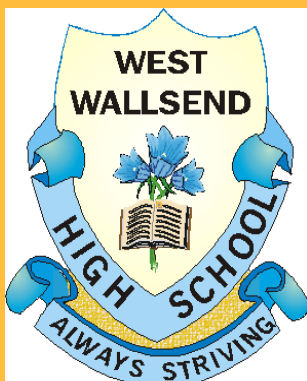
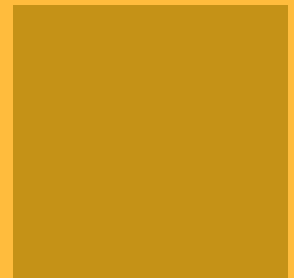
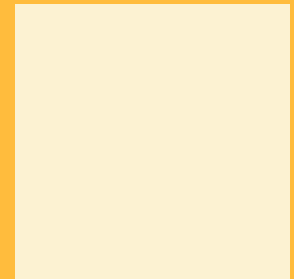


# WEST WALLSEND HIGH SCHOOL

## Annual School Report 2013



## School context

West Wallsend High School has an enrolment of 620 students. West Wallsend is a great school focusing on maximising learning opportunities and outcomes for all students. The school affords students many experiences and activities that enrich their education.

## Principal's message

*I feel very privileged to be the Principal at West Wallsend High School during 2013. It is an excellent school which is moving in a promising direction. West Wallsend High School is a wonderful community focussed school that serves a proud local area and has extremely strong links with the local community and our three partner schools.*

*Our school shares the core values recognised by the NSWDET and NSW Government as representing the aspirations and beliefs of the Australian community as a whole. These include: integrity, excellence, respect, responsibility, cooperation, participation, care, fairness and democracy.*

*West Wallsend has excellent, dedicated, caring teachers and friendly, helpful support staff. Strong working partnerships have been developed between the school staff, the parents and the wider community.*

*Our students are encouraged to strive to do their best. This is reflected in our school motto, "Always Striving". We also encourage the students to maximise their learning opportunities by providing opportunities for performing arts, sport and excursions as well as ensuring that sound developments are achieved in literacy and numeracy. We are committed to providing the students with academic and social skills required to be successful and happy when they leave school and to help them achieve their life goals.*

*I trust that the community is as proud of its school as I am and that it shares with me the pride that I take in reflecting upon the achievements of our staff, students and community in 2013.*

*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.*

*Ann Campbell, Principal*

## P & C message

*2013 was a most successful year for our P&C. Meetings were informative with discussions provided about school programs and initiatives.*

*During the past year, the P&C raised money to provide support for a number of faculties. We provided funds to the PD/H/PE Faculty to set up a gym and purchase equipment and also provided funds to the Music Faculty to purchase a new piano. We continued to select an art work for the Art Award which was donated to the school and awards for our annual presentation celebration and the sports award dinner. The P&C ran various fund raising activities during the year.*

*Also a band of enthusiastic members continue to run the successful uniform shop, which is having a wonderful impact on our school image. A new supplier was found during 2013 and we were able to supply new shirts in a more durable fabric. Shorts for boys and girls are now available at the school.*

*May I conclude by extending an invitation to each and every parent to come along and join the P&C. Membership is open to anyone interested.*

*Mrs Jenni Middlemas*

## Student representative's message

During 2013 the SRC was involved in a range of school activities. Regular meetings were held and these meetings were formalised during the year.

The school captains, vice captains and prefects were selected using a thorough process involving a leadership forum and interviews.

The student leaders are part of the SRC and were involved in running the Year 12 formal, The Anzac and Remembrance Day ceremonies, various assemblies, the West Wallsend High School Business Breakfast and the School Awards Night.

During the year the SRC purchased clocks for all classrooms and raised funds for a number of charities and collected food items for OZ Harvest.

Breanna Davies, Zackery Forrest

## 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

Enrolments increased in 2013, boosting overall numbers in the school. We continued to offer a broad curriculum catering for students from all ability groups to ensure that they are prepared for life beyond school.

Gender	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Male	311	317	325	314	321
Female	259	264	268	300	299

## Student attendance profile

Attendance was monitored rigorously during 2013, with students not maintaining acceptable attendance being referred to the Home School Liaison Officer. Attendance figures for 2013 were close to 2012 and showed significant improvement on previous years.

	Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
School	7	92.0	91.2	89.4	92.8	91.7
	8	89.4	88.3	87.4	89.3	89.4
	9	86.2	85.3	88.1	87.4	87.7
	10	86.8	84.1	83.8	87.8	83.4
	11	82.3	84.6	80.1	81.9	87.9
	12	84.5	86.4	83.8	87.0	86.8
	Total	87.0	86.5	85.5	88.0	87.9
	Region	7	91.5	91.7	91.2	91.7
8		88.9	89.6	88.8	89.0	89.4
9		87.8	87.6	87.5	87.5	87.8
10		87.6	87.2	85.7	85.9	85.8
11		88.2	87.5	85.5	85.6	85.9
12		88.4	88.7	87.4	88.3	88.3
Total		88.7	88.7	87.7	88.0	88.2
State DEC		7	92.3	92.6	92.5	92.4
	8	90.0	90.5	90.1	90.1	90.9
	9	88.8	89.1	88.8	88.7	89.4
	10	88.7	88.3	87.1	87.0	87.7
	11	89.4	89.1	87.6	87.6	88.3
	12	89.4	89.8	89.2	89.3	90.1
	Total	89.7	89.9	89.2	89.1	89.9

## Management of non-attendance

The English Head Teacher worked with a classroom teacher to continue to monitor attendance. They worked closely with the Home School Liaison Officer. Both full day absences and partials were monitored. A number of parent meetings were held to discuss attendance and

programs implemented to improve attendance. We were thrilled to maintain the improvements achieved in 2012.

It was planned in 2014 to implement roll call for all students in the assembly hall with rolls marked on iPads by all staff.

## Post-school destinations

A total of 58 students completed the Higher School Certificate in 2013. 20% of these students have commenced university studies in 2013, 20% have commenced TAFE studies, 44% of students are working in a range of employment areas and 3% of students at the time of the survey were considering their options and seeking employment or training.

## Year 12 students undertaking vocational or trade training

A large interest was shown by students at the school in vocational or trade training in 2013. A number of students gained apprenticeships during the year and consequently left school. 85% of students undertook a VET course at school or a course at TAFE. Results in VET subjects in the HSC were outstanding and work experience reports were favourable in all cases.

## Year 12 students attaining HSC or equivalent Vocational educational qualification

100% of students who completed Year 12 attained the HSC in 2013.

## Workforce information

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

## Workforce composition

Position	Number
Principal	1
Deputy Principal(s)	1
Assistant Principal(s)	0
Head Teachers	7
Classroom Teacher(s)	34
Teacher of Reading Recovery	0
Learning and Support Teacher(s)	2
Teacher Librarian	1
Teacher of ESL	0
School Counsellor	1
School Administrative & Support Staff	16
Total	63

The Australian Education Regulation, 2013 requires schools to report on Aboriginal composition of their workforce.

At West Wallsend High School we have two indigenous Head Teachers, one indigenous staff member and one indigenous school learning support officer.

### Teacher qualifications

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

Qualifications	% of staff
Degree or Diploma	100
Postgraduate	18
NSW Institute of Teachers Accreditation	12

### 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	30/11/2013
<b>Income</b>	\$
Balance brought forward	414329.78
Global funds	436738.32
Tied funds	445460.34
School & community sources	205655.57
Interest	14539.14
Trust receipts	47874.90
Canteen	207285.45
Total income	1771883.50
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	124485.85
Excursions	41078.33
Extracurricular dissections	93131.47
Library	8563.81
Training & development	2583.64
Tied funds	544396.68
Casual relief teachers	141678.08
Administration & office	106523.67
School-operated canteen	166050.99
Utilities	111,860.57
Maintenance	76,247.92
Trust accounts	45,060.57
Capital programs	0.00
Total expenditure	1461661.58
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>310221.92</b>

A large percentage of the balance that is carried forward consists of funds that are tied to particular programs. These funds cannot be spent in other areas of the school.

A full copy of the school's 2013 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School P&C. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

## School performance 2013

During 2013 achievements were made in the areas of literacy and numeracy, welfare, staff development, community and improvements in student learning outcomes.

### Academic achievements

#### NAPLAN

In the National Assessment Program, the results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10.

The achievement scale represents increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in these assessments.

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

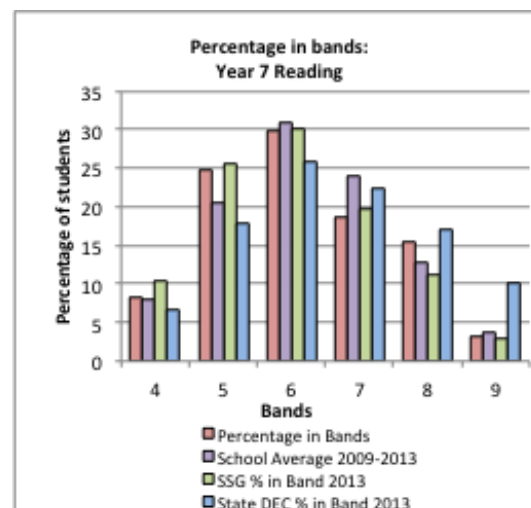
Year 9: from Band 5 (lowest) to Band 10 (highest for Year 9)

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* to access the school data.

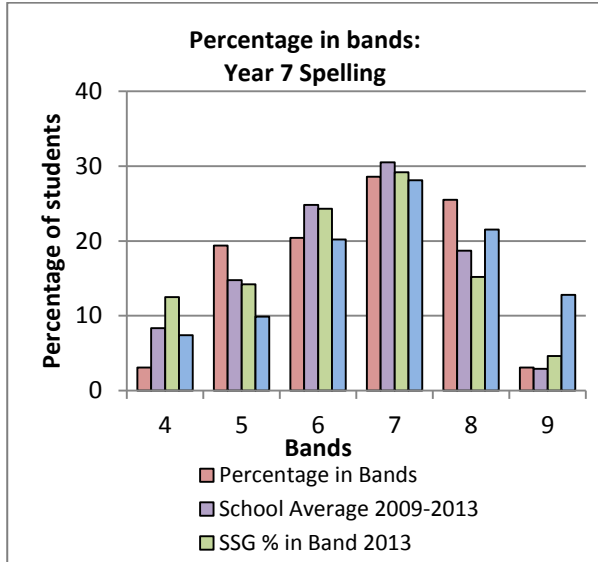
#### NAPLAN Year 7 - Literacy

##### Reading



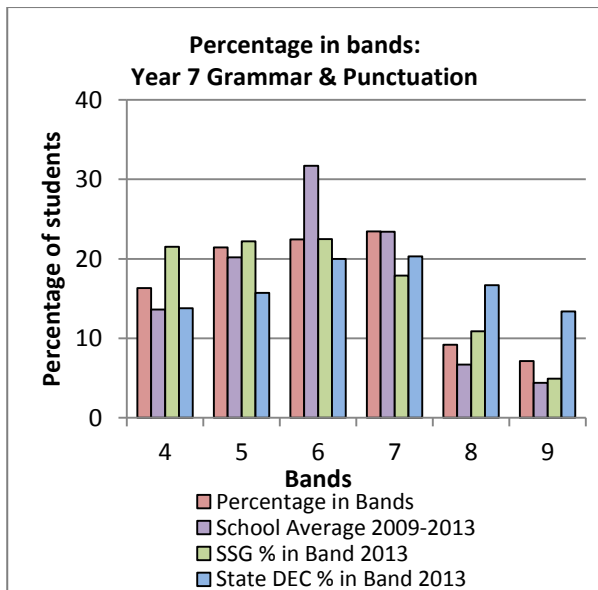
Reading results excellent with average score 511.1 (similar school groups was 505.7)

### Spelling



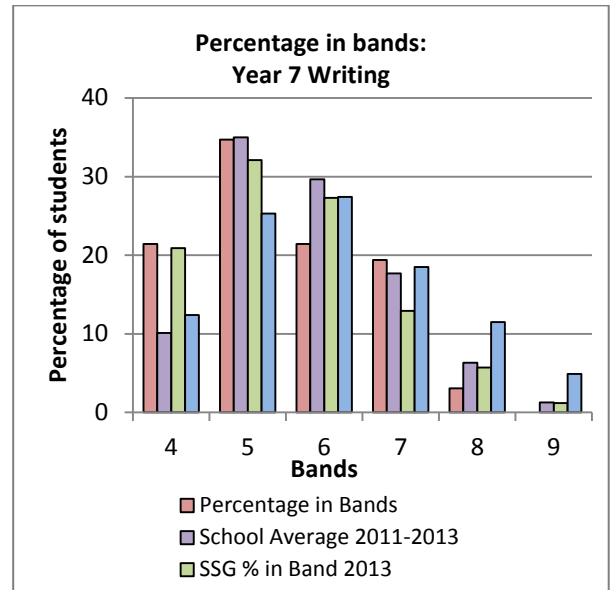
Spelling results outstanding with average score 539.1 (similar school group was 523.2). This score was a result of an intensive vocabulary and homework program in class.

### Grammar and Punctuation



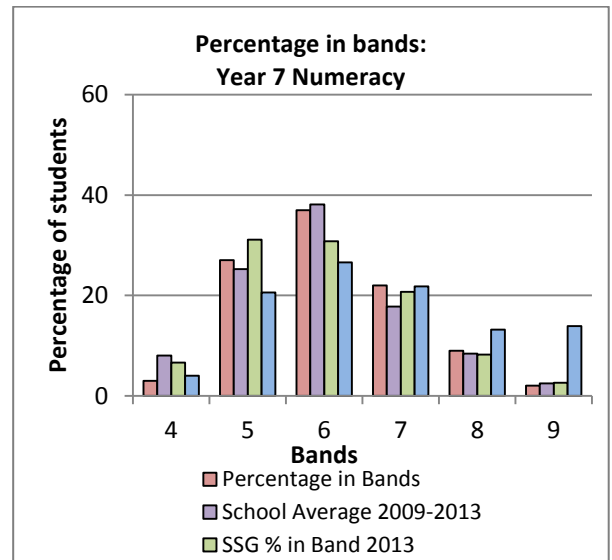
Creditable results with average score 505.2 (similar school groups 493.4).

### Writing



Improved writing results with average score 471.6 (similar school groups 468.8)

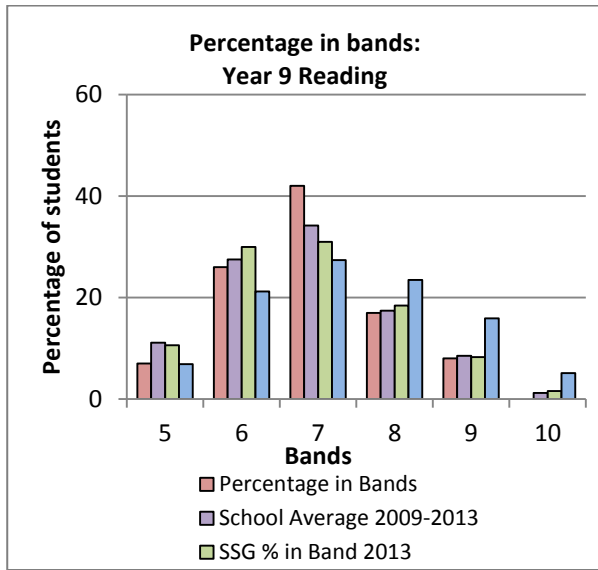
### NAPLAN Year 7 - Numeracy



Creditable school results with average school score 508.2 (similar school groups 503.7)

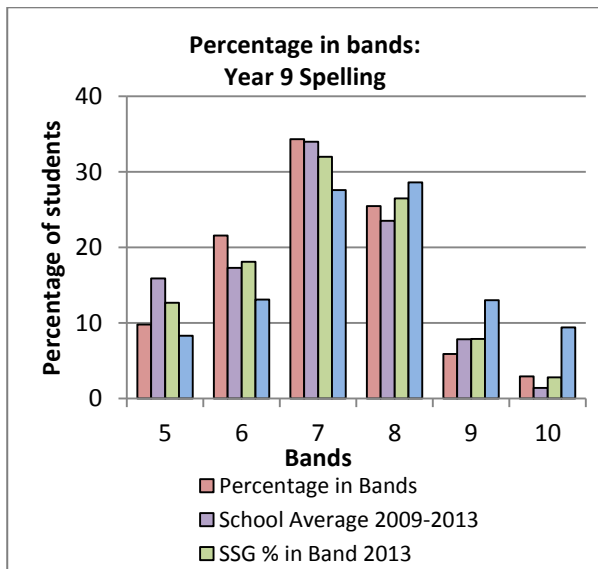
## NAPLAN Year 9 - Literacy

### Reading



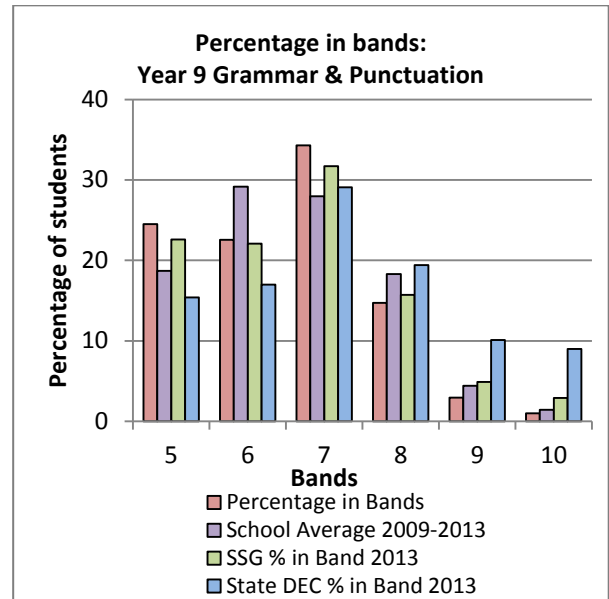
Pleasing movement of students into the higher bands. Results equated to similar school groups.

### Spelling



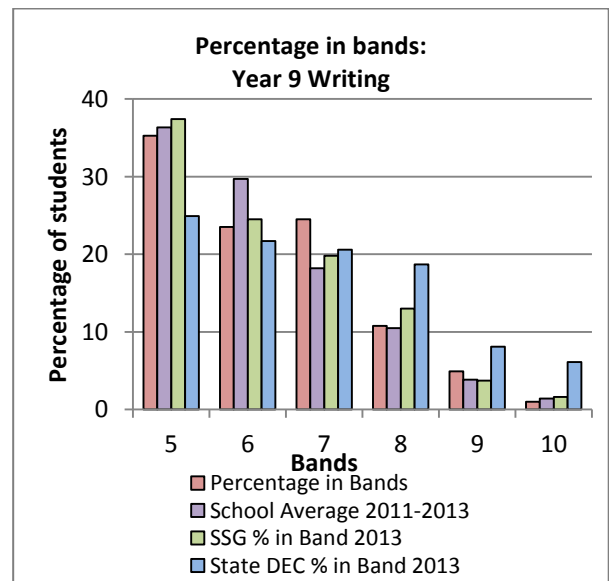
Pleasing movement of students into the higher bands. Results equated with similar school groups.

## Grammar and Punctuation



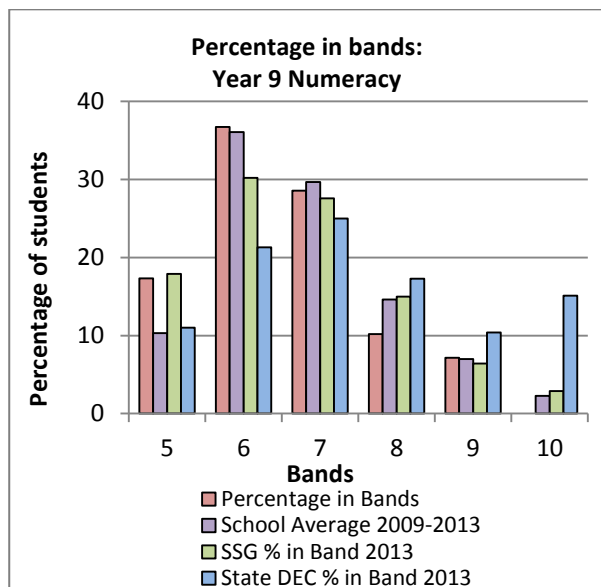
Work required in this area. Programs planned in 2014 to address this need.

### Writing



Significant improvement evident in writing. Average school score 509.8 (similar school groups 494.9). Improvement as a result of cross faculty writing program implemented in 2013.

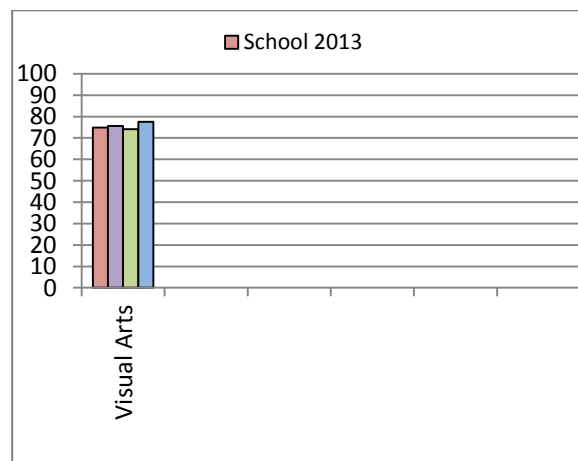
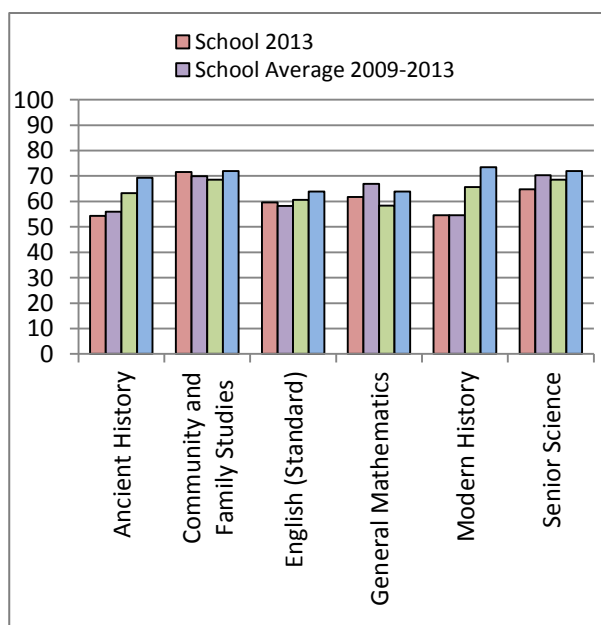
## NAPLAN Year 9 - Numeracy



Disappointing result. More work required in numeracy. Programs implemented in 2013 and 2014.

## Higher School Certificate (HSC)

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).



HSC results were fair overall. Pleasing results were gained in Music 1, Visual Arts and Biology. Also results in the vocational subjects were sound. Value added data in the high group for relative performance from Year 10 to HSC was outstanding. A senior study centre was established in Term 3, 2013 and will be utilised in 2014. This centre is staffed and will provide an area containing resources for students to attend during study lessons.

## Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

Students achieved highly in Year 10 in 2013. All students completed the requirements for Year 10 and their STRIVE 10 interviews. The majority of students in year 10 intend to continue into Year 11 in 2014.

## Other school based assessments

Year 8 and 9 students completed STRIVE 8 and 9 interviews. Students discussed their achievements during the year and presented work samples to a panel of staff members and other students.

## Other achievements

### Arts

#### Visual Arts

During the year Visual Art students had the opportunity to experience six art excursions;

- A visit to the N.S.W Art Gallery and Armory to see the travelling Art Express exhibition.
- A question and answer morning with world renowned photographer Bill Henson and an exhibition showcasing his contemporary approach to photography.

- The senior digital photography students took part in a film analysis at Glendale
- Year 10 photography had an excursion to the local cemetery.
- Finally an opportunity to experience one of the best outdoor sculptural exhibitions in the world: Sculpture By The Sea. This walk started at Bondi beach, and then around the headlands and beaches to end at Tamarama.

One of our H.S.C Visual Art students Ainslie Kinkade was selected for Art Express which exhibits the highest achieving art works across the state each year. This year we also achieved three band fives in Visual Art.

Miss Mansfield developed another wonderful mural working with year 9 students at the end of B Block. This mural brings a bright and cheerful aspect to B Block hallway which will be renewed throughout the years. She also worked with senior photography students to make a video presentation dedicated to our much loved and respected relieving deputy, Michael Cowling while he was ill.

We have continued to strive for changing exhibitions within the school to display the quality work produced by our Visual Arts students.

## Music

Throughout the year regular special assemblies and presentation ceremonies provided many students with the opportunity to showcase their talents.

At the beginning of term two Rylan Dailey, Hayden Nichols and Dylan Reichert performed a selection of their HSC repertoire at the annual "Bald and the Beautiful" cancer fundraiser held at West Leagues Club. This was a wonderful opportunity for these students to perform in front of a large audience.

Senior music students also attended an HSC Music Day at the Conservatorium of Music early in Term 2. The day provided students with

valuable information on all components of the HSC course. Performances by current HSC candidates were critiqued by senior markers providing all participants with an insight into the marking process as well as suggestions on how each performance could be improved upon.

Hayden Nichols, Rylan Dailey, Mitch Eichler, Dylan Reichert and Joshua Studley provided musical entertainment at our annual Business Breakfast and were encouraged by the positive feedback from guests.

In August, Madalene Britts, Abbey Dennis, Anderson McLaren, Joshua Studley, Dylan Reichert, Hayden Nichols and Rylan Dailey performed at the West Wallsend Senior Citizens monthly meeting. Their performances were extremely well received by community members and provided year 12 students with further performance experience.

In term three, students from years 7-12 performed in front of staff, students, family and friends at our annual music night. Students performed a variety of items both as soloists and members of ensembles. The evening provided year 12 students with another opportunity to perform pieces from their HSC repertoire in preparation for the HSC practical examination.

Later in term three, year 12 music students performed their HSC programme at an afternoon concert for staff, family and friends. This was a lovely opportunity for family and friends to hear the students' pieces as well as being a dress rehearsal for the upcoming practical examination.

During Term 4 Madalene Britts, Jaina Moore, Joshua Studley, Zackary Forrest, Patrick Faulkner, Logan Osland, Meagan Dodds, Alys Drury and Abbey Dennis performed at the Mercy Centre. This gave students an opportunity to perform in front of a live audience and their efforts were appreciated.

Later in the term Patrick Faulkner, Zackary Forrest and Joshua Studley performed at the Sports Award Dinner.



In December the School Band, Vocal Group and music students from years 7-11 performed for residents at the Hawkins Masonic Village. These students included Jackson Fisher, Madalene Britts, Chelsea Ayton, Ashley Cox, Patrick Faulkner, Zackary Forrest and Joshua Studley. Residents were very appreciative and commended students on their efforts.

## **Sport**

School sporting carnivals were once again held for swimming, cross country and athletics. At the School swimming carnival at East Maitland Pool in February, Sugarloaf proved to be champions in the pool and repeated this effort in both the Cross Country and Athletics carnivals later in Term 1. Sugarloaf were duly crowned House Champions for 2013.

One hundred and forty five students represented West Wallsend High at Westlakes Zone Carnivals conducted throughout the year. We had seven students named as Zone Champions and thirteen students represent the Region in CHS competitions in six different sports. This is a significant increase from recent years. Following on from success in the CHS carnival, Matthew Hudson was selected in an Australian merit Baseball team.

The sporting experience for the students of our school is nurtured and supported by many dedicated and committed teachers. Much of this occurs as a result of the effort and encouragement of our school's PE staff. Thank you to Mr Graham, Miss McCaffrey, Mr Mason, Mr Munro and Mr Watts for their coaching and managerial skills.

The entire staff of West Wallsend High School contributes in one way or another to the success of our students in the sporting arena. This includes coaches of knock-out teams, Gala day coaches (staff and Year 10 students), Gala Day referees and umpires (Year 9 and 10 students) and all members of staff who make themselves available to officiate and support students so that

they can compete in school and zone carnivals. A big thank you to everyone involved.

Our students in Years 7 and 8 participated in the fourth annual Westlakes' Zone Junior Gala day. It was a day enjoyed by all involved and our school looks forward to this continuing in the future.

West Wallsend High competed in twelve State K.O. competitions with mixed success. Our Under 15's Girls Soccer team was the best performed of these teams. They made the Regional semi-finals of the Bill Turner Cup knockout competition and were duly announced as the team of the year at the Sports Awards Presentation.

The Sports Awards presentation took place in November at the West Wallsend Workers Club and recognised the sporting prowess of many of our students. Our main guest presenter on the evening was Nathan Outridge who won sailing Gold at the London Olympic Games. A new award was introduced this year which is called the Craig Jeffries Memorial Award. This award is to recognise Sporting excellence and is named in memory of a former student of West Wallsend High School who was tragically accidentally killed soon after leaving school in the early 90s. The list of major award winners and sponsors accompanies this report.

A highlight of the sport at West Wallsend High School in 2013 was again the Sugarloaf Cup. This year both Year 5 and 6 students from our partner schools competed against each other in a variety of games and physical activities. Barnsley Primary School won narrowly on the day and was represented at our Sports Awards night by two Year 6 students who received the Sugarloaf Cup on behalf of their school. Well done to the staff and students from Barnsley Primary.

## **Significant programs and initiatives**

During 2013 we have implemented or initiated:

- Various programs to improve literacy and numeracy across the school, including the formation of teacher cross faculty professional

learning teams and completion of homework booklets in Year 7 and 9.

- Establishment of Positive Behaviour for Learning Team to implement PBL across the school.
- GATS special interest program involved 25 junior students. A Discovery Group of talented students was formed who participated in a number of interesting and challenging activities. A Challenge Day was held for students in Year 5 with a Science/Mathematics theme and a challenge day for AAA class
- Continuation of the ME Project, selection of 25 school based trainees in Year 9 and 10. Site visits and work experience at Ampcontrol in Metals and Engineering and Information Technology. Participation in the F1 car program and the electric bike programs as part of ME Project. A 3D Printer was provided to the school as part of the program.
- Continuation of University Links with 25 teachers attending the University Open Day.
- Continuation of the Sugarloaf Cup for all Year 6 and 5 students across partner schools.
- Job Coach employed at the school. Students participated in Castle Programs, Employment Passport Program and volunteering programs.
- A gymnasium was established in the assembly hall with equipment provided by the P&C
- Profile of SRC was raised. Students organized an LMG leadership day and a group of Year 9 students ran leadership workshops in all partner schools with Year 5
- TAFE Landscaping course taught at school with 80% of students gaining employment in landscaping industry. Various projects completed including an Aboriginal smoking circle.
- Employment of additional support teacher to identify problems in literacy, help staff with adjustments for students with disabilities
- IPADs introduced in all faculties, interactive projectors installed in some rooms and projector system installed in assembly hall
- Cyber Smart – Anti-bullying and Say No to Bullying program implemented for Years 7, 8, and 9

- Transition and Educational Support Team continued to formalise the learning support team model across the school
- Drumbeat, Rage, Scream, Girls with a Purpose and Seasons for Growth implemented for various groups of students at risk
- Appointment of Student Welfare worker who organised a range of programs across the school
- Work experience programs for a number of students at Newcastle University in Biology and Chemistry faculties
- Tutoring funded by the school for several senior students. Results for these students significantly improved throughout the year, leading to pleasing HSC results.
- Creative writing group continued
- Cancer Sux walkathon involved entire school and donated funds to support research into cancer.

West Wallsend LMG consists of West Wallsend High School and its partner primary schools: West Wallsend Public, Edgeworth Heights Public and Barnsley Public. Together we have worked to implement consistent approaches and a seamless movement from primary to secondary settings and are continuing to investigate ways to work with one another.

### **Aboriginal education**

Overall, Aboriginal students performed at a sound level in NAPLAN. We are pleased to report that Year 7 boys' growth was above state average in writing and spelling.

The following activities were organised for Aboriginal students during 2013:

- Bro Speak Sista Speak training
- Development training
- Knights supporters day
- Sorry Day acknowledgements
- NAIDOC Day activities
- NAIDOC DAY with partner schools
- Community ART
- Community cooking
- Flagpole being constructed
- Mural created

- Butterfly Caves excursion
- Norta Norta tutoring
- Resumes developed
- Learning Circle completed
- Maitland Gaol excursion
- Sporting Awards Dinner

### **Multicultural education**

West Wallsend High School's student enrolment is basically of Caucasian descent, including 65 Aboriginal students. Students and staff embrace cultural differences, treating all students as individuals. The values and attitudes developed by the school reflect respect for individuals and tolerance of other cultures.

### **Technology**

The Computing Studies Faculty at West Wallsend High School prepares students for their future technological needs. Whether this is within the Information Technology industry or simply the use of technology in other industries, the aim is to give students who choose Computing Studies subjects a broad understanding of past, current and emerging technology.

All Computing Studies programs are based on the Board of Studies syllabi and aim to enable students to acquire skills in using computers, to investigate computer based systems, learn about processes of information flow, solve simple and complex problems and use appropriate terminology. The three teaching staff in the Computing faculty are experienced educators with a broad background of computer usage and industry knowledge.

Students in Years 8 to 10 can choose to study Information Software and Technology, with six units of topic areas ranging from 'Artificial Intelligence' and 'Digital Media' to 'Lego Mindstorm Robotics'.

Senior students in Years 11 and 12 can select from a range of HSC courses in Information Technology. All courses involve extensive practical assignment and project work.

In 2013 a group of senior students designed a web page for the West Wallsend Chamber of

Commerce and this was really appreciated by the group.

Students also are able to use their own laptops where appropriate. An extensive range of state-of-the-art professional software applications is available to all students, ranging from multimedia creation tools to programming language compilers.

### **National partnerships and significant Commonwealth initiatives**

During the year the school received funding for the Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnerships project.

We established a team to manage the project. Mrs Catherine Grace took on the role of Head Teacher managing this team. Data was analysed and consequently the program focussed on reading and comprehension in Year 8. The school undertook the Focus on Reading program. Professional development for staff was implemented through cross faculty professional learning teams. These teams have all been trained in the Super Six Reading Strategies.

Data collected for students in Year 8 during the year and at the end of the year indicated a significant improvement for students reading and comprehension.

## **School planning and evaluation 2012—2014**

### **School evaluation processes**

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

- A School Climate Survey completed by staff and students
- Data was gathered by Newcastle University from survey information of students for the Aspirations Study
- Pre-tests and post-tests were implemented for Year 8 students to check on improvements in reading and comprehension as a result of changes in teaching as part of the National Partnerships Program

## School planning 2012—2014: progress in 2013

### School priority 1

Teaching Practice – catering for individual differences and engagement in learning

#### Outcomes from 2012–2014

Increased time in quality learning for students

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

- Teacher Assessment Program indicated that many teaching programs/lessons reflect the use of the Quality Teaching Program
- Learning and Assistance teacher has worked with staff to include differentiation and personalised learning in Years 7 and 8
- Individual Learning Plans have been prepared for students at risk and have been placed on SENTRAL system so that they can be accessed by all staff

#### Strategies to achieve these outcomes in 2014

- LMG has commenced work with John Fleming, a consultant who will work with all staff on explicit teaching
- Funds have been committed to engage a staff member to investigate explicit teaching and to coach staff in the implementation of warm ups
- Staff have been placed in cross faculty professional learning teams to discuss strategies used in the classroom to enhance literacy and in the use of Fleming techniques
- Staff trialling warm ups and “I do, we do, you do” approach in lessons. John Fleming will model approach in classrooms during the year
- Lesson time changed to 60 minute lessons to ensure that all lesson time is used effectively

### School priority 2

Reading and Numeracy growth and remediation

#### Outcomes from 2012–2014

Increased levels of literacy/numeracy achievement in every student

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

- Increase in numbers of students in Band 7 and 8 in Year 9 Reading
- Increase in the numbers of students in Bands 7,8 and 9 for Year 9 Numeracy
- All Year 7 results in NAPLAN were above those gained for similar school groups

#### Strategies to achieve these outcomes in 2014:

- Cross faculty professional development teams trialling the super six strategies in the classroom and sharing classroom successes
- Homework books based on literacy skills completed by all Year 7, 8 and 9 students and checked in class in team teaching lesson
- Senior study established for Year 11 and 12 students with teacher to support students in the completion of assessment tasks and homework
- Teachers to use specific scaffolds and explicit approach to support student learning to complete extended responses

### School priority 3

Engagement of all students in learning

#### Outcomes from 2012–2014

Improved student engagement in learning for all students

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

- Increased retention of students to Year 12 from 37% to 47.4%
- Improved value added data for HSC students in the high band from -13.7 to 1.6

#### Strategies to achieve these outcomes in 2014:

- Explicit instruction in all lessons following the John Fleming approach

- Lessons reduced to 60 minutes to ensure all lesson time used for learning
- Positive Behaviour for Learning introduced to establish framework for behaviour in and out of the classroom

## Professional learning

The school held five school development days in 2013. The focus areas were:

- Term 1 – Mandatory issues including child protection and duty of care, Work Health and Safety update and Anaphylaxis Training; Independent Learning Plans including classroom adjustments.
- Term 2 – The implementation of the National Curriculum. Professor Jim Albright and Lisa Knezevic from Newcastle University spoke on The National Curriculum from a research perspective; differentiating assessment tasks and 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning strategies.
- Term 3 – Literacy Continuum; PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) implementation in 2014
- Term 4 – John Fleming strategies and Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership (ILNNP) implementation; Emergency Care and CPR Training;

Staff participated in a range of professional learning workshops with a focus on programs to assist staff in the implementation of the National Curriculum in the core areas of learning and implementation of the “Super Six Literacy Strategies” as part of the ILNNP program. Staff attended workshops in several Key Learning Areas, GATS, mental health and wellbeing conferences and leadership conferences and workshops.

Twenty five staff attended the University Teachers’ Open day in June. Fifty teachers attended professional development courses and the average expenditure per teacher on professional development was \$500.

## Parent/caregiver, student, and teacher satisfaction

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

Their responses are presented below.

- Parents were in favour of school uniform compliance and were extremely happy to purchase new uniforms which were of improved quality. Generally parents were happy with the directions of the school and communication.
- Students enjoy the range of programs operating in the school and the breadth of subjects available. They are particularly interested in the subjects involving technology and problem solving. They were particularly impressed with the TAFE courses available at the school and the ME Program opportunities.
- Staff members were happy to trial the new timetable structure and electronic roll marking

## Program evaluations

### 1. Aspirations Longitudinal Study

#### Background

The school nominated to take part in The University of Newcastle Aspirations Longitudinal Study. Data was collected through Year 9 and 7 student surveys, staff surveys and parent and carer surveys. Data was analysed by University staff and reports presented to schools.

#### Findings and conclusions

- 73% of students and parents had aspirations for their child to attend university
- 30.9% of students responded that they were unsure of their parents’ expectations for them and 52.2% did not know what their teachers expectations were
- Most popular occupation for females was working with animals and males was a sports related career

- There are stark differences between post school educational and career aspirations of students from differing socioeconomic backgrounds

### **Future directions**

Students, staff and parents/carers will continue to be surveyed during 2014. There will also be some face to face interviews. We will use the data collected to impact on our careers programs.

## **2. Positive Behaviour for Learning Survey**

### **Background**

During 2013 it was decided by the school executive that we would attend some training related to Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) and determine whether it could be a program which matched our needs. Staff and students were surveyed as to the current situation

### **Findings and conclusions**

- There is a need for explicit teaching of expected behaviours
- There is a need for a PBL team to be formed
- There is a need for regular analysis of data to inform practice
- A budget is required for PBL implementation

### **Future directions**

A PBL team has been formed and processes reviewed. Team will work with students to refine commendation system. Assembly will be run each morning with a PBL focus. Excellence, Respect and Responsibility are the key values for PBL and are integral to everything we do at the school.

## **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.

Ann Campbell – Principal

Allan Burns – Deputy Principal

Jenni Middlemas – P&C President

Barbara Kelly – Learning and Assistance Teacher

### **School contact information**

West Wallsend High School

2 Appletree Road

West Wallsend, 2286

Ph: 0249532111

Fax: 0249538116

Email: [Westwalls-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Westwalls-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Web:

School Code: 8411

Parents can find more information about Annual School Reports, how to interpret information in the report and have the opportunity to provide feedback about the report at:

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/high-performance/annual-school-reports>