
Southern Cross School

Kindergarten Information Night

Welcome

Introduction of staff

- Deputy Principal
 - Alan Orchard
 - Assistant Principals
 - Gail Marchant- Curriculum
 - Kristin Piccoli- Literacy and Numeracy
 - Andrea White- Administration
 - Simon Porter- Wellbeing
 - Kindergarten teachers
 - Llewenna Butt
 - Deidre Tolley
 - Kristin Piccoli
 - Marg Burnett- Support
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Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy and Numeracy

What is my role in the school?

- Supporting the teaching and learning of Literacy and Numeracy
- Assessment
- Analysis of student learning data
- Kindergarten transition



Literacy

Language, Literacy and Learning - L3

- A program implemented in Kindergarten and Year One classes
- Focus on explicit teaching of reading, writing, comprehension and speaking
- Small groups of students with like ability work with teacher
- Students are trained to work independently, with support of a teacher's aide, to consolidate their learning
- Teacher's aides in in all Kindergarten and Year One classes each morning.



We aim to give students the skills that prepare them to be lifelong learners.

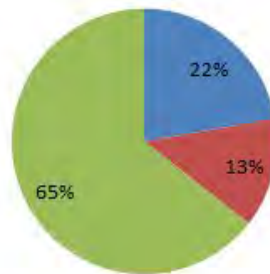


65%

of students are reading beyond the expected end of Year One reading level in 2015.

Year One 2015- Reading

■ Below L15 ■ At L16-18 ■ Beyond L19



Beyond year one

- Units of work which focus on skills and strategies expected in the curriculum
- Units are integrated with other Key Learning Areas

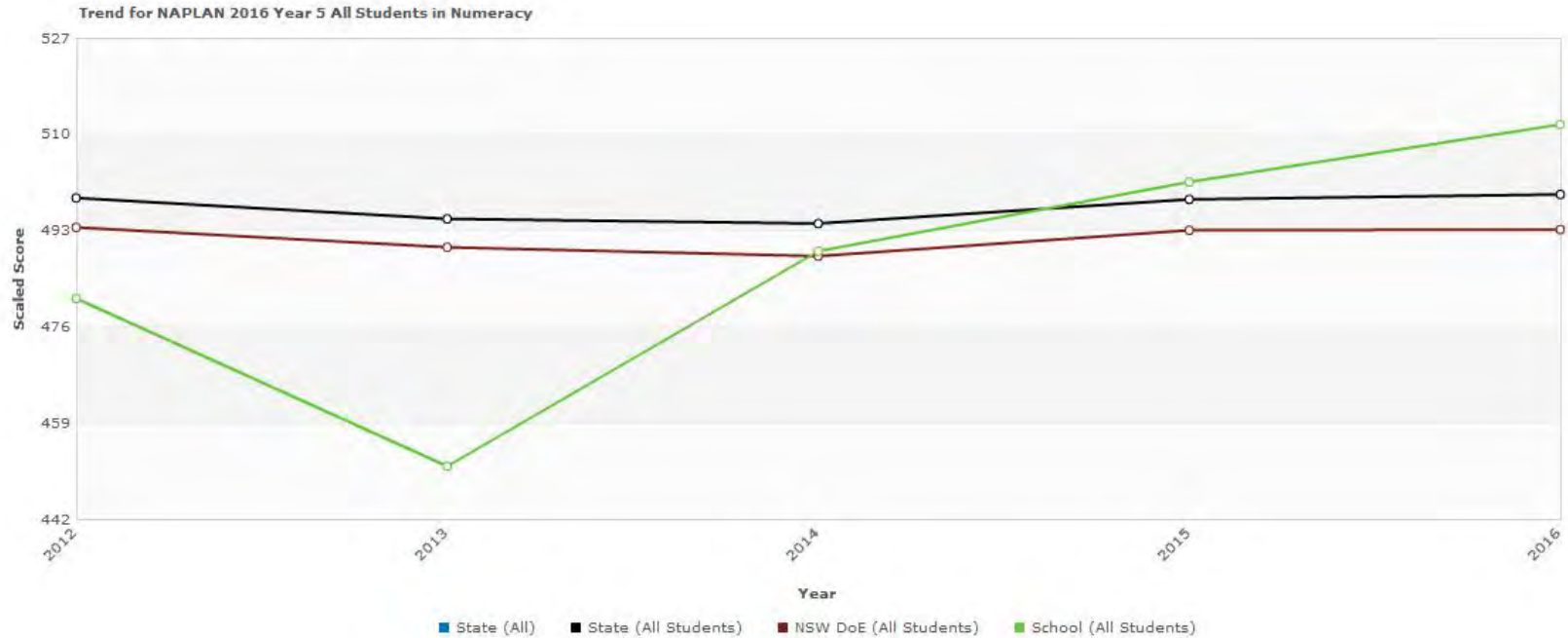


Numeracy



- Envision Maths
 - Explicit teaching focusing on Mathematical skills and vocabulary
 - Learning involves using a range of games, concrete materials and workbook
 - Teachers are undergoing vigorous training of Numeracy
 - Support of a trained tutor at our school
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Positive Results



Support for learners

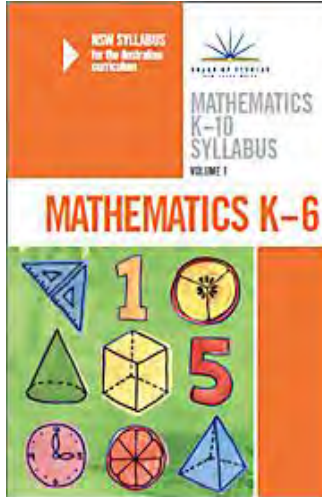
Trained **Reading Recovery** teacher who supports students who are finding reading and writing strategies challenging

Learning and Support Teacher who supports intervention programs

Referral to the learning support team

Curriculum

Role of Curriculum Co-ordinator



- Ensure consistency of teaching and learning programs across the school
- Mentoring staff to develop dynamic learning programs to meet the specific needs of our students
- Ensure programs meet departmental requirements

<http://syllabus.bostes.nsw.edu.au/>

Structure of K-6

The grades are grouped into stages as follows:-

Kindergarten = Early Stage 1

Year 1 & 2 = Stage 1

Years 3 & 4 = Stage 2

Years 5 & 6 = Stage 3



Key Learning Areas

English

Maths

Science and Technology

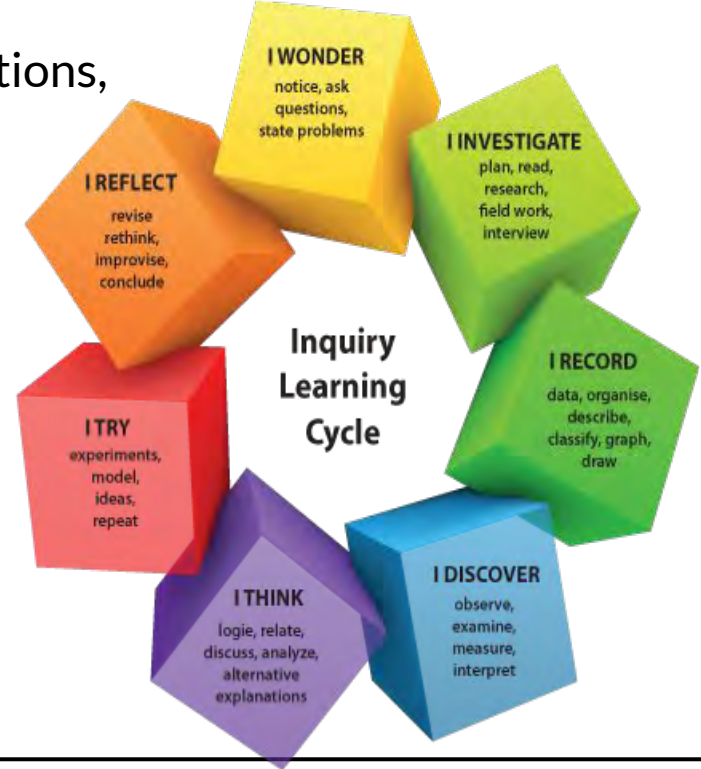
Creative and Performing Arts

Physical Development, Health, Physical Education

History/Geography

Inquiry Based Learning

- Instead of just presenting the facts, use questions, problems, and scenarios to help students learn through their own agency and investigation.
- Help prepare students to be 21st Century learners



Computers/Technology

Students have access to technology through

- Weekly lessons in the computer lab
- Access to class sets of laptops and tablets integrated into class lessons
- Virtual excursions

Students develop skills in word processing and use of multimedia.

— Supporting learning with work at home

Students complete tasks weekly

Home reading

Online programs such as Mathletics and Reading Eggs to engage students



Student Well-being



What is my role within student Well-being?

Student well-being covers many areas, including;

- Managing the PBL system
 - Developing and monitoring student management plans
 - Learning and Support
 - SENTRAL - Data analysis
 - Managing the K-6 Support Centre
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Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL



What is PBL?

PBL is a direct instruction of teaching social skills, expectations and rules to students, to them assist in understanding their role at Southern Cross.

It is a data driven process and is based on the evidence of student behaviours and locations, covering all areas of the school, including the classroom.

PBL is a broad range of systemic and individualised strategies for achieving important social and learning outcomes while **preventing problem** behaviour.

Focus on positive reinforcement

Supports students in accessing and achieving academic and social outcomes



Positive Behaviour for Learning

We teach positive behaviours

We encourage positive language

PBL give students the skills to make positive choices.

- Interactive and engaging lessons
- Display positive behaviours with visuals
- Use the language of positive behaviour as part of our daily practice

Merit System

Students meet behaviour standards



Gotcha - playground award

Principal Star - whole school award

Star Student - class award



Learning and Support

What do we do?

School Counsellor

- Social and emotional well-being.

Deputy Principal

- Monitor academic progress.

Learning and Support
Teacher

- On-going behavioural concerns.

Assistant Principal
Well-being

Personalised Learning Plans- PLPs

Strategies to support Learning /Behaviour

Planning

Classroom Environment

Teaching

Student Management

Assessment Adjustments

Organisation

- Created consultation with parents and caregivers.
 - All students who have a learning difficulty to support and address specific targeted needs.
 - All students with a confirmed disability and those in the support centre.
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Opportunities within the school



Learning

- Community Readers- designed and supported by our school's Learning Support Teacher
 - Kindergarten Buddies- Yr 4 students trained as Kinder buddies to support new Kinder students- first 6 weeks.
 - Kinder classes buddy with a Stage 3 class for reading and computers once a week.
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Academic Representation and Competitions



- Public speaking competitions
 - Interschool debating
 - Southern Cross Spelling Bee
 - Premier's Reading Challenge
 - Newcastle Permanent Maths Challenge
 - Science and Engineering Discovery Day at the Southern Cross University, Lismore
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Creative Arts Programs

- K-2 annual concert coming up 15th Sept always a memorable event.
 - Choir-Yrs 3-6. Perform at Coastal Kids Concert, aged care facilities and major assemblies.
 - Yrs 4-6 Music Tuition and LHSTT band. Perform Coastal Kids Concert and major assemblies
 - Selected Yr 5/6 attend 'Artsmart" a 3 day art workshop for local students.
 - Selected Yr4-6 students may attend a 5 day Creative Arts Camp at Lake Ainsworth.
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Student Leadership

- **SRC** members are elected by peers
 - **House Captains**- lead their houses at carnivals and relevant sporting activities
 - **Library Monitors**- assist with book fairs and general Library chores
 - 32 student strong leadership team
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- The leadership team meets once a fortnight to discuss issues raised by students from all yrs, organise fundraising activities such as The Olympathon, Summer Fair.
 - This is a valuable leadership opportunity
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Representative Sport

There are many opportunities for students to represent their school and their district including:

- 8-13 Yrs in Athletics, Cross Country and Swimming
 - Students represent the school in PSSA knockout competitions in Soccer, Netball, Touch Football and Rugby League. Teams can progress to State level.
 - Opportunities to represent the Ballina District in AFL, Tennis, Cricket, Basketball, Soccer, Netball, Touch Football, Rugby League and Union.
 - Represent the school in Rugby League, Oztag, Netball and Cricket Gala Days.
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After School Activities

- Active After School Program includes: basketball, Auskick,
 - Homework Centre- every Wednesday afternoon 3:10-4:10 (except first and last week of Term. 2 staff present to help with any homework in computer room. May include Mathletics, Reading Eggs or written homework.
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Excursions/Incursions

Excursions include:

- Kindergarten- Currumbin
- Yrs 1/2- Seaworld/Byron Bay (alternate years)
- Yr 3 local attractions
- Yrs 4/5 -Tallebudgera/Lake Ainsworth Rec Camps (alternate years)
- Yr 6- Canberra/Sydney
- All excursions supplemented by in class work.
- Parental permission required.

Incursions may include:

- A video conference with NASA
- A guest speaker -responsible pet ownership.
- A virtual incursion to the Great Barrier Reef.

Kindergarten Visit Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary

The excitement escalated as the double-decker bus arrived to take Kindergarten students to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary for the day.

The children attended a presentation in the 'Discovery Den' where they got up close and personal with some scaled and feathered friends. The rest of the day we explored the sanctuary in small groups.

A great day was had by all and a big thank you to all the parents who joined us for the day.



Before and after school care



- Before and after school care is offered by Rainbow Child Care Centre, who operate this service within the school grounds. They utilise the K-6 hall, COLA and basketball court.
 - The Rainbow staff also collect students from the homework centre at 4:10.
 - Rainbow provide Vacation Care, also on school grounds.
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Parent Communication, Involvement and Support

- Communication
- Sentral Parent Portal
- Newsletter
- Facebook
- Dojo/Edmodo
- Volunteering opportunities
 - In class
 - Canteen
 - Special events eg. Excursions
 - Be a part of our school committees

**Research shows that *'if
parents (and carers) are
involved and informed
children do better at
school and schools to
better for children'***

Improving Australian Schools ACER 1993

Reports and Interviews



- Formal Reports are presented once a semester with these reports available on the Parent Portal through SENTRAL
 - Once a semester parent teacher interviews- held in the gym usually 15 minutes reflection and discussion.
 - Parents are invited to make an appointment to see their child's teacher at any time to discuss progress. Feedback provided about behavioural and academic achievement.
 - Parents will be able to access messages with their teacher, calendars and assessment tasks through the SENTRAL Parent Portal.
 - Other communication methods used such as DOJO and Edmodo.
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**Getting your child
ready for school**



Orientation to School Program

- Four morning session
 - Conducted by the Kindergarten teachers
 - Activities to familiarise students with expectations
 - Informal assessment of student readiness
 - Follow up Parent Information session
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Orientation Sessions



- Student Orientation Fridays 9:30am Term 4 Weeks 2-5
 - Getting to know you activities
 - Routines
 - Tour
 - Getting to know buddies
 - Parent Orientation Friday 21 October 9:30am
 - School procedures
 - Buses
 - School banking
 - Community Healthy Lunchbox Program
 - Tour
 - Morning Tea
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Best Start



- Understand students Literacy and Numeracy skills development prior to school
 - Provides a starting point for teaching and learning programs
 - Opportunity to have 1:1 time with students to build a rapport
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Preschool Visits



- Kindergarten teachers visit preschools to meet with students and teachers
 - Supports the transition process
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THE MORE THAT YOU
read
THE MORE THINGS YOU WILL
know
THE MORE THAT YOU
learn
THE MORE PLACES YOU'LL
go
DR. SEUSS

Smart Kids 101

Getting ready

Care for own belonging

Gaining independence opening lunch boxes and packets

Independently toilet

Shoes , socks and jumpers are able to be put on independently (we love velcro)

Items labels

Practise name with only capital

Expose to books and develop a love of reading

Items needed will be listed on the school website closer to the end of the year

Common question- When do we find out about classes?

Our school facilities



We have access to facilities and equipment not available at other primary schools.

- Gym
 - Ag Farm
 - Science
 - Music
 - Art
 - Cooking
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Questions

Contact us:

Southern Cross School

Alan Orchard- Deputy Principal

Kristin Piccoli- Assistant Principal
