Our school at a glance

Nowra Hill Public School is a PP5 school located eight kilometers south of Nowra, adjacent to HMAS Albatross. The student enrolment of 110 is made up of children from the local school zone and from Defence families from HMAS Albatross and Army Parachute Training School. Being a small school there are only five classes. The school adheres to the NSW Department of Education and Communities guidelines for class sizes, in the junior schools, resulting in composite classes throughout the school.

Student achievement for 2012 can be found in the MySchool website where members of the community can compare the NAPLAN results for Nowra Hill Public School with other local school and similar school across New South Wales and other states.

Students

Significant programs and initiatives

Student Leadership

Student leadership is encouraged and supported at Nowra Hill Public School. School captains are elected from Year 6 students, with all year 6 having leadership roles and responsibilities.

As preparation for future leaders, Year 5 students attended a Small Schools (SISST) leadership day at Killalea State Park. A follow-up to this day will be held in Term 1, 2013 to further develop leadership skills.

Defence School Transition Aid

Being adjacent to HMAS Albatross and the Parachute Training School, Nowra Hill Public School has a significant enrolment of Defence community children. There are 34 students from Defence families.

A Defence School Transition Aid is employed through federal funding, two days per week, to assist students when enrolling or leaving the school. Since Defence families are often transient, this assistance helps students prepare for change of schools with less stress and disruption to their learning. It also helps provide teachers with information about each student.

The DSTA assist in the classroom and conducts a Kids Club at lunchtimes. This involves keeping in contact with parents who may be deployed and gives opportunities for students to engage with the aim to discussing issues.

The DSTA has regular communications through letters and emails to defence families and also conducts afternoon teas for defence families.

This program is highly valued by the school and its community.

Messages

Principal’s message

Nowra Hill Public School is a school where all students are encouraged to do their best in all aspects of their education. The school motto “Strive to Excel” is applied to academic, sporting, cultural and artistic interests and our successes are celebrated within the school and the community.

We are passionate about student welfare and well being and are committed to providing a safe, supportive and disciplined environment. Being a small school, students and staff know, understand and encourage one another. There are many times throughout the year when students are involved in whole school activities lead by senior students. All senior students are given opportunities to develop and demonstrate leadership including running assemblies, peer tutoring and team leadership.
The school works in close collaboration with other small schools and with the Shoalhaven River Learning Community. Aspects of professional learning for staff are addressed through local networking to share expertise. This will be increasingly important in the coming years as the Australian Curriculum is implemented in all schools.

As a teaching principal, I am grateful that the school has a supportive and enthusiastic community of parents and carers. The Parents and Citizens Association continue to provide a wonderful school canteen, uniform shop and initiatives such as Fresh Fruit Fridays. The school is well resourced, thanks to the support of the P & C.

Some parents are actively involved by helping within the classroom, at sporting events and art and craft programs.

Student enrolment has been maintained at 107, which is consistent with previous years. Class sizes conform to the NSW Department of Education and Community guidelines.

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.

Tony McCann - Principal

P & C Association Message

In 2012 the Nowra Hill Public School P&C members included Doug Tebbit, Tanya Goodwin, Susan and Stephen Willis, Megan Shipton, Brenda Finley, Jackie Nolan, Philip Hattley, Mark Reminis, Katrina Muller and Jocelyn Blowfield.

With the wonderful efforts of the committee and the school community, the P&C raised a grand total of $14,072.83 which included canteen and uniform profits.

2012 fundraising activities included:
- Easter raffle
- Mother’s Day raffle
- Father’s Day raffle
- Election Day stall and BBQ
- Tea towels
- Bunning’s BBQ
- Christmas raffle

The canteen profit included the school disco and extra Friday lunches.

The raffles were organised by some enterprising P&C members who managed to source many wonderful prizes for the raffles from businesses and family and spent generous time wrapping and presenting the prizes beautifully. The BBQ’s were coordinated by other enthusiastic P&C members with support from some friendly parents with wonderful cooking skills.

2012 spending included:
- Materials and bobcat hire for the upgrade of the weathershed.
- Air conditioner for canteen/ uniform shop.
- New readers for Year 1.
- New shelving for the Library.
- $200 for each teacher for general class items.
- Purchasing fruit for fresh fruit Friday once a month (Thank you to Stephanie Radburn and Jackie Nolan).
- Shelves for Mrs Rowe’s room.
- Subsidising bus travel for excursions to Canberra, Southern Stars performance and the intensive swimming scheme.

