Our school at a glance

Bald Blair Public School has a strong focus on values education, promotion of a balanced healthy lifestyle, environmental sustainability and leadership opportunities which underpin the rich, stimulating learning environment. Our quality education programs demonstrate a strong emphasis on literacy, numeracy and integrated technology to encourage lifelong learners. Our highly qualified and enthusiastic staff members provide a supportive, caring atmosphere coupled with a focus on individual needs to ensure success.

Our school motto “To Strive for Success” is continually emphasised as all students are encouraged to attempt new challenges, focus on their achievements and view mistakes as part of the learning process.

Bald Blair Public School is a proud member of the Highland Learning Network. Principals from each of the six schools in this Learning Network meet regularly to discuss common targets and participate in combined staff development activities and plan events to promote and celebrate the successes of our students, staff and schools.

Collaborative decision-making between the school and community is deemed vital in achieving educational excellence. Bald Blair Public School has the proud tradition of meeting the community and state-wide educational needs of students in the district for over 93 years.

Students

At the end of 2013 there were thirty four students enrolled at Bald Blair Public School. There were fourteen boys and twenty girls.

Staff

Staff in 2013 comprised:

1 Primary Principal 5- Mrs Julie Gittoes

1 Classroom teacher- Mrs Debra McIntyre

(maternity leave from the beginning of term 3)

1 Classroom teacher-Miss Aimee Waters replacing Mrs Debra McIntyre.

Mrs Sally Purvis taught permanently for one and a half days per week and she also fills a half day of STLA. She is employed one day per week using principal release time funds in the global budget.

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

1 Music teacher, Mrs Heather Ginns, for three hours per week.

SASS (School Administrative and Support Staff):

Mrs Donna Davidson is our Primary School Administrative Manager 3 days 3 hours and 12 minutes per week.

Mr Ted Deeks, our general assistant, works two days per fortnight.

Significant programs and initiatives

Blair Public School is constantly looking for new ways to improve the teaching and learning opportunities it offers to its students. Students have been involved in a number of initiatives including:

Student leadership

Active Afternoon School Community

In 2013 our school provided all students enrolling in Kindergarten in 2014 a transition program for one day per week from the beginning of the school year.

Expansion of the school garden planting and growing fresh produce

Homework Centre

STLA class (student teaching learning assistance)

Creative Arts program – music, dance and marimbas

Healthy canteen- free milk every day

Highland Learning Network of School’s initiatives

Finlayson’s Sport’s Day

Public speaking

Premier’s Sporting Challenge

Crunch and Sip

Count Me In Too

Mathletics
ABC Reading Eggs

Student achievement in 2013

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 3
Three students in year 3 sat for the NAPLAN.

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 5
Two students in year 5 sat for the NAPLAN.

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3
Three students in year 3 sat for the NAPLAN.

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 5
Two students in year 5 sat for the NAPLAN.

Messages

Principal’s message
Bald Blair Public School is a small rural school situated eleven kilometres east of Guyra. Students attending the school are drawn from surrounding properties and the local town of Guyra. It is our aim at Bald Blair Public School to create a caring, supportive, enjoyable and challenging learning environment where each student can strive for personal excellence. Students are encouraged to endeavour to develop the full potential of their intellectual, physical and social capabilities and the skills necessary for a fruitful lifestyle within a future framework of rapid change.

The school was established in 1920 and has always maintained strong community ties and a high profile in the local area. Enrolments have traditionally cycled in line with prevailing conditions on the land and availability of work in the agricultural sector. A strong emphasis is placed upon developing numeracy and literacy skills. In addition, HSIE, Science, Technological Awareness, Music, Sport, Drama and Social Skill programs form the basis of a wide range of quality learning opportunities experienced by our students. The emphasis on teacher training in quality improvement and higher order thinking skills means our students receive the best in current developments in pedagogy. Our involvement and leadership in initiatives including small school networks and local school initiatives has helped boost our schools profile both locally and regionally. Bald Blair Public School has a family atmosphere providing support for all children in achieving success at their individual levels. Our parents are extremely supportive of the importance of the role of our school in their child’s development.

2013 has been a very busy, enjoyable and productive year for all concerned. I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone in the Bald Blair learning community, (parents, students, teachers and community members), for their continued support and assistance to ensure that all students were able to engage in many varied and successful extra curricula programs.

Our students excel in all areas both academically, culturally, emotionally and socially. This cannot be achieved without the commitment and dedication of our staff.

It is with great delight that I commend the professional work of the teaching personnel, Mrs Debra McIntyre, Miss Aimee Waters, Mrs Sally Purvis and Mrs Heather Ginn on their efforts in supporting students to gain high academic results across a range of curriculum areas. I would also like to thank Mrs Donna Davidson for her excellent work in our office and administration areas of our school. Mr Ted Deeks and Mr Lando Warne work tirelessly to maintain our classrooms and school grounds. Our dedicated P&C has supported students through financial donations and resources.

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.

Julie Gittoes  Principal
P & C message

The School and surrounding grounds look fantastic, including the new signs. Thanks to Mrs Julie Gittoes and her team, thanks to the P&C committee and school family members who have supported two major working bees this year, numerous Bunnings BBQ’s, bull sales, street stalls, and the Lamb and Potato Festival. The most recent visible addition to the School includes the new outdoor Gym Equipment. (The Spider net; Rock Wall and Balance stand down in the Sports field). We still have a little more work to do to complete this and we hope to have this completed in the New Year.

Thank you to the P & C executive for all your hard work and dedication this year.

- Sophie Wright and Katherine Hickey as Secretary
- Robyn Brazier as Treasurer – is it 14 years of service to the school by Tony and Robyn. Thank you!
- John Geere & Belinda Lyon – Vice Presidents
- Sally Finlayson as incoming Treasurer
- And committee members, Vanessa Cullen, Belinda Lyon, Julie Gittoes and Sally Purvis.

Sam White P&C President

Student representative’s message

Throughout 2013 students at Bald Blair Public School have participated in lots of wonderful academic, cultural, social and sporting activities. The opportunities that Mrs Gittoes and her dedicated staff have offered us throughout our school life has been truly fantastic. While participating in these extra activities like e-gats we have been able to extend our skills, knowledge and understanding and we have all meet new friends from many different schools and cultures.

Why Bald Blair Public School is the best school?

Bald Blair offers so many different opportunities to fulfil our dreams in the future and it has one of the best educational systems in Australia. All the students, teachers and staff at Bald Blair Public School are very kind, loving and generous to everyone. Bald Blair is also a great school as the classes are quite small, which allows us to have more one on one time with the teachers. The size of our school allows everyone from kindergarten to year 6 to interact and form long lasting friendships. The school has excellent resources and the gardens are beautiful. The four of us have thoroughly enjoyed our time at Bald Blair Public School and we will miss everyone dearly.

By Madison Morgan

2013 has offered students at Bald Blair a range of different sporting activities which are also listed inside your program. We all have learnt a range of different skills, which has encouraged us to play fairly with our peers.

Bald Blair is the best school for sporting activities as it offers students access to a range of different sporting equipment. For example, our new rock climbing wall and spider web. Over the last two terms students have been given the opportunity to participate in a program called Active
Afternoon School Communities (AASC). This engages the students in a range of free physical activities. We have all enjoyed participating in the sporting activities Bald Blair has offered us. This has made us interact with different schools around the region and make new friends. Students at our wonderful school just love sport.

By Sophie Mitchell

**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**

In November the enrolment was thirty four, with fourteen boys and twenty girls. In 2014 the student population is expected to be thirty eight with four in transition.

**Management of non-attendance**

Our school marks the roll every day and parent’s at our school always ring or write a note to explain their child’s absence. Non-attendance is not an issue.

**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>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Teacher Learning Assistance</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>0.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrative &amp; Support Staff</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.94</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Bald Blair Public School has no Indigenous people working in the school workforce. During the year we invite Mr Brian Irving and Mrs Nellie Blair, two highly acclaimed Aboriginal elders to work with the whole school for a cultural day. It is a wonderful day!

**Staff retention**

The highly dedicated, committed and supportive staff at Bald Blair Public School is usually very stable with little or no movement, however this year Mrs Debra McIntyre was on maternity leave from the beginning of term 3 and Miss Aimee Waters taught years 3-6.

All staff has access to leave entitlements such as sick leave and long service leave. In 2013 the average daily attendance rate for staff, was high.

**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>
</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><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>$47586.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>$54255.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>$13858.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>$25853.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>$1753.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>$2209.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>$145517.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Expenditure**                  |            |
| Teaching & learning              |            |
| Key learning areas               | $19523.40  |
| Excursions                       | $2501.75   |
| Extracurricular dissections      | $13127.90  |
| Library                          | $827.09    |
| Training & development           | $920.00    |
| Tied funds                       | $19168.22  |
| Casual relief teachers           | $332.33    |
| Administration & office          | $9010.58   |
| School-operated canteen          | 0.00       |
| Utilities                        | $3913.42   |
| Maintenance                      | $9898.81   |
| Trust accounts                   | $2209.55   |
| Capital programs                 | $14575.00  |
| **Total expenditure**            | $96008.05  |
| **Balance carried forward**      | $49509.85  |
A full copy of the school’s 2013 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School Council and/or the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

School performance 2013

Achievements

Arts

Bald Blair Public School provides a diverse range of opportunities for students to explore and develop a range of learning outcomes. The students have again participated in a variety of creative and performing art activities this year. It has taken a lot of commitment and hard work to prepare for such performances and events.

Guyra Show Our students achieved outstanding results. We received 11 first place certificates, 19 second place certificates and 30 highly commended certificates. Our infants sculpture won Grand Champion and Brody and Yousef’s sculpture won Junior Grand Champion. Truly remarkable results and Mrs Rita Williams thanked our students for all of their wonderful entries. She was impressed with their creativity and imagination displayed in their pieces of work.

All students from K to 6 have learnt to play the marimbas with the help of our music teacher Mrs Ginn, Mrs McIntyre and Mrs Purvis. The students competently performed a number of different pieces during the year.

Circus Skills Day The students learnt circus skills and then they watched Superkids” and this program explored the six ingredients of “awesomeness” or in other words how to be awesome. The six ingredients were a sense of self, resilience, positivity, having a dream, taking a risk and working with others. This top quality 50 minute performance addressed issues based around bullying, self-esteem and empowering children to take control of their own happiness. This was the best live performance that I have witnessed in my teaching career.

The year culminated in our end of extravaganza, “The Wizard of Oz”, a musical. This performance was truly amazing and it certainly provided the community with a showcase of our student’s drama, music and dance skills.

Sport

In 2013 the daily fitness program has taken place from 8.45 until 9.10 every day and it has continued to improve motivation, confidence, fitness levels and skills outcomes for all students.

Sporting achievements in 2013 include our P5 swimming relay team and athletics relay team doing well at the local carnivals.

All students in 3-6 participated in our school’s intensive swimming program, our athletics training days, the Guyra swimming carnival, Guyra cross country, Guyra athletics carnival, the Ben Lomond Small School’s Cross Country and the Highland Learning Network Swimming Carnival.

Guyra Cross Country- Every student came in the top 10 of their age division.
Students won the Armidale PSSA Small School’s Cross Country and the Ben Lomond Small School’s cross Country trophy.

All K-2 students achieved a gold certificate and the 3-6 students a diamond certificate in the Premier’s Sporting Challenge.

The senior students also attended the Premier’s leadership course held at Duval High School and our little school was the only school that had year 4 students invited to participate in the day.

Other

2013 saw the continuation of our highly successful Wacky Science Day however this year all students from years three to six demonstrated a scientific experiment and the students thoroughly enjoyed this new initiative. The students also had to put a brief report in the school newsletter.

The Life Education Van visited in November and everyone enjoyed meeting Harold and having their photograph taken with him.

Each year our students raise valuable funds for worthy charitable organisations. They supported Daffodil Day, Bandage Bear Day, Children’s Cancer, Crazy Hair Day and Stewart House.

Sophie McKemey organised a fundraising event for Spinal Muscular Atrophy and it was extremely successful

Student’s knowledge about healthy eating was enhanced by participating in a number of days making and eating healthy lunches.

Our transition program also provided our eight incoming kindergarten students with a strong grounding in social and academic skills for next year.

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 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 3

Three students in year 3 sat for the NAPLAN. Privacy protocols prevent disclosure of the results.

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3

Three students in year 3 sat for the NAPLAN. Privacy protocols prevent disclosure of the results.

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 5

Two students in year 5 sat for the NAPLAN. Privacy protocols prevent disclosure of the results.

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 5

Two students in year 5 sat for the NAPLAN. Privacy protocols prevent disclosure of the results.

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.

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. All of our students achieved at or above the national benchmark standards.

Significant programs and initiatives

This year three Year 3 and two Year 5 students participated in the NAPLAN.

How did our students perform compared to the state?

Due to the small size of the Year 3 and Year 5 cohorts, specific information about NAPLAN
results in literacy cannot be disclosed due to privacy protocols.

What do these results mean for the schools literacy program?

The literacy program provided at Bald Blair Public School is achieving fine results. We aim to further improve the literacy standards achieved by each student through ongoing focus on English syllabus outcomes using the Quality Teaching Framework and the new National curriculum. A special emphasis will be placed on spelling, writing, grammar, vocabulary and talk and listening.

Through regular assessment, success will be measured by results in school based assessment tasks, success in Best Start assessments and improved performance by Year 3 and Year 5 students in the annual NAPLAN.

Numeracy

School Based Assessment

School based assessment includes student work samples, school, Best Start and standardised tests, including Schedules of Early Number Assessment 1 and 2 (SENA), Count Me in Too (CMIT), competitions such as the Australasian Mathletics Schools competition, observations, class quizzes and student participation. Students’ performances indicate progress at or above expected levels for all students.

NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5

This year three Year 3 students and two Year 5 students participated in the NAPLAN.

How did students perform compared to state?

Due to the small size of the Year 3 and Year 5 cohorts, specific information about this year’s NAPLAN results cannot be disclosed due to privacy protocols.

Significant programs and initiatives

Programs to Support Students

School received half a day a week of integration money to help support students with special needs. Our support program was supplemented by global funds to employ an extra member of staff to help those students diagnosed with a learning difficulty.

Aboriginal education

There are no aboriginal students currently enrolled at Bald Blair Public School. The emphasis of our Aboriginal program is on educating the students at our school about Aboriginal history, culture and contemporary Aboriginal Australia. This is integrated across all KLA’s.

Multicultural education

While Bald Blair School community is not a diverse cultural group we do have a muslim family, our explicit teaching and learning programs ensure implementation of a multicultural perspective. The school strives to develop tolerance, co-operation and a belief that all people are equal. This is achieved mainly through developing class programs in human society and its environment (HSIE) that study how people around the world live.

This year our school and community hosted four Japanese assistant teachers, at different times for twelve weeks. Parents have indicated that they would like these educational programs to continue in 2014.

Respect and Responsibility

Students are being explicitly taught interpersonal skills that promote Respect and Responsibility and conflict resolution. At all times teachers have expectations that students will develop as responsible and respectful students. This is an integral part of the school culture and is embedded within the implementation of key learning areas in the classroom.

The school’s student welfare policy closely aligns and reflects the new Department of Education and Training (DET) Core Values in Public Schools policy which is reinforced regularly along with singing the National Anthem at the morning assembly.
The school provided the opportunity for students to celebrate and demonstrate these core values by participating in a partnership with the wider community in the Anzac Day march.

Other programs

Drug Education

Drug education has been implemented across the curriculum. Teaching staff have attended professional development courses to ensure effective implementation of the drug education policy. All students participate in the Life Education program which reinforces appropriate attitudes towards the medicinal use of drugs and enhances the decision making skills taught through the professional development health and physical education (PDHPE) syllabus.

Public Speaking and Debating

Throughout 2013, we have continued the explicit and systematic teaching of public speaking and debating so successful in 2012. There has been a strong focus on matter, manner and method and peer assessment giving the students a strong framework. The students have enjoyed including the smart-board technology into their weekly presentations.

Healthy Canteen

Bald Blair Public School doesn’t have a canteen however parents are encouraged to send in healthy food on a daily basis to be heated in the microwave, sandwich maker or pie oven.

In 2013 we have continued to provide students with free milk each morning at 9.10am. All students are encouraged to also eat a piece of fruit and at the present time 100% of students do this on a regular basis.

Technology

Bald Blair School has a smart-board in every classroom and there are twenty IBM computers, eleven laptops, a fax machine, a colour photocopier, a video cam and two digital cameras.

This has continued to allow for increased learning opportunities and the integration of technology across all KLA. This year our student’s technology skills were further enhanced by employing a computer coordinator, using global funds, to target explicit teaching and learning programs using technology K-6.

All members of staff have been trained in using an interactive whiteboard and this program should further enhance our computer program. The students are enjoying this wonderful program which enables them to communicate and explore the world outside their classroom.

All students have confidently developed skills in power point presentation and hence students are now presenting research projects using this program. All students are developing their touch typing skills and readily use word processing and access knowledge via software programs and the internet.

Progress on 2013 targets

Literacy

Outcome for 2012–2014

Improve literacy performance in the school so that year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the reading strand of NAPLAN

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

Year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the reading strand of the NAPLAN 2013

Our achievements include:

- improved student performance in reading in NAPLAN as reflected in the SMARTDATA; and
- in-school assessment data and work samples reflect improvement in reading.
Numeracy

Outcome for 2012–2014

Improve numeracy performance in the school so that year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the number strand of the NAPLAN

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

- Year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the number strand of the NAPLAN

Our achievements include:

- improved levels of understanding by all students;
- students could demonstrate concepts by using concrete material;
- improved results in SENA 1 and SENA 2; and
- all students achieved Band 4 or higher in the NAPLAN numeracy results.

Program evaluation

NSW public schools conduct evaluation to support the effective implementation of the school plan. In 2013 our school carried out evaluation on:

Mathletics.

Background

For the past two years our school has subscribed to the online mathematics program called “Mathletics” and it costs our school $800.00 per year.

Findings and conclusions

On average students now score 96% in maths activities a 33% improvement on their first attempt. Since the start of the year students have answered a staggering 169,658 quick fire questions. Three highlights include: a student completed over 48,000 questions at 93% accuracy, another over 30,000 at 92% accuracy and another over 30,000 at 96% accuracy.

Congratulations to the 25% of students who successfully completed all of the gold bars for their year. These students received a medal at our school’s presentation night.

The vast majority of students find “Mathletics” fun and educational.

Students were using the program to consolidate and reinforce skills and concepts learnt in class.

20% of students use “Mathletics” at home.

The students loved to gain points so that they could change their characters and they also enjoyed the challenge of playing against their class friends in “Live Mathletics”.

Future directions

As discussed at a P@C meeting in November the school will continue with the “Mathletics” program in 2014 however students will be set a minimum of 1000 weekly points to be achieved and each teacher will check and record each student’s progress on a weekly basis.

Merit points will be given to students who achieve the weekly class target.

The school will continue to present student’s with medals at the presentation night.

When students arrive at school in the morning before morning fitness they are to do the “Mathletics” program.

Homework Centre

Program evaluation

Background

Many parents work in our school community and hence in June 2012 it was discussed at a P&C meeting to see if the school could do something. The principal, Mrs Gittoes offered to start a homework centre two days per week on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon for two hours from 3.30 until 5.30.

The parents were to pay the school a fee set by the P@C each year and Mrs Gittoes would give her time on a voluntary basis.

Findings and conclusions

The homework centre has continued to grow each year and it now has an average of eight students per session.

Students complete set homework activities, students are tested on their spelling words, they can read a reader and once finished the students...
can complete Mathletics, Reading Eggs or project activities.

Parents are happy because their child’s homework is completed in a safe and secure environment.

The homework centre also helps parents if they are caught in town and can’t reach school before it finishes at 3.30pm.

**Future directions**

As discussed at the November P@C meeting the homework centre will continue in 2014 with Mrs Gittoes being the main teacher and if she is absent a fellow staff member will run the centre.

The P@C will continue to set the fees each year and all funds go towards global school funds to be used on educational programs.

**Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction**

In 2013 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school. Throughout the year, both formal and informal feedback is invited from parents, students and teachers about our school.

The strong collaborative culture and the schools open door policy which operates for all stakeholders, results in quality communication and a capacity to respond to needs and concerns in a positive and proactive manner. The school also works closely with the school P and C to gauge levels of satisfaction and a range of opinions.

Overwhelmingly the feedback we receive continues to be extremely positive. Teachers and administrative staff regularly receive written feedback – letters, cards and emails which reflect the highly positive reputation the school has within the community.

The school is always open to trialing new approaches and changing or improving aspects of its practice and operation in order to better serve the learning and welfare needs of our children.

The school has a very positive rapport with parents, students, teachers and community members.

The school is seen as welcoming of all, approachable and responsive. Families regard it as a safe, happy and challenging environment that supports its students across a wide range of quality educational practices.

Student’s performance and behaviour reflect community and teacher expectations that academic excellence, correct behaviour, respect and appropriate manners are important.

Students are the focal point of all the schools explicit teaching and learning programs and all parents and students are proud of their school.

**Professional Development**

All staff were engaged in a range of professional learning programs throughout 2013 either at Bald Blair Public School or regional professional learning venues as evidenced by:

- Small School Conference, Armidale
- Best Start Training
- First Aid
- Analysing SMART data at Bald Blair Public School
- Finance, Rollover and Cashflow in-service for SAM;
- Principal leadership development has been ongoing throughout 2013
- Highland learning network collegial network;
- Snow Gums – a joint Highland learning network initiative
- Good For Kids Good For Life
- Smart training
- Code of Conduct, Child Protection and Anaphylaxis training
- ITEC conference, Tamworth
- Meet the Manager
- Non Violent Intervention Program
- Active Afternoon School Community Coach
- regular attendance at Regional, School Education and Primary Principal’s conferences; and
- The school spent $3453 on professional development in 2013.
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

Literacy

Outcome for 2012–2014

Improve literacy performance in the school so that year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the reading strand of NAPLAN 2014

2014 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

Year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the reading strand of the NAPLAN 2014

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

1. A balanced reading program is to be implemented with modeled, guided and independent activities.
2. Employ a temporary teacher half day per week to tutor students with a literacy difficulty.
3. Consolidate ABC READING EGGS and introduce Sunshine Online and Skool.
4. Conduct lesson observations of reading lessons with detailed feedback to teachers
5. New programming format developed and implemented, incorporating DEC literacy documents of best practice and BOS English K-6 syllabus
6. Create assessment tasks that align with NAPLAN assessment and are used as moderated common assessment tasks

School priority 2

Numeracy

Outcome for 2012–2014

Improve numeracy performance in the school so that year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the number strand of the NAPLAN 2014

2014 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

Year 5 students will meet their expected growth in the number strand of the NAPLAN 2014

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

1. “Mathletics” and Sunshine Online mathematic programs are implemented as professional learning for teachers and integrated into teaching and learning programs
2. Employ a temporary teacher half day per week to tutor students with a numeracy difficulty
3. Conduct lesson observations of mathematics lessons with detailed feedback
4. New programming format developed and implemented, incorporating DEC numeracy documents of best practice and BOS Mathematics K-6 syllabus
5. Create assessment tasks that align with NAPLAN assessment and are used as moderated common assessment tasks
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.

Mrs Julie Gittoes Principal
Mrs Debra McIntyre Classroom teacher
Mrs Sally Purvis Classroom teacher
Mrs Donna Davidson SAM
Mr Sam White P&C president
Madison Morgan student representative
Sophie Mitchell student representative
Abbey Brazier student representative
Brody Hoffman student representative

School contact information
Bald Blair Public School
Ph: 02 67791578
Fax: 02 67792060
Email: baldblair-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
School Code: 1098
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: