Corrimal High School
Annual School Report

2012
Messages

Principal’s message

Corrimal High School is a comprehensive community based high school situated in northern Wollongong. It has an inclusive learning environment in which students and staff “strive for excellence”.

The school is committed to providing a wide range of educational programs which promote individual development, both academically and socially. Our excellent academic, sporting, artistic, cultural and welfare programs contribute to a student’s overall development.

We have been successful in developing a supportive and harmonious school culture that provides our students with the opportunity to reach their full potential.

We have committed and experienced staff who work very hard to serve the students and their families. Amongst staff, there is a strong tradition of professional development, leading to innovative teaching programs which address the specific needs of our students.

Corrimal High School has strong links with its local community and enjoys the support of an effective Parents and Citizens’ association (P&C). There has been a particular emphasis on the development of links with our partner Public Schools through our local Community of Schools.

Many of our students experience a significant degree of under privilege in their lives. To address this socio-economic disadvantage Corrimal High School is supported by a range of equity programs which attract additional funds.

With these additional monies the school is able to reduce class sizes, offer a broader range of subject choices, employ additional staff for special programs and provide additional support for our students’ academic and social development. In 2012, these funding programs included the National Partnership – Low Socio-Economic Schools program, (NPLSES) and Priority Schools Program, (PSP).

The proactive nature of our school is most evident in its involvement and adoption of the Positive Behaviour for Success program (PBS). This program is a systems approach to preventing and responding to school and classroom problems and issues. It has allowed us to develop school wide systems that support learning and promote positive behaviours in all students.

Everything we do as a school is based on a strong belief in, and commitment to, the core values of public education—integrity, responsibility, respect, care, excellence, cooperation, participation, fairness and democracy.

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.

Mark King

P & C message

The Parents and Citizens (P&C) committee at Corrimal High School is very active. We take great interest in all aspects of school life and our members are involved in activities, committees and fundraising projects which directly assist the school.

In 2012 the P&C major fundraiser was the selling of sausages at Bunnings. We purchased new school sport tops to be worn by our Corrimal High School students when representing the school. We were also able to support 8 students, who represented Corrimal High School at New South Wales state level in sport.

The P&C communicates with the parent body via the Community Newsletter. Invitations to attend our meetings are published in the newsletter and members of staff are invited to attend the meetings to update parents on activities and programs in the school. The school Principal attends all meetings.

P&C members are encouraged to participate in various school committees. These include student welfare, finance and curriculum development. The P&C has a representative on merit selection panels and took part in a number of panels throughout the year. Parent involvement is vital to the success of these committees.

Mrs Claire Lane P&C President
Student representative’s message

The Student Representative Council (SRC) is a prestigious body which contains representatives from each year group. Each year, the SRC is committed to making a difference.

In 2012, new initiatives such as the Corrimal High’s Community of Schools Cook Book have been well received. Students canvassed local schools and businesses for recipes. The community response has been very pleasing.

In 2012, another new initiative called ‘You Take the Break We Make the Steak’ was run. This is a non-profit event aimed at teachers, where students cook traditional steak sandwiches for the teachers to show appreciation.

As well as taking on new challenges, the SRC also held traditional fundraisers such as sausage sizzles and continued to support charities such as Loud Shirt Day and Pink Ribbon Day, Boardies Day and Jeans for Genes Day.

SRC representatives acted as tour guides for The Year 6 into 7 Open Night and the School Open Day which was held later in the year. They represented the school at ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day Ceremonies. Three students also attended the National leadership Day in Sydney.

The sense of achievement felt by members of the SRC motivates us all.

Georgia Hughes & Nicholas Shilling

School Captains

School context

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

Student information

Student enrolment profile

Student enrolments have declined from 496 in 2008 to 477 in 2012.
Student enrolments have stabilized since 2009.
Reasons for the decline in overall numbers include a demographic decline in the number of students coming through primary school; parents deciding to take up positions at selective or specialist high schools and private providers.

Student attendance profile

The table above clearly shows that overall attendance rates between 2008 and 2012 are below that of our region and state.
In 2012, the student attendance rates of every year cohort except for Year 10 and 11 increased.
Management of non-attendance

Corrimal High School uses a variety of strategies to manage non-attendees, including our SMS messaging services alerts to parents, two day absence letters, phone calls to parents and families by school appointed attendance teacher and year advisers, and/or intervention by the Home School Liaison Officer.

Post-school destinations

Corrimal High School had 51 students receive an H.S.C. in 2012. Seventeen of these students were boys and thirty four were girls. Twenty one received an ATAR with 10 students accepting a place at University. There were some students deferring for one year.

We have students attending Wollongong University, University of Western Sydney and the Australian Catholic University

Corrimal High School also has students attending TAFE to progress to University. This practice of completing a Certificate III/IV and/or a Diploma first at TAFE then transferring to University is becoming a highly sought after career pathway. Many employers are now asking for the practical skills available at TAFE in addition to the theory studies available from University. Employment prospects are greatly enhanced by combining the two qualifications.

Year 12 students undertaking vocational or trade training

There are two students who received an Apprenticeship/Traineeship for 2012

A total of 23 students or 45% attending TAFE or Private Providers which is a strong improvement from 2011. This improvement is due to the expansion of the Vocational Education Courses. The increasing comparison of students attempting VET subjects and continuing on to TAFE to further their studies is obvious. In 2012 there were 30 students continuing VET after the HSC, compared with 18 students continuing in 2011 with their Vocational Educational studies.

Year 12 students attaining HSC or equivalent vocational educational qualification

In 2012, 100% of Year 12 students attained a HSC or equivalent vocational educational qualification.

Staff information

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

Staff establishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Principal(s)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Teachers</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>35.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher of Multi-categorical Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher of Mild Intellectual Disabilities</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Mod Intellectual Disabilities</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Teacher Learning Assistance</td>
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<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Careers Advisor</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellor</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>63.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Two members of staff identify as being of Aboriginal background.

Staff retention

Many staff have been successful in gaining transfers and promotions, in 2012. In particular Mr Kem Rakiposki was appointed as Principal of Shoalhaven High School; Mr Scott Defina was appointed as Head Teacher TAS here at Corrimal High from Bulli High and Ms Sarah Hiscocks was appointed Head Teacher of Special Education, Albion Park High School. Ms Dian Paterson, from the front office retired after 18 years’ service to Corrimal High.

Of the permanent staff from 2011, 88% remained teaching in 2012.
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>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>12</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.

Date of financial summary 30/11/2012

<table>
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<th>Income</th>
<th>$</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
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<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>410026.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>School &amp; community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>24068.65</td>
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<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>21028.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>129138.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>1601512.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenditure

Teaching & learning
- Key learning areas 39788.76
- Excursions 53894.34
- Extracurricular dissections 44573.22

Library 8430.63

Training & development 5856.37

Tied funds 394270.77

Casual relief teachers 101431.03

Administration & office 110648.43

School-operated canteen 140445.96

Utilities 77314.94

Maintenance 49333.83

Trust accounts 21932.76

Capital programs 0.00

Total expenditure 1047921.04

Balance carried forward 553591.62

A full copy of the school’s 2012 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

School performance 2012

Achievements: Arts

Music

2012 was a big year for Music at Corrimal High. The Vocal Ensemble performed at the Wollongong Eisteddfod which was held at the Wollongong Entertainment Centre mid-year. The students performed well and were invited back next year! The ensemble also performed at ‘Spring Into Corrimal’ as well as various school based awards ceremonies.

2012 also saw a number of exciting new musical purchases for the school including a portable digital recording studio, an electronic drum kit and a semi-acoustic guitar.

2012 also saw the addition to staff of our new Music teacher. Mr Peter Heugh has been teaching for 13 years and has been a professional musician for 20 years. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position.

Illawarra and South Coast East Regional Performers, featuring our own Emel Ozer perform at Corrimal High School

Boy’s Choral Workshop

In 2012, Year9 student Keaton James attended a Boys Choral Workshop lead by the amazing Jonathon Welch (Choir of Hard Knocks). These
workshops are being run in major regional centres across the state and we were very fortunate that Keaton was able to have this opportunity.

Keaton with Jonathon Welch

Southern Stars 2012

Corrimal High School was once again a contributor to Southern Stars during 2012. Southern Stars was held at the Wollongong Entertainment in September. The girls performed 2 matinee and 2 evening shows to sold out crowds, who gave great feedback regarding the fantastic quality of the entertaining show.

All students involved in the Southern Stars 2012 were a credit to the school, demonstrating great talent in the performing arts, impeccable manners, school spirit, dedication and teamwork.

Mural for Resilience

In 2012, as part of the Premier’s Student volunteering program, a small group of year 9 students created a mural. The mural represents six famous people and gives a quote or information about each person. The aim of the project was to inspire all students and to help instill the notion of resilience.

Sport

It has been an amazing year of sport at Corrimal High with superb sporting performances from our students across Years 7-12. Personal best performances were recorded at the three major carnivals of the year, Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics.

In swimming Daniel St George of Year 9 was crowned the Illawarra Zone Age champion whilst we had Connor Phillips, Jamie Brinkworth and Daniel St George represent the South Coast Region at the NSW CHS Swimming Championships at Homebush.

In cross country 2012 saw Hayley Pymont and Jamie Brinkworth of Yr. 12 represent the South Coast Region at the NSW CHS Championships at Eastern Creek.

Unfortunately, weather was not on our side for the 2012 School Athletics Carnival with the carnival rained out on three occasions. Despite this set back we sent a talented group to the Zone carnival where a number of outstanding performances were recorded. Hayley Pymont and Jack Hummel represented the South Coast Region in the NSW CHS Championships at Homebush.
We also had a number of successful athletes who gained South Coast representation; Savannah McDonagh for Gymnastics, Oscar Corby for Cricket, Jamie Brinkworth for Netball and Alexander Findlay & Nicholas Shilling for Rugby Union.

Corrimal High also participated in a variety of sports in the NSW CHS Knockout competitions, our best performance being our Open Boys Volleyball team who reached the semi-finals.

We also entered a record number of competitions in Rugby league and for the first time entered a girl’s Rugby League team. This team were undefeated at the 2012 gala day.

The 2012 Illawarra Zone Grade Sport Competition saw Corrimal HS enter a number of junior and senior teams. We had five teams reach the finals and we had five victories, a tremendous achievement. Congratulations to the following grade sport champions for 2012: Junior Girls Volleyball, Senior Girls Volleyball, Junior Boys Volleyball, Senior Boys Volleyball and Senior Boys Touch.

We celebrated the year of sport with a Sports Presentation assembly which recognised the fine achievements of our students.

The major sporting awards were as follows:

Junior Girl Sports Star of 2012
Natalie Lower

Junior Boy Sports Star of 2012
Daniel St George

Senior Girls Sports Star of 2012
Jamie Brinkworth

Senior Boy Sports Star of 2012
Oscar Corby

John Blakeney Memorial Trophy
Oscar Corby

Dragons Medal
Alexander Findlay
We were also very lucky to receive new multi-purpose sport singlets from our P & C association, these have been well received and put to good use across many sports this year.

Corrimal High School has maintained their commitment to the NSW Premiers Sporting Challenge initiative which aims to strengthen the sports leadership capabilities of our students and connect them to our communities of schools. Young people across our school have been trained in various sports to act as peer leaders for our primary school students. This has been a positive and rewarding experience for our young people and something that we look forward to working on in the coming years.

Corrimal High Open Girls Volleyball Team.

Congratulations to the 2012 Open Girl’s Volley Ball team. Corrimal High School was the only Wollongong school to have made the semi-finals of the NSW State Cup.

Ski Trip

Forty Five lucky Corrimal High students had more than their day in the snow when they travelled to Thredbo for a great outdoor experience.

Under the guidance of the Optimum Experience Outdoor Education Company, beginner and intermediate skiers and snow boarders attended lessons in the mornings while Mr Abbott took the more experienced skiers around the mountain. After lunch everyone had the opportunity to practice their skills.

Mr Abbott found the attitude and behaviour of all the students to be excellent across the three days.

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 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)

In the Higher School Certificate the performance of students is reported in performance bands ranging from Performance Band 1 (lowest) to Performance Band 6 (highest).

Year 7 NAPLAN data is not an indicator of Corrimal High School performance and achievement. It is data providing a snapshot of the literacy and numeracy abilities of students on entry to the school.

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.

**Reading – NAPLAN Year 7**

In 2012 the percentage of our students in the top two bands, Bands 8 & 9 for Reading, 11.8 %, and Numeracy, 10.2 %, were below the statistically similar school group (SSG) of 16.2 % and 13.4 %

**Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 7**

In 2012 while the percentage of our students in the top 2 bands, Bands 9 and 10 (15.2%) for Reading was above the statistically similar school group (10.3%), the percentage in the top 2 bands for Numeracy (4.7%) was below that of statistically similar schools (12.7%).

**Reading – NAPLAN Year 9**

**Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 9**
4 students received HSC marks in the highest performance Band 6 last year, 2 in Community and Family Studies and 2 in Industrial Technology.

The average mark in Biology; English (Advanced); English (Standard) and General Mathematics was above that of the statistically similar school group (SSG).

### Significant programs and initiatives

**Aboriginal education**

This year the Aboriginal Education Task Group implemented the following goals for 2012:

- Utilize Personal Learning Plans in classrooms
- Have faculties incorporate Aboriginal perspective/culture into classroom lessons
- Build on knowledge and acceptance of Aboriginality/Aboriginal culture
- Reduce racism and prejudice in school
- Integrate new Aboriginal students better
- Improve educational outcomes
- Foster pride and confidence in Aboriginal students
- Find common links between mainstream practice and Aboriginal ways
- Improve the attendance and retention rates of Aboriginal students

Personalised Learning Plans have been created for each of our Aboriginal students. These have been completed in partnership with the student, parent/carer and teachers and have incorporated the thoughts and findings of the student, parent, teachers of the student, APCEO, reports and NAPLAN testing.

Staff members have completed two workshops based around the No Gaps policy and are encouraged to participate in activities organised around significant Aboriginal dates and days.

Corrimal High School has been involved in the celebration and commemoration of a variety of significant Aboriginal days including Harmony Day, Mabo Day, Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week at both a school level and a regional level. Many students, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, have had contact with Elders and Aboriginal guests who have spoken about Aboriginal culture to develop an awareness and respect for that culture.

NORTA NORTA and AIME programs have been utilised in 2012 to assist students who are struggling in subject areas or need assistance with homework and assessment tasks. AIME
mentoring has also been a part of the retention plan for Aboriginal students and has been successful for regular attendees.

Many partnerships between the NIAECG, In2Careers, UOW, UTS and UNSW have been developed or extended to assist the engagement and retention of Aboriginal students.

AIME

Supervising teacher Dave Borger, Dakota Storm, Chloe Kemister, Eryn Chaseling and Andrew Coppens proudly show off their AIME hats.

These students all came away from the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience program feeling more confident in themselves and in attending University. The program opened their eyes up to new possibilities. They are all intending to attend Wollongong University in the future.

NAIDOC Week 2012

Corrimal High celebrated NAIDOC week during Week 8 of Term 3.

Year 9 was lucky enough to partake in a Discovery Day at Corrimal High School on Tuesday 4th September. Nowra national parks guest presenters were in for the day to help run the activities and provided much of the bush tucker and all of the artefacts on the day.

Students enjoyed gaining hands on experience learning about women’s business, traditional gathering and food, men’s business, traditional hunting tools and weaponry. They also participated in some Indigenous themed games designed to allow students to see how hard life would be without the amazing knowledge of the shared cultures.

Homework Centre

Corrimal High is very fortunate to offer an afterschool homework centre. Held in the library on Monday and Thursday afternoons, AIME students from Wollongong Uni and Mr Lander are on hand to offer support. Students are also provided with afternoon tea.

Library

The library continued to be an active, dynamic environment in 2012. The library is extensively booked throughout the day every day and the classes booked represent faculties across the school.

The resources of the library are fully utilized, with 3,467 borrowings recorded in 2012.
The borrowing statistics indicate that a large number of our school population is reading on a regular basis.

The library budget had a strong focus on purchasing fiction and this will continue to be a priority in 2013. With the extensive use of Internet research, the demand for non-fiction has declined.

The main aim of the library on a daily basis is to continue to meet the needs of all users as they arise. Pastoral care plays a significant role in this service.

Each year, in addition to the ongoing evaluation and culling of the collection, as appropriate, a major project is also undertaken in the library. In 2012, a major project was to continue the process of copying the Teacher Reference video collection onto DVD.

**Multicultural education**

Ms McNamee’s Year 8 geography class experienced a real cultural hands on experience when they were taught how to make Rice Paper rolls by two UoW Phd students, Hung Nguyen and Nga Pham.

Multicultural education

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**Chinese Yr 7 Program**

In 2012 all Year 7 students at Corrimal High School were given the opportunity to study Mandarin Chinese as a foreign language.

A highlight for the students was a Chinese day in China town where students sampled local Chinese cuisine, explored the Chinese gardens in Darling Harbour and practiced their spoken skills with other Chinese students.

**National Partnership programs**

**Literacy.**

The English faculty has been working with the Literacy Coordinator to improve student outcomes through the development and implementation of a variety of programs.

NAPLAN data has been used to identify areas of literacy weakness in years 7 to 9. These areas are addressed as part of the usual teaching programs using specific resources that enable the teacher to help the students focus on improving their knowledge and understandings while improving basic literacy skills. Writing groups were set up in term 2,3,4 targeting students in Year 7 with interests, abilities and or weaknesses in writing. The aim of these groups was to enhance an interest in writing and focus on explicit skills.

After the 2012 NAPLAN testing, students who performed below the National Minimum Standard were withdrawn for intensive work.

The Literacy coordinator worked in conjunction with the English faculty to rewrite Junior English programs and assessment tasks to be more explicit in terms of the knowledge and skills being targeted.

The YEAR 7 Reading Program saw library borrowings at the end of Term 1 exceed the library borrowings for Year 7, 2011 over the whole year.

**Public Speaking/Debating**

In 2012, Corrimal High school entered a record number of ten speakers in the South Coast Public Speaking competition with one student, Annie Burrett, winning her division.
Two of our students were entered in the DET Arts Unit state-wide Legacy Public Speaking Competition, with one student reaching the State semi-final and twenty students taken along as audience members.

**State Public Speaking**

On Friday 14th September, the NSW semi-final of the DEC Legacy Public Speaking Competition was held. This is an extremely prestigious competition and draws on the very best public speakers in the state.

Corrimal High School was fortunate to have Year 9 student, Noah Rzeminski, competing. Noah won the regional final and worked extremely hard to be ready for the state semi-final.

There were 26 speakers competing on the day, all vying to be one of the lucky 8 to make it to the grand final.

Noah just missed out on being selected for the final 8. His feedback from the adjudicator was most promising and his example has certainly inspired and motivated our students.

**Numeracy**

The mathematics faculty has been working with the Numeracy Coordinator to improve student outcomes through the development and implementation of a variety of programs.

NAPLAN data has been used to identify specific areas of numeracy weakness of our students in years 7 to 9. These areas are addressed as part of the usual teaching programs using specific resources that enable the teacher to help the students focus on improving their knowledge and understandings while solving simple to complex problems.

Teachers have worked in teams to develop a series of teaching and assessment activities to cater for the variety of mathematical abilities and interests at Corrimal High. One ‘Pirrozzo’ unit per year has been developed. Students must complete a set number of activities, usually as part of their normal lessons before completing tasks of their own choice. The variations cater for interests that can include ICT, music, games and problem solving.

**National Literacy and Numeracy Week**

In Term 3 2012, Corrimal High School celebrated National Literacy and Numeracy Week by participating in a variety of activities that highlighted the importance and relevance of literacy and numeracy to work and everyday life. Students from years 9, 10 and 11 each participated in 2 workshops from a total of 14 that were on offer. Guest speakers included musicians, TaFE surveyors, a Naval Hydrographic Officer and the Wollongong City Children Services Librarian.

This was followed by ‘The Great Debate’ which has now become a traditional feature of the day. Mr Crawford and Mr Foster teamed up with university students and our very talented students to provide an entertaining debate on the merits of television. An enjoyable afternoon closed with a showcase of CHS musical talents.

**Taking Off with Numeracy in the Corrimal Community of Schools (TOWN)**

Corrimal High School has partnered with Bellambi Public School during 2011 and 2012 to assist stage 2 and 3 teachers from Corrimal Public, Corrimal East Public and Towradgi Public Schools to teach numeracy. These strategies have also been integrated with in the Corrimal High School Numeracy Lab activities and year 7 and 8 programs to enable a smooth transition into high school Mathematics.
Community of Schools

YEAR 5 HANDS ON DAY

On Tuesday, 14th August 100 Year 5 students from our Community of Schools gathered at Corrimal High School for a day of fun and discovery. This day is part of a bigger picture in terms of all of the wonderful programs and experiences on offer at Corrimal High School.

Ms Crawford showing us what not to do with a hockey stick

Using lots of elbow grease in Industrial Arts.

Wednesday Club

During 2012, each Wednesday afternoon 25 students from our Community of Schools came to Corrimal High School and participated in a range of subjects over a period of 5 weeks. Subjects such as Drama, Art, Numeracy and Science were on offer and allowed these students a taste of life at Corrimal High.

Fine Tuning the Debaters of Tomorrow.

Corrimal High school hall was filled with an additional 100 primary school students from Towradgi, Corrimal, Corrimal East, Tarrawanna and Bellambi Primary schools. The aim of the day was to provide these students with debating skills. Students were taught about the role of each speaker and given an outline to support them in what to say and when.

Robotics

The very talented Corrimal High Robotics team came away from the State Championships in Sydney with the judge's award for "Overcoming Adversity."

Their teams were highly competitive and Mr Jacques team missed out on making it to the Nationals by one point.

In preparation for the National Robotic Competition, an excited group of boys from Years 7 and 8 spent the day working on their Robotic Missions. These students were instructed by Andrew and Lindell Clarke who have themselves been members of the Australian Robotic Team.

Corrimal High Open Day

On Friday September 7th, Corrimal High opened its door to the community.

Students from the school’s Student Representative Council showed visitors around the school and visitors were also invited to classes to view lessons in process.

The school hall featured displays from different faculties and a section was prepared as a nice place to sit down and enjoy morning tea and
lunch. Student performers, including members from the school vocal ensemble, provided quality entertainment in the hall during lunch.

Local Federal member for Keira, Ryan Parks, visited during the day. He was very grateful for the opportunity to visit classrooms in action and showed a great interest, particularly in the facilities of the Industrial Arts rooms. Mr Parks also took the opportunity to recognise the work of Corrimal Rotary and the support they provide to our school.

Ryan Parks joined members of Corrimal Rotary, Year 12 construction students and staff to celebrate the building of new outdoor furniture for the school.

Corrimal Students working with Corrimal Rotary

On Wednesday evening, October 24th, four Corrimal High students presented to Corrimal Rotary at the Fraternity Club a cheque for $175 for sponsorship of 7 students from the Philippines to attend school for a year.

Year eight students, Chelsie Snedden, Rhiannon Thomas, Natalie Fensom and Kellie John raised money by selling pizzas to Corrimal High staff and selling cakes at Bellambi Public School.

The Rotarians were encouraged to hear of the efforts of our school to link with community and to further strengthen ties with Rotary.

ANZAC Day Commemoration

Corrimal High celebrated ANZAC Day as a whole school on the morning of Thursday April 26th. Special guests included the President of Corrimal RSL sub branch, Mr John Simpson and Mr Jim McGettigan, Retired Welfare Officer of the Corrimal RSL sub branch.

Corrimal High School Captains Tearra Williams and Cem Ozer ably ran the proceedings. Year 9 students Megan McKendrick read a poem written by Sister Erica Strom, Keaton James sang “Lest We Forget” to accompany the thought provoking slide show and Emel Ozer led the school in the National Anthem. Mr McGettigan had the school captivated by his account of what happened in Gallipoli and details of other areas of military service.

Corrimal RSL sub branch, Corrimal High, Corrimal Primary and Towradgi Primary laid wreaths on the candle lit raised stage and the Last Post and Rouse were played.

Principal Mark King, members of Corrimal RSL sub branch, Corrimal High School Captains, Towradgi School Captains and Principal Cathy Broaddbridge and Miss Sarah Freeman.
Science

Extreme Science experience

Corrimal High School was one of just 40 schools from around NSW to participate in an extraordinary science event. On Friday the 15 June, Year 10 students Jack Hummel, Brighid Walton, Jake Osborne, Jake Vulic-Berry, Marley Hayman and Raphie Burrett along with Acting Head Science Teacher Ms Tanya Sullivan travelled by train to attend the event held at the Sydney Convention Centre, Darling Harbour.

Our students joined 240 others at the 2012 Extreme Science Experience (ESE) where they learnt through hands-on experiments with Australia’s top scientists and innovators.

Students Jack Hummel, Jake Osborne, Jake Vulic-Berry got to meet the host of ESE, Bernie Hobbs, who many will know from the ABC “New Inventors” program.

STELR API Solar Car program

Corrimal High School was one of just 60 schools from around Australia chosen to participate in a solar car program sponsored by ATSE (The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering) and API (Australian Power Institute).

This innovative program provided the school with 15 sets of equipment that enabled students to build their own unique solar vehicle or other solar powered device. Students assembled the cars each with a different design.

As part of the school Open Day celebrations, the cars were demonstrated on the basketball court.

Agricultural Plot

Calf Breeding Program

Twin calves Larry and Curly are the latest participants in Corrimal High School’s Cows Create Careers Program. Larry and Curly left their farm at Jamberoo and were fed twice a day for 2 weeks by the Year 9 Agriculture students. Students learn how to look after the animals and to monitor their growth.

Shannon Guy, Alannah Curtin, Mr Wellings and Georgia Le Pla discuss cow business.

Motivation Classes

Year 7 and 8 Motivation Classes along with year 9 and 10 Maths 1 participated in Corrimal High School’s Amazing Race in Term 3.

Students enjoyed building towers of straws that could support a phone book, guessing ages of
teachers and lining them up in order without speaking and balloon relays.

Motivation Class Camp

On Monday and Tuesday October 22nd and 23rd, 2012 the Year 7 and 8 Motivation Classes, accompanied by Ms Sullivan, Mr Graham and Ms Banks enjoyed a wonderful time sleeping overnight at Taronga Zoo.

Students spent time with the animals, travelling the cable cars, climbing the Harbour Bridge, riding the ferries, visiting Central Market and getting to know each other better.

These students were also given the opportunity to handle a Blue Tongue and Shingleback Lizard and patted an Echidna.

Engineering Day

On the 19th of September, 2012 Corrimal High School was lucky enough to host an Engineering Day, presented by the University of Wollongong. The response from students who attended was overwhelmingly positive.

Over the course of the day students were able to complete a series of practical and theoretical applications designed by the UOW Engineering faculty. They gave students an understanding of basic engineering and what tertiary education could hold for their futures. This day encouraged students to search out a study option at university set their sights on that goal and move towards it after they finish secondary schooling.

Positive Behaviour, Positive Reward.

In 2012, Corrimal High implemented a new positive behaviour reward system. Now students can earn stamps which can be used towards rewards such as excursions and vouchers. The use of these stamps helps to reinforce our values of Responsibility, Respect and Safety. Students can earn the stamps by exhibiting positive behaviour in the classroom and in the playground.

Standup against Bullying

Corrimal High school commemorated the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence on Friday 16 March, 2012.

Student Kayla Baines approached Ms Crawford and asked if the school could mark the occasion. Ms Crawford arranged for a banner to be available for students to sign as a stand against bullying and students wore orange ribbons to mark their support.
This event brought the school together and encouraged us all to recognise the important role everyone plays in countering bullying.

**Signing the banner.**

**Kayla Baines addresses the school.**

**Learning Support Unit**

The Support Unit is made up of three support classes. Students are offered opportunities to engage in programs across all KLA’s within an inclusive educational model delivered by mainstream teachers. Two models are offered at CHS, in the first, mainstream teachers deliver programs to support students in DAT, PDHPE, Art and Music. This provides students with engaging curriculum delivered by qualified teacher specialist in their subject areas.

The second model is an inclusive model. All students in years 9 to 12 are offered opportunities to undertake elective and Vocational Educational Training courses delivered at school or TAFE. In addition, transitional educational courses are also implemented to enable transition from school to work.

The main focus of the support unit is to challenge and extend every student working towards becoming independent and participating as a contributing member of our technological society when they leave school.

**Orang-utans Project**

Students from the IO class in the Support Unit learnt about the Orang-utans that live in Borneo and Sumatra. People have damaged and removed large parts of the rainforests for farming so the orang-utans have nowhere to live. Currently there are only 12000 left in Indonesia.

The IO class decided to do something about this. They asked students to give a gold coin donation to the Australian Orang-utan Project on behalf of Corrimal High School.

The Orange class from the Support Unit raised $105.00 from gold coin donations!

**Jacob Star Attraction at Kidzwish Ball**

Jacob White, his parents and his teacher Vanessa Cliff were special guests when Kidzwish held their annual gala ball in November.

Jacob was featured on the huge screen which showed footage of an interview taken a week earlier. Jacob recalled how difficult life had been for him without a suitable wheelchair and the issues he faced regarding mobility at school.

Half way through the event, Jacob was wheeled out by another disabled student and wheeled on stage. Covered by a black sheet, the new wheelchair was unveiled. Jacob was completely dumb struck!

Kidswish donated the chair after Corrimal High school approached The Illawarra Mercury who in turn ran the story about Jacob’s plight.
Jacob and teacher Vanessa Cliff enjoyed the night.

Progress on 2012 targets

Target 1
The school will aim to increase levels of Literacy and Numeracy for all students by

- Increasing the percentage of Year 7 students in the proficient bands of NAPLAN by 2%
- Increasing the percentage of Year 9 students achieving at or above the national minimum standards in NAPLAN by 2%

Our achievements include:
- An increase in the percentage of year 7 students achieving at or above minimum standards in Numeracy to 95.7% compared with 90.7% in 2011. This is an increase of 5%.
- An increase in the percentage of year 9 students achieving at or above minimum standards in Numeracy to 98.4% compared with 92.1% in 2011. This is an increase of 6.3%.

Target 2
The school will increase overall attendance to achieve parity with regional average attendance outcomes by

- 1% improvement in overall attendance over each of the next two years of school.

Our achievements include:
- An increase in the overall attendance of year 8 to 87.1% compared with 82.5% in 2011. This is an increase of 4.6%.
- An increase in the overall attendance of year 9 to 82.3% compared with 80.8% in 2011. This is an increase of 1.5%.
- An increase in the overall attendance of year 12 to 85.1% compared with 83.6% in 2011. This is an increase of 1.5%.

School evaluation

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

- School leadership
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Community Engagement

as part of the Low Socio-economic Status School Communities National Partnership 2012 Evaluation report

School leadership

Background

Interviews regarding progress towards targets of increasing the percentage of teachers who have opportunities to develop leadership capacity beyond their own classroom were conducted with members of the school community including; members of staff; students; parents and family members including parents and caregivers from the local aboriginal community and community members.

SurveyMonkey templates were used to assist the school in seeking responses in the areas of School Leadership.

Invitations to complete the surveys were distributed electronically to students, community members and school staff.

Findings and conclusions

- 57% of teachers had opportunity for increased responsibility beyond their classroom
- 4 new members of staff relieved at Head teacher level for significant periods of time
• 88% of teachers received positive feedback on their leadership by their Head teachers or community members

Future directions
• Provide professional learning to develop leadership and management skills
• Increase the percentage of teachers who have opportunities to develop leadership capacity to 100% by 2014

Literacy and Numeracy

Background
Interviews regarding progress towards targets of increasing the literacy and numeracy of students were conducted with members of the school community including; members of staff; students; parents and family members including parents and caregivers from the local aboriginal community and community members.

SurveyMonkey templates were used to assist the school in seeking responses in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy.

Findings and conclusions
• 88% of students strongly agreed/agreed that teachers clearly explained what literacy skills they were teaching
• The same percentage of students also strongly agreed/agreed that teachers tell them what was needed to improve their literacy.
• Evaluations from staff show that 40% strongly agree that they feel confident to teach numeracy in their KLA’s.
• 81% of staff agreed that professional learning provided during the year allowed them to be effective in the classroom in regards to Literacy and Numeracy

Future directions
• Learning support team will work with classroom teachers to develop strategies to address learning needs of students identified by NAPLAN results through continuing TPL around analyzing data.
• Appoint a HT Quality Teaching to coordinate professional learning focusing on Australian Teaching frameworks.

Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction
In 2012 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school’s engagement with them in relation to student attendance

Their responses are presented below.
• The parental survey shows a strong agreement (64%) that the school talks to families when there are problems with attendance.
• The student survey shows that 88% of students strongly agreed/agreed that teachers clearly explained what the school expectations were in regards attendance.

Professional learning
The major focus of Corrimal High School’s Quality Teaching Program in 2012 was our work with Behavioural Psychologist, Dr. Christine Richmond.

Our school employed Dr. Richmond to work with staff to further enhance classroom management strategies. Initially Dr Richmond presented a 2.5 hour workshop on changing the culture of toxic classes into that of learning teams.

The Quality Teaching team then surveyed all members of staff and compiled a list of areas causing concern. Dr. Richmond addressed these areas with individual teachers, head teachers and the senior executive. The initiative concluded with a second afternoon seminar for the whole staff.

Evaluation of the project was generally positive, with the majority of staff recording that they had incorporated ideas from the workshops into their teaching strategies.

Dr Richmond acknowledged that it takes intentional, inspired work to make a difference—and she believes that Corrimal High School has the teachers for the task!
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

Student Engagement and Attainment

Outcome for 2012–2014

The school will have higher expectations of student performance leading to improved results in the Higher School Certificate

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Increasing the number of band 5 and 6 HSC results by 50%
- Increasing the number of HSC subjects with a positive Z scores against the state average by 25%

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Build capacity of all teachers in the rigorous use of SMART data to analyse, inform and improve teaching and learning in HSC subjects.
- Implementation of the ALARM program in Corrimal High School
- Development of an year 12 mentoring program

School priority 2

Literacy and Numeracy

Outcome for 2012–2014

The school will aim to increase levels of Literacy and Numeracy for all students

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Increasing the percentage of Year 7 students in the proficient bands of NAPLAN by 2 %
- Increasing the percentage of Year 9 students achieving at or above the national minimum standards in NAPLAN by 2 %

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Provide professional development and learning in teaching Literacy best practice.
- Build capacity in the use of SMART data to analyse, inform and improve teaching and learning in Literacy.
- Individual learning plans for identified students who have not met national benchmarks with a specific focus on developing Literacy and Numeracy skills.

School priority 3

Student Attendance

Outcome for 2012–2014

The school will increase overall attendance to achieve parity with regional average attendance outcomes.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- 1 % improvement in overall attendance of students over each of the next two years of school.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Implementation of the Corrimal High School Attendance plan.
- Continuation of current monitoring strategies
- Identification of Students at Risk due to poor attendance
Improved monitoring of senior curriculum to provide maximum engagement for potential school leavers.

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.

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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: