Our school at a glance

Students

Our enrolment in Term 4, 2008 was 18, including 9 boys and 9 girls.
There was a K/1/2 class of 6 students and a 3/4/5/6 class of 12 students.

Staff

In 2008 our staff included a teaching principal and four part time teachers for the infant's class and library and RFF.
All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

Messages

Principal's message

Mallawa Public School is a small rural school located 60 kilometres west of Moree. Students are drawn from the surrounding farms and properties.

The school provides a supportive and caring environment and encourages and challenges students to achieve their best in all areas of school. Our school is committed to improving the literacy and numeracy skills of all students as well as covering all key learning areas.

Mallawa Public School enjoys the support of parents and the wider community. The School Council and School Association are extremely active in their fundraising endeavours, providing funds for extra curricula activities for students.

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.

Nicole Humphreys

P&C and School Council message

This year has seen lots of changes and challenges at Mallawa School. Shelli Morse did an amazing job running the school in Term 1 as relieving Principal, a large job she did with exceptional professionalism and dedication and all the students thrived. We were lucky to have Mel Kirkby and Megan Marshall, two wonderful and dedicated teachers in the Infants Classroom – the school ran extremely well.

Term 2 saw the arrival of a new Principal, Toni Pullen. The term saw rather a lot of turbulence, unrest and many challenges in more ways than one, not only for the students, but the parents and staff. Toni left after eight weeks.

Term 3 Mallawa school was looking a lot brighter with Shelli Morse taking over as relieving Principal for the first two weeks and then we welcomed Nicole Humphreys as relieving Principal for the remainder of Term 3 and Term 4. We are all absolutely thrilled that Nicole accepted the Principal's position in week 8 of this term. We are extremely lucky as a small school, to have such a high calibre teacher who is very dedicated, professional and enthusiastic and will bring so much to Mallawa School – we look forward to having Nicole for many years.

Our regular casual teachers Mrs Megan Marshall, Mrs Kate Mulligan and Mrs Stephanie Peters have given valuable support to our school.

Our School Association has had a most successful and profitable year. I took on the role as President with Kate Mulligan as Treasurer and Kate Robinson as secretary. We ran the Association differently this year having several sub-committees to run the different school events and this has worked very well.

Our major fundraiser was our bi-annual Mystery Auction. We exceeded all expectations and raised in excess of $37000 which amazed us all – particularly in these tough economic times.

Funds raised by the association have enabled us to employ Marty Roberts to teach music once a fortnight. We have also employed Jason Webb to teach sport once a week. The funds also paid for a teacher in the infant’s classroom for 4 mornings a week. The association also subsidised the Primary excursion to Canberra.

Nicola Dillon, School Council President

Student representative's message

I have been at Mallawa for 7 years. I have really enjoyed my last year at Mallawa as I became School Captain.

Over the years Mallawa has been on a lot of excursions, some of these include: Jindabyne,
Bathurst and Canberra. I had a lot of fun going to see these places. I have also been to Moree, Tamworth and Sydney for athletics and I have been to Moree, Armidale and Sydney for swimming. These were great experiences.

I have had many different friends since Kindergarten.

Some of the teachers I have had these past years are Mrs Morse, Mrs Norris, Mrs Marshall and, of course, Miss Humphreys. I have learned a lot from all my teachers.

I am looking forward to going to high school next year and I hope all of Year 6 has a great time.

I’m really going to miss my friends and I hope everyone has a good year next year.

Sarah Hunt, School Captain

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

Student numbers decreased this year. The drought and families leaving the district has continued to have an impact on our enrolment numbers. We lost our second teacher entitlement and the second classroom was removed during Term 2.

Student attendance profile

Student attendance rate is slightly below the region and state average for 2008.

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>INFANTS</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFANTS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFANTS</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIMARY</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIMARY</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIMARY</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIMARY</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>Teaching Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Teachers</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staff retention
At the end of 2007 our previous Principal transferred to another position and the position was filled for the commencement of Term 2. However, the new principal took leave and a relieving principal filled the position from Term 3 until the end of the year.

One of our part time teachers left to have a baby in Term 3.

Staff attendance
One member of staff remains on part time maternity leave at the end of 2008.

In 2008, the average daily staff attendance rate was: 97.2%.

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>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>52 395.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>67 100.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>25 306.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>31 168.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>5 454.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>-512.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>180 912.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Expenditure</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; learning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key learning areas</td>
<td>32 543.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excursions</td>
<td>6 498.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extracurricular dissections</td>
<td>1 689.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>6 080.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training &amp; development</td>
<td>7 605.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>20 275.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual relief teachers</td>
<td>4 213.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; office</td>
<td>20 513.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-operated canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>5 492.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>3 975.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust accounts</td>
<td>745.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital programs</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td>109 634.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance carried forward</strong></td>
<td>71 278.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A full copy of the school's 2008 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meeting of the School Council. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

School performance 2008

Achievements

Arts
Students of Mallawa Public School once again participated in the Narrabri Eisteddfod in Choir, Recorder and Poetry.

The Choir came second in their section and the Recorder Group first in their section.

Sport
Mallawa Public School students achieved great results in a variety of sports during 2008.

Following is a summary of achievements:

All students participated in the following carnivals: Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics and Quad Schools.
Students attended district, regional and state carnivals in Swimming. Students attended district and regional Cross Country carnivals and district Athletics Carnivals.

Individual students also attended district and regional trials for netball and rugby union.

All students participated in the Intensive Swimming Program held in Term 4.

**Other**

Students in Years 3 – 6 again participated in the ICAS competitions in the following subjects: Computer Skills, English, Writing, Spelling, Science and Mathematics. All students achieved pleasing results.

**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 the assessments.

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

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

**Literacy – NAPLAN Year 5**

As only one student sat this test it is inappropriate to comment on results.

**Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 5**

As only one student sat this test it is inappropriate to comment on results.

**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. The percentages of our students achieving at or above these standards are reported below.

**Percentage of Year 3 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2008**

As there was only one student in Year 3 at the time of NAPLAN testing it is inappropriate to comment on results.

**Percentage of Year 5 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2008**

As there was only a small student cohort in Year 5 at the time of NAPLAN testing it is inappropriate to comment on results.

**Significant programs and initiatives**

**Aboriginal education**

Although Mallawa Public School does not have any Aboriginal students, it provides programs, mainly in Human Society and its Environment (HSIE), designed to educate all students about Aboriginal history, culture and contemporary Aboriginal Australia.
Multicultural education

The school has maintained a focus on multicultural education in the curriculum, particularly in Human Society and its Environment (HSIE) by providing learning programs which develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes required for a culturally diverse society.

Respect and responsibility

Students are taught respect and responsibility through specific programs such as: personal development and health units of work, National Young Leaders Day for senior students, our student welfare and discipline policy, and through the care, respect, dedication and behaviour of staff and parents.

Respect among students, staff, parents and community members is mutual, with all working together to ensure a quality learning environment for the students of Mallawa Public School.

Country Areas Program (CAP)

Mallawa Public School is supported by a significant allocation of funds from CAP. The objective of CAP is to help school communities improve the educational outcomes and opportunities of students who are geographically isolated.

Initiatives during 2008 included:

- Professional learning for staff on teaching strategies for the classroom, visual literacy and mathematics.
- Writing workshop for primary students which lead to the writing and sharing of published narratives.
- Music with Marty which led to increased knowledge and understanding of music
- School swimming scheme ensuring that all students had access to specialist teachers to improve their knowledge of water safety and swimming.
- Students were subsidised for excursion travel.

Progress on 2008 targets

Our School Plan allows us to plan how best to cater for our students. Every year we agree on some improvement targets for the plan which we work together to achieve.

Target 1

90% of students will achieve stage outcomes in mathematics.

Our achievements include:

- Teachers observed increased student knowledge in mathematics, using a variety of teaching strategies.
- 86% of students achieved stage outcomes in mathematics.

Target 2

90% of students will achieve stage outcomes in reading.

Our achievements include:

- Improved student engagement in reading
- All students participated in reading activities with enthusiasm
- 85% of students achieved stage outcomes in reading

Target 3

90% of students will achieve stage outcomes in writing.

Our achievements include:

- Critical Literacy
- Open Ended Enquiry in Maths
- School Swimming Scheme
- Sport with Jason Webb
• Primary students attended a CAP writer’s festival and used the knowledge from this
  to write and publish their written work.
• 84% of students achieved stage outcomes in writing.

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.

Educational and management practice

Background
Each year the school completes an evaluation of educational practice in one of the following:
learning, teaching, planning, management, leadership and culture.
In 2008 we evaluated Culture.
All parents, students and staff were asked to respond to modified School/Map surveys and
invited to participate in various discussion groups.

Findings and conclusions
2008 was a difficult year without consistent leadership due to the short tenure of the new
Principal. As a result, the school did not operate as smoothly as it could have.
For a time, parents were dissatisfied with the direction of the school and this caused some
friction.
New staff were unsure of how the school operated and time was often wasted while procedures and
policies were searched for. This had some impact on the running of the school.

Future directions
To improve the culture of the school we will be participating in the Quality Improvement initiative
from our CAP network in 2009 to improve the way staff, students and parents view the school.
This process will involve staff and students deciding together what is that is important about
school learning and designing processes and procedures that make it easy for everyone to
know what is expected of them.

Curriculum

Background
In 2008 we evaluated Reading.
Staff and students were surveyed to find out what they liked and didn’t like about reading.

Findings and conclusions
All staff and students believed that reading was very important at school and that everyone must
be able to read.
All staff were happy with the resources available at the school to provide a valuable teaching
program for their students. Staff were committed to providing high quality programs to ensure
students would succeed.
Students wanted more exciting texts that catered for their specific interests.

Future directions
We will continue to implement reading in the current format. Staff will investigate the purchase
of reading materials that cater for student interests.

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.
Parents, at the end of the year, are more satisfied with the school and staff. They believe that the
staff are professional and dedicated and that the school is providing a supportive learning
environment for their children.
Parents would like to see the installation of the Connected Classroom to ensure that their children
are not disadvantaged by their geographic isolation.
All students at Mallawa Public School are happy and like coming to school. They enjoy learning
and the many varied learning experiences that are provided at school.
All students enjoy the use of technology in the classroom and feel that they are competent in its
use.
All teaching and support staff indicated that they enjoy working at Mallawa Public School, are
professionally supported and satisfied that the school is meeting the needs of the students. They
would like to see the installation of the Connected Classroom and interactive whiteboard to enhance
student learning.

Professional learning
All staff were involved in professional learning in 2008. Courses attended included Gifted and
Talented Education, Visual Literacy, Classroom Strategies, Principal Meetings and School
Development Days.
CAP also provided professional learning for teachers and these have been listed above.
Average expenditure per teacher from our professional learning fund was $300.

School development 2009 – 2011

Targets for 2009

Target 1

Improve student’s knowledge and understanding of the structure of text types in writing

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Staff participation in CAP initiatives such as Critical Literacy
- Student Participation in Writer’s Festival
- Development of differentiated programs in writing
- Analysis of individual student needs and provision of appropriate support
- Development of a strategic and systematic K – 6 assessment program
- Provision of information via newsletters and parent information sessions
- Literacy workshops for parents

Our success will be measured by:

- Staff use critical literacy strategies to aid their teaching and improve student learning
- Students are provided with learning programs that meet their individual needs
- 85% of students are achieving stage outcomes in the Working Mathematically strand of the Mathematics syllabus
- Parents are more informed and better able to help their children at home

Target 2

Improve student understanding of the Working Mathematically strand and problem solving

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Staff participation in CAP initiatives such as Technology in Maths and Open Ended Enquiry in Maths
- Use of Count Me in Too and Counting On strategies to improve student learning
- Analysis of individual student needs and provision of appropriate support
- Implementation of Newman’s Error Analysis in the classroom to determine student strengths and weaknesses
- Provision of information via newsletters and parent information sessions
- Numeracy workshops for parents

Our success will be measured by:

- Staff use new strategies to aid their teaching and improve student learning
- Students are provided with learning programs that meet their individual needs
- 85% of students are achieving stage outcomes in the Working Mathematically strand of the Mathematics syllabus
- Parents are more informed and better able to help their children at home

Target 3

Implementation of Quality Improvement Practices in the school

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Staff training in Quality Learning Course
- Participation in the CAP Quality Improvement initiative
- Encouraging students to become more responsible for their learning and school
- Implementing quality learning practices within the school

Our success will be measured by:

- Students are empowered and have taken responsibility for their own learning
- Staff and students are able to implement effective change in the classroom
- Processes and practices are clearly displayed after joint decision making about these by students and staff

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.
Miss Nicole Humphreys, Relieving Principal
Mrs Shelli Morse, Teacher
Mrs Nicola Dillon, President School Council

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School Code: 4262

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: