School context

Student enrolment profile

We began the year with 185 students, consisting of 85 boys and 100 girls. There were 83 students in K-2 and 102 students in 3-6. Throughout the year it remained stable between 185-187. 12.3% of students identify as Aboriginal and 5 students receive special funding. The school had 8 classes, comprising of six straight classes and two composite.

Principal’s message

I was reading in the Northern Daily Leader the other day about a local identity turning 105. What an amazing achievement! But it seems the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we’re kids?

As teachers we are surrounded by young people so we are either feeling young….or sometimes made to feel old!! I saw a wonderful article a number of years ago I’d like to share which talks about getting older.

If you’re less than 10 years old, you’re so excited about aging that you think in fractions. “How old are you?” “I’m four and a half!” You’re never 36 and a half; You’re four & a half, going on five! That’s the key.

You get into your teens, and you always jump to the next number, or even a few ahead. “How old are you?” “I’m gonna be 16!” You could be 13; but hey, you’re gonna be 16!

Then comes the greatest day of your life. You become 21.

Even the words sound like a ceremony…..YOU BECOME 21. YESSSSS!!!

But then you turn 30. Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk!!

He TURNED; we had to throw him out. There’s no fun now. What’s wrong? What’s changed?

You BECOME 21, you TURN 30, then you’re PUSHING 40. Whoa! Put on the brakes, it’s all slipping away. Before you know it, you REACH 50 and your dreams are gone. But wait!!! You MAKE IT to 60.

You didn’t think you would!

So you BECOME 21, TURN 30, PUSH 40, REACH 50 and MAKE IT to 60.

You’ve built up so much speed that you HIT 70!

After that it’s a day-by-day thing; you HIT Wednesday!

You get into your 80s and every day is a complete cycle; you HIT lunch; you REACH 4:30; you MAKE IT to bedtime. And it doesn’t end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; “I was JUST 92!” Then a strange thing happens. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again. “I’m 100 and a half!”

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

So how do we stay young? The answer is easy, particularly if you are interested in the future. You only have to look around the school now and see what the youth of today will bring to the world of tomorrow. Video, iPads, computers, iPad minis, data projectors and Smart boards are tools that children of today use. They learn in similar ways to the way we were taught, but the methods are a little different.

I imagine many of you can make your way around a keyboard, and perhaps switch on a computer. You haven’t given up on learning. Learning is a lifelong process. We instill in our children the importance of learning while at school and this philosophy must continue into adult life. We should lead by example.

Never let the brain idle.

Last week I saw a student stand in front of the entire school at Assembly and explain what they had been doing in class. It was no simple thing to them but they did it with courage, confidence and determination. And while it may appear as a simple thing to the rest of us, it wasn’t. Every child, teacher and parent appreciated what had been achieved. We need to appreciate the simple things.

So often we get hung up with the pressures of society, how we perform in exams, performances and competitions, yet it’s the simple things that need congratulating, or recognised as being important. We must not take them for granted.

My hope each day is that every child returns home to your care each afternoon happy and safe. We encourage children to be independent, thoughtful, caring and honest. We have many programs that look at establishing positive relationships, dealing with different behaviours and empowering children to take control and make the right choices. Surrounding yourself with cheerful friends can only give you a positive outlook on life. Grouches pull you down.

Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath. At Kootingal we make learning fun. Sure there are moments when you have to be serious, but there is truth in the old saying
“laughter is the best medicine”. I think back to just seven weeks ago with the laughter and fun happening at our Performance night and I’m asked quite regularly when am I wearing my red shoes next. There were many times you could hear laughter emanating from each of the classrooms this year....... and no it wasn’t at the teachers expense !...... well not all the time!

Sometimes I hear someone complain that something hasn’t gone their way. Something they had no control over or influence on. Often just an accident. Life happens. The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be alive while you are alive.

I have been here at Kootingal Public School for six months and I have thoroughly enjoyed every moment. The reason? The parental support, the collegiality and support of the staff and the enthusiastic, intelligent and beautiful children I see each day. Thanks to all you for your efforts, enthusiasm and willingness to get involved in Kootingal School this year.

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.

