



Education &  
Communities

Public Schools NSW

2273



***Kelly's Plains Public School  
Annual School Report***

2012



## Our school at a glance

### Students

There were 39 students enrolled at Kelly's Plains Public School in 2012. This year has proven to be another productive year where students have achieved at the highest levels in music, drama, sporting and academic events. The school motto, Sharing, Learning and Caring encompasses the vision of the school. Students, teachers and parents have daily contact to provide clear communication between families to support the learning of our children.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) has once again been very active in raising funds for local and national charities. This includes raising money for the TEAR foundation to support children in developing countries.

Our students are complimented on their outstanding behaviour and conduct every time they leave the school. The strong welfare and discipline policy at our school provides all students with a safe and positive working environment that clearly reflects the community's expectations.



Anzac Day 2012

### Staff

In 2012, students in Lower Division (K-2) were taught by Mrs Lauren Piddington. Students in Upper Division (3-6) were taught by Mr Brad Hunt. As Mrs Piddington was on leave for the last 6 weeks of Term 4, Mrs Jane Weier was the full time classroom teacher for Lower Division during this time.

Library, the part time component and Relief from Face to Face teaching (RFF) was taught by Mrs Angela Muir in Term 1 and Mrs Emma Schaeffer in Terms 2, 3 and 4.

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

Mrs Deborah Morley was the school's School Administration Manager, Mr Bob Rich was the school's General Assistant and Mrs Judy Tombs was our school cleaner.

### Significant programs and initiatives

Every student at Kelly's Plains was involved in a range of extra curricular programs and initiatives throughout the year.

Year 6 were once again involved in a leadership program to provide them with skills necessary to lead the student body for 2012. This involved their participation and attendance at the Impact Leadership conference in Tamworth. Every student in Year 6 is a school leader. Their organisation of weekly and term assemblies, coordination of the Student Representative Council (SRC) and managing fundraising initiatives enabled our senior students to represent the student body in a productive and supportive manner.

The school provided all students enrolling in Kindergarten in 2012, a 4 week transition program during Term 4. Students were invited to join the Lower Division classroom for 2.5 hours each week. In 2012 we had eight students participating in this program.

Our participation in the Armidale Community of Schools (ACOS) continued during 2012. This year, Jasmin Poulter, Angus Smith and Claire Hyland represented our school in the ACOS school choir. The choir performed at the New England Regional Principals Conference.

We continued to offer piano and keyboard lessons for students with Helen Murtagh and guitar lessons with Clan Muller. Nearly half of our students learnt a musical instrument in 2012.

Our school continued to implement the "You Can Do It!" program for all students K-6. Mrs Schaeffer taught explicit lessons on social skills and dealing with problems.

Our school also hosted the Armidale Community of Schools Meeting in Term 1 and Mr Brad Hunt coordinated and ran a professional development opportunity for New Scheme Teachers at the school in Term 2.

Once again our school participated in the “Crunch and Sip” program. We encourage our students to bring a container with fruit and a bottle of water to school. These can be consumed during class time.



Book Week

## Student achievement in 2012

Our school participated in the NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee. Madeleine Scott (Year 3), Dimity Evans (Year 4) and Liam Smith (Year 5) all represented our school proudly.

Angus Smith, Claire Hyland and Liam Smith were selected to participate in the EGATs program. The program targets students who present as gifted and/or talented. Liam Smith participated in the Maths component and Claire Hyland participated in the English component.

Our students also achieved outstanding results in the ICAS assessments. Excellent results were from Angus Smith, Madeleine Scott, and Liam Smith.

Our students continue to excel in music and their results at the Armidale Eisteddfod this year were testament to their effort and abilities. Angus Smith, Brandon Sullivan, Liam Smith and Ryan Hendrickse all achieved outstanding results.

NAPLAN results indicated that our students continue to grow in their learning with every student in Year 5 showing value added from their Year 3 results.

We also continued our annual events such as Education Week, CWA presentations during Literacy and Numeracy Week, Talent Quest, Speeches, our Swimming and Athletics Carnivals. As part of Book Week, we held a Grandparents Day with students dressing up as a book character.

This year both of our Year 6 students held a leaders position. Damian Turner and Angus Smith were both awarded School Captain positions and Angus Smith was also elected as SRC President by the students.

All students at Kelly’s Plains have worked very well to accomplish these tasks with such a focused and sustained effort.

## Messages

### Principal’s message

Kelly’s Plains Public School has nearly 150 years of excellence in quality teaching and learning. It is a school that provides outstanding welfare programs to support learning opportunities. There is a strong emphasis on positive, open interaction between parents, students and teachers which results in a cooperative, dynamic atmosphere within the school.



The school motto, Sharing, Learning and Caring encompasses the vision of the school.

2012 has once again been a very busy and productive year for all concerned. Commitment and support by students, staff, parents and community members has been outstanding.

The younger students receive encouragement from the older students and they in turn have the opportunity to reflect on their learning. Leadership for the older students is an aspect that develops naturally in a small school such as ours. The benefits of which our children will take with them through life.

Once again, I would like to thank the school’s very committed staff for their efforts during the year. The school is very fortunate to have such a talented group of people leading our students. I commend the professional work of the teaching personnel, Mrs Lauren Piddington, and Mrs Emma Schaeffer, on their efforts in supporting students to gain high academic results across a range of curriculum areas.

I would also like to thank Mrs Deborah Morley for her excellent work in our office and administration areas of our school. Mrs Morley has worked very hard in our office to maintain finances and adequate resources for classrooms

and the library. Mrs Judy Tombs and Mr Bob Rich work tirelessly to maintain our classrooms and school grounds. Our dedicated P&C committee has supported students through financial donations and resources under the guidance of this year's President, Mrs Tanya Alcorn.

This year a committee was formed to organise the schools Sesquicentenary (150<sup>th</sup>) celebrations which will be held in October next year. I encourage everyone to become involved in the planning and organisation of this most important event.

Finally, all students at Kelly's Plains Public School must be congratulated on their effort and achievement. All students have worked well and achieved excellence in both academic and sporting areas. It is an absolute pleasure to be a part of such a supportive and caring community. I look forward to hearing about the wonderful programs and events Mr Richard Cotter will bring to the Relieving Principal's position next year while I take up a relieving position in Armidale.

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.

**Mr Brad Hunt (Principal)**

### **P & C and/or School Council message**

Our P&C has had another busy year and along the way we have made a few exciting purchases.

Early in the year our focus was on getting our lunch room up and running in time for the Small Schools Athletics Carnival. We purchased a large stainless steel oven and installed a sink (at long last running water). These two improvements certainly made operations run more smoothly and we made some delicious gourmet pizzas enjoyed by all our visitors. A very big thank you to Ben Edwards (building), Daniel Schumacher (plumbing) and Andre Hendrickes (electrical) for giving up their valuable time to make this all happen.

We also purchased a mobile PA system which also helped the carnival run more smoothly.

Our other large purchase was a second hand piano organised by Rachael Edmonds. The piano is in excellent condition and after some discussion, it was decided it was too good to pass up on. We appreciate that the school will help with this purchase as well.

The P&C also assisted with the biannual Sydney excursion. Payment of the coach by the P&C helped to keep the overall price down for families.

After loosening the purse strings considerably this year we had to make sure that money was coming in as well. Continual fundraising throughout the year is certainly a big focus for the P&C and this included raffles, small catering functions like the Anzac Day service at Dangarsleigh, Friday lunches, a mango drive, etc.

Our vegetable garden continues to produce delicious veggies. We have had a couple of working bees which I think the children have enjoyed and hopefully we are learning a little about growing vegetables and herbs.

Our meetings were held again on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month after school. Thank you to all who could attend and it was great to see so many new faces.

Thank you to my P&C team for all your hard work and a special mention to Annette Edmonds for keeping the books balanced beautifully.

The P&C would also like to thank all the staff of Kellys Plains Public School for their wonderful dedication to our school. Thank you to Mr Brad Hunt, Mrs Lauren Piddington, Mrs Jane Weir, Mrs Emma Schaeffer, Mrs Deborah Morley, Mrs Judy Tombs and Mr Bob Rich.

The P&C would like to congratulate Brad on his appointment as relieving Principal of Martins Gully School. We are all going to miss you very much and wish you the very best of luck.

Congratulations to Mr Richard Cotter on his appointment as relieving Principal of Kelly's Plains School. The P&C look forward to working with you closely next year.

The P&C would like to thank all families for their continuing support of the school.

For the families leaving us at the end of this year we wish you all the very best and hope you look back on your time at KPPS with fond memories.

I have appreciated the opportunity to be President for the past 2 years and I feel rewarded that we have met some of our goals. I look forward to being part of the P&C next year in a supportive role.

The P&C would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we look forward to another great year in 2013.

#### Tanya Alcorn – President P&C

#### Student representative's message

I have been at Kelly's Plains Public School for over 5 years.

In that time I have had the privilege of going on many excursions, my favourite being the two Sydney trips.

I have also been involved in musicals, sports events, guitar and keyboard lessons and various leadership opportunities.

I am the School Captain for 2012. Part of my role as Captain is to organise weekly Student Representative Council meetings, coordinate fundraisers and be a good role model for the younger students at our school.

Kelly's Plains is a fantastic school because everyone is friendly and they support each other.

I would like to thank all of the teachers I have had at our school. Thank you for working with me throughout my years at Kelly's Plains. I also would like to thank all of the students.

I wish all of the students in Year 5 the very best for next year as they begin to organise events and support the students and staff at our great school.

#### Damian Turner (School Captain 2012)



Years 5 and 6

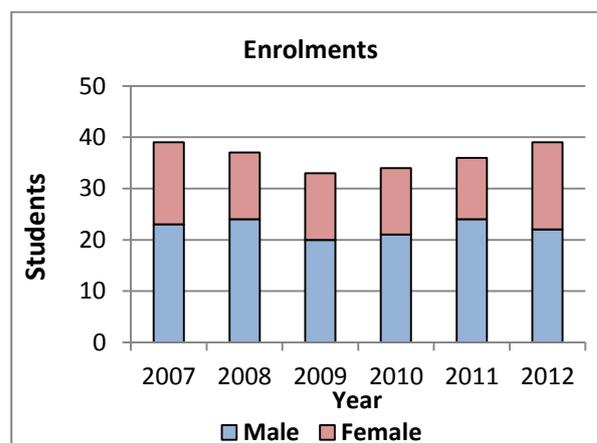
### School context

#### 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

In 2012 there were 41 students enrolled at Kelly's Plains Public School. In Lower Division (K-2) there were 18 students and in Upper Division (3-6) there were 21 students.



## Student attendance profile

Attendance rates at Kelly's Plains Public School continue to be outstanding. Illness throughout the winter months affects attendance rates.

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
K		92.2	95.1	93.1	97.1
1		95.3	95.6	97.3	98.4
2		94.9	94.8	94.3	97.0
3		95.8	89.6	98.2	94.4
4		96.8	92.8	93.5	97.6
5		97.4	98.1	92.4	97.1
6		94.9	96.3	97.0	97.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>95.2</b>	<b>94.7</b>	<b>95.4</b>	<b>96.9</b>

## Management of non-attendance

Parents are diligent with regard to school attendance and they are quick to inform the school when students have been absent. This information is in the form of written note, email, SMS or phone call.

## Class Sizes

Primary class sizes are included in the annual school report in order to provide parents with as much local information as possible. The following table shows our class sizes as reported at the 2012 Class Size Audit.

Roll class	Year	Total per year	Total in class
K-2	K	8	20
K-2	1	4	20
K-2	2	8	20
3-6	3	7	21
3-6	4	6	21
3-6	5	6	21
3-6	6	2	21

## 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

Position	Number
Principal	1
Deputy Principal(s)	
Assistant Principal(s)	
Head Teachers	
Classroom Teachers	1
Teacher of Emotional Disabilities	
Teacher of Mild Intellectual Disabilities	
Teacher of Reading Recovery	
Support Teacher Learning Assistance	0.5
Teacher Librarian	
Teacher of ESL	
Counsellor	
School Administrative & Support Staff	0.696
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.196</b>

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

In 2012 there were no teachers who identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander at Kelly's Plains Public School.

## Staff retention

At the end of 2011, Mrs Rebecca Smith was appointed a permanent teacher at Yetman Public School. In 2012, our school welcomed Mrs Emma Schaeffer to our school as the school's Learning Assistance Teacher (LAST) and relief from Face to Face (RFF) teacher. Mrs Schaeffer supported students for half a day every Monday with learning support, and taught both classes on Wednesday and Thursdays.

All other staff remained the same in 2012.

## Teacher qualifications

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

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Qualifications	% of staff
Degree or Diploma	<b>100</b>
Postgraduate	

## 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
<b>Income</b>	\$
Balance brought forward	16578.18
Global funds	57153.85
Tied funds	14713.62
School & community sources	16824.99
Interest	994.58
Trust receipts	1788.00
Canteen	0.00
<b>Total income</b>	<b>108053.22</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	12422.05
Excursions	14837.92
Extracurricular dissections	4383.06
Library	360.90
Training & development	72.73
Tied funds	9422.05
Casual relief teachers	6255.00
Administration & office	19956.19
School-operated canteen	0.00
Utilities	8962.56
Maintenance	9727.74
Trust accounts	1788.00
Capital programs	6360.00
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>94548.20</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>13505.02</b>

A voluntary contribution of \$35 per child or \$50 per family is paid to the school's P&C annually.

Vegetable gardens were built by members of the P&C. The gardens require regular maintenance by students.

The school once again purchased the online Maths program "Mathletics" where all students, K-6 accessed age and grade appropriate tasks to compliment classroom work.

The school continues to purchase and update lap tops and Ipads to enable all students to access these at any time. Our school received a connected classroom in the Upper Division room. It is anticipated that the video conferencing component will be operational in 2013.

Due to the high cost of bus travel, the school subsidised most excursions paying for bus

expenses and entry fees to events. This included the Sydney excursion for Upper Division students.

A full copy of the school's 2012 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM). Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

## School performance 2012

### Achievements

#### Art

- Keyboard lessons with Mrs Helen Murtgah on a weekly basis.
- Guitar lessons with Mr Clan Muller on a weekly basis.
- Education Week Activities including a trivia quiz and activities day.
- Participation at the Armidale Eisteddfod.
- Participation in the Armidale Community of Schools' Choir.
- Angus Smith, Liam Smith and Ryan Hendricks attended NECOM music workshops.
- Claire Hyland was accepted as a member of the Armidale Band.
- Mrs Emma Schaeffer was employed to provide explicit visual arts lessons for all students.



Literacy Groups



### Sport

- Uralla Small Schools' Cross Country at Kingstown School.

- Kelly's Plains School won the Uralla Small School Cluster Swimming Carnival for 2012. The following students were awarded champions:

Juvenile Boy: Nicholas Weier

Junior Girl : Georgia Edwards

Senior Girl: Claire Hyland

- Uralla Small School Cluster Athletics Carnival held at Kelly's Plains School this Year. Kelly's Plains was the winning school this year.

- At our Kelly's Plains School Athletics carnival the following students were awarded champions:

Juvenile Boy: Nicholas Weier

Juvenile Girl: Vanessa Simpson

Junior Boy: Ryan Simpson

Junior Girl: Jasmin Poulter

Senior Boy: Ryan Hendrickse

Senior Girl: Claire Hyland



### Athletics Carnival

### Other

- Clean Up Australia Day.
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Premier's Spelling Bee - Congratulations to Madeleine Scott, Dimity Evans and Damian Turner for representing our school at this event.
- Premier's Reading Challenge.
- ANZAC Day service at Dangarsleigh.
- Armidale Autumn Festival.
- GrandparentsDay/Book Week events.
- SMASH program.
- Student speeches during Term 4.
- Rugby league, cricket and soccer coaching clinics at cluster sports days.
- Annual Talent Quest in Term 3.

### 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)

Yr 7: from Band 4 (lowest) to Band 9 (highest for Year 7)

Yr 9: from Band 5 (lowest) to Band 10 (highest for Year 9)

The My School website provides detailed information and data for national literacy and numeracy testing (NAPLAN).

Click on the link <http://www.myschool.edu.au> and enter the school name in the *Find a school* and select *GO*.

**Find a school**

Search by school name

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector  Government  
 Non-government



Lower Division Reading

### Other programs

Respect and Responsibility are the two significant features which drive our school – through our rules, behaviour and strong welfare and discipline policy.

The individual values forums held by students at SRC, and discussions at weekly assemblies, allow us to focus on the school's strengths and weaknesses. Having students, staff and parents involved ensures full commitment.

### Progress on 2012 targets

#### Target 1

#### Outcome for 2012–2014

**Improve Literacy performance in the school so that student growth is higher than state growth on NAPLAN.**

#### 2012 Targets to achieve this outcome included:

- Reduce the number of students in the minimum bands in NAPLAN in the areas of Reading, Writing and Spelling to 0%.

#### Strategies to achieve these targets included:

- Explicit teaching of writing skills in preparation for NAPLAN texts.
- Further expand on our school's spelling program
- Lower Division teachers trained in L3 for students in Year 2.

## Significant programs and initiatives

### Aboriginal education

This year our students studied Aboriginal Perspectives throughout all Key Learning Areas. We continued implementing "Welcome to Country" recognition to all of our Term Assemblies and at Presentation Night.

Students also produced Aboriginal artworks to accompany units of work.

Students in Lower Division travelled to the Aboriginal Keeping Place in Term 3.

Aboriginal perspectives are embedded throughout our teaching and learning programs. These reflect the understanding and awareness of Aboriginal culture and traditions.

### Multicultural education

Assembly discussions are frequently devoted to such topics as acceptance and tolerance. Students and staff value our inclusive community. Every opportunity is taken to develop the understanding of different cultures, religions and belief systems.

Our annual research of a foreign country in collaboration with the Kelly's Plains/Dangarsleigh CWA took place in Term 3. This year's country of study was East Timor.

### **Evaluation of Target:**

In 2012 the school achieved this target. Every student in Year 5 showed growth from Year 3. Our school was above the state (by 0.5 points) and above our School Education Group (by 0.4).

### **School evaluation**

NSW public schools conduct evaluation to support the effective implementation of the school plan. In 2012 our school carried out evaluation of the implementation of the L3 Literacy program.

#### **Background**

This year L3 was implemented into the Lower Division classroom, with a specific focus on the Kindergarten students. Mrs Piddington (classroom teacher) undertook training sessions throughout the year, where skills and strategies for developing and building a foundation for Literacy learning were embedded into the teaching/learning program and classroom..

#### **Findings and conclusions**

Overall, the program has resulted in positive outcomes for all Kindergarten students. The reading and writing results of Kindergarten students were outstanding.

Students moved through the reading levels at a faster rate. Students wrote at a faster rate. Students became enthusiastic about reading and writing, due to the support and success they had. The students had the opportunity to learn in small, similar ability groups and the teacher was able to work closely with Kindergarten students and cater for individual needs, strengths and weaknesses.

Students developed solid literacy skills that will give them an advantage in Year 1 and 2.

The only negative aspect of the program was the large amount of preparation and delivery time allocated to implementing the L3 program and the program focused on Kindergarten students, with only limited opportunities to involve the whole class.

### **Future directions**

A year of follow up L3 training will take place in 2013 where the program can be modified to cater for all Lower Division students (K-2).

### **Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction**

In 2012 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school.

This year, we conducted this survey online using a *surveymonkey* link. This link was publicised in the school newsletter and was open for a month.

Parents responded with very positive comments about our school. 100% of respondents confirmed that they were proud of our school, new families were made to feel welcome and students are the school's main concern.

### **Professional learning**

Our school continued using the Best Start Program for all students in Kindergarten. Teachers were trained in administering the program and using information to guide teaching and learning programs.

As mentioned in our target evaluation for 2012, the school provided extensive funds to train Mrs Piddington in the L3 Literacy program.

Staff continued to be trained in the use of technology in 2012. The installation of video conferencing facilities required staff to be fully trained in using this new equipment.

Literacy and numeracy professional learning was also accessed, particularly for NAPLAN analysis.

As our school employed a new Learning Assistance, Support Teacher (LAST), professional learning funds were also provided for training and development to support new programs and individual learning plans.

### **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

To train all staff in the Australian Curriculum (English) and begin implementing this new syllabus before the end of Term 3.

#### 2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Extensive professional learning for all staff

#### Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Utilise an extra staff development day in term 2 to join with colleagues in Armidale for thorough and in-depth training of new requirements from consultants from the Board of Studies.
- Teaching and learning programs to be re-adjusted and designed to meet the needs of the new curriculum.
- A new English scope and sequence will need to be developed.

## School priority 2

### Outcome for 2012–2014

Improved NAPLAN results in Writing for both Year 3 and Year 5 students.

#### 2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- All students will achieve at state level.

#### Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Explicit and systematic teaching of text types.
- Appropriate grammar, punctuation, language, structure, audience and purpose are the main focus areas for teaching and learning programs.
- During 2013, align writing requirements with the new Australian Curriculum with professional learning opportunities.

## 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.

Mr Brad Hunt - Principal

Mrs Lauren Piddington – Classroom Teacher

Mrs Emma Schaeffer – Classroom Teacher

Mrs Deborah Morley – School Administration

Mrs Tanya Alcorn - President P&C

### School contact information

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School Code: 2273

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:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/asr>