The extension of the weathershed was a major project for the P&C which could not have been done without the extremely generous support of Geoff O’Connell from Kinghorn Motors Nowra and Paul Sue from Kiteley’s. The P&C thank them whole heartedly.

Proposed future spending:
- New hot water service for the canteen
- Using tank water to flush the toilets

Both of these projects were completed over the 2012/2013 school holidays and are included in 2013 spending.

- Toilet upgrade
- Sandpit
- Seating
- Musical instruments
- Scientific instruments
- More readers
Proposed future fundraising
Apart from the usual raffles, BBQ’s and other activities the P&C is looking to form a separate group to organise the NHPS 150 Year Celebration in 2017.

In 2013 and beyond the P&C look forward to new members and successful fundraising so that we can continue to provide resources, services and many other wonderful projects to improve the learning experience for our precious children at Nowra Hill Public School.

Phaedra Walsh - P & C President

Student representative’s message
At the end of 2011, elections for Nowra Hill School Captains were held, with Cooper Lange and Lily Lauder being elected School captains and being elected to run the Student Representative Council, called “The Redbacks”, in 2012. All year 6 students are given leadership roles to play during the year, including running assemblies, leading groups in Ed Plus, Olympics and Aboriginal Cultural Days, making rosters for recycling and composting, flying the Australian Flag and conducting the school ANZAC Service.

Cooper and Lily also conducted the Education Week Assembly, lead the end-of-year Presentation and Concert and attended the ANZAC Day March.

The School Captains also attended leadership days at Nowra High School, met with the Federal Member for Gilmore, Ms Joanna Gash and represented the School at Shoalhaven Lord Mayor’s School Leaders Reception.

One of the most important roles of senior students is to act as buddies for Kindergarten and new students to the school. This helps the children find new friends, shows them where to play and how to look after their things. Seniors and their buddies usually end being close friends.

The Redbacks raised money for the Cancer Council and Cystic Fibrosis Association by holding mufti days. They also raised money each Friday during terms 2 and 3 by holding pie’n’popper days, with the profits helping pay for a bus to a performance for K-2 and the Year 6 Farewell at the Shoalhaven City Lanes. Year 6 kindly donated three large mats with the school logo to the school.

It is always busy being a school leader at Nowra Hill Public School.

Cooper Lange and Lily Lauder
(School Captains 2012)

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
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 20 March 2012.
Student Enrolment

<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>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>62</td>
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</table>

Note: Enrolments for central schools are for K-6.

Student Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
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<td>97.0</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>96.0</td>
<td>96.0</td>
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<td>94.6</td>
<td>95.9</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>97.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>95.9</td>
<td>96.7</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>96.4</td>
<td>94.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>96.4</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>91.6</td>
<td>97.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>96.7</td>
<td>93.0</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>95.2</td>
<td>95.6</td>
<td>95.1</td>
<td>96.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Attendance rates for central schools are for K-6.

Management of non-attendance

The school has designed a form absence note which has been printed and distributed to parents to encourage them to notify absences promptly and correctly.

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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal(s)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Teachers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>3.168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Emotional Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher of Mild Intellectual Disabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Reading Recovery</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Teacher Learning Assistance</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of ESL</td>
<td>0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
<td>1.206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6.679</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

The school has an Indigenous member of staff and 7% Indigenous student enrolment.

Staff retention

It is anticipated that the school’s staffing establishment will remain the same for 2013.

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>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td></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.
Date of financial summary | 30/11/2012
---|---
**Income** | 
Balance brought forward | $119,561.70
Global funds | 84,429.62
Tied funds | 48,414.54
School & community sources | 37,326.40
Interest | 5,337.41
Trust receipts | 1,673.70
Canteen | 0.00
**Total income** | $296,743.37

**Expenditure**

Teaching & learning
- Key learning areas | 17,154.73
- Excursions | 19,711.84
- Extracurricular dissections | 10,801.33
Library | 978.55
Training & development | 1,030.29
Tied funds | 59,325.54
Casual relief teachers | 10,205.89
Administration & office | 21,221.18
School-operated canteen | -
Utilities | 10,315.88
Maintenance | 8,775.61
Trust accounts | 1,071.70
Capital programs | 7,997.00
**Total expenditure** | $168,589.54

**Balance carried forward** | $128,153.83

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

As part of the Shoalhaven Community, the school encourages student involvement in district and school initiatives and community celebrations.

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 participated in our singing, verse, dance and drama programs leading to performances at our Education Week and Annual School Concerts.

Students from Nowra Hill Public School were commended for their efforts in supporting the junior sections of art and craft at the Nowra Show. One student received at 1\(^{st}\) prize; two students received at 2\(^{nd}\) prize; and one child received a 3\(^{rd}\) prize. Several students received a commended and class 1/2 received a highly commended for the Swift Parrot entry.

During the year, seventeen students from Years 4, 5 and 6 were involved in learning to play a brass instrument with weekly tuition from a qualified instructor from the Nowra Town Band. These children were encouraged to attend Nowra Junior Band sessions on Monday evenings. Three students now play in the Senior Nowra Town band. Students also participated in a Combined Band Day at Shoalhaven Heads Public School.

In March the Southern Stars Ensemble performed for our students and for students from four other small schools. The performers played, sang and danced to a variety of popular and jazz music.

In June, students from Kindergarten, Year 1, 2 and 3 attended Beatrix Potter’s “Happy Birthday Peter Rabbit” show at the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre.

In August, students from Kindergarten to Year 6, travelled to the WIN Entertainment Centre to watch the Southern Stars 2012 “Inspire” performance.

During Bookweek, all students were encouraged to come dressed in character, as a champion, to celebrate the 2012 theme “Champions Read”. Class 4/5 performed “The Last Viking” for the children’s enjoyment.
Three students attended a puppetry workshop at Bomaderry Public School. These children made and decorated their puppet and then acted out the chosen character for their puppet.

Three students attended a Gifted and Talented Musical Theatre workshop and three students attended a clowning workshop involving drama and singing. These were also held at Bomaderry Public School.

Three students attended a Visual Arts workshop at Nowra High School. Under the supervision of a specialist teacher the students were taught various techniques using various mediums.

Eight students from the Nowra Hill recorder ensemble performed and won their section in the Eisteddfod Recorder Section at Nowra Christian School.

Thirty five students from Years 3-6 practised throughout Terms 1,2 and 3 and then performed in the Shoalhaven Music Festival at Nowra High School. Their individual item “La Bamba” was very well received.

At the end of the school year, several students performed at the Nowra Twilight Markets for the inaugural Showcase of Schools in the Shoalhaven. They performed in concert band, line dancing and recorder.

Each child from Kindergarten to Year 6 drew a self portrait. These portraits were transferred onto a commemorative tea towel which could then be purchased.

Children from class 2/3 entered the Carpet Court writing challenge. Sam Hannan from that class won first prize of $250.00 and $1,000.00 worth of books for the school.

Winner of Carpet Court writing competition - Sam Hannan

Many small group activities held during our Education Plus program in term 4 were art and craft based – tile mosaics, scrapbooking, beading, paper mache, truffle and fudge making, dream part portfolio, glass painting, knot tying, first aid and touch football.

We thank the many parents and grandparents volunteers shared their skills, expertise and enthusiasm with the students during Ed Plus.

**Sport**

Nowra Hill participated with six other small schools in the Six Interested Small Schools Together (SISST) Carnivals. Sporting events included athletics, swimming and cross-country.

Nowra Hill Public School has 2 sporting houses, Buru (Kangaroo) and Wirri (Dingo), which have been incorporated into the sporting school.
Nowra Hill P.S. was placed 2nd overall in the SISST Swimming Carnival. Alice Lauder was named 11 year old girl champion at this carnival, with Brianna Harris and Cooper Lange runners up in their division.

17 students represented the school at the Shoalhaven PSSA district swimming.

Cooper Lange and Aleisha Selby were named Senior Boy and Senior Girl Champions respectively of the Small Schools (SISST) Athletics Carnival.

20 students represented Nowra Hill at District Athletics.

Nowra Hill P.S. was placed 1st overall in the SISST (Small Schools) Cross Country.

Nowra Hill had 29 students represent the school at District Cross-Country.

Nowra Hill Public School held their second School Cross Country Carnival. The carnival was a great success and all students (and parents) enjoyed themselves. Ribbons were awarded for the first 3 place getters.

2 mixed teams of Year 5/6 students played in the AFL Paul Kelly Cup at Nowra Showground. From this, the boys (and 3 girls), were invited to compete in the South Coast Final for the Paul Kelly Cup in Bateman’s Bay.

3 boys attended the PSSA District Boys Soccer Trials with Cooper Lange selected in the Shoalhaven PSSA District Boys Soccer Team. Cooper was ultimately selected in the South Coast PSSA Boys Soccer Team.

3 girls attended the PSSA District Girls Soccer Trials with Samantha Vella selected in the Shoalhaven PSSA Girls District Soccer Team.

Students in Years 3 and 4 attended an AFL Auskick Gala Day at the Nowra Showground and competed against other schools in mixed teams.

Nowra Hill held a “Harmony Day” Tabloid Games day with “Buru” and Wirri” sporting houses rotating to complete various sporting activities.

Coinciding with Education Week and the 2012 Olympic Games, Nowra Hill held an Olympic Tabloid day with the students participating in 10 modified Olympic Sports.

An AFL Development officer ran an Infants AFL Programme for 8 weeks in term 3, focusing on fundamental motor skills and games. A group of Year 5/6 students attended a netball afternoon as part of the Active After Schools Communities Program.

The annual Intensive Swimming Scheme was held at the Bay and Basin Leisure Centre for a period of 2 weeks for students in Years 2-6.
A Surf Awareness and Beach Safety Program was held at the school by a representative from the Royal Life Saving Society.

Mr Mark Johnston, from the Shoalhaven District Football Association, conducted soccer clinics with the students from classes K-6 for 5 weeks.

Instructors with the ARL and CRL Development Program, visited our school for games based approach Rugby League activities for the Infants School.

Year 3 and 4 students attended a basketball clinic at the Bomaderry Basketball Stadium.

K-2 classes at Nowra Hill attended an AFL Clinic and Skills Day at Nowra Showground.

3 students from Nowra Hill competed in the 2012 Berry Public School Inter-School Equestrian Championships. Luca Winchester won 9 ribbons and 2 rosettes, Pippa Walsh won 9 ribbons and 2 rosettes and Summer Crealy won 1 ribbon and 1 rosette.

Nowra Hill P.S. registered for the Coles Sports for Schools Program and collected many vouchers enabling the school to be given a large quantity of sports equipment.

**Academic Competitions**

The school encourages students from Years 3-6 to participate in all competitions, including the ICAS competitions run by the University of NSW. Half the cost of entry into each competition is paid by the school. Despite this assistance, the number of participants has fallen over past years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Distinction</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academic**

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

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

Yr 3: from Band 1 (lowest) to Band 6 (highest for Year 3)
Yr 5: from Band 3 (lowest) to Band 8 (highest for Year 5)
# NAPLAN Reading – Year 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>School</th>
<th>SSG</th>
<th>State DEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average score, 2012</td>
<td>438.3</td>
<td>417.9</td>
<td>419.6</td>
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</table>

## Skill Band Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number in Bands</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage in Bands</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>38.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>38.0</td>
<td>23.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Average 2008-2012</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSG % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State DEC % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>24.0</td>
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## Percentage in bands:

**Year 3 Reading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of students</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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</tbody>
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# NAPLAN Numeracy – Year 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>School</th>
<th>SSG</th>
<th>State DEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average score, 2012</td>
<td>417.6</td>
<td>401.4</td>
<td>400.2</td>
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</table>

## Skill Band Distribution

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Band</th>
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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
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<th>6</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number in Bands</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage in Bands</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>38.0</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Average 2008-2012</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td>31.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSG % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State DEC % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>16.0</td>
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</table>

## Percentage in bands:

**Year 3 Numeracy**

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<th>3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of students</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### NAPLAN – Reading Year 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average score, 2012</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>SSG</th>
<th>State DEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>526.0</td>
<td>496.5</td>
<td>492.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Skill Band Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Number in Bands</th>
<th>Percentage in Bands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>29.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>35.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Average 2008-2012</th>
<th>1.7</th>
<th>5.0</th>
<th>18.3</th>
<th>28.3</th>
<th>33.3</th>
<th>13.3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSG % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>10.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State DEC % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>19.7</td>
<td>12.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NAPLAN – Numeracy Year 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average score, 2012</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>SSG</th>
<th>State DEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>491.2</td>
<td>496.4</td>
<td>493.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Skill Band Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Band</th>
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<th>Percentage in Bands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>47.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Average 2008-2012</th>
<th>1.0</th>
<th>7.0</th>
<th>10.0</th>
<th>13.0</th>
<th>49.2</th>
<th>16.9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSG % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>30.7</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>14.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State DEC % in Bands 2012</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>26.7</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Percentage in bands:**

**Year 5 Reading**

- **0-10**: Percentage in Bands
- **11-20**: School Average 2008-2012
- **21-30**: SSG % in Bands 2012
- **31-40**: State DEC % in Bands 2012

**Percentage in bands:**

**Year 5 Numeracy**

- **0-10**: Percentage in Bands
- **11-20**: School Average 2008-2012
- **21-30**: SSG % in Bands 2012
- **31-40**: State DEC % in Bands 2012
Progress in reading

Average progress in Reading between Year 3 and 5*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>72.3</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSG</td>
<td>84.1</td>
<td>70.3</td>
<td>80.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State DEC</td>
<td>83.7</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>79.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

In the weeks before NAIDOC Week in Term 3, each class did art works, stories and research relating to Aboriginal culture. During NAIDOC Week each class presented their learning to the rest of the school and parents during a whole school assembly.

Children in each class have studied aspects of Aboriginal culture through class HSIE/English units. These units of work focused on such aspects as Dreaming stories, Aboriginal tradition life & history, connection to the land, Aboriginal flag and famous Aboriginals. Many of our HSIE units such as “The Need for Shelter”; “People and their Beliefs” and “British Colonisation” all contain Aboriginal perspectives.

All staff have completed modules 1 and 2 of No Gaps, No Excuse aimed at broadening the knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal history.

* Average progress data is for matched students from within the school.
Active After Schools Community Program

The school receives funding from the Australian Government Sports Commission to run an Active After Schools Community Program. This involves provision of a healthy snack and physical activities on two afternoons a week during each term.

During 2012, 21 year 3-6 students and 18 years K-2 students participated in activities including cricket, AFL, multi-skills activities, netball, basketball and soccer.

Multicultural education

Multicultural perspectives have featured in school programs throughout the year. Students in classes have learned about life in other countries, including culture and environment, as part of the HSIE curriculum.

Students from Years 3-6 participated in the multicultural public speaking for our small schools culminating in finals held at Shoalhaven Heads Public School.

Students from across the school celebrated Harmony Day by dressing in orange and participated in tabloid activities around the school.

Other programs

Positive Behaviours for Success (PBS).

Following a 2 day Staff Development workshop on PBS at the end of 2011, with all 5 Shoalhaven Small Schools, Nowra Hill PS began implementing this system of behaviour management in the playground. The whole system is underpinned by the 3 core values of RESPECT, SAFETY & RESPONSIBILITY.

After several meetings the staff decided on a “fast & frequent” token which can be given to children to reward positive behaviours connected to our core values. The children named the token a “Dingaroo”.

During assembly time we have the children determine how a certain core value will “look”, “sound” and “feel” in particular parts of the playground where a previous survey has determined there is a need for a behaviour management focus.

The Dingaroos are counted up at the end of each week and the score added to the house pointscore and the winning house at the end of each term is rewarded with a free barbeque and certificate.

The winning house for 2012 was Buru!

Progress on 2012 targets

Target 1

5% increase in Year 3 and Year 5 scores for writing compared to 2011.

Our achievements include:

- Year 3 students results were similar to that of 2011 and are still below the state average
- Year 5 students improved by 23 raw score points compared to 2011 data. This was a 5% improvement and had students performing at the state average.
- 24% of Year 5 students were in the two top bands compared to 14% in 2011. There were 23% fewer students in the bottom two bands.

Further strategies will be implemented throughout 2013 to improve both student growth
for Year 3 to Year 5 and raw scores in both grades in NAPLAN writing.

**Target 2**

5% increase in the number of students in the proficiency bands for numeracy compared to 2011 NAPLAN data.

NAPLAN data saw a slight decline in the number of students in the proficiency bands:

- 46% of Year 3 students were in the top two bands compared to 54% in 2011. However, this was only a difference of one student. There were no students in the bottom two bands.

- 18% of Year 5 students were in the top two bands, compared to 27% in 2011. This is also only a difference of one student.

**School evaluation**

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

**Reporting to Parents**

**Background**

It is a NSW Department of Education and Community requirement that schools report student progress to parents twice a year. Nowra Hill Public School uses the Department’s School Based Student Report format and technology to report student progress at the end of terms 2 and 4. Parents are also given the opportunity to have a parent-teacher interview to discuss any concerns.

It was decided to survey parents and staff about the satisfaction of this reporting system.

**School Reports**

A survey was sent out to parents so staff could determine whether changes needed to be made to our reports.

- 54 out of 70 families (77%) returned the survey.
- 63% of parents felt that changes were not necessary to the current report.
- More than 80% of respondents felt that comments in KLA’s of English, Maths and Science & Technology were most valuable.
- 93% of respondents wanted a formal interview at the end of Semester 1 to discuss the report with the class teacher.
- In regards to how informative & useful the current report format is, 80% of respondents rated the reports good to excellent.

**Future Directions**

In summary, most parents are happy with the current report format but would like the end of Semester 1 report to be supplemented with a parent/teacher interview, where parent queries regarding the report and their child’s progress can be answered.

**Curriculum**

As literacy is a NSW Department of Education and Community priority, reading was chosen as the focus for evaluation.

**Background**

Students from Nowra Hill Public School have traditionally performed well in reading. This success has been assessed through school based testing and state-wide Basic Skills Tests and NAPLAN, being above the state average.

This evaluation was carried out to determine future directions of reading within the school.

**Findings and Conclusions**

Analysis of information from teacher, students and parents highlighted that:

- 95% of parents valued home reading and consistently checked and encouraged their children’s home reading. The P & C funded $1,300.00 to provide additional home readers
• 98% of students regularly borrowed from the school library or mobile library.
• 16 students received additional assistance from the School Learning Support Teacher. However, due to reduced staffing allocation, this number will need to be reduced in 2013.
• 82% of students read with the required fluency and accuracy, using curriculum based assessment.
• Of the students in stage 3, 30% reported that they did not enjoy reading and only read because they had to.
• Although NAPLAN results showed that Year 3 and Year 5 students were reading above the state average, analysis of results showed that comprehension of questions involving predicting and making inferences were an area for improvement.

Future Directions

• Staff will take part in the Focus on Reading professional learning program in 2013 to improve the teaching and learning of comprehension in Years 3-6.
• Careful analysis of testing data will have to be undertaken to determine areas of student weakness so that classroom reading programs can be supported by the limited STL resource.
• Reading will remain a key focus of classroom teaching and learning, while home reading and support will be strongly encouraged.
• The school will prepare for the implementation of the National Curriculum for English in 2014. This will include the use of the English continuum to plot student progress and reporting.

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

Improved student engagement in learning

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

• reduce the number of behaviour referrals/reports by 5%
• suspensions will be reduced by 20% from 7 in 2011 to less than 5 in 2013

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

• Continue the Positive Behaviour Program across the school, emphasizing values in the playground of Safety, Respect and Responsibility.
• Revise the School Discipline Policy and communicate this to parents through the school’s newsletter and website
• The school will celebrate positive behaviours through regular house competitions, resulting in a special day at the end of the year.

School priority 2

Outcome for 2012–2014

Improved student writing skills

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

• 50% of Year 5 students who did NAPLAN in 2011 show an 80 point growth in NAPLAN writing.
• 6% improvement in raw score NAPLAN writing for Year 3 students to match the state average for writing.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

• Provide opportunities for staff to attend professional development courses in writing persuasive texts.
• Students from Years 2-6 to practice writing using persuasive devices. Using consistent teacher judgement, teachers will compare and analysis using NAPLAN writing criteria.
• Provide support to students who require additional assistance in writing, including spelling and editing skills.
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.

Tony McCann – Principal
Max Vucic – Assistant Principal
Annette Bellamy – Teacher
Coral Jones – Teacher
Noelene Jones – Senior Administration Manager
Phaedra Walsh – P & C President

School contact information

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Fax: 4423 2148
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Web: www.nowrahill-p.school.nsw.edu.au
School Code: 4106

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: