Principal's message

Annangrove Public School is a small, rural school which offers all students a broad range of educational opportunities. The small student population ensures each student receives a high degree of individual attention.

The school is located within the semi rural village of Annangrove and continues to receive full support from parents and the community.

Annangrove Public School has a strong focus on quality teaching and learning. The well resourced classroom environments support productive learning with access to advanced technology. A strong emphasis is placed on activities and programs that will enable students to cope with the transition into larger high schools, participate in future vocations and become a valued member of their community. We promote our school motto “Nobly We Serve” in all aspects of day to day school life.

Once again, our students have excelled in the academic and sporting arenas, as well as creative and performing arts.

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 identified for development.

Paddy Rich
Principal

P & C

2008 has proved to be another enjoyable and successful year for the Annangrove Public School community amidst some major changes.

Annangrove said goodbye to our Principal Mr Wesley Chia, and we thank him for his dedication and inspiration. We wish him success in his new position.

Mr Geoff Stevens was appointed to replace Mr Wesley Chia in Term 1 2008. Mr Geoff Stevens took a higher position and finished at Annangrove Public School at the end of Term 1 2008.

We welcomed Mr Paddy Rich in Term 2, as Relieving Principal, who has since been appointed to the Principal position. We are encouraged by his fresh, enthusiastic approach and look forward to sharing in a positive, rewarding relationship.

Already many new ideas have come to fruition due to the relationship between Mr Rich and the P&C Committee. The P&C was able to fund the Mathletics program which was introduced into our school with great excitement.

The P&C held many successful fundraisers during the year, including two discos, which are always popular, Election Day cake stalls, Mothers and Fathers’ day stalls, and a Christmas raffle. These events were all profitable and funds were used to provide many opportunities for the students.

One of the highlights of the year was a social night for the parents. Everyone had a wonderful time and agreed it was one of the best nights held. With the money raised we were able to contribute to the purchase of Interactive Smart Boards in 2009. A huge thank you to Mrs Di Fletcher for her organisation of the event, and to all the parents who dedicated their time and money over the year to make our fundraisers a success.

Thank you to Mrs Bridget Smithers for her dedication and commitment as Canteen manager and congratulations to Vanessa Galainy for her smooth transition into the position. Thanks to all the helpers who have helped out in the canteen this year.

Finally, I’d like to thank the following 2008 P&C Committee for their dedication, support and encouragement. Judy Wartmann, Kathy Jewitt, Gina Bowry, Bridget Smithers, Vanessa Galainy, Sandra McDowell and Kim Stanton. I have enjoyed my time as President and I wish Peta Hamilton and the 2009 committee every success.

Melissa Monteleone
P&C President

Student representative's message

As leaders of the SRC we enjoyed representing all students, we tried to make sure all ideas were heard and that all students felt valued. Getting involved in school activities is a great way for students to have more fun, feel more connected,
and to find ways to contribute their ideas and skills.

In 2008 we organised a Bandaged Bear Day to raise funds for Westmead Children’s Hospital. This was a huge community event. We held a hospital themed multi-day and canteen special day. We also had a visit from the Westmead Bandaged Bear. We raised $4,000 for the Westmead Children’s Hospital!

Our Stage 3 classes, (Years 5 & 6) held many new and different activities to raise money for the Year 6 gift to the school. The activities included: special canteen days, slip ‘n’ slide, disco, apple bobbing, and sponge throwing. Thank you to Mrs Linda Sorokin for her ongoing organisation and participation in these activities. We raised enough money to buy a new lunch seat for the younger students.

We had many opportunities to get involved in sport throughout the year. We had soccer coaching with Paul Wade, as well as AFL. We went to the AFL gala day and were voted most improved team. We played Futsal soccer and got to watch the Russian team play against NSW. We were invited to watch the filming of Football Superstars! Thank you, Mrs Tracee Doyle for your ongoing love and organisation of soccer.

We would like to thank the teachers and students for a great year in 2008 and wish Jono and Melanie the best of luck for 2009.

Students

Students enrolled at Annangrove Public School come from our local rural community as well as a range of nearby residential areas. Many of our students have siblings already attending the school. This gives our school a strong family commitment towards our parents and community. Many of our students are active participants in outdoor activities at home, as well as school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roll Class</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total per Year</th>
<th>Total in Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>95.9</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td>95.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region</td>
<td>95.7</td>
<td>95.7</td>
<td>95.7</td>
<td>95.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student information
Student attendance profile

Class sizes
In March 2003 the Government announced its commitment to publish primary class sizes in annual school reports in order to provide parents with as much local information as possible.

The following table indicates our class sizes as reported in the class size audit conducted in March 2008.

Due to the small number of students in each grade it is necessary to form composite classes. Staff spent a large amount of time and consideration when placing students into the correct classes.

Staff information
The staff at Annangrove Public School are outstanding, professional teachers who are highly qualified with a degree or diploma. Staff are supported by Mr Owen Bridgman (Computer Teacher) one day a week as a school based initiative, and Mr Warwick Ford (STLA – Support Teacher Learning Assistance).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>% of staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree or Diploma</td>
<td>97.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Teacher Learning Assistance</td>
<td>0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian/ Relief from Face to Face teaching/ Part Time</td>
<td>0.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Teacher – School funded</td>
<td>0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff retention
Annangrove Public School has had five full time teachers, including a teaching Principal for 2008. The school retained its allocation. Mrs Toni Niccol was placed on the 3/4 class for the year.

Staff attendance
In 2008, the average daily staff attendance rate was 97.6%.

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

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

A huge vote of thanks needs to be given to our P&C and school canteen for their continued and generous support. Finances have been available to purchase materials and resources, as well as subsidise student costs and expenses throughout the year.
Our school at a glance

A full copy of the school’s 2008 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meeting of the School Council and/or the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

School performance 2008

Achievements

Arts

Our school provided programs and opportunities for students to develop creative talents resulting in the following achievements.

- All students K-6 were offered the opportunity in 2008 to develop their creativity and artistic expression through the medium of dance. Using experienced dance teachers this culminated in a dance spectacular during education week.

- Stage 3 (Years 5&6) students were selected to attend Gifted and Talented Creative Arts workshops at Arcadia Public School.

- Our K-2 students were involved in Junior Clubs. All students participated in painting, digital photography, sewing, cooking, gardening, bushwalking and wood construction.

Sport

As a school, we are committed to providing a wide range of sporting opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles and encourage high levels of participation through:

- ‘Skip 4 Life’. A highly successful fitness and skills program run throughout the school, during term 2. This program culminated in our students presenting a demonstration of skills and tricks to the community.

- House competitions throughout the year form the basis of our programmed physical education activities. Fitness, ball skills and 100% participation are our priorities.
• Entering Futsal indoor soccer competitions for both girls and boys at district and regional levels.

• Tennis lessons are conducted twice a week on our school court.

• Sending competitive teams to represent our school at Zone Carnivals. Jonathan Morgan came second at the zone athletics in discus, and came fourth at state level.

Environmental Education
During the year, our students, with the help of our general assistant, Mr John Tyszyk maintained and harvested produce from our fruit trees. They were provided with regular opportunities to plant and cultivate various fruits and vegetables.

Our school entered the 'BlueScope Tank a Day' competition and was lucky enough to win a 17,000 litre water tank. After its installation, we have connected the tank to our oval, vegetable garden and chook yard, enabling us to recycle water around our school.

A dedicated group of community members and parents have started to regenerate the school's nature trail. They were successful in gaining an environmental grant. This has helped to purchase and install plant identification labels throughout the trail and build a viewing platform for the students and trail walkers. We are continuing to develop this school asset.

Choirs
Thirty-four students from years 3 to 6 performed throughout the year and culminated with a wonderful performance at our Annual Presentation day. They demonstrated dedication throughout the year, attending weekly rehearsals, to learn a variety of songs.

Public Speaking
All classes from K to 6, took part in our school public speaking competition with several representatives from each stage progressing into the finals. The finals were held at school with Mrs Shirley McHugh (University Lecturer) and Mr Ray Williams (Member for Hawkesbury) adjudicating. Winners were presented trophies at our annual presentation days. The Stage 1 winner was Emma Fletcher, our Stage 2 winner was Melissa Pellizzon, and our Stage 3 winner was Carla Bedford.

Debating
Annangrove students competed in the Beecroft zone interschool debating competition under the close guidance of Mrs Linda Sorokin. They enthusiastically participated in debates on various topics and learnt a great deal about speaking formally, rebuttal, voice projection, body language and preparing notes for a debate. They were successful and advanced to the third round.

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 the 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)

Ten Year 3 students and seventeen year 5 students participated in the Naplan Tests. The Literacy component was made up from, reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation.

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 3

In Year 3 reading, all students scored in the top range bands with 50% of students scoring in bands 5 and 6. No students from Annangrove Public School scored in bands 1 and 2 and only 20% of students scored in band 3.

Year 3 Writing

In Year 3 writing, the majority of students from Annangrove Public School scored in the middle ranges, 3,4,5. No students from Annangrove scored in bands 1 and 2.

Year 3 Spelling

In Year 3, our students showed solid results with the majority of students scoring in bands 5,4,3. No students scored in bands 1 and 2.

Year 3 grammar and Punctuation

In Year 3, 60% of students scored in bands 5 and 6. No student scored in bands 1 and 2.
Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3

In Year 3, 60% of our students scored in bands 5 and 6 in the three strands. No student scored in band 1 and only one student scored in band 2.

Literacy – Year 5 Reading

In Year 5, the majority of students scored in the top bands with 65% in bands 5 and 6. One student scored in Band 3 with no students scoring in band 4.

Year 5 Writing

In Year 5 writing, 17% of our students scored in band 8, the top band. The majority of students, 76%, scored in bands 5 and 6. One student scored in band 3.

Year 5 Spelling

In Year 5 Spelling, the majority of students scored on bands 5, 6, 7. 11% of students scored in bands 3 and 4.
In Year 5 Grammar and Punctuation, 82% of students scored in bands 4, 5, 6. No student scored in band 3.

In Year 5 Numeracy, 76% of students scored in bands 5, 6, 7. No student scored in Band 3.

The students at Annagrove Public School have continued to show positive growth in reading over the past three years. The school has focussed on writing as a target area for two years. Student progress is above both the state and LSG. We will continue to maintain this focus over the next three years.
Progress in numeracy continues to improve as we have maintained a satisfactory level and been equal or above state and LSG levels.

Minimum standards

The Commonwealth Government sets minimum standards for Reading, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation, Spelling and Numeracy for years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

The performance of the students in our school in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy is compared to these minimum standards. The percentages of our students achieving at or above these standards are reported below.

Percentage of Year 3 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Year 3 students achieving at and above minimum standard</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>LSG</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punctuation and grammar</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of Year 5 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of Year 5 students achieving at and above minimum standard</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>LSG</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>94</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>94</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>88</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punctuation and grammar</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Significant programs and initiatives

Aboriginal education

Our students have been studying Aboriginal culture and traditions through our HSIE and English units.

As part of our Aboriginal studies in 2008, students participated in activities related to NAIDOC Week. They had learning experiences in indigenous arts and music culminating in a performance by Monty Pryor an Aboriginal story teller and entertainer. He played the didgeridoo, told stories from the dreamtime and entertained the whole school with recounts of his own adventures as an indigenous Australian.

Multicultural education

Annangrove Public School embraces multicultural education specifically through our HSIE and Science units. Many of these units of work offer opportunities for our students to engage in research and study of many different cultures.

Our school based programs aim to promote harmony by combating racism and discrimination. Many multicultural perspectives are integrated into class programs across the K.L.A.’S to develop in all students the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for a culturally diverse society.

Respect and responsibility

Students, teachers and parents all have the right to be treated with respect. Respect and responsibility are consistently promoted throughout the year as part of our Student Welfare program.

We have continued our Peer Support program, implemented in term 3 with a focus on building
friendships through leadership. This program was run by fellow students and encouraged responsibility for the care and welfare of the students in their groups.

Progress on 2008 targets

Target 1
Staff to integrate technology to support learning.

Our achievements include:

- To employ a computer teacher one day per week to teach specific computer skills and share ideas and strategies with staff.
- Upgrading of cabling and connections to allow faster internet access.
- The purchase of new computer hardware to increase the amount of computers in each classroom.
- Using technology as part of everyday use. Digital cameras and scanners.
- Staff participating in a range of Professional Development on using technology in the classroom.

Target 2
To improve Literacy levels.

Our achievements include:

- Analysing NAP results to find areas of strength and weakness.
- Introduced D.E.A.R (Drop Everything and Read) program across the whole school three afternoons per week, using peer tutors with the younger students.
- Purchase new resources for K-6 supporting specific reading programs.
- Developed specific literacy programs in conjunction with our Support teacher Learning.
- Began teaching novel studies in Stage 3

Target 3
To improve Numeracy levels.

Our achievements include:

- Purchasing and using the Mathletics maths program across our school, K-6.
- Using small groups to target times tables.
- Analysing National Tests results in maths.
- Created and using a problem solving format in Stage 3.
- K-2 using Count Me In strategies in maths groups.
- Purchasing concrete materials and resources for practical, interactive and high student involvement in “hands on” maths lessons.

Key evaluations

Curriculum- Personal Development/Health /Physical Education.

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 Personal Development / Health / Physical Education and Communication within our school.

Background
The staff felt that this key Learning Area had not been reviewed in recent times and it was important to evaluate the program, to ensure current practices and programs were in line with
syllabus requirements. We needed to ensure our programs were covering all mandatory areas such as Child Protection, Anti bullying, Drug Education.

Findings and conclusions

A survey of our Personal Development/Health/Physical Education was completed by all staff, students and parents and the following was indicated:

- We are currently running a wide range of activities across the school and offering our students a huge amount of knowledge and skills in these areas.
- We generally have a sufficient supply of resources and equipment which needs to be kept in a central and safe area so it can be accessed by all teachers.
- 99% of students surveyed loved the range of activities offered and would not like to see these lessons reduced.
- 85% of parents surveyed were amazed at the range of opportunities their child had with limited costs and ranked these programs as excellent.
- A detailed inventory of Physical Education Equipment established a needs analysis list of future purchases.
- We needed to formalize our planning and recording across the whole school and put individual programs into a K-6 program for all to access. All areas are being covered.

Future directions

- Assess the quality of all physical activities and choose the appropriate ones for the needs of our students.
- Opportunities will be provided to facilitate whole school planning to coordinate a K-6 scope and sequence of lessons.
- Keeping our students engaged and participating in a wide range of sporting activities.
- Run the Interrelate program for 3-6 students about Where Did I Come From, Body Parts and Puberty in 2009.
- Allocation of funds for new Physical Education Equipment.

Educational and management practice

Communication at school.

Background

With several changes in Principal through the early part of 2008 we decided to evaluate our communication methods at school. The school newsletter has been changed from fortnightly back to weekly, as parents were not getting messages and notes and students were missing out on activities as a result.

Findings and conclusions

The findings from parents, staff and students were very favourable with comments about the newsletter being changed back to weekly.

- 100% of families surveyed were in favour of the changes to the newsletter.
- They had a clearer understanding of what was happening in our school.
- They could plan for upcoming events.
- They could organise their time better and become more involved in school activities.
- Administration staff initially found it difficult rearranging time and duties to publish a weekly newsletter. This was quickly overcome.
- Students loved seeing more work published.
- Students were not getting notes home safely and parents then had to come into the office.
- Upcoming events needed to be regularly updated in the newsletter.
- Mention and plan activities with the P&C at monthly meetings so parents are aware of upcoming events.

Future directions

- Establish a cut off time for note return and payment.
- Term calendar of upcoming events.
- Check P&C minutes. Join the email list for minutes.

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.
Most responses indicated:
- That our school is tolerant and accepting of all students.
- Our teaching staff are dedicated and highly professional.
- Our school offers a wide range of educational experiences for all students.
- We offer challenging programs for all students.
- We teach and promote core values.
- Our school has adequate access to computer technology.

Professional learning
Professional learning activities were aimed at developing skills to meet targets set in improving numeracy and literacy skills, as well as integrating technology. All teachers participated in professional learning opportunities.

School development 2009 – 2011
The three year school plan for Annangrove Public School was written with the following long term strategic directions included: Throughout the next three years we plan to:
- Increase the percentage of students to 80% who are achieving at or above expected stage outcomes in writing.
- To improve student outcomes in working mathematically and space strands.
- Introduce Smartboard technology with 100% of the teaching staff undergoing training in interactive smart board technology.
- To increase communication between our school and the local High schools.
- To improve communication links between our local primary schools. To share resources, equipment and teaching strategies.
- To increase the staff’s knowledge of Quality Teaching components and integrate them into classroom use.
- To develop a School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP).

Targets for 2009
Target 1
To have all classes connected with interactive Smartboards and using them as a teaching tool.
Strategies to achieve this target include:
- Purchase and install Smartboards in all permanent teaching classrooms.
- Ensure all classrooms are correctly cabled.
- Provide suitable training for staff in using smart boards as part of their teaching.
Our success will be measured by:
- Increased use of technology integration in all K.L.A.’s in our classes.
- Increased confidence and competence of teaching staff using the interactive Smartboards as part of everyday lessons.
- Staff attending technology courses and trialling ideas in their classes.

Target 2
To improve the literacy standards with a specific emphasis on Spelling.
Strategies to achieve this target include:
- Using syllabus outcomes to plan teaching and learning experiences.
- Explicitly teaching spelling rules and how to apply them in written work.
- Implement the PEG Spelling program 3-6.
- Our support teacher using individualised programs for targeted students.
Our success will be measured by:
- Analysis of Naplan results.
- A higher proportion of Year 3 and 5 students achieving in higher bands in literacy.
- Greater accuracy in student spelling as evidenced through Naplan results, benchmark data and student work samples.
Target 3
To improve student outcomes in the space strand as well as working mathematically.

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Reference to syllabus outcomes when planning explicit teaching and learning activities.
- Teachers attending a range of Professional Development courses in these areas.
- Teaching these strands through modelled, guided and independent learning experiences.

Our success will be measured by:

- A higher proportion of Years 3 and 5 students achieving in top bands of the Naplan test.
- Increased knowledge and skill in how to solve problem working mathematically.

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.

Paddy Rich  Principal
Linda Sorokin  Teacher
Tracee Doyle  Teacher
Julie McHugh  Teacher
Toni Niccol  Teacher
Melissa Monteleone  P&C President

School contact information
Annangrove Public School
185 Annangrove Road,
Annangrove
Ph: 9679 1303
Fax: 9679 1389
Email: annangrove-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Web:http://www.annangrovep.schools.nsw.edu.au
School Code: 3719
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: