Bexhill Public School
Annual School Report 2013
School context

Principal’s message
The 2013 annual report provides an overview of our school year; our programs and achievements. Evaluation of our goals for 2013 and identification of major target areas for 2014 are also included.

As a learning community we aim to achieve excellence by supporting and challenging all students within a co-operative, creative and caring environment. Our values are based on excellence and equity and emphasise responsibility, respect, pride and positive relationships.

Our school programs encourage students to develop as active, effective learners and contributing members of society and guide students in taking responsibility for their learning, behaviour and social interaction with each other.

The core values of Bexhill Public School are underpinned by a learning platform which affirms all students can learn.

Bexhill PS has a proud academic, sporting and cultural history including a strong focus on developing students’ social and emotional skills. I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the teaching and support staff for their commitment to the students of Bexhill Public School. Their energy, commitment and enthusiasm ensured a most successful 2013.

Thank you also to our P&C committee, parents and wider community for their wonderful support and assistance throughout 2013. Their hard work, interest and support are acknowledged and much appreciated.

I certify that the information in this report is the result of a rigorous school self-evaluation process and is a balanced and genuine account of the school’s achievements and areas for development.

Mrs Helen Craigie, Principal

P & C Message
The P & C Committee at Bexhill Public has once again had a very busy and productive year together with the families of the school and with fund raising efforts. A major aim of the P & C was to assist in the technological advancement of the school by purchasing ten iPads for the use of the students.

Throughout the year we held a Lamington Drive, Pie Drive, two Bunning’s BBQ’s and another very successful and entertaining Trivia Night along with our Mother’s and Father’s day stalls.

We have great pleasure in being able to say that, through all these efforts, we were able to purchase the iPads for the school.

Another major project which parents and friends of the school committed to was the upgrade and beautification of the school frontage.

I would like to acknowledge the many families who contributed their time, resources and expertise to making this a reality; a warm and welcoming entrance to our school.

As a Junior Landcare school we were also assisted with a grant of $500 for the purchase of plants, which was much appreciated.

A once weekly canteen was also co-ordinated and manned by a small number of parents, which also contributed to our fundraising efforts.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the P & C Committee for their continued commitment to the school and its students and I look forward to another successful year in 2014.

Eloise James, P&C President
Student representative’s message

Even though Bexhill is a small school it is an inclusive and friendly school which has much to offer; great teachers, great students, great learning, sporting, environmental, arts and cultural opportunities, and great fun. Being a school leader is a great privilege and responsibility, but with responsibility comes the chance to learn and practise our leadership skills. Thank you to all the SRC members for their hard work.

SRC members for 2013 were:
Year 3 – Poppy and Jayden Mc
Year 4 – Ziggy and James A
Year 5 – Jade, Lochie, Byron and Denni Lee
Year 6 – Cody and Cooper

The SRC has had a busy and successful year of fundraising, organising events and running school assemblies, speeches, newsletter items and special activity days, including representing our school at ANZAC Day.

We, the four captains, attended the GRIP Student Leadership forum in Brisbane in Term 1 which was inspirational and gave us a number of ideas to try out.

Our first main task at school was to review the school’s Wellbeing and Discipline Policy from a student perspective.

At our regular meetings we also discussed ideas and plans which we took to the parents and teachers for consideration.

Fundraising activities included:
Biggest Morning Tea, Girls’ Night In for cancer research, Flood Relief casual day, Crazy Hair Day for Leukaemia, sausage sizzle for the Lismore Soup Kitchen, the Bexhill Cup and fundraising activities to assist with resources for our school. We also organised games and assisted with activities during the year as part of our responsibilities.

It has been a truly great experience being a school leader at Bexhill PS. Being in Year 6 you realise just how lucky we are to have such a friendly school and staff and great parents who support us.

Samantha and Jack, Hannah and Harrison (School Captains) 2013

Student information

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

Student enrolment profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student attendance profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>96.1</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>88.3</td>
<td>95.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>95.1</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td>93.9</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td>95.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>96.0</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td>95.5</td>
<td>95.9</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>91.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>95.4</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>96.0</td>
<td>97.1</td>
<td>96.4</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>96.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>93.5</td>
<td>95.1</td>
<td>96.1</td>
<td>94.9</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>94.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>92.5</td>
<td>93.4</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>93.4</td>
<td>93.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>92.3</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td>92.6</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>93.0</td>
<td>93.0</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>92.6</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td>93.1</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>92.6</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>93.0</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td>93.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td>92.7</td>
<td>92.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>92.2</td>
<td>92.9</td>
<td>92.6</td>
<td>92.7</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>92.8</td>
<td>90.1</td>
<td>93.2</td>
<td>93.0</td>
<td>93.0</td>
<td>93.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>93.7</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>93.9</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>93.6</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>94.1</td>
<td>92.1</td>
<td>94.4</td>
<td>94.3</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>94.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Management of non-attendance

When students are absent without explanation a reminder proforma note is sent to the parents to complete and return to school. This promotes the
importance which Bexhill places on regular attendance and its positive impact on our students’ education.

Non-attendance is closely monitored and followed up when left unexplained.

If attendance does not improve NSW Department of Education guidelines are followed.

ANZAC Day March

**Workforce information**

It is a requirement that the reporting of information for all staff must be consistent with privacy and personal information policies. All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

**Workforce composition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Principal(s)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teacher(s)</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher of Reading Recovery</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning and Support Teacher(s)</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

During 2013 there were no indigenous staff at Bexhill Public School.

**Teacher qualifications**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>% of staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree or Diploma</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW Institute of Teachers Accreditation</td>
<td>16%</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>30/11/2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>54599.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>91075.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>65176.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>38295.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>2029.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>3285.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>199862.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Balance carried forward**

92066.00

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

Arts

All students are encouraged to experience and participate in a variety of creative and performing arts which enhance their skills, talents and social development. Programs and opportunities included:

• Four students participating in the intensive 3 day Art Smart program at Clunes PS
• Student participation in the Lismore Show where all classes participated in providing a number of exhibits and where we were awarded the most successful school prize.
• Creative Arts Camp for students Years 4-6
• Bright Sparks First North program where students in Stage 3 are encouraged to participate in chosen enrichment programs
• Performing Arts dance group, with 30 students participating, Years 4-6.
• Digital Animation Day for selected students which complemented the movie making production process
• Movie Making project in which all Year 5/6 participated
• Music lessons provided by the Lismore Conservatorium for students
• Small Schools Choir participation in the Performing Arts Festival in Lismore.
• School Choir who performed at special assemblies, school concert and visits to retirement homes
• Weekly assembly items presented by all classes to showcase their work and skills
• Whole school Concert
• School Christmas Tree performances

Sport

This year proved to be a most rewarding year on the sporting front. Students were involved in a range of new and annual events all aimed at improving knowledge and skills of various fundamental skills and aimed at improving the children’s knowledge and skills of various sports, with a strong emphasis on sportsmanship.

Achievements for 2013 included:

• 23 students representing Bexhill and the First North District (FN) at the zone swimming carnival; where we had three student champions on the day. From there 8 students went onto represent at a Regional level.
• Students participating in selection trials for cricket, AFL, soccer, hockey, rugby league and netball.
• A number of students gaining selection into Northern Rivers teams: Harrison (AFL), Samantha (Netball), Will, Lucas and Isaac (Soccer), Denni-Lee, Georgia and Charlotte (Hockey).
• From the Northern Rivers teams we also had a number of students represent at a State level, a great achievement for such a small school.
  North Coast representatives included: Brendan (swimming) Samantha (netball), Ky (athletics) and Denni-Lee (hockey).
• Bexhill also participated in the PSSA knock out carnivals in cricket, soccer, touch football and netball. This year the boys Soccer and Touch Football teams were particularly successful.
Students, K-6, participated in the First North (FN) Cross-Country carnival with 12 students representing Bexhill at the Zone Cross-Country Carnival. Two students, Lucas M and Kai S also represented the school at the Regional Cross-Country carnival.

Bexhill PS was particularly successful at the FN Athletics Carnival, finishing the day with the Aggregate Overall Trophy, the Average Total trophy, Relay trophy and the Ball Games trophy. 21 students gained selection for the FN carnival and 4 students represented at the Northern Rivers zone. The FN District relay team qualified for the State Championships; two runners being from Bexhill PS.

Ky achieved athletics success at the NR and State PSSA carnivals, breaking the long standing 100 metre record and placing 2nd in the state; a fantastic effort.

Specialist Programs:

- Active After School Program – being offered twice a week to all students for the purpose of engaging students in an active lifestyle. Sports offered during the year included: touch, hockey, bike riding, games, basketball, golf, athletics and skateboarding.
- Premier’s Sporting Challenge – Bexhill Public School achieved the ‘Diamond Award’, for their regular engagement in physical activity; the highest level possible
- School gymnastics program, K-6, with a focus on co-ordination, strength, confidence, balance and flexibility.
- Hockey, Milo cricket, NRL and soccer skill development programs
- AFL and Touch Football Gala days for 3/4 students
- The Auskick program

We are fortunate to have walking access to fantastic resources such as Sam Trimble Oval and two tennis courts that can cater for a range of sports.

Other

In the University of NSW International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) noteworthy results included:
- English – 3 Distinctions, 2 Credits
- Writing – 3 Credits.
- Science- 1 Distinction, 2 Credits
- Computers- 2 Distinctions, 1 Credit
- Mathematics- 1 High Distinction, 2 Distinctions, 2 Credits

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 3: from Band 1 (lowest) to Band 6 (highest for Year 3)
Year 5: from Band 3 (lowest) to Band 8 (highest for Year 5)

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 3 - Literacy** (including Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation)

**NAPLAN Year 3 - Numeracy**
NAPLAN Year 5 - Literacy (including Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation)

NAPLAN Year 5 - Numeracy

Notes: The 'Percentage in Bands' and 'School Average' columns are not shown where overall results are for less than 10 students. State average band distributions do not include students who were exempted from the tests.
Significant programs and initiatives

Aboriginal education

Bexhill PS is a member of the Dare to Lead Coalition of Schools and has a small number of students of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.

The school plans and integrates activities aimed at developing better understanding and awareness about Aboriginal Australia, Aboriginal history, culture, achievements and contemporary issues. This planning included:

• Considering special learning, cultural and social needs of students and incorporating Aboriginal perspectives where possible in all teaching programs.
• Immersion in local Aboriginal history of the Bundjalung people and participation in NAIDOC Day activities in Lismore.
• Implementing the new Aboriginal Education Policy and acknowledging Aboriginals, past and present, at formal assemblies and functions.

Multicultural education

Multicultural perspectives are integrated into teaching programs across key learning areas such as English, HSIE and creative arts, to ensure that our students develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes essential to be part of a culturally diverse society.

Numeracy

Southern Cross University Science Education Project

All students K-6 participated in a term project where they worked in groups with SCU Education science practicum students.
**Movie Making Project**

Senior students were involved in the production of a movie; the theme for 2012 being ‘History In The Making’.

Our resourceful students were able to use materials and the surrounding environment to produce and perform an engaging, polished movie.

Students gained valuable literacy, creative, organisational, technical and performance skills in the production of the movie, culminating in a screening at the Star Court Theatre in Lismore.

To enhance the project, a group of students also participated in a Digital Animation day where they developed new skills used in the production of our movie. This project was partially funded by an Arts Council Grant.

**Environmental Education**

Bexhill has a strong environmental sustainability focus and is a registered Junior Landcare school.

Specific initiatives included:

- Receiving a Mayoral Encouragement award for our ongoing excellence as a Waste Wise and Water Smart school.
- Staff and students using effective waste wise processes including composting for the gardens, food scraps for the chickens and active recycling of paper and plastics.
- Senior students participation in the Green Team Initiative organised by Dorroughby Field Centre.
- Whole school participation in Student Voice, a SCU Student Sustainability Conference where our MAD team presented a student workshop on effective waste practice at Bexhill PS.
- Participation in Dorroughby Field Studies Centre programs including a joint project with the Sydney Zoo to protect native animals. Our projects were Koala Protection, Platypus Awareness Raising and protection of their habitats.

**First North Writing Project**

Bexhill students Jack M, Seth, Samantha, Hannah, Will and Cooper, joined with students from other First North Group of schools to write and publish short stories which were collated and presented in book form at a formal launch. The students were mentored by acclaimed local author Jesse Blackadder, who facilitated highly motivating and enriching strategies and feedback for participating students. This project will be ongoing in 2014.

**Newspapers In Education**

Students in Year 4/5 participated in this program researching, designing and publishing a page for the Northern Star and winning the prize for the Peoples’ Choice Award.
Social Skills Program
The successful K-6 social skills program 'You Can Do It!' continued, with all classes focused on practising and developing the skills of Organisation, Resilience, Persistence, Confidence and Getting Along With Others.

Young Communicators Program
The Bexhill P.S. Public Speaking Competition 'Young Communicators Award' promoted students' confidence and skills, K-6, in preparing and delivering a speech. Finalists went on to compete in the First North competition. Senior finalists also represented the school at the Lismore Small Schools Public Speaking event.

Debating
Eight senior students participated in a state run Debating workshop at Alstonville which provided them with some excellent strategies and experiences.

Premier’s Spelling Bee
All students Years 3-6 participated in our school Spelling Bee. Both senior and junior finalists capably represented our school at the local finals at Alstonville PS.

Transition Programs
Both Transition to Kindergarten and Transition to High School programs were provided during the year. As our students attend a number of high schools we work hard to build innovative links during primary school years to these schools.

School Excursions
This year, as part of the two year excursion cycle our major excursions included:

- Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 - Dolphin Dreaming program at Byron Bay
- Year 3 and 4 - three day camp to Dorroughby Field Studies Centre
- Year 5 and 6 - five day Maranatha Outward Bound camp (Queensland)

Learning and Support Programs
Identified students received in-class and individualised program support by the learning and support teacher. Particular programs included Reading Recovery and the Multilit program. We were also fortunate to be able to access the services of a speech pathologist.

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:

- Critical analysis of external data and assessment tasks.
- Critical analysis of internal assessment data.
- Data analysis of student outcomes and staff evaluations and feedback.
- Professional dialogue through formal interviews.
School planning 2012—2014: progress in 2013

School priority 1

LITERACY

Outcomes from 2012–2014

Increased levels of overall Literacy achievement for all students

Evidence of progress towards outcomes in 2013:

- All Year 5 students achieved at, or above state levels of growth in NAPLAN reading, writing, spelling, grammar & punctuation.
- All students achieved stage appropriate growth along the Literacy Continuum.
- All teaching staff demonstrated and modelled improved capacity in the explicit teaching of literacy skills.

2014 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Sustained, focused program of professional learning in the implementation of the NSW English Syllabus, incorporating the Australian Curriculum, in 2014.
- All students to be tracked on the Best Start K-2 and Literacy Continuum 3-6.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Continued planning and implementation of a more rigorous whole school spelling scope and sequence program.
- All staff to participate in the English online professional learning modules and show evidence and understanding in class programs.
- Teachers utilising assessment data to inform programming in all areas of Literacy, including analysis of 2013 NAPLAN data to target specific areas for further development.
- Continued focus on, and explicit teaching of, spelling, comprehension, grammar and punctuation in all classrooms.
- Staff to begin the program ‘Focus On Reading’, which will be undertaken over two years beginning in semester 2.

School priority 2

NUMERACY

Outcomes from 2012–2014

Increased levels of overall Numeracy achievement for all students

Evidence of progress towards outcomes in 2013:

- All Year 3 and 5 students achieved at or above state levels of growth in NAPLAN overall Numeracy in 2013.
- An increase in the number of students achieving at, or above, stage appropriate growth along the Best Start and Numeracy Continuum by the end of 2013.

2014 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Growth along the Best Start and Numeracy Continuum by the end of 2014.
- All staff to be trained in, and have a working understanding of the new NSW Mathematics Syllabus, incorporating the Australian Curriculum.
Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Staff to be engaged in professional learning including online training modules which relate to the new Mathematics Syllabus.
- Continued implementation of the Balanced Numeracy Session in all classrooms.
- Use of stage appropriate school based and online technology numeracy resources to support the balanced Numeracy Session.
- Explicit teaching of, and sustained practice in, mathematical metalanguage and problem solving strategies.

Professional learning

Staff at Bexhill are actively encouraged to pursue professional learning opportunities to enhance and support student learning. Professional learning activities are designed to achieve the targets outlined in our school plan.

Staff participated in the following during 2013:

- Mandatory Professional Learning schedule; including Emergency Care, CPR, Asthma and Anaphylaxis training, Child Protection, Anti Bullying Policy and Student Wellbeing Policy reviews and Work Health and Safety updates
- Connected classroom technologies
- Notebook training (technology software)
- Autism training including Positive Partnerships training
- NSW English syllabus online training and implementation modules
- Best Start training and data analysis
- Smart Data analysis workshops
- Active After School co-ordinator training
- Leadership training
- SAM toolkit training
- SLSO online training modules
- Focus on Reading facilitator training

undertaken for implementation during 2014. In addition to School Development Days staff participated in regular Professional Learning meetings which included professional dialogue, reading and sharing of skills. A number of the above professional learning opportunities were undertaken in collaboration with our First North Community of Schools Group.

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. Four main themes emerged as positive features for students. These were:

- Teacher quality and commitment, and the positive way in which staff relate to students.
- Students believe that the school expects them to do their best at all times and consequently they take pride in their achievements.
- The range of extra-curricular enrichment activities and programs offered eg. dance, Artsmart, Movie Making, choir, conservatorium music lessons, public speaking opportunities, sports, excursions, Writing Project, environmental and sustainability programs.
- Great playground facilities and active play.

Parents emphasized, as pleasing aspects of our school, the relationships they have with staff and the inclusive and caring tone of the school. Other comments included the following:

- The school and P&C work hard to improve the standards and resourcing of classroom facilities and school grounds.
- The school welcomes and appreciates parent involvement.
- Parents are encouraged to contact the school to discuss concerns about their child.
- The school teaches and promotes core values through its Wellbeing policy and K-6 social skills program.
- The school offers and encourages active participation in a variety of learning opportunities.
• The school promotes its uniform policy.
• Bexhill has committed teachers with high expectations for student achievement.
• The school’s Wellbeing policies and procedures encourage positive student behaviours.
• Staff identified the collegial nature and supportive team culture as creating a really positive work environment where their contributions were valued.
• All staff engaged in professional learning and critical reflection to improve their skills and are also regularly engaged in professional dialogue with colleagues to inform their teaching practice.

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:

Learning Origami with SCU Japanese students

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.

Helen Craigie Principal
Wendy Brierley acting Assistant Principal
Leonie Aafjes School Administrative Manager
Eloise James P&C President

School contact information
Bexhill Public School
12 Withers St, Bexhill, NSW, 2480
Ph: 02 66284223
Fax: 02 66284248
Email: bexhill-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web: www.bexhill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
School Code: 1217