Christopher Jackson

P & C and/or School Council message

P&C Carnival

On the 7th September the schools P&C held a Carnival Day Fundraiser in the grounds of the school during the Federal election. Many people turned out for the day and what a great day it was. There were Clowns, Fairy Floss, a Jumping Castle, Haunted House and much more. The Haunted House was a big hit with the children, while the Café and BBQ catered more for the adult needs. We also had a white elephant stall, craft stall and an Enjo stall. The cake stall and lolly stall were busy places selling all the lovely cakes, biscuits and sweet treats. There were also plants to buy, gelato to eat, so much to see and do.

In conjunction with the Carnival a Kootingal School Cookbook was in the process of being organised. The finished product was sold at the school’s presentation night, with only a couple left.

A huge thank you to our hard working committee of 8 that got it all together in 16 short weeks and to our sponsors for their donations. Also to the adults of children who helped set-up, man stalls and clean-up afterwards.

The profits of our Carnival were approximately $5000, which $3000 will go towards the purchase of a projector and screen for the hall.

Anne Doak P&C President

Student representative’s message

We have had a busy year, this year.

In Term 1 we had intensive swimming, our swimming carnivals including Zone, Regional and State. We had a couple of students succeed to the State Carnival which was very good. In Term 1 we also had 30 new iPads delivered to our school. All students were very happy and iPads have helped a lot in our lessons which were purchased by the P&C and school funds.

At the beginning of Term 2 the student leaders of our school attended the Leadership Conference at the Tamworth Town Hall. The day helped to develop our leadership skills. During this term years 3 and 5 also completed their NAPLAN Tests. Our annual Cross Country was held in May. Everyone had fun and a lot of students succeeded and went to the next level. We were very excited to receive Rock Band equipment at the end of Term 2, but we were sad to lose Mr Kurtz to Quirindi. Mr Jackson came to us from Wallabadah and we were very pleased.

Term 3 was very exciting as we had our Athletics Carnival at the TRAC. On Monday 29th of July, students from years 5 and 6 travelled into town for touch football. They had a lot of fun. The gymnastics program got underway during this term also. Every Friday there were a number of students who were very excited they were doing gymnastics. Melanie Young and Eliza Lambert went to horse sports. They both did very well. We also had Wayne Seabrook go to Sydney for Rugby Union.

All through term 4, year 6 students had transition days in preparation for their high school. All of the year six children had a lot of fun.

In Term 4 the Primary children went on their excursions to Lake Keepit and Port Macquarie,
and the whole school was involved in a spectacular performance. Our Presentation Night was held in our school hall on the 4th of December, and the Year 6 Farewell which was held on the 10th, was a very sad occasion. We would like to thank all the teachers at Kootingal for supporting us throughout our education here and wish everyone the very best.

Brooklyn Williams and Jye Taggart

Student information

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

Student enrolment profile

Student attendance profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>95.2</td>
<td>96.3</td>
<td>92.3</td>
<td>94.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>95.1</td>
<td>95.3</td>
<td>95.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Management of non-attendance

Our school regularly monitors student attendance. We strive to make Kootingal an enjoyable learning environment in which to learn. Letters are sent to parents when student attendance rates fall below 85%. Home school liaison officers are kept informed of attendance rates that are of concern.

Workforce information

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

Workforce composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal(s)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Reading Recovery</td>
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<td>Support Teacher Learning Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>13.198</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Australian Education Regulation, 2013 requires schools to report on Aboriginal composition of their workforce. At Kootingal Public School, one staff member identifies as being of Indigenous decent.

Staff retention

During 2013 we had two staff members on extended long service leave and they were replaced by Mrs Morrish and Mr Griffiths. Both Mrs Ward and Mrs Kelly were full time. Mrs Lawrence shared a class with Mrs Richards, as did Mrs Chegwyn and Miss Magaan. The principal, Mrs Lewis, continued in her role at Regional Office and was replaced by Mr Kurtz, for Term 1 and 2 and Mr Jackson for Term 3 and 4.

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>
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<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW Institute of Teachers Accreditation</td>
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Financial summary

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date of financial summary</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>386537.61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Expenditure**           |            |
| Teaching & learning       |            |
| Key learning areas        | 17972.41   |
| Excursions                | 31475.49   |
| Extracurricular dissections| 11732.42  |
| Library                   | 1711.97    |
| Training & development    | 0.00       |
| Tied funds                | 74485.62   |
| Casual relief teachers    | 27807.38   |
| Administration & office   | 22104.61   |
| School-operated canteen   | 0.00       |
| Utilities                 | 28856.91   |
| Maintenance               | 7847.23    |
| Trust accounts            | 16150.10   |
| Capital programs          | 19611.95   |
| **Total expenditure**     | 259756.09  |
| **Balance carried forward**| 126781.52 |

A full copy of the school’s 2013 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 2013

Rock Band

On Friday 10th May, the walls of the school hall were vibrating to the sounds of Tamworth rock band “BLU”. The children were treated to a concert organised by our School Rock Band coordinator, Mrs Heather Richards. A special guest then arrived, Roshani Priddis! She had a detour on her way to Kootingal, via Nundle, but the wait was worth it. She performed several songs and the students sang along with her.

“Mrs Richards has done an amazing job coordinating the establishment of the band and the students are now anxious to get started now that all the instruments are here,” School Principal Kerry Kurtz stated.

The school established a rock band this year with instruments purchased by funding from school funds and some very kind donations from our P&C and a number of local businesses. In 2014 our Music program will be enhanced by allocating funds to employ Mrs Richards an extra two days to implement Musica Viva program in the school and support the music initiatives already operating.

Percussion

The percussion group continued to amaze audiences throughout the year. Under the leadership of Mrs Richards the group performed at a number of assemblies, Grandparents Day and at a Principals’ Conference which was hosted by Kootingal P.S. Due to this group, there are a number of students who have enhanced their musicianship skills, which is important to see beginning to form in such young people.

Guitar and Violin

Students at Kootingal Public School have a wonderful opportunity to learn violin and guitar from James West (violin) and Beau Hatch (guitar) each week. The lessons are conducted in the library on Mondays and Tuesday mornings during first break. The students have thoroughly enjoyed learning these instruments and performed at a Principals’ Conference in June.

CAPERS Choir

The school choir had a lot of fun with Mrs Lawrence at each weekly rehearsal. There were a number of performances throughout the year including Assemblies, Principals Conferences, ANZAC Day, and the Regional CAPERS.

Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd November were the two performance days. The Friday was the longest day as we arrived at the TREC at 9:30am, performed a show, which some Kootingal students watched, and then spent the afternoon at Westdale before we had to go back to perform again at 7:00pm. We finally got back to Kootingal at 11:00pm. Mr Jackson and Mrs Lawrence were the teachers that took care of us. We sang at least 20 songs with the CAPERS Choir. Everyone thought CAPERS was really, really fun but tiring!
Some of the songs we sang were Green Eggs and Ham, Cat in the Hat, Wonderland, When I grow up, Ben, Touch the Sky and I Believe.

We all can’t wait until there is another CAPERS!

Taleah Pinnock 3/4W

ANZAC Day

On Friday 12th April we held a ceremony at Kootingal Public School for Anzac Day. Mr & Mrs Doak gave the address which had a strong meaningful message about what ANZAC means to them. The School Choir sang two songs, ‘And They March’ and ‘Lest We Forget’. When The Last Post was playing I found it very sad because it reminded me of my relatives that had fought in the war. Lest We Forget.

Hannah Kamminga 4/5M

Sherpa

Congratulations to Megan Johnson for winning an Apple Mini iPAD. The competition was run Australia wide and it was to design and colour a Sherpa Kids poster with the theme “What is a Sherpa Kid?”. All entries were displayed at a National Conference for Sherpa Kids Australia in Adelaide where delegates were give the opportunity to select a winner by placing gold stars on the entries they liked. Megan’s entry was the lucky winner receiving 5 gold stars. Congratulations Megan!! Megan received her prize at our school assembly on Thursday 7th November 2013 from Ted Nguyen and Vicky Loftus.

Education Week

On Tuesday 30th July, two staff members, two parents and a student were presented with certificates for their contribution to the school at the Regional Education Week Awards which was held at Tamworth west P.S.

Mr Jackson was honoured and very proud to present Makayla Goodridge, a student in Year 6, with a certificate that read “For being a wonderful role model by showing compassion, dedication and hard work in all school activities” Makayla is respected by her teachers and peers alike and she takes on roles within the school with pride and dedication.

Staff member Mrs Doak has been at Kootingal Public School for 25 years and is our Teacher Librarian. Anne is instrumental in the wonderful technology programs that operate at Kootingal. Anne’s award was in recognition of her passion and tireless efforts in providing quality education for all students.

Mrs Morrish was also recognised for her passion for teaching. Her award was in recognition of her commitment and dedication to quality teaching and compassion towards every student. Something that just comes naturally to Jan.

Our two parent awards were presented to Yvette Dow and Charmaine Hill, both active parent supporters of Kootingal Public School. They are the sort of parents who put up their hands to help out if something needs to be done. Their awards were for regular support in classrooms and significant contribution to our schools “MulitLit” Program. Congratulations to all the recipients.

Circus

On Wednesday the 31st July 2013, we had a special visit by the Circus. There were 2 workshops with 30 people in each one. The instructors were Kyle and April. They were so amazing! They taught us how to juggle and do some balances such as monkey grip and airplane. We had so much fun we wanted to go back! In the afternoon after the workshops, Kyle and April did a performance for us! Kyle played Superkid and April played Sally Stretch. The best part of all was when Kyle was juggling and then April took the juggling pins off him. Then April got on top of Kyle’s shoulders. Amazingly April was still juggling while standing on his shoulders. Then Kyle put her down, surprisingly April was still juggling! We thought that the show was magnificent and we hope that they will return to Kootingal Public School in the future.

Emily Deasey and Chloe Bayes 4/5M

Sport

Premiers Sporting Challenge

On Monday, 8th April a group of Year 5 and 6 students travelled to Oxley High School to participate in the NSW Premier’s Sporting Challenge - Sports Leadership day. The students were divided into 5 groups and mixed with students from other schools. Each group then participated in a range of activities designed to improve skills in a variety of sports, including fitness, soccer, slide hockey, Oztag and Rugby League. Each activity was led by a group of year 10 students from Oxley High School and involved...
our students working collaboratively with the students from the other schools. It was a fun, but tiring, day with plenty of new skills developed which will be able to be shared with the younger students at our school.

Athletics

Our school Athletics carnival was held at Tamworth Regional Athletics Centre on Friday 26th of July. There was a wonderful attendance with support from P&C and parents.

Results were as follows:

March Past – Dwyer, Ball Games & Champion House - Gill
Minors Champion: A Higgins & W Heeney
Minors Runner Up: S Croft, M Johnson & W Morris
Junior Champions: T Frewen & R Hobden
Junior Runners Up: E Deasey, B Lees & J Howard
11 yrs Champions: M Young & C Barber
11 yrs Runners Up: R Kemp, B Williams & D Eyles
Senior Champions: D Appleby, G Holcombe-Nancarrow, J Taggart & J Ferry
Senior Runners Up: A Dow.

Zone Athletics Team - Monday 19th August 2013
Montana Winter, Ellie Caslick, Brendan Jarrett, Zachary Parkes, Taleah Pinnock, Hannah Turner-Bourke, Darcy Simpson-Craig, Byron Lees, Ryan Hobden, Lachlan Young, Toby Taggart, Ryley Marsh, Tameka Frewen, Ryan Hobden, Jack Howard, Melanie Young, Rosie Kemp, Madison Roach, Grace Sheridan, Cameron Barber, Brock Lambert, Wayne Seabrook, Dylan Eyles, Jasmine Hill, Georgia Holcombe-Nancarrow, Jessica Smith, Makayla Goodridge, Jed Ferry, Jye Taggart, Abrianna Dow and Dakota Appleby

Area Athletics - Friday 6th September
Byron Lees, Toby Taggart, Cameron Barber, Wayne Seabrook, Melanie Young, Tameka Frewen, Madison Roach, Dakota Appleby and Abrianna Dow

Cricket

In the first round of the PSSA Cricket knockout, Kootingal Public School played against Nemingha Public School at Kootingal. Nemingha were the victors on the day, however all our children participated well and enjoyed themselves. Kootingal filled a mix team with 2 girls in the squad. Coby Stevens played a fine game in the field, running 1 child out and taking an outstanding catch.

Netball

1st Round - On Monday 8th May, the Kootingal Netball girls went to Neminha to play Nemingha Public School. It was a tough game but we came out on top, the score was 8-7.

2nd Round - On Thursday the 16th of May, Year 6 went to Carter Street to play Netball against Tamworth South. The weather wasn’t the best but they still played a good game. The score was 24 to 2. Although the Kooty Netball girls didn’t win they still played well and also showed great sportsmanship. A very big thank you to Mrs Kelly for coaching us on very short notice. Thank you to Mrs Jamieson for refereeing us and thank you to the parents who transported us to the games.

PSSA Soccer

On Monday 6th May, Kootingal played in the first round of the PSSA Soccer Knockout competition. The team lost to Tamworth West 2-1. The game was well played by both teams and the players on both sides were commended for their sportsmanship and conduct. The team consisted of Jed Ferry (Captain), Bailey Pinnock (vice-captain), Wayne Seabrook, Jye Taggart, Rosie Kemp, Georgia Holcombe-Nancarrow, Mitchell Magill, Bailey Clegg, Riley Hayne, Tameka Frewen, Bella Farrugia-Wilson and Jessica Smith. Congratulations to all players on a game well contested. A special thank you to parents who assisted with transport and support on the day.

Rugby League

On Thursday the 23rd of May, a group of Years 4, 5 and 6 boys went off to Farrer High School for the PSSA Rugby League Knockout match against Nemingha Public School. We played hard but went down 12 - 32. All the boys had a good game. Thanks to Mrs Ward for organising the whole team. Thanks to Sebastian Lees for coaching us. A very big thanks to the parents for the transport to Farrer and for cheering us on.

PSSA Touch

On Monday the 29th of July, boys and girls from years 5 and 6 travelled to Gipps Street in Tamworth, to play touch football for the school.
In the first game girls played Tamworth Public School and lost 9-0. The boys also played Tamworth Public School and lost 13-0. The 2nd game the girls played was just a ‘fun’ game. We won that game 9-3 against Manilla. The 2nd game for the boys was against Oxley Vale School and they won 3-2. Everyone had a great day.

**Academic achievements**

**NAPLAN**

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.

Year 3: from Band 1 (lowest) to Band 6 (highest for Year 3)

Year 5: from Band 3 (lowest) to Band 8 (highest for Year 5)

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 to access the school data.

**NAPLAN Year 3 - Literacy**

Our Year 3 Literacy results were pleasing with all children in Bands 4 and 6. Children performed well in writing with 100% above National Standards Minimum.
Our school Spelling Bee (participating in the Premier’s Spelling Challenge) was held on the morning of Thursday 29th August in the Kootingal School Hall. Each class had previously had a ‘spell off’ to select 4 students to represent in either Stage 2 or 3.

The students selected were –

**STAGE 2**

3/4W: G DeBelle, T Pinnock, E Howard & L Fernando

4/5M: H Kamminga, J Howard, T Taggart & E Lambert

**STAGE 3**

5G: B Pinnock, J Humphris–Castle, M Roach & C Barber

6M: J Taggart, M Humphris–Castle, L O’Connor-Bourke & S Pike

Congratulations to all children for having a go at spelling some very tricky words. The Winners (Georgia DeBelle/ Bailey Pinnock) and Runners-Up (Hannah Kamminga / Joed Humphris-Castle) competed at Nemingha Public School on Wednesday 18th September in the Regional Final.
**Significant programs and initiatives**

At our school students learn in a stimulating and challenging environment and are encouraged to reach their full potential.

**Aboriginal education**

Harmony Day took place on the 21st of March 2013 this year and we decided that we would have a focus on cuisine from different countries. Each class prepared an iconic dish from their chosen country. Each student was given a 'passport' and had the option to try a number of different foods from a wide range of countries. After second break the whole school participated in an international games afternoon where students were put into small groups with students ranging from Kindergarten to Yr 5. Year 6 students took on a leadership role and taught each group their specific game linked to a particular country. All groups rotated around and had the opportunity to engage in some activities they may not have experienced before. It was a very enjoyable and fun day!

NAIDOC week was celebrated on 24th - 28th of June this year. Our celebrations kicked off with a special morning assembly on Monday the 24th of June. We were lucky enough to have Stella Lamb from Tamworth Office come to the school and speak about this year’s theme: "We value the vision" Yirrkala Bark Petitions 1963. Throughout the week, classes looked closely at the local Aboriginal culture and engaged in a number of interesting and exciting lessons and experiences. Such experiences included listening/learning about a number of Dreamtime stories, Aboriginal art activities, listening to traditional Aboriginal music and much more.

**Multicultural education**

Multicultural Education is integrated into all KLA areas. Children are also encouraged to participate in the Multicultural Perspectives Speech competition and a number have been successful in this program.

**School planning and evaluation 2012—2014**

**School evaluation processes**

NSW public schools conduct evaluations to support the effective implementation of the school plan. The processes used include:

- Analysis of NAPLAN data

**School planning 2012—2014: progress in 2013**

**School priority 1**

**Outcomes from 2012–2014**

- Increased levels of attainment of year 3 / year 5 students in reading and writing in line with Regional / State and school targets.
- Increased student capacity to talk, listen and write effectively for a range of purposes.
- Improved student engagement particularly on independent tasks in reading and writing.

**Evidence of progress towards outcomes in 2013:**

- Built teacher capacity through staff meetings in SMART data, whole school plans, stage plans, explicit teaching of reading, assessment for learning strategies, use of class learning plans and differentiation of the curriculum.

**Strategies to achieve these outcomes in 2014**

- Early identification of students who require additional support to meet school targets.
- Implementation of post NAPLAN program of support.
- Continue to build teacher capacity through consolidation and implementation of *Focus on Reading* strategies including vocabulary in line with the national curriculum in English.
- Build teacher capacity through executive leading stage meetings with clear focus and creation of viable guaranteed curriculum (backward mapping, big ideas, content, scope and sequence, assessment for learning).
School priority 2

Outcomes from 2012–2014

- Improved student attainment in line with Regional/ State and school targets in all areas of numeracy.
- To build student capacity to understand what is being asked and to use a range of strategies when working mathematically including a focus on a reliable count, knowledge of tables and place value.

Evidence of progress towards outcomes in 2013:

- Built teacher capacity through staff meetings in SMART data, whole school plans, stage plans, explicit teaching of reading, assessment for learning strategies, use of class learning plans and differentiation of the curriculum.

Strategies to achieve these outcomes in 2014:

- Early identification of students who require additional support to meet school targets.
- Implementation of post NAPLAN program of support.
- Build teacher capacity through executive leading stage meetings with clear focus and creation of viable guaranteed curriculum (backward mapping, big ideas, content, scope and sequence, assessment for learning).
- Build teacher capacity through implementation of Go Maths with a focus on the use of the numeracy continuum and differentiation.

Professional learning

Teacher Professional Learning (TPL) Funds are provided as a tied grant to the school to provide professional learning opportunities for teaching staff.

Teaching staff participated in a variety of learning experiences with a focus on quality teaching in literacy and numeracy at our school.

Parent/caregiver, student, and teacher satisfaction

In 2013, the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about Culture within the school.

Program evaluations

Background

Kootingal Public School has always been a focus within the community as many community members who no longer have children attending the school are still very much involved in school events. A survey was conducted in December 2013 and below are findings and conclusions.

Findings and conclusions

A total of 150 survey sheets were sent out to parents and interested community members. A total of 27 were returned.

- Students are happy, well behaved, cooperative, well mannered, keen to learn and cooperative with one another and with staff.
- Staff are seen as caring about all the children and about the “whole child”.
- Staff have a genuine commitment to meeting the individual needs of students.
- Staff, both teaching and non-teaching work well as a team.
- Staff have high expectations of the children, children are encouraged to do well and they are acknowledged when they achieve.

Future directions

- A deliberate strategy should be adopted to focus on and promote the positive programs and achievements of Kootingal Public School.
- The school should consider a strategy of developing the skills of parents to assist their children in completing homework.
- The school should consider the value and cost implications of distributing Kootingal “Star Newsletter” to all residences in the school’s drawing area.
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.

Mrs Cara Cracknell, Principal
Mr Christopher Jackson, Relieving Principal
Mrs Cheron Mort, Assistant Principal
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Parents can find more information about Annual School Reports, how to interpret information in the report and have the opportunity to provide feedback about the report at: