
Due to the small number of students, detailed results cannot be reported for privacy reasons.

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3
Four students in Year 3 sat the Numeracy NAPLAN in 2008.
Due to the small number of students, detailed results cannot be reported for privacy reasons.

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 5
Two students in Year 5 sat the Numeracy NAPLAN in 2008.
Due to the small number of students, detailed results cannot be reported for privacy reasons.

Minimum standards
The percentage of Year 3 and Year 5 students in our school achieving minimum standards in 2008 will not be reported here for privacy reasons.

Aboriginal education
An “acknowledgement of country” continues to be an important aspect of all assemblies and other formal occasions. Students at Tirranna Public School celebrated National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Day. Aboriginal perspectives are incorporated into all KLA’s where appropriate.

Multicultural education
Multicultural perspectives continue to be an important component of teaching units, where appropriate.

Students participated in the Tarago CWA competition based on Mexico. They also attended the cultural morning on Mexico at the Tarago Hall organised by the CWA. Tyler, Dayne and Evi won their grade levels for their poster projects, which were selected to advance to the regional level of the CWA competition. Evi was awarded 3rd place at Regional level and received a book prize from the CWA.

Respect and responsibility
Tirranna Public School continues to foster a culture of respect that underpins relationships amongst students, staff and community members. Tirranna Public School is respected by its community for providing students with a learning environment that is both safe and caring. Students are taught respect and responsibility throughout our learning programs.

This year our Values Education Forum provided an opportunity whereby students, staff and parents could discuss mutual expectations and develop partnerships based on respect and shared responsibilities.

Students participated in ANZAC Day ceremonies at school and in the Goulburn march.

Staff, parents and senior students endeavour to model appropriate behaviours and encourage all students to accept responsibility for their own actions while respecting individual differences and the rights of others.
This was achieved through:

- A well attended Values Education Forum.
- Explicit classroom teaching of Values Education.
- Regular involvement in community based events and projects.
- Student involvement in fundraising ventures that increased awareness of the wider community.

Our discipline policy helps our children understand how their actions and behaviour impact on other children and has deepened their understanding that there are consequences for their actions.

School performance 2008

Our achievements include:

**Arts**

Our students participated in a wide variety of experiences in the Arts this year including:

- Participation in the Sports and Cultural Expo at Carr-Confoy Park in Term 1. Students experienced dancing, ball games, football skills and wheelchair basketball with Goulburn High School.
- Students sang and danced for the Education Week Assembly.
- Students in Year 3 to Year 6 sang as part of the Combined Choir at the Goulburn Community of Public Schools Choral Concert in Term 2.
- All students participated in individual items at the Goulburn Community of Public Schools Choral Concert in Term 2. Boys in 3-6 were part of a small schools dance group while the rest of the school entertained the audience with their version of the Tales of Aladdin.
- Brendan Guilliano conducted specialist drama lessons in term 3 and 4 at the school.
- Students helped write and choreograph a play for Presentation Night which was held on the outdoor stage area.
Sport

- Tyler Hollingworth-Dessent and Jacob Johnson represented our school and the Goulburn Small Schools team at the District Cross Country held at the Wollondilly Public School course.

- Involvement by the whole school in the Premier’s sporting Challenge which promoted life-long learning skills and active lifestyle.

- All students participated in an AFL Gala Day at Carr-Confoy with the combined small schools in Term 3.

- Byron Hollingworth-Dessent represented our school and the Goulburn Small Schools team at the Regional Athletics in Queanbeyan.

- Tirranna Public School won two trophies at the Taralga Sports Day – the Aggregate Trophy and the Overall Trophy.

- Students enjoyed participating in many one day activities to promote a healthy, active lifestyle. These days included rock climbing at the PCYC, a walkathon and an attempt to break the Guiness Book of records for the most walkers at one time.

- All students participated in the Mini Olympics held at Tarago PS. This day was greatly enjoyed and provided opportunities for sport, Leadership and networking.

Other

- Year 3 -6 students attended a 3 day camp at Long Beach with students from Breadalbane, Collector, Tarago and Windellama.

- Tirranna students undertook the Live Life Well program in 2008. Through this program children have learnt about healthy nutrition choices and the importance of regular exercise. ‘Crunch ‘n Sip’ was also introduced to reinforce the importance of fruit and water to help refuel the body.

- All students attended a 3 day excursion to Sydney which complemented our school curriculum in the areas of Australian History, Multicultural studies and Living Things.

Progress on 2008 targets

Target 1

*To improve student outcomes in Literacy, especially comprehension.*
Strategies to achieve this target include:

- The development of individual/small group programs.
- Employment of a Teachers Aide to provide support in literacy to all students
- Development of school Scope and Sequence in Writing aligned with COGs units and Rigby Literacy program.
- Purchasing of resources to support Literacy program.
- All students benchmarked and supplied with regular readers to take home. Home Reading and Reading Journals part of homework contract.
- Systematic and explicit teaching of literacy skills through Rigby Literacy program.
- Staff professional development in writing strategies.
- Tracking and Monitoring schedule for all students.

Our achievements include:

- Improved Torch results for 85% of students.
- An increased number of students achieving appropriate benchmark levels in Reading.
- An increased number of students achieving expected outcomes in Writing.

**Target 2**

To improve student outcomes in Numeracy.

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Review of Scope & Sequence for Mathematics
- Employment of a Teachers Aide to provide support in numeracy to targeted students
- Students identified to receive targeted intervention
- Tracking and Monitoring schedule for all students
- Whole school activity with emphasis on Working Mathematically one day per week (either modelled, guided or independent)

Our achievements include:

- All students achieving stage outcomes in Mathematics in school based assessment.
- 100% of Year 5 students achieving above or at state average in Mathematics in NAPLAN results.

**Target 3**

All students to participate in at least 2 sporting and cultural programs which promote life-long learning skills.

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Involvement by whole school in Premier’s Sporting Challenge to promote life-long learning skills and active lifestyle.
- Involvement by the whole school in Livelifewell Program and the introduction of Crunch’n Sip.
- Involvement by the whole school in the Goulburn Community of Schools Music Festival.
- Involvement by Tirranna Public School in community activities.

Our achievements include:

- Involvement by the whole school in the Premier’s Sporting Challenge and the Livelifewell Program has resulted in raised awareness of the need for activity and good nutrition.
- Involvement by the whole school in the Goulburn Community of Schools Festival in singing, dance and drama has helped increase confidence and performance skills.
- Involvement by Tirranna Public School in community activities such as ANZAC Day, the Goulburn Show, Goulburn Market Day, CWA Cultural Exhibition and the Lilac Festival. These activities have helped raise the profile of Tirranna Public School in the community and have contributed to an increased awareness of the importance of community participation.
Key evaluations
It is a requirement for all NSW public schools to conduct at least two annual evaluations – one related to educational and management practice and the other related to curriculum. In 2008 our school carried out evaluations of the Student Welfare Policy and Literacy.

Educational and management practice

Student Welfare

Background
The school surveyed all parents using a school-designed survey. All surveys were returned.

Findings and conclusions
- All students at Tirranna Public School feel safe and valued and like going to school.
- Staff at Tirranna Public School deal with discipline issues that arise efficiently and effectively.
- Students and parents at Tirranna Public School are treated with courtesy.
- The school merit system positively reinforces student achievement, motivation and behaviour.
- Parents felt that the school report provided detailed information about student strengths and areas for improvement.
- Strong support was given for the school’s Social Skills, Peer Support and Anti-bullying programs.

Future directions
The survey showed strong support for the Student Welfare Policy. All programs will continue in 2009 with an emphasis on promoting the Anti-bullying Policy.

Curriculum

Literacy

Background
The school surveyed all parents using a school-designed survey. All surveys were returned.

Findings and conclusions
- All parents strongly agreed that English was an important subject for their children.
- Home Reading was seen as a valued aspect of learning.
- It was felt that all students had gained new skills in Reading, writing, talking and listening during 2008.
- All students enjoy Literacy at Tirranna Public School.
- Parents felt that Tirranna Public School was well resourced for the teaching of Literacy.

Future directions
Whilst all parents felt confident to assist their children with home Reading and the teaching of English, some parents felt they did not understand how Literacy was taught at school. During 2009 parent workshops will be offered in the teaching of Literacy at Tirranna Public School.

Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction
In 2008 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school.

Their responses are presented below.
- Parents strongly agreed that the school is connected to its community and welcomes parental involvement.
- The students were seen as the school’s main concern and it was felt teachers set
high standards of achievement and offered challenging programs for students.

- The school maintains a focus on Literacy and Numeracy, whilst offering a wide range of extra-curricula activities.
- Good student access to computers and strong technology programs and resources were seen as priority areas.
- The school promotes a healthy lifestyle and is tolerant and accepting of all students.

Professional learning
The school is allocated funds each year for the professional learning of staff. In 2008 Tirranna PS expended $2,103 in the areas of leadership, health, Literacy, Numeracy and in the implementation of NAPLAN.

School development 2009 – 2011

Targets for 2009

Target 1

85% of children achieve or better stage outcomes in Literacy

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Analysis of individual students’ needs and provision of appropriate support.
- Differentiated Professional Learning Programs including:
  - Guided Reading (explicit and systematic)
  - Shared Reading (explicit and systematic)
  - Modelled Reading (explicit and systematic).
- Explicit modelled and scaffolded teaching of text types.
- Implementation of PEG Spelling program.
- Professional learning in QT dimension – Intellectual Quality.
- Teachers to access the Teaching and Learning Exchange (TaLe) as a strategy to enhance teaching practice.
- Professional learning in Consistent Teacher Judgement with Small Schools.
- Implementing focussed programs throughout the school, including a Home Reading program (K-6).
- Ensure the teaching of HSIE and Science is aligned to the Quality Teaching framework and incorporates quality literacy strategies and Aboriginal Education.
- Participation in Small Schools Network to facilitate sharing of expertise and resources, with focus on student writing improvement and authentic assessment.
- Develop writing rubrics.
- Students self assess work samples against rubrics.
- Shared technology skills audit, programming and assessments.
- Development of a strategic and systematic K-6 assessment program.
- Partnership between the home and school to be strengthened through the provision of information via newsletters and parent information sessions.
- Parent meetings related to learning styles, home activities, Reading and learning together.
- Integration of technology strategies into writing.
- Structured connection to form “email buddy” links.
- Ensure monitoring and evaluation processes are in place.
- Participation in Regional Conferences including Linking Conferences for teachers and principal to support literacy programs K-6.

Our success will be measured by:

- School-based data will show each student achieving individual learning goals in relation to Stage outcomes for Literacy.
- Teachers utilise Quality Teaching Framework as a key instrument to improve student outcomes.
- Innovative Technology usage enhances learning and engagement in the classroom.
• Increased competency levels will be demonstrated by staff and students.

Target 2
85% of children achieve or better stage outcomes in Numeracy

Strategies to achieve this target include:
• Professional learning for teaching staff in analysis techniques and establishment of specific student goals.
• Participation in professional learning opportunities that develop numeracy expertise.
• Professional Learning in Count Me In Too and Counting On to ensure the quality of implementation and assessment.
• Targeted support for individual learning needs determined by analysis of NAPLAN numeracy and school based data.
• Identification of staff Professional Learning needs and planned individual programs to ensure implementation of Quality Teaching framework in classrooms.
• Quality teaching elements to be incorporated into all aspects of teaching numeracy.
• Continued Professional Learning to embed “Working Mathematically” into teaching programs e.g. Language of Maths.
• Engagement of Regional personnel to optimise staff learning.
• Individual programs developed and implemented for all students.
• Purchase resources to support the implementation of numeracy across K-6.
• Structured opportunities for staff to participate in Small Schools Network to facilitate improved student engagement and learning.
• Work with staff from the Small Schools Network to ensure consistency in teacher judgement of work samples to measure achievement.
• Ensure monitoring and evaluation processes are in place.
• Participation in Regional conferences including Linking Conferences for teachers and principal to support numeracy programs K-6.

Our success will be measured by:
• School-based data will show each student achieving individual learning goals in relation to Stage outcomes for Numeracy.
• Teachers utilise Quality Teaching Framework as key instrument to improve student outcomes.
• Innovative Technology usage enhances learning in every classroom.
• Increased competency levels will be demonstrated by staff and students.

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.

Suzanne Cartwright, Principal
Nancy Ball, Librarian / RFF Teacher
Janna House, Teachers Aide
Julie Carey, School Administration Manager
Katrina Noack, P & C President

School contact information
Tirranna Public School
Braidwood Road GOULBURN 2580
Ph: 02 4821 4645
Fax: 02 4821 4363
Email: tirranna-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
School Code: 3222

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: