2013 was a very busy year, with many great achievements. Some of these included:

- Great parental, caregiver and community leadership, involvement and support.
- Masterclasses
- Winning ‘Cows Create Careers’
- Involvement as an Innovative Learning Environment in Practitioner Research, and sharing our learning with other teachers. Our students excelled in this presentation.
- The development of new learning journals to improve our students’ executive function.
- The implementation of the ‘Certificate of Enterprise’ in upper primary.
- The School Shop continues to be used by DECD as an example of strong school / community partnerships.
- Decision making processes and student voice and engagement has seen a dynamic culture created where everyone is empowered to create change.
- A strong financial base from which to implement improvement processes.
- A strong team of teachers who are totally dedicated to the school and the community.
- The great disco
- Our partnership with Mypolonga Landcare Group to create ‘Farmer Jones’ Paddock.
- Our non – fiction writing plan has seen the quality and quantity of writing improving and displayed proudly around the school
- Great sporting achievements, including winning Jervois Sports’ Day.
- Parental leadership in the establishment of the Mypolonga Schoolboys’ Cricket team.

Our Site Improvement Plan 2013

1. Implementation of the Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography.
2. Implementation of the Teaching for Effective Learning Framework (TfEL)
3. Literacy, with a focus on spelling and Numeracy, with a focus on Natural Maths Strategies

‘Leadership is not about making yourself more powerful. It’s about making the people around you more powerful.’

Betty Linton
Site Improvement Plan

Priority 1: Implementation of the Australian Curriculum

Processes for the implementation of the Australian Curriculum are embedded in the culture of the school. All teachers plan and assess against the Australian Curriculum in Maths, English, Science, History and Geography.

In 2014 we will begin to familiarize ourselves with the Arts, Technologies and Health and PE ready for implementation in 2015.

In South Australia, the focus has been on ‘the essence’, not just the content of each learning area. At Mypo we pride ourselves on creating learning experiences, which meet the outcomes of the Australian curriculum, in exciting ways with the help of our community and context.

Our focus on non-fiction writing has supported improvement in other learning areas, such as science, history and geography.

Site Improvement Plan

Priority 2: Implementation of the Teaching for Effective Learning Framework (TfEL)

TfEL is the document produced by DECD, which supports teachers to reflect on how students learn, and how we as teachers make learning engaging, but rigorous in our classrooms.

In 2013 all staff were observed in their classrooms by their colleagues and given feedback. These conversations help teachers identify their strengths and weaknesses so that all learners are engaged.

Late in 2013 we were informed that we had been selected by DECD to become a TfEL ‘pilot school’ along with our cluster friends Tailem Bend, Jervois, Palmer and Murray Bridge High School. This program will last for 3 years.

We will have the services of Mikelle Miegel, an amazing educator, to support us on this new journey. Phil Fitzsimons from MBHS and myself are the lead principals for this project.

Attendance

Attendance was a priority in 2013, with an aim to achieve 0% unexplained absences. We were successful! Initially, Kerry followed up every unexplained absence with a phone call but we have found that we rarely need to do this anymore.

Our attendance rate of 95.3% is also excellent.

‘I wish to acknowledge the terrific work you have done with attendance this year. I know this takes a huge effort by people who all need to processes and maintain strong communication with families.’

Brian Featherston

Assistant Regional Director
Analysis of NAPLaN Results

The Year 3 cohort was above regional and state averages in all 5 areas of NAPLaN. It is important to remember that NAPLaN results can vary considerably from cohort to cohort in small schools.

The Year 5 cohort was above regional and state averages in all 5 areas of NAPLaN. 100% of students progressed in the middle or upper range in numeracy.

The Year 7 cohort was above regional and state averages in all 5 areas of NAPLaN. 70% of Year 7 students were above the year nine national average in at least one area of NAPLaN. 70% of Year 7’s were offered a position in the Students with High Intellectual Potential class at MBHS.

Progression Rates 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - 5</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 7</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Site Improvement Plan

Priority 3: Improve Literacy and Numeracy Outcomes for all learners.

A relentless whole – school focus on literacy and numeracy has borne fruit with excellent results in both areas this year in NAPLaN. Numeracy results have generally been high at Mypolonga due in part to authentic learning opportunities offered by our enterprising approach.

Since the development of our literacy plan in 2009, there has been significant improvement in literacy across the school. Home reading has improved dramatically with the inception of the Literacy Cup competition. House Captains have led their teams by example and there is considerable pride in their achievements.

‘Please congratulate yourself, staff and students on the outstanding achievements indicated in your recent NAPLaN results. They affirm the quality learning environment you have established at the school for all learners.’
David Craig Regional Director.

A focus on non fiction writing since 2011 has seen both the quality and quantity of writing improve. In 2013, the focus was on spelling, using the work of Christine Topfer. As each aspect of literacy is embedded in our school culture we move on to the next aspect.

Running Record data has identified issues in the early years. Our focus in 2014 will be on phonological awareness and oral language.
How do we know we have our community’s support?

In 2013 we did not conduct parent, staff or student opinion surveys, in the main due to a very hectic schedule throughout the year. But, there is much evidence to confirm our community’s support.

- The high uptake of committee support – we had to increase the number of people joining the Governing Council
- High attendance rates
- Participation in school events – Family Fun Night (over 200 people), Concert (400 people), Grandparent’s Day (200 people)
- Attendance at assemblies. Even though we moved our final assembly to the Combined Sport’s Club, there was still standing room only.
- Our waiting list – there are lots of people who want to come to our school.
- Feedback (written and verbal) – the cards and letters from students and their parents at the end of last year was humbling.

Staff Qualifications: Bachelor Of Education: 4 Graduate Diploma: 1 Diploma of Teaching: 1 Bachelor of Early Childhood 1

Mypolonga Primary School

Long Term Literacy Planning

As we introduce a new aspect of literacy into our Site Improvement Plan, we see direct improvement the following year.

20011 - 2012 Non fiction Writing
What are the literacy demands of non-fiction texts? Develop whole school plan

20012 - 2012 Reading and Comprehension
Reading for meaning is a critical part of the literacy process.

2009 Oral Language
The heart of communication

2009 -2012 Spelling
Spelling has been identified across the school as an issue in NAPLAN and school screening data. Develop whole school plan.

2013 - 2014 Spelling
Continue with non fiction writing, reading and comprehension plans.

2014+ Phonological Awareness
Students in reception are not ready to read. Phonological awareness assessments need to be conducted and programs implemented to support students to be ready to read.

2013 - 2014 Oral Language
Who is doing the talking in our classrooms?

2014+ Spelling
Continue to embed a whole-school approach to teaching spelling.

2013 - 2014
CARS and STARS whole school comprehension program

Review previous plans.

Have our plans improved achievement in all learning areas?

2014+ Review previous plans.

2014+ Review previous plans.

2014+ Review previous plans.

2014+ Review previous plans.