Our school at a glance

Students

Our 2008 school year saw us commence with 20 students, our numbers increased to 34 by the completion of our school year with 20 children in infants and 10 children in primary. With our increased enrolments and some school funding we were able to employ an additional two full time teachers. This allowed us to operate with a K-1 class, Year 2 class and a Years 3-6 class. We anticipate having an enrolment of 33 in 2009.

Staff

We currently have two full time teachers including our teaching Principal.

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

Significant programs and initiatives

In addition to teaching in the six Key Learning Areas (KLAs), opportunities were offered in the following areas during 2008:

- Australian Primary Schools Mathematics Olympiads
- Participation in the World Maths Day Challenge.
- C.S.I.R.O. Scientist in Schools initiative
- Participation in the University of New South Wales competitions
- North Coast Maths Olympiad
- Port Macquarie Speech and Drama Eisteddfod

Student achievement in 2008

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 3
Two (Year Three) students completed the NAPLAN in 2008.

Literacy – BST Year 5
Two (Year Five) students completed the BST in 2008.

Numeracy – BST Year 3
Two (Year Three) students completed the BST in 2008.

Numeracy – BST Year 5
Two (Year Five) students completed the BST in 2008.

Messages

Principal's message

Staffed by highly qualified teaching and support staff Rollands Plains Upper Public School offers our students a broad range of educational opportunities in a safe, caring and attractive environment. Our welcoming and friendly school community is based on strong cooperative relationships between staff, students and parents.

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.

Mrs. Leanne Parker

P&C and/or School Council message

2008 was a very productive year for our P&C. Many of our meetings were well attended. We successfully; Operated the small schools cross country carnival, Organised school disco’s at the community hall and again sponsored our community Christmas Tree providing Christmas presents for all of the students. Through the hard work and dedication of our families we were able to run our school canteen one day per week again this year. On behalf of the P&C we would like to thank all of the families, community members and school staff who work tirelessly for our school. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Mrs. Keryn Lober P & C President

Student representative's message

This year our school classes just kept on growing and growing, by the end of the year we had 34 students. Throughout the year we attended many sporting events including a small schools soccer gala day. We all enjoyed learning from the many different visitors we had at our school including Mr. Rowland our scientist and Ms. Clifton who ran a maths day for our parents and us. One of the highlights for the year was our end of year Christmas concert.

Tiffani and Jesse Travers
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 shows our class sizes as reported at the 2008 class size audit conducted on Tuesday 25 March 2008.

<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-6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Class size data are as provided by schools in the annual class size audit.

Structure of classes

At the beginning of the year our school was operating with one K-6 class. By the completion of 2008 we were operating with a K-1 class, Year 2 class and 3-6 class for 4 out of five days per week. On the fifth day Years 2-6 joined together.

Staff information

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

In 2008 there were 3 permanent staff members our Principal, our School Administration Officer and our groundsman. At the beginning of Term Three due to a marked increase in student enrolments we had two casual teachers filling two full time positions. An increase in enrolments also saw us form two individual classes. Along with offering many specialised programs including an individual Year Two class four days per week. A School Learning Support Officer was also employed five days per week during Terms Three and Four.

Staff establishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Deputy Principal(s)
Assistant Principal(s)
Head Teachers
Classroom Teachers 2
Teacher of Emotional Disabilities
Teacher of Mild Intellectual Disabilities
Teacher of Reading Recovery
Support Teacher Learning Assistance
Teacher Librarian
Teacher of ESL
Counsellor
Total

Staff retention

With the exception of our Principal we have had many changes to staffing throughout 2008. Ms. Avalon commenced our school year filling our part time position. Commencing from Term Three Mr. Hancock joined our staff filling a full time temporary position and Ms Avalon also took up a full time temporary position with us. Our Administration Officer was successful in gaining a promotion and Mrs. Carpenter took up the position in Term Three. Mrs. Drage became our teacher aide in 2008 with Mr. Wilson continued on as our groundsman.

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>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

School performance 2008

Our school has been involved in a wide variety of significant programs and extra curricular activities throughout the year. Some of these experiences included:

- Golden Circle Fun Run
- Fancy dress Book Week parade
- Easter Hat parade
- Healthy Harold
- Singing programme
- Hastings City Council animal safety
- ANZAC ceremony celebrations

Financial summary

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of financial summary:</th>
<th>30/11/2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>137,516.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>39,817.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>28,315.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>2,629.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>7,782.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>172.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>78,717.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Expenditure</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key learning areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excursions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular dissections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training &amp; development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual relief teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-operated canteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance carried forward</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Achievements

Arts

Students were encouraged to develop skills in all facets of the arts. Many varied opportunities have been provided throughout 2008 for students to display their talents within the school and wider community.

- All students displayed work at the Wauchope Agricultural Show. A large majority of students were successful in gaining prize ribbons for the entries.
- All students displayed work at the Wauchope A.N.Z. Bank as part of our school promotions in conjunction with other schools in our area.
- All students participated in Port Macquarie Speech and Drama Eisteddfod. Our school entered the small schools verse speaking and was awarded second place. Our K-1 children entered the infants coral verse speaking and were awarded third place.
- All students participated in the Students from years 3-6 participated in school based public speaking on the topic of multiculturalism.
- Monique Mackay represented our school at the Small Schools Public Speaking Competition.
- All students attended two Rollands Plains community discos.
- All students performed plays, songs, poems and dances each term at special assemblies attended by parents and community members.
- All students attended and participated in the Annual Rollands Plains Community Christmas Tree celebrations where they performed a short play and songs.
- All students participated and attended the Port Macquarie Speech and Drama festival. We participated in three categories. The small schools category, K-2 category and 3-6 category. We gained a second and third place.

Sport

During 2008 the students of Rollands Plains Upper Public School have continued their high levels of both sporting performance and sportsmanship. Students are provided with many opportunities both at school and in external competitions to develop their skills in sports.

The students participated in the small schools;

- Swimming Carnival during first term.
- Cross Country Carnival hosted by our school during second term. The Regional Cross Country saw students from our school attend. One student was successful in making the District Cross Country Carnival.
- The Athletics Carnival was held during third term and four students represented our school at the Regional Athletics Carnival.
- We participated in the Small Schools Soccer Day.
- All students participated in a swimming program over a six week period in Term 4 at Wauchope pool. Two qualified instructors delivered the program. Results from the program varied from non swimmers gaining more water confidence to confident swimmers consolidating their stroke formation.

Other

During the year our new COLA was erected over our play ground equipment. To our existing playground we added three new sections. Rubber soft fall was laid under the playground with a large sandpit being also added to one end. This project was made possible through the government grant of Investing in our Schools. Our additional playground equipment was kindly donated.

Scientists in Schools Mr. Rob Rowland (our scientist) visited our school for a science education day with a focus on solar energy. The students built and raced solar cars in teams. With the help of parents the students constructed a wooden billy cart to investigate ways in which we could use environmental energy to power machines. Mr Rowland also presented a poster to our school explaining where science could take you and what some scientists do.
Bunnings Hardware sponsored our new orchard in which the students planted; a mandarin tree, two apple trees and an orange tree.

Mid Coast Holiday Credit Union approached our school with the offer of sponsoring a vegetable garden. With the assistance of parents and Mr. Gary Branch a local farmer in Term 4 the students planted squash, tomatoes, beetroot and some herbs. The vegetable patch has been very successful and will continue in 2009.

Wesley United A team of workers from Wesley United Employment Services under the leadership of Mr. Neville McCuddin have completed many projects at school during 2008 including; the removal of a BBQ and cementing, construction of gardens, fences, new playground equipment and installing library shelving.

Through craft afternoons run by parents our students each made a mosaic tile to be part of our ANZAC memorial garden at the base of our flag poles. The Wauchope Sub-branch members sponsored the planting of our ANZAC memorial garden.

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.

Literacy / Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3
In Year 3 our two students completed the National Assessment Program

Literacy / Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 5
In Year 5 our two students completed the National Assessment Program

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.

As we only have two students in each Year group we are not permitted to report on these areas. The parents of the students do have access to their individual child’s results.

Significant programs and initiatives

Aboriginal education
Aboriginal education is an integral part of the teaching and learning programs offered at our school. Activities were conducted to recognise some significant events throughout the day such as National Sorry day.

Multicultural education
All students participated in learning about Mexico as the Country Women’s Associations 2008 country of the year

Students from Years 3-6 participated in a public speaking competition with multiculturalism as the focus topic. This process involved the students completing research and learning more about multiculturalism before completing their speeches. Each of the students presented their speech to our school.

Respect and responsibility

Other programs
200 Nights of Reading - To increase students reading confidence and ability

Progress on 2008 targets

Target 1
To increase the performance of students reading evidenced by:

- All Year 3 & 5 students achieving a minimum of band three and four respectively in BST reading 2008.
- All early Stage One students achieve a minimum of reading recovery level five.
- All Stage One students reach the Pm benchmark comprehension level twenty.
- All Stage Two students reach the Pm benchmark comprehension level twenty-five.
- All Stage Three students reach the Pm benchmark comprehension level thirty.

Our achievements include:
Most Early Stage One students being able to independently read at RR level 5. 75% of Stage Three students achieved level thirty reading comprehension.

Target 2
To increase the usage of Information Technology as a teaching and learning tool evidenced by:
• All students having their own email account.
• All students having and using their own log on password.
• An increase in the average weekly distinct users from 7 to 20 users.
• An increase in the average email login from 2 to 10.
• An increase in the average weekly web browsing activity from 7 to 20 users.

Our achievements include: All students did have their own email accounts, and were using their own login names. Over the 12 months all classes increased their email usage and World Wide Web usage.

Target 3
To increase the performance of students in Measurement evidenced by:
• All Years 3 and 5 students achieve a minimum of band four in BST Measurement 2008.
• 75% of all students working beyond stage appropriate outcomes in Measurement.

Our achievements include:
All students gaining a greater understanding of the maths strand of measurement.

Key evaluations
It is a requirement for all NSW public schools to conduct at least two annual evaluations – one related to educational and management practice and the other related to curriculum. In 2008 our school carried out evaluations of satisfaction and the second on student learning.

Educational and management practice
Our school continually seeks to make valid improvements on our current practise. Parents were surveyed using the following questions to determine their views on how satisfied they are with such areas as school involvement with the community, and teaching and learning programs.

Findings and conclusions
On a whole the surveys returned indicate that our families felt positive about the learning happening within our school and their understanding of what was being taught.

Future directions
Our school families will continue to be invited to actively participate in their child’s learning at school having the opportunity to be well informed and involved with the educational decision making of our school. Families will also continue to have the opportunity to be part of our school classroom teaching through out the year.

Other evaluations
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.
From the surveys returned all families agreed that:
The school knows the community that it serves.
The students are the school’s main concern.
Parents support what is happening at school.

Rollands Plains Upper Public School
Quality Innovative Education in a Caring Environment
The school appreciates having my child as a student.
The school encourages everyone to learn.
The school often praises or rewards individuals who are successful.
My child likes to go to school everyday.
The teachers are fair to my child.
The teacher takes an interest in helping my child with their work.
I am proud of my child’s school.
The discipline policy is successful
One survey indicated not sure to the following questions:
Bullying is not tolerated at Rollands Plains Upper Public School.
School leaders have a positive influence on the school culture.

Findings and conclusions

On the whole all surveys return from families reflected that they showed high satisfaction with our school and the programs being offered.

Future directions

Bullying is still an area that needs further addressing and education for both the students and parents of our community. In 2009 we will continue to develop our positive behaviour policies and focus on teaching our students strategies on how to recognise bullying and how we as a school can stop bullying behaviours.

Professional learning

Through out the year our staff attended a variety of professional learning courses including;

- Principal Network Meetings and Primary Principal Association Meetings.
- Small School’s Meetings.
- Community of Schools meetings.
- Student Learning Assistant meetings.
- Numeracy in Middle Schools.
- THRASS; Teaching Handwriting, Reading and Spelling Strategies.
- Primary English Teachers Association membership and professional readings.
- Literacy on Track

School development 2009 – 2011

Targets for 2009

Our school plan for the triennium of 2009-2011 reflects the state and regional priority areas of literacy, numeracy, student engagement and quality teaching. Our targets provide a clear direction with high standards for teaching and learning for every child.

Target 1

Increase the number of students identified by NAPLAN data as achieving above minimum growth to 60% in numeracy by 2009.
Develop a school mathematics scope and sequence including assessments.
Strategies to achieve this target include:
Implement effective processes for informing parents of ways to support their children’s number development including:
Newsletters, NAPLAN data analysis, parent workshops and parent teacher interviews.
Our success will be measured by:
Students’ results in both internal and external testing reflect improvements.
Parents report a greater understanding of how to assist their children with mathematics.

Target 2

Increase the number of students identified by NAPLAN data as achieving above minimum growth to 60% in literacy by 2009.
Our success will be measured by:
Students’ results in both internal and external testing reflect improvements.
Parents report a greater understanding of how to assist their children with reading/ spelling.

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
The committee have determined targets for the school's future development.

Mrs. Keryn Lober, Parents and Citizen’s Association
Ms. Kym Avalon, Staff
Mrs. Janice Mc Lachlan, Staff
Mrs. Leanne Parker, Principal

**School contact information**

*Rollands Plains Upper Public School*

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Email: rollandplu-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web:

School Code: 2985

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: