

Yanco Agricultural High School Annual School Report





8144





Our school at a glance

Students

- Yanco Agricultural High School (YAHS) is in its 91st year and remains dedicated to the provision of a broad curriculum focused upon the experience of living in a rural, historic, fully residential, coeducational, agriculturally dedicated campus for students Years 7 to 12. We are the only fully residential school in NSW.
- The school is set in the historic buildings erected by Sir Samuel McCaughey - the father of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. He also had considerable impact in the early development of the Merino industry.
- In 2012 the school population increased to 368, an increase upon the previous year of 354. 2012 saw a Higher School Certificate (HSC) cohort of 45 students, of which 62% were offered university placement into 2013. 51% of the students in the cohort have entered into courses or training that directly relates to Agriculture. This is an increase on previous years. All other students have accessed further training or have obtained employment in positions across the nation.
- This year school students, staff and parents have received major awards. Year 12 student, Celina Delaney, was awarded The Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement. Long term staff member and contributor, Shirley Worley, has been justly recognised with a Director-General's Award for Excellent Service to Public Education and Training. Parent Stacey Lugsdin has been awarded a Parent of the Year Award. All three have made major contributions to Yanco and it is great to see them recognised for this.
- 2012 saw the continued development of the middle school concept with students in Years 7 and 8 undertaking a curriculum program with combined subject outcomes, teachers reduced by teaching combined subjects, home room identification (Year 7) and an improved orientation program in their early months in the residential school. Improved coordination of the curriculum across the school has commenced during the year.

- The transition program which was established in 2009 for students entering Year 7 continues to flourish and is integral for the orientation of both students and parents into the school. This involved three days and two nights of activities in November 2012. This initiative was highly commended and very well supported by all parents, students and staff.
- Hard work and enthusiasm by the Parents and Citizens' Association (P&C) has ensured continued improvement to resources and ongoing support of our students throughout 2012. This year funds were reduced due to the cancellation of the major fund raising events with the March flooding. The parent group remains enthusiastic in supplying the school with resources directly related to student learning.
- Best practice within the classroom has furthered effective teaching and learning. Emphasis in 2012 has remained in the improved use of technology in the classroom and this has been supported by ongoing professional development of staff. A large number of iPads have been supplied to staff and the TAS faculty are now using class sets of these devices in the field for the collection and manipulation of data.
- The school provides a wide variety of educational opportunities for students from throughout Australia - many from the more isolated areas of NSW. Students are attending the school from all states of Australia except Western Australia in 2012. Interest in the equine courses has remained high and continues to result in increased numbers of students enrolling in the school in 2012.

Staff

YAHS has a teacher entitlement in 2012 of 36.7 and a SASS staff of 8.382. Being a fully residential school a large hostel staff is also employed to address student needs. A significant number of community members are employed to support the teacher duty teams. There just under 200 staff in total who work at the school.

The continued success of our school is consistently underpinned by the goodwill of staff

that engage, work with and enjoy the learning experiences that are Yanco Agricultural High School. Over 20 staff live on campus in various types of staff accommodation. All teaching staff are required to participate in residential duty and are supplemented by staff from the community to successfully complete this task.



In 2012 Mrs Shirley Worley was awarded a Director-General's Award for her enormous contribution to the education of our youth - this award was richly deserved and was a highlight of the year.

Additional teaching positions to support students requiring support in literacy and numeracy are funded from school resources. All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

Significant programs and initiatives

Being the only fully residential school, and the largest coeducational residential school in NSW makes YAHS a very unique school - one that is home for our students for the majority of the year. This promotes a "Yanco family" atmosphere where students care and support one another throughout the school year.

The following initiatives are essential learning aspects of this school.

- Middle School initiative single sex classes, home rooms and reduced number of teachers in Years 7 and 8 - to aid the transition to high school, both academically and socially, ensuring their potential is reached.
- Transition program highly successful initiative that brings Year 7 and their parents

into the school for three days during November for orientation in the year prior to them commencing.

- Leadership programs a system of opportunities that encourages maturity, selfesteem, self-discipline and independence. This produces high quality fully rounded students that can return to their communities and have a positive influence.
- A curriculum which is broad and caters for all students needs and offers a wide choice. There is an emphasis on agriculture. All students in Years 7 to 10 study agriculture and most students study at least one of agriculture, primary industries or equine courses in Stage 6. This year sees a continued opportunity for Stage 5 students to commence and complete their Stage 6 Primary Industries course early.
- In 2012 the 'TIMEWISE' initiative was expanded to include Years 11 and 12 - an intensive study skills program that trains students to be independent learners, plan and reflect on their studies. Further development of this program was undertaken and the response from students was most positive.
- Showstock covers sheep, cattle, poultry and equine a wide variety of options available to all students highly successful.
- Equine studies specialist teachers, facilities and allowing students studying in this area to bring their horse to school. This is a growth area in the school and there is no doubt that this opportunity brings additional students to the school.
- Friends of Luro Year 12 Prefect group raised \$2200 to support the education of those less fortunate in other countries. Three students are supported annually in East Timor to give them the opportunity of an agricultural education and then return to their villages to share that knowledge. Year 12 have also supported Careflight with a \$2200 donation in 2012.
- YAHS Drum Corp an integral part of the school with a female drum major, April Worland. In 2012 they performed at numerous regional events and were a

highlight of the KROP festival in Griffith during Education Week.

- An excursion program that promotes learning as fun and cohorts learning together in sites outside the classroom. Year 7 to Sydney, Year 8 to Melbourne, Year 9 to Tasmania and Year 11 to the snow.
- As an aid in communication a full colour calendar with school activities was again produced for 2012. This allowed families the opportunity to plan the year with their children. Photos of students in this calendar have been a highlight and welcomed by the school community.

Student achievement in 2012

Year 7 NAPLAN results were mixed and indicate the many different backgrounds that these students were sourced from - they range from normal primary schools to school of the air to distance education and home schooling. Year 7 students arrive with a great range of school experiences. All mean performances between State and school were comparable but growth in reading, writing and numeracy were below expectations. As these students have moved from a familiar learning environment to one of the residential high school, many struggle with the transition and the school uses the Year 7 NAPLAN results as a diagnostic tool to identify individual weaknesses and formulate plans to address these areas of identified concern.

Year 9 NAPLAN results continued to be very satisfactory and above both the State and SEG averages by significant amounts. Growth rates in all areas were very good and significantly above in all comparisons.

This is the first year that no external School Certificate Examination took place and all students were assessed internally. The new qualification Record of School Achievement or RoSA has been initiated by the Board of Studies.

The Higher School Certificate results continued to improve with much greater percentages of students attaining Band 5 results and above. Band 6 results were achieved in Primary Industries, Hospitality and Business Services. Highlights of the HSC results were Scott Gill being placed first in the State in the Business Services VET examination and five students in the Primary Industries Examination gaining Band 6 (25% of the State results) with Teresa Sutton being placed second overall and Courtney Cheers fifth in this State examination.

Student First in Year for 2012

Thompson Helwig (Year 7) Grace Alexander (Year 10) Celina Delaney (Year 12) Denise Littlehales (Year 11) Breanna Carr (Year 9) Cambell McMaster (Year 8)



2012 School Blues

SPORTING BLUE (Athletics) - Sophie Eaton

Sophie has continued to maintain her excellent athletics reputation throughout 2012. Sophie's achievements this year have been outstanding. It began at the school annual athletics carnival. Sophie won the 100m, 200m, 400m (breaking the 1997 record by three seconds) and High Jump. Sophie was also the age champion.



The next carnival was the MIA District event in Griffith. Sophie came away from that carnival winning the 100m and 200m and finished second in the 400m.

The Riverina Athletics Championships were held in Albury this year and her efforts again were extremely impressive. Sophie placed in all her events - 100m, 200m, and 400m and was a member of the 14 year girl's 4 x 100m relay team.

At the NSW Combined High Schools Carnival held at the Homebush Olympic Stadium. Sophie ran exceptionally well in all her events.

In the 400m heat, Sophie qualified first beating her personal best time by five seconds. She finished sixth in the final. In the 200m heat, she qualified fourth, finishing sixth in the final. In the 100m, Sophie qualified fourth in the heat and came away with a silver medal in the final.

Sophie is an outstanding athlete and always represents her school with pride. Sophie is a very worthy recipient of the elite award of Yanco Agricultural High School Sporting Blue.

Messages

Principal's message

Yanco Agricultural High School turns out each year well educated, well-adjusted young adults, filled with the values and attitudes required to make a successful contribution to society for the next 70 years. Remember that learning is our core business and this school will continue to offer the best education possible to your children. I can quite confidently say that students could not have received a better education anywhere else in the state than in this proudly comprehensive public school.

This year will always be remembered for the big flood that struck in early March and left us a little soggy around the edges. For the first time in the school's history evacuation was required with all two and four footed animals being removed to higher ground. The school was closed for a couple of days but due to bus companies and roads being an issue, students were away from the school for almost 3 weeks which was quite a learning interruption. A large amount of damage was done to many parts of the school but particular thanks must go to the maintenance team who kept the water supply and filtration plant going despite operating in knee deep water. We were very lucky that students had travelled home on the midterm desi as the floods approached and rain was falling. According to all figures this was the highest floodwaters that had ever been recorded at the school and a repeat is not something we desire.

The most unfortunate part of all this was that beach carnival, gala day and the celebrations for the ninetieth year were cancelled. The P & C had undertaken many months of preparation all to no avail. This was a great shame.

The school has come a long way since those early years and when you consider the first students 90 years ago had to wash themselves and their clothes in the river, hurricane lamps provided glimmers of light and meals were cooked on an open fire in the yard. This year 365 students were enrolled at Yanco and they have come from all states of Australia except Western Australia.

Mr Ray Gough retired at the end of term 3. Ray is a quiet man who has contributed enormously to this school over almost 37 years of teaching. He has a great sense of fun and we will all miss his expertise and experience in our school.

This year has seen many building projects around the school to improve our facilities. They include a Trade Training Centre for Hospitality and Engineering which will provide industry standard training facilities for our students and the development of VET training in these areas.

A very special day this year was ANZAC Day which fell in the normal term this year. To see all 360 students marching was a special sight and the school received many very positive comments from the locals on our efforts. Our entire senior group undertook four ceremonies on this day – march and dawn service, church service, march and morning service and another service at the school cenotaph. I was very proud to march with the students on this day and thank you to all the parents and staff who also participated on this very special day.

A delight for me this year has been the efforts of our students with community projects. Firstly the Year 12 groups have raised over \$5000 to donate to their nominated charities - \$2200 was given each to Luro and Careflight. Both were very appreciative and most thankful. In my time at the school this has been the most by far the Prefect group have raised and when you consider that it is only really raised from within the school itself it is a wonderful achievement. The other success was a new initiative from the SRC but definitely led by Ryan Robinson and Harriet Condon. An association was formed between our students and those of Gralee Special School in Leeton where our students would spend some time with their students and also support them when they attended Yanco for various activities. Congratulations to all involved.

I have enjoyed working with our Captains, Clare, Scott, Celina and Chris and with the Prefects and I feel privileged to work with such a quality group. They have set the bar high for the next group.

The showstock programs continued to thrive and with much larger numbers of students involved. This year saw the equine program expand, with students competing at Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne Royal Shows for the first time with great success. Students achieved massive accolades and the beef cattle, sheep, equine and poultry teams can be congratulated on their many successes. Without the hard work and commitment of many staff these opportunities would be lost to our students. At the North West Equestrian Expo at Coonabarabran where over 500 riders and horses competed, our team were judged best presented large school team which is a marvelous achievement and Blake Paulston was awarded Champion 13 year old boy.



Two leisure activities which have shown increased capacity have been the fishing and

shooting clubs. Both are very popular with students and many parents also participate to support the staff. Many thanks to the staff involved. In Shooting Year 11 student John Duryea was selected in the National Down the Line team and travelled to Wales in July to compete for Australia – an outstanding effort from John and congratulations.

In further Agriculture news two of our Year 12 students – Xenii Newnham-Kell and Jonathon Murdoch competed in the Worldskills NSW State final for Primary Industries with Jonathon placed fourth and Xenii placed seventh from the 12 competitors. At night many of our students attend TAFE and complete courses in welding and wool classing. It is great to report that 6 of our Year 11 students have graduated from the wool classing and received their qualifications to work in sheds.

Sport remains an integral component to education at Yanco; it is part of their psyche. Sport is an important part of the school culture and does improve the fitness of all involved and provide that teaming experience crucial for students to succeed at the school. Highlights this year included the Rugby League University Shield team going all the way to the State semi-finals to be beaten by the eventual winner, Farrer. They also won the Dave Sheldrick Shield in the local competition. The four carnivals – swimming, athletics, cross country and gate run, were huge successes and thanks to the many parents who attended.

Yanco is a busy school and there are many successful events held during the year. Art Show and the Junior Rugby League Carnival are typical of events that bring many visitors to the school. The P. & C. lead these events and the school is most thankful to the many parents who support these events.

The McCaughey Scholarship awardees for 2013. These are students the school selects to receive \$1000 reduction in fees for the ensuing year. They have been selected for academic performance, attitude, work ethic and their general contribution to the school.

The awardees for 2013 are

Year 8	Alison Treloar
Year 9	Grace Armour

- Year 10 Jane Arndt
- Year 11 Steven Butler
- Year 12 Grace Cornish

The next 12 months will bring about the most change in education in this State in a generation. We will have the Australian Curriculum in English, History, Science and Mathematics which will commence in 2014 and much preparation is yet to be completed; the way we support our students with learning disabilities has already changed and there is enormous focus to ensure these children are well supported.

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.

Daryl Finch

P & C Message

The year started extremely well with a wonderful number of new faces at our first meeting for the year on the day our students started or returned to school. Lots of enthusiasm expressed for our upcoming events including Beach Carnival and Gala Days. Unfortunately, nature had different plans and unprecedented floods across nearly all of New South Wales changed a lot of planning.

Fortunately the flood waters followed most of our children as they came home for the March Desi break. Many thanks to those parents who found themselves being hosts for longer than the planned four days. Also an extended thank you to the staff at YAHS who spent long nights keeping the pump house safe and protecting our school. Unfortunately, after many long calls and emails, the most important event in the school calendar for our families had to be postponed. As this is the 90th year of YAHS it was a decision not made lightly. This postponement also meant that our AGM would also have to be delayed.

This year Stacey Lugsdin had to step down from her role of Treasurer which she has filled for the last three years, and we thank her dedication to the role and many other activities that Stacey has supported. Stacey this year received a 'Parent of the Year Award' from the DEC to recognize her efforts over many years at several schools including Yanco.



Our current executive is Di Gill (President) Andrew Garwood (Vice president 1) Kay Goldsworthy (Vice President 2) Monique Owen (Secretary) all of whom I welcome back. The new Treasurer is Ellen McMaster and I look forward to working closely with her. Other roles which needed to be filed are: Gala Day 2013 Coordinator - Theresa Tagliapietra, NRL Footy Knockout 2012 - Dave King, McCaughey Ball -Stacey Lugsdin and Art Show - Bronwyn Heath. None of these functions would happen without the hard work of these people and their helpers. I encourage all parents to support these functions in any way possible as all funds raised go into extras for all students.

The football knockout did manage to go ahead and entries were high as other knockouts had to cancel due to floods. A very small group of P&C members worked hard to have available food and drinks for those who played and were spectators. With ANZAC Day being in the middle of the week many parents headed to Leeton to watch the school march on mass. Our students made us proud in the way proudly wore their uniform and how they treated the service with dignity and respect. ANZAC Day also became our AGM but unfortunately numbers were less than usual however we did manage to fill our executive positions and other roles that are important to keep the P&C going. Highlights of the year included the completion of the amenities facilities near the swimming pool which was paid for by P&C. McCaughey Ball, seeing the Year 11 and 12 students enjoying the evening with their parents in a beautiful setting. The Family Fun day this was held in conjunction with the Art Show in lieu of the cancelled Gala Day.

This year we welcomed many new families into the YAHS family. Unfortunately at this time of year we say good bye to many families who leave because their child has graduated from Year 12 or are moving on for other reasons. We wish you all the best in the future but wish to remind you that you are always welcome in the YAHS family circle.

Di Gill (YAHS P&C President 2012)

Student representative's message

In Term 1 the SRC held a 'Black and White' social which was a fun night with students from all years coming together to dance under the UV lights.

This year the P&C involved the SRC in the process of designing and endorsing policies on uniform and sun safety. The uniform policy will ensure that all students and parents know what the expectations are with regard to uniforms. The Sun policy was also considered to be important due to the amount of time the students here spend in the harsh Australian sun, and the danger of skin cancer. With some areas of the uniform policy in disagreement, the SRC held year meetings to discuss the school thoughts. This was a great help in making decisions and compromises.

The major goal for the SRC of 2012 was to see the Memorial Wall completed. The garden and wall in front of the library was the designated location. The gardening staff did a wonderful job tidying the area, laying pavers and planting new plants. Criteria was also decided on and approved by the SRC, P&C and Executive teacher's body. The Memorial Wall honours those who have died within 10 years of their graduating year at Yanco Agricultural High School. After long discussions the plaques have been chosen and are ready to be ordered. The Memorial Wall will be ready to be presented to the school in 2013. The SRC voted Murray Smith and Harriet Condon to represent YAHS and attend the zone meetings in Griffith, to discuss SRC related topics and share with other schools what is happening in our SRC. From the zone meetings both Harriet and Murray were elected to represent the area at Regional meetings. At this level the students discuss topics from the "Overall Effectiveness of the SRC" to "How to Motivate Student Involvement within our Schools". These students are also in charge of planning the Regional conference, where all schools from around the region send their SRC members for a three day camp to learn new skills in leadership and confidence. Six newly elected SRC members for the 2013 body travelled down to Lake Hume for the camp in late Term 4.

Yanco was fortunate to have Brittany Whiteley elected as the representative for the region at the State SRC conference in Sydney.

Greater staff involvement occurred in 2012 with Miss Mercuri and Mr Gifford joining Miss O'Brien as SRC coordinators.

Harriet Condon

School Prefects Report

The Prefect structure for 2012 consisted of 4 Captains and 6 Prefects. This team compliments other youth leadership positions available in the school; consisting of SRC and The Sport House Captains.



Throughout the year Prefects have participated in school committees that have involved other Year 12 students. A summary of these committees' achievements follows;

The **Media Committee** consisted of 4 students. The role of this committee was to develop and present numerous slideshows that captured the diversity of activities that the school participates in each term. The produced slideshows were displayed at Commendation Assemblies, Year 12 Graduation, in the school foyer and at the Schools' display tent at various field days. The slideshows featured the schools participation in; ANZAC services, all sporting activities and carnivals, family fun day, show stock and cultural activities.

The Fundraising Committee consisted of seven students. This committee raised in excess of \$5000 which was distributed equally between the charities of "Friends of Luro" and "Care flight"; Fundraising activities included; multiple mufti days, Valentine's Day, YAHS JRL knockout, a beard growing competition, Sleep in/School Breakfast, and a raffle of a signed Canterbury football The Bulldog jersey. Fundraising committee also contributed toward the Year 12 Annual Gift to the school, which were new heavy duty plastic sporting house flags. These flags are to be used at the swimming carnival and other carnivals where the traditional material house flags may be at risk of being damaged.

The **Sport Committee** consisted of nine year 12 students and the Year 11 House Vice Captains. The role of this committee was to organise marching practice, and to tally the Doubleday Shield house points for this year, as well as supporting the organisation our school sporting carnivals.

The **ANZAC day committee** consisted of four year 12 students. They organised the school's involvement in the Leeton ANZAC Day march, the Dawn Service, the annual ANZAC church service, and the school's Senior Service. All these events were noted as a very moving and memorable day.

The **Fun Day and Gala Day committee** consisted of 8 students. This committee negotiated their planned activities around floods and postponed events to successfully present a Year 12 Fashion Parade, a Family Fun Day, and Year 12 Final Day to recognize Year 12's contributions.

The **Special Events Committee** consisted of 8 students. They organised numerous Year 12 "Well–Being" activities that included Pizza and Bonfire nights, Time-out dinner at Mrs Draper's house and farewell function for our previous year adviser, Mr Stewart.

The **Graduation Committee** consisted of 7 students, who, along with the assistance of Mrs Morris successfully organised our Year 12 Formal Graduation Dinner and Presentation evening held on the 20th September.

Overall 2012 has been a very productive and eventful year. We would like to thank our Prefect Adviser Mr Press, and our Year Advisers, Mr Hill and Mrs Draper, the supporters of the Prefect team, Mr. Benjamin, Miss O'Brien, Mr Sachs and Mrs Rolfe and finally, Mr Finch who have all worked to assist us in developing our Leadership skills whilst being students of Yanco Agricultural High School.

Scott Gill and Clare Bolam

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

Gender	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Male	172	168	167	162	169
Female	151	153	158	185	186



Student attendance profile



Student Attendance

	Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	7		98.2	97.2	97.4	98.6
_	8		97.8	96.6	95.2	96.1
00	9		97.1	97.4	96.6	96.8
School	10		96.4	97.8	97.4	96.9
	11		97.9	95.5	96.4	97.4
	12		97.1	98.9	97.1	98.5
	Total	96.9	97.3	97.2	96.7	97.3
	7		91.2	91.5	91.2	90.8
	8		88.9	89.0	88.8	88.4
5	9		88.3	87.7	86.8	86.8
Region	10		88.3	87.9	85.1	84.7
Ř	11		88.7	88.2	85.4	85.0
	12		88.6	89.8	88.7	88.0
	Total	89.9	88.9	89.0	87.6	87.3
	7		92.3	92.6	92.5	92.4
	8		90.0	90.5	90.1	90.1
DEC	9		88.8	89.1	88.8	88.7
tel	10		88.7	88.3	87.1	87.0
State	11		89.4	89.1	87.6	87.6
	12		89.4	89.8	89.2	89.3
	Total	89.9	89.7	89.9	89.2	89.1

Management of non-attendance

School attendance rates are significantly above those of both the region and the State. Our attendance percentage continues to move upwardly and is very satisfactory.

No specific attendance programs are required. The attendance of all students is closely monitored and considered by the welfare team in the school as required.

Post-school destinations

Of the 45 students who completed Year 12 at Yanco Agricultural High School in 2012, 28 are attending university and 6 are attending full time TAFE. A further 2 have apprenticeships or traineeships and 5 others have gained other employment. Four students have elected to have a gap year and deferred their tertiary studies. There is only one student for whom the postschool destination cannot be confirmed. Interestingly 23 or 51% of students are working or studying in agricultural fields.

The university courses selected by students include veterinary science, education, paramedics, medical science, agricultural business management, agricultural science, agricultural law, engineering, psychology, arts, marine studies, nutrition, science and equine studies.

Students who have obtained apprenticeships or traineeships have been employed as welders, automotive, primary industries and stable hands.

Year 12 students undertaking vocational or trade training

During 2012 students have had access to broaden the Stage 6 curriculum, particularly with VET opportunities and accessed a broad range of subjects that meet the needs of students.

The school's Trade Training Centre was completed during the year and students commenced use in October. The trade training centre will ensure students access the VET courses in appropriate industry standard training facilities in hospitality and engineering.

Courses offered and student candidates were

- 1. Primary Industries 53
- 2. Business Services 4
- 3. Hospitality 18
- 4. Metals & Engineering 6

Primary Industries included students who were completing their Year 10 and 11 studies. Hospitality included students from Year 11.

The school will continue to work with Get Set as a structured work-placement provider to ensure

our students have the best access to workplace learning. The school will continue to support students in undertaking one structured workplacement in their home locations to support their local communities. Primary Industry students this year have completed their first work placement on the school farm.

Year 12 students attaining HSC or equivalent vocational educational qualification

Of the 45 students completing the HSC Courses, 33 or 73% have studied a vocational education subject. 5 students elected to study two VET courses. Below is a table showing the distribution of students completing their VET studies in 2012.

	Year 12	Year 11	Year 10
Primary Industries	18	13	22
Metal & Engineering	6	0	0
Business Services	4	0	0
Hospitality	11	7	0

In addition the TAFE accredited and board endorsed subject, horse industry was completed by 10 students.

Most students sat for the HSC Exam in the individual VET subjects with great success in Business Services – first in State and Primary Industries second and fifth in the State in the HSC examinations.



Staff information

The Executive consists of the principal, both deputy principals, seven head teachers and the DGO. All members of this collegial team accept responsibility for different aspects of whole school programs and projects.

Classroom teachers are responsible for curriculum delivery of courses offered at YAHS. Support and supervision across key learning areas is shared by the executive teachers.

The welfare team is led by the two head teachers' welfare and consists of the year advisers, head teachers, the DGO and other staff members who have accepted specialist roles in the care of students.

The faculty staff distribution was 6 English; 3 maths; 4 science; 2 human society and its environment (HSIE); 10 technical and applied studies (TAS) including agriculture; 2 creative arts (music and visual arts); 0.4 student teaching learning; 3 PDHPE. The school adds an additional 0.4 to the STLA from staffing allocations due to student need.

Of the 36.7 teaching staff, 20 live on campus. The School Administration and Support Staff (SASS) were 8.382 in number.

As is the nature of our residential school we also support the position of Deputy Principal Residential; Business Services Manager; Registrar's Office 3; School Matron 3; Farm/Gardening Staff 5; Cleaning and Laundry staff 12; Maintenance and Grounds 7; Catering staff 12; Residential Sports Coordinators 1; Residential Clerical 1. A new position added this year was the Stable Manager's position.



Flooding – March 2012

Staff establishment

All staff are qualified to teach in their subject areas and most staff are very experienced. All teaching staff have high expectations of students and meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools. We strive to provide exceptional learning opportunities for all. All teaching staff meet the NSW Institute of Teachers professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

Position	Number
Principal	1
Deputy Principal(s)	2
Head Teachers	7
Classroom Teachers	22
Careers Advisor	1
Support Teacher Learning Assistance	0.8
Teacher Librarian	1
Counsellor	1
School Administrative & Support Staff	8.382
Total	44.128

The National Education Agreement requires schools to report on Indigenous composition of their workforce.

No staff listed above have indicated they are of indigenous heritage.

Staff retention

2012 saw significant change in school staff. Jason Sachs took up the position of Head Teacher Welfare (Boys) following the retirement of Greg Fulljames. David McCarron gained a position at Tooleybuc Central School through the process of merit selection and was replaced by a casual teacher for the remainder of the year.

In the English/History faculty, Josie Tomlinson moved to Sydney and was replaced by Melissa Mercuri and Noni Del Guzzo was replaced by a

casual teacher while on maternity leave. Anthony Langdon, from the United Kingdom, joined the Mathematics/Science staff for the year as a casual appointment.

Another long-serving member of staff, Ray Gough retired at the end of Term 3 and was replaced by a casual teacher in the Mathematics faculty during Term 4. At the end of 2011, Lauren Gregor resigned from the Visual Arts staff and was replaced by Graeme Lowe during Term 1 followed by Scott McGrevy who was appointed through merit selection. The TAS faculty also saw changes with Danual Stewart moving to Coonabarabran HS being replaced by Richard Valler and Simone Wilson moving to Binnaway Central School being replaced by Fiona Edwards. At the end of 2012, 32% of the school staff have been teaching less than 5 years.



ANZAC DAY 2012

Teacher qualifications

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

Qualifications	% of staff
Degree or Diploma	100%
Postgraduate	9%



Financial summary

This summary covers funds for operating costs and does not involve expenditure areas such as permanent salaries, building and major maintenance.

Date of financial summary	30/11/2012
Income	\$
Balance brought forward	915428.00
Global funds	230944.00
Tied funds	267283.00
School & community sources	85183.00
Interest	53841.00
Trust receipts	837398.00
Canteen	268256.00
Total income	2658333.00
Expenditure	
Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	129024.00
Excursions	112667.00
Extracurricular dissections	21476.00
Library	22386.00
Training & development	34541.59
Tied funds	184250.41
Casual relief teachers	100567.00
Administration & office	90340.00
School-operated canteen	218122.00
Utilities	133592.00
Maintenance	12828.00
Trust accounts	416221.00
Capital programs	305484.00
Total expenditure	1781499.00
Balance carried forward	876834.00
Balance carried forward	876834.00

This summary covers funds for operating costs and does not involve expenditure areas such as permanent salaries, building and major maintenance, but does include some Hostel income and expenditure.

Notes:

1. Capital Programs includes funds actually spent during 2012

2. Tied Fund Payments does not include the TPL Tied Fund as this is shown separately

3. Excursion Income is included in Trust receipts as there is no separate dissection available in the table.

A full copy of the school's 2012 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meeting of the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.



School performance 2012

Achievements

Arts – Visual Arts

2012 was a productive year for Visual Arts at Yanco Agricultural High School. The most significant developments have occurred in the faculty's teaching-learning programs (units of work). New units of work for all year groups in Visual Arts were implemented in 2012. YAHS's new Visual arts units draw on the experience and expertise of other state schools with wellestablished programs. The Visual Arts faculty of Warners Bay High School (NSW DEC) have been a particularly helpful in assisting in this process. Collegial partnerships were established with other Visual Arts faculties in the local area (Hay War Memorial High School, Leeton High School and St Francis De Sales Regional College). These local partnerships have led to further program exchange and development, extra-curricular and excursion experiences.

Budget spending is looking to balance sufficient consumable items against value adding purchases of tools and equipment. Significantly, the faculty purchased its first set of digital cameras this year. They have received substantial use and have proved to be a worthy investment, gaining use in class and extra curricula activities. Extending their use beyond class work, one YAHS student has utilised the equipment in her commencement of a Duke of Edinburgh Award in Photography, and is due to complete the award later in 2013.



The Art Cows (purchased by the P&C in 2010-11) continue to be used as an after school project for students. Students from years 7 to 11 participated in the cow painting project in 2012. This particular activity provides a unique after school experience, where students enjoy working towards a creative and cooperative group task. Cow Painting for the 2013 Gala Day is underway and our students look forward to the opportunity to display their work.

The big event for the Visual Arts faculty last year was most certainly the Annual Art Show. The event showcased a significant amount of quality work from students and the wider artistic community. Over 200 student works from YAHS, Leeton and St Francis were exhibited, complemented by over 100 open adult entries. YAHS Visual Arts students Montana Hawkins (Year 8) and Cherie Potter (Year 11) were awarded most outstanding exhibit in the Junior and Senior Student sections respectively.

For the third consecutive year YAHS successfully nominated Visual Arts students into the National Art School program. The Preliminary Visual arts class of 2012 attended an excursion to ARTEXPRESS in Term 1. The excursion exposed students to the highest standard of HSC Visual Arts work. The class commenced their HSC in Term 4 2012. As part of the HSC program students visited Leeton High School and joined LHS students in a range of activities designed to stimulate HSC Major Work ideas. Our HSC Visual Arts students will again meet with LHS in a follow up day hosted at YAHS.

ARTS - Music

2012 has been another successful year in the Music department. The first Year 12 class

completed their HSC with pleasing results. Ellen Toohill (Year 12) will continue to study violin in a Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Western Sydney.

Students undertaking Music as a subject have had a number of opportunities to travel and see live performances. Stage 6 Music Students travelled to Sydney to see a performance of the Encore concert, as well as attending Study Days in Wagga. Year 7 students travelled to Griffith for a performance of KROP.



The Drum Corps has once again had a busy year, with performances at KROP, Leeton Eisteddfod, Leeton Band Spectacular, and Condobolin Show. Students from the Junior Drum Corps had graduated into the Senior group, and a Year 7 Drum Corps has been established. The Choir was invited to sing at the Leeton Cadet Unit at their Passing Out Parade, has participated in *Music: Count Us In*, joining with over half a million students in song across Australia.

Performance Night continues to represent the talents of students at YAHS in a variety of art forms. Students from Year 7-12 were involved in performances and the backstage crew and the evening performance was a culmination of their hard work and creativity throughout the semester.

YAHS students have also made a number of achievements throughout 2012. George Calman and Cameron Read (Year 10) have performed with the Millennium Marching Band at a number of events including the Olympic Welcoming Home Parade and Schools Spectacular. Emma Carmichael (Year 11) also performed at Schools Spectacular as a member of the Core Choir. Vanessa Patey (Year 11) was selected for the NSW State Wind Band, and along with Ellen Shepherd (Year 10), toured the Dubbo region with the West of the Divide Wind Ensemble. Montana Hawkins and Sally McNiff (Year 8) were selected in the NSW State Choir and performed at the Sydney Opera House.

Individual students have also been involved in DEC Music Camps, attending Band, Rock and Choral Camps. Students from YAHS have also had a number of accomplishments in the Leeton Eisteddfod. The Drum Corps was awarded the trophy for the Best Instrumental Group Performance of any type, and a number of students from YAHS were awarded places.

Sport

Sport has, once again, continued to be a major part of our school's culture and 2012 proved to be a very successful year for students across a number of sporting events. The many carnivals hosted by the school define the commitment, passion and sportsmanship our students' possess. All school carnivals ran smoothly with the continued support from staff members and parents associated with the school.



The Captains and Vice Captains of the school sporting houses include;

Breakwell: Patrick Dwyer & Alice Clark (Captains), Thomas Webb & Sabrina Finch (Vice Captains)

Gardiner: Taylor Freeman & Lauren Read (Captains), Kieran Fair & Natalie Rayment (Vice Captains)

McCaughey: Jackson Romanelli & Nikki Guttler (Captains), Alex Stewart & Rachel Skinner (Vice Captains)

Mutch: Tobie Payne & Mia Chen (Captains), Harrison Grant & Harriet Lugsdin (Vice Captains) The year started well with the **YAHS Twilight Swimming Carnival** which was held at the Leeton Swimming Pool, early in Term 1. The number of students participating was once again outstanding and the competition between the sporting houses was fierce. The winning house on the day was Mutch.

 Swimming Age Champions 2012 – Seniors, Luke Lucas & Celina Delaney; 16yr, Adam Twigg & Lua Plant; 15yr, Mitchell Ryan & Remi Wilton; 14yr, Mitchell Pippin & Meg Potter; 13yr, Thomas Arnold & Brittany Manwaring; 12yr, Connor Ricciarelli & Gemma Fisher.

Later in the term, YAHS students competed at the **Zone Swimming Carnival** held in Leeton. A strong performance was put in by all swimmers.

At the end of Term 1, 10 students competed at the CHS State Swimming Carnival held at Homebush, Sydney. These students were: Year 7: Thomas Arnold, Kathy Mara, Gemma Fisher, Zoe Potter & Charlotte Butt. Year 9: Meg Potter. Year 10: Demi King & Lua Plant Year 12: Celina Delaney.

Thank you to Mr Haskins for giving up his time to coach these students and run training sessions leading up to the carnivals.



On Thursday the 3rd of May, the **YAHS Athletics Carnival** was held. The day started off well with the House captains organising their houses for the March Past. It was an excellent way to start off the carnival as you could sense the pride of the students as they marched up the oval. The participation for the day was excellent, with many students jumping, throwing and running for their house. We saw quite a few records broken throughout the day. Those included;

 16yr Girls 100m – broken by Kristi-Lee Taylor with a time of 13.27s

- 14yr Girls 400m broken by Sophie Eaton with a time of 1.12.59min
- 14yr Girls 1500m broken by Brydie Mannion with a time of 6.27.25min
- 15yr Girls 1500m broken by Remi Wilton with a time of 6.27.28min
- 16yr Girls Javelin broken by Lilly Serafin with a throw of 19.04m
- 14yr Girls Shot Put broken by Kimberly Butler with a throw of 9.78m
- 17+ Boys Discus broken by Mitchell Stubberfield with a throw of 42.85m
- 13yr Girls Relay broken by McCaughey with a time of 1.02.15min
- 15yr Girls Relay broken by Mutch with a time of 52.84s



Athletics Age Champions 2012 – Seniors, Mitchell Stubberfield & Alice Clark; 16yr, Mitchell White & Melanie Guttler; 15yr, Mitchell Ryan & Remi Wilton; 14yr, Mitchell Pippin & Sophie Eaton/Chelsea Pratt; 13yr, Cameron Hall & Lauren Hughes; 12yr, Connor Ricciarelli & Zoe Potter.

The winning house was Mutch House.



From our school Athletics Carnival, 97 students were successful in making it to the **Zone Athletics Carnival** which was held in Griffith.

Zone Age Champions

14yr Boys – Mitchell Pippin
15yr Girls – Remi Wilton
16yr Boys – Dustin Manwaring
Zone Runner Up
13yr Boys – Clay McKenzie
14yr Girls – Marnie Whytcross
Open Girls – Sabrina Finch

At the end of the day the students witnessed the All Star 100m event where we had both Sophie Eaton and Patrick Dwyer competing. The All Star 100m event is a 100m sprint with students competing who had the top 8 times of the day, for males and females. Sophie and Patrick both had fantastic runs, coming in 2nd. It was an excellent achievement for both of them, especially for Sophie, as a Year 8 student competing against senior students.

In August, 21 enthusiastic students made the journey to Albury for the **Riverina Regional Athletics Carnival**. Yanco Agricultural High School had a huge amount of success throughout the day with several students achieving personal best times and making it into the Riverina Team to compete at the State Carnival.

There were a few outstanding moments throughout the day including the performances by Sophie Eaton and the 14 year Girls Relay Team. Sophie Eaton has also been selected to run in the Open Girls 4 x 400m Relay at the State Carnival. What an excellent achievement for a 14 year old!

The following 8 students were successful in making it to the State Athletics Carnival which was held in Sydney on the 6^{th} , 7^{th} and 8^{th} of September.

Sophie Eaton – 100m, 200m, 400m, 14yr Girls 4 x 100m Relay, Opens 4 x 400m Relay Stefany Burrows – 1500m Inez Mara - Discus Mitchell Pippin – 800m Remi Wilton – 1500m Brydie Mannion – 14yr Girls Relay Codie DeCaux – 14yr Girls Relay Janaia Booth – 14yr Girls Relay On Thursday the 6th of September, students from Yanco Agricultural High School travelled to Sydney to compete in the **CHS Athletics Carnival** at Homebush Stadium.

- The 14 Year Girls Relay team consisting of Sophie Eaton, Chelsea Pratt, Janaia Booth and Codie DeCaux had a brilliant run, finishing 4th in their heat and 18th overall.
- Inez Mara competed in the 17+ Girls Discus, throwing a distance of around 23 metres (a personal best for Inez).
- Mitchell Pippin competed in the 14 Year Boys 800m finishing 8th in his heat and running a personal best time.
- Sophie Eaton not only ran in the 14 year Girls Relay but also competed in the 400m, 200m, and 100m.

In the 400m heat, Sophie qualified 1^{st} beating her personal best time by 5 seconds. She finished 6^{th} in the final. In the 200m heat, she qualified 4^{th} and then finished 6^{th} in the final. In the 100m, Sophie qualified 4^{th} in the heat and came away with a silver medal in the final.

All students who participated in the carnival had amazing experiences and represented the school and region with pride and commitment.

An event which makes our school very unique is the annual **Beach Carnival**, held on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River. Unfortunately this year, due to the horrific flooding in the area we were unable to hold this carnival. We look forward to the opportunity to bring it back in 2013.

Unfortunately, due to the floods the **YAHS Cross Country** course had to be changed dramatically. Only a small part of boys and girls bush was able to be used. There were great times set and new students this year put in a big effort.

Congratulations to McCaughey house who were the winners on the day.

 Cross Country Age Champions 2012 – 18yr, Mitchell Stubberfield & Alice Clark; 17yr, Robert Leane & Stefany Burrows; 16yr, Mitchell White & Melanie Guttler; 15yr, Mitchell Ryan & Remi Wilton; 14yr, Mitchell Pippin & Brydie Mannion; 13yr, Clay McKenzie & Lauren Gregory; 12yr, Dylan Whiley & Zoe Potter. The YAHS Cross Country Team travelled to Hillston for the **Zone Cross Country** Carnival during May and was very successful. Winners for the day were Nicholas Pollard, Stefany Burrows and Remi Wilton.



23 Yanco students progressed onto the **Riverina Cross Country** Carnival, which was held at the Gundagai race course. The day was a great success. Everyone ran fabulously on the day, and was very proud of their achievements. There were many Yanco students who ran well, but the stand-out on the day was Stefany Burrows who made it to **State Cross Country** level. She competed at Eastern Creek in the first week of Term 3. Nicholas Pollard and Dylan Whiley where placed on the reserve state list as they both just missed out by one place.

Another event which makes our school so special is the annual Gate Run. New students within the school were very excited to be a part of such a unique event. Once again the participation rates were outstanding and house spirits were alive. The winning house for the day was Gardiner.

 Gate Run Age Champions 2012 – Yr 11, Stefany Burrows/Sabrina Finch & James Leane; Yr 10, Jessica Power & Nicholas Heywood; Yr 9, Erika Quinn & James Littlehales; Yr 8, Brydie Mannion & Mitchell Pippin; Yr 7, Loren Gregory & Reid Burley

Rugby League

2012 was one of the most successful years for the First Grade Rugby League team in many years. The side took out the annual Dave Sheldrick Shield for the fourth year in a row, comfortably defeating Leeton High School and arch rivals St Francis College.



The team's next match was against Griffith High School in the University Shield where they won by eight points. From this match, Yanco progressed into the final 16 with relative ease. They were then up against Canowindra High School which proved to be a very physical game but Yanco's fighting spirit and fitness ensured a win.

The side were then in the final eight and travelled to Figtree High School. Yanco came away with a convincing twenty point victory.

This qualified them for the semi-finals of the state wide University Shield competition. Yanco had drawn an away game against arch rival and fellow agricultural school, Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School. Unfortunately Farrer were too strong on the day winning 30-4. Despite this disappointing result, it proved to be a solid performance for Yanco as one week later Farrer won the final by over fifty points at Shark Park, Cronulla. Congratulations to the players for putting in solid performances in all year.

Major sporting awards of 2012 include;

Sportsman of the Year – *Mitchell Stubberfield*

Junior Sportsman of the Year – *Mitchell Pippin* Sportswomen of the Year – *Alice Clark*

Junior Sportswomen of the Year – Sophie Eaton

NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge Award – *Matt Guttler* For outstanding commitment, achievement and contribution to school sport

DOUGLAS HAMILTON PRIZE Best Male Athlete – Mitchell Pippin

Best Female Athlete – Sophie Eaton

GILL CUP – Mitchell Pippin Student scoring the highest number of house points

RUGBY LEAGUE Jack Gown Medal – Thomas Webb

Rookie of the Year – James Rapley

Best Forward – Timothy Hillam

Dedication Award – Mitchell Stubberfield

Bryan Norrie Trophy – Mitchell Pippin

Riverina Cup Players Player – James Rapley

Most Improved Junior Rugby League – Damian Johnston

RUGBY UNION

Shane Miners Memorial Trophy – Adam Saul

Girls Rugby Union Most Improved – Sarah Ride

Girls Rugby Union Coaches Award – Remi Wilton

CRICKET



Alex Plant Trophy – Alexander McMaster

George Harding Trophy – Thomas Webb

Bill Duncan Memorial Trophy - James Hincenbergs

Best Junior Cricketer – Samuel Alexander

Lamont – Geltch Trophy – Jeremy Hillam

Warren Weir Perpetual – Andrew Thorne Outstanding commitment towards the organisation and assistance of school sport

Champion House 2012 – Mutch

Such a successful year would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of staff within YAHS. Thank you to the PE staff; Mr Coelli, Mr Watt and Mr Ash for your assistance and support throughout the year.

Extra-curricular

Throughout 2012 we saw many changes with one being a change in direction. Specialist coaches were employed to supervise and coach various teams in the school. This included those teams competing in weekend competitions.

We saw our students compete in a wide range of weekend and after hours activities which included;

- Fishing Club
- Army Cadets
- Army Reserves
- Girl Guides
- Rugby League
- Netball

• Refereeing and coaching across a number of sports (netball, rugby league, touch, basketball & cricket)

- Rural Fire Service
- Scouts
- Venturers
- Blood donors
- Touch Football
- Dancing

- Music (Flute, guitar, Eisteddfod, pipes & drums, piano, singing, town band, violin)
- Little Athletics
- Swimming Club
- AFL
- Basketball
- Cricket
- Equestrian events
- Golf
- Gym
- Hockey
- Lawn Bowls
- League tag
- Rugby Union
- Shooting
- Soccer
- Squash
- Tae Kwon Doe
- Tennis

We have had the pleasure of seeing some fantastic athletes pass through this school and this year is no exception. So to all our students congratulations on an outstanding year both on and off your respective court, fields or arenas.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents, grandparents, family friends, teachers and coaches who have helped out in any way during 2012 to get students to and from training and games.

Along with all the great sporting achievements both team and individual, we have had some fun

weekend activities; including Paintballing, Movies and Ten Pin Bowling, Shopping in Griffith, Wagga and Leeton, Markets in Yanco and Wagga, Canoeing in Boys Bush, Beach Activities at Leeton Ski Beach, Clay Target Shooting, Lazer Tag in Wagga and the many birthday dinners and dorm dinners that seem to occur every week.

Academic

In the National Assessment Program, the results across the Years 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 7: from Band 4 (lowest) to Band 9 (highest for Year 7)

Yr 9: from Band 5 (lowest) to Band 10 (highest for Year 9)

and

In the Higher School Certificate the performance of students is reported in performance bands ranging from Performance Band 1 (lowest) to Performance Band 6 (highest).



Reading – NAPLAN Year 7

Year 7 – Reading

- The percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard remained at 0% from 2011 to 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 10 % in 2011 to 16% in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 6, from 25 % in 2011 to 28 % in 2012
- 32.6% of students achieved a Band 7 result, compared to 26.5% of the State.

Year 7 – Writing

- Increase in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 2% in 2011 to 19% in 2012
- Decrease in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 23 % in 2011 to 35% in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 7, from 10.4 % in 2011 to 20.9 % in 2012
- The percentage of students achieving at the top two Bands, remained consistent at an average of 8%

Year 7 – Spelling

- Decrease in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 6 % in 2011 to 5% in 2012
- The percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard remained consistent at 23%.
- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 8, from 12% in 2011 to 14% in 2012
- 58% of students achieved Band 6 or Band 7 compared to 49% of the State.

Year 7 – Grammar and Punctuation

- No students achieved Below National Minimum Standard in 2011 and 2012.
- Increase in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 8% in 2011 to 9 % in 2012

- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 7, from 18.8 % in 2011 to 34.9% in 2012
- 54% of students achieved Band 7 and Band 8 compared to 45% of the State.



Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 7



Year 7 – Numeracy

- Increase in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 0% in 2011 to 2% in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 2 % in 2011 to 19 % in 2012

- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 8, from 8.3% in 2011 to 26% in 2012
- 35% of students achieved a Band 6 result, compared to 26% of the State.

Reading – NAPLAN Year 9



Year 9 – Reading

- Increase in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 0 % in 2011 to 3% in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 10% in 2011 to 14 % in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 7, from 36 % in 2011 to 41 % in 2012
- A consistent performance of 31% students achieving Band 8 from 2011 to 2012.

Year 9 – Writing

- Increase in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 7% in 2011 to 32% in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 34% in 2011 to 53% in 2012
- Decrease in the percentage of students achieving at Band 6, from 28 % in 2011 to 21% in 2012
- Consistent performance of 3% of students achieving Band10.

Year 9 – Spelling

- Increase in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 2% in 2011 to 3% in 2012
- Decrease in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 26% in 2011 to 18% in 2012
- Significant increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 7, from 24% in 2011 to 40% in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 10, from 1.6% in 2011 to 2.8% in 2012

Year 9 – Grammar and Punctuation

- Increase in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 2% in 2011 to 3% in 2012
- Decrease in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 13% in 2011 to 31% in 2012
- Decrease in the percentage of students achieving at Band 7, from 31% in 2011 to 23.6% in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at the top two Bands, from 11 % in 2011 to 17% in 2012

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 9

 Increase in the percentage of students Below National Minimum Standard from 0% in 2011 to 1% in 2012

- Increase in the percentage of students At or Below National Minimum Standard from 3% in 2011 to 11 % in 2012
- Increase in the percentage of students achieving at Band 9, from 14 % in 2011 to 18 % in 2012
- Consistent performance of 7% of students achieving Band10.



Progress in reading and numeracy

Minimum Standards data

Percentage of Year 7 students achieving at or above minimum standard (exempt students included)			
Reading	100.0		
Writing 81.4			
Spelling 95.4			
Grammar & Punctuation 100.0			
Numeracy 97.7			

Growth – Year 7

- Year 7 (Boys) have improved by 22 scale scores from the 2011 data in the test aspect of Spelling.
- School growth in Spelling from 2011 to 2012 is lower than the state growth. The school

growth was 52.5 compared to the state growth of 53.4 for ALL STUDENTS indicating a negative growth of .9 score points below the state.

• School growth (girls) in Numeracy from 2011 to 2012 is lower than the state growth. The school growth was 41.2 compared to the state growth of 45.2 for GIRLS indicating a negative growth of 4 score points below the state.

It should be noted that the incoming Year 7 cohort came from a very varied number of schools and backgrounds. The 44 students came from 40 different primary schools. Many of the students come from School of the Air, Distance Education or Home Schooling where their parents are the teachers.

This combined with settling into a residential setting does not always allow students to perform at their best in this early Year 7 NAPLAN test. This diagnostic testing gives a view of each student's literacy and numeracy level and allows the school to identify areas of support for individual students.

Percentage of Year 9 students achieving at or above minimum standard (exempt students included)		
Reading	97.2	
Writing 68.1		
Spelling 97.2		
Grammar & Punctuation 97.2		
Numeracy 98.6		

Growth - Year 9

- Year 9 girls are 13 scale scores above the state average in the test aspect of grammar and punctuation.
- Year 9 girls are 9 scale scores above the state average growth in the test aspect of grammar and punctuation.
- School growth in spelling from 2011 to 2012 is higher than the state growth. The school average growth was 35.4 compared to the state growth of 30.6 for ALL STUDENTS

indicating a growth of 4.8 score points above the state.

- School growth in Numeracy from 2011 to 2012 is higher than the state growth. The school growth was 42.6 compared to the state growth of 40.6 for ALL STUDENTS indicating a growth of 2 score points above the state.
- School growth (boys) in Spelling from 2011 to 2012 is higher than the state growth. The school growth was 38.5 compared to the state growth of 30.6 for BOYS indicating a growth of 7.9 score points above the state.

The My School website provides detailed information and data for national literacy and numeracy testing (NAPLAN).

Click on the link <u>http://www.myschool.edu.au</u> and enter the school name in the *Find a school* and select *GO*.



Higher School Certificate

In 2012 45 students sat for the Higher School Certificate (HSC). 26 courses were studied including 4 Vocational Education and Training courses. Student performance is expressed in Bands determined in accordance with a standards framework. Students achieved marks of 80 or above (Bands 5 and 6) in 20 of these courses.

Students' performances in the HSC were compared with their performances in the School Certificate in 2010. This allowed the school to determine progress for individual students and groups of students and provided comparison with students across the state of similar ability. This indicated huge improvement for the 2012 cohort with the middle performing groups at the School Certificate showing significant value adding over the 2 years. Again the data indicated that our top performing students at Year 10 are not proceeding forward at the rate the school would wish.

Students are placed in Bands 1 to 6 with Band 6 representing the highest achievement.

Agriculture performance showed a significant improvement from previous years with 17 students averaging a score of 76.54 compared to the previous 5 years of 73.9 and state average of 68.27. There were 82% of students who scored a Band 4 or above compared to the state performance of 46% in these bands.

Of the 17 students in the English Advanced course, all were placed in bands 3, 4 and 5 with 88% in Band 4 and 5. Of the 25 students in English Standard course all were placed in Bands 2 to 5 with 44% in Bands 4 and 5. The school average score was 67.66 compared to the previous 5 year average of 65.3 and the state average of 66.4. There were only three students in English Extension, all scoring an E3 result.

In the general mathematics course 29 students were placed in Bands 1 to 5. 48% scored a band 4 or above. School average score was 67.48 down from 68.3 on the previous 5 years average and slightly above the state average of 66.2.

In biology, 16 students were placed in bands 3 to 5. A school average score of 75.3 was obtained compared to the previous 5 years average of 73.8 and state average of 72.46. In chemistry there were 14 students placed in Bands 2 or 5. In physics all students were in Band 3 or 4. In senior science 15 students were placed in Bands 2 to 5 with 80% in band 5. The average score of 80.08 compared to the previous 5 years average of 80.5 and state average of 75.13. There were 8 students in earth and environmental science who scored either a Band 3 or 4.

In modern history students were placed in Band 2 to 4. There were two history extension students.

In geography 16 students were in Bands 1 to 5. The school average score was 61.11 compared to the previous 5 years average of 66.4 and the state average of 69.4. In business studies 9 students were in Bands 3 to 5 with 36% scoring a Band 4 or better.

The 7 students in industrial technology were placed in Bands 3 or 4.

In personal development, health and physical education, the 13 students were placed in Bands 2 to 5 with 69% in Bands 4 and above. The school's average score was 76.09 compared to the previous 5 years average of 73.8 and the state average of 70.4.

In food technology 10 students were in Bands 3, 4 and 5. 60% of the students scored a Band 5. The average score was 79.6 compared to the previous 5 years average of 73.9 and state average of 73.62. There were 2 Music students for the first time and they both were successful.

There were 46 students who completed the primary industries VET exam and were placed in Bands 3 to 6 with over 70% of those achieving Band 5 or above. There were 5 Band 6 results in the class (25% of those given) and students placed second and fifth in the examination. In 2012 ten students completed the TAFE accredited equine industry course.

In the business services examination the four students gained either a Band 4, 5 or 6 result with one students being placed first in the State.

In VET hospitality 16 students were placed in Bands 3 to 6 with 50% gaining a Band 5 or 6 result; in VET metals and engineering only 3 students attempted the examination and were placed in Bands 2, 3 and 4.



Implications from HSC analysis include:

- 1. As has been evident in previous years, School Certificate performance must be central to the selection by students of their HSC course program and relative to their career aspirations.
- 2. Sound selection and advice procedures are vital in success at the HSC level. It is again evident that some students were attempting subjects they were unsuitable for.
- 3. Student performance is directly linked to effective teaching practices. The performance of students in 2012 was much improved on the previous year and relates well to the focus that teaching staff and students carried right through to the exams.
- 4. VET courses remain essential to the curriculum choice and are worthy inclusions for ATAR calculation for individual students. These courses are essential for those students pursuing non university paths.
- Senior and junior tutorials and the development of improved examination techniques are critical to School Certificate and HSC performance. These courses have been an integral part of the

Year 12 studies in 2012 and students have responded well to their inclusion.

6. As a result of the HSC results 28 of the 45 students were offered positions at tertiary institutions. These results are improved on previous years. Many of the offers were made through the early entry schemes at various tertiary facilities.

Significant programs and initiatives

Aboriginal education

Yanco Agricultural High School continues to work closely with district office and other local agencies such as Tirkandi Inaburra, to develop the profile of Indigenous Education and to support our Indigenous students. Although Yanco Agricultural High School only has a small percentage of Indigenous students, it always strives to celebrate Indigenous culture.

NAIDOC Day celebrations are a way our Indigenous and Non Indigenous students can celebrate and embrace Indigenous culture. In 2012 all of our Year 8 students travelled to the local Indigenous school Tirkandi Inaburra located at Coleambally. Yanco Agricultural High School students met with Tirkandi Inaburra students and staff and travelled to local Indigenous sites. At these sites local elder Mr Hank Lyons gave the students a description of the site and why it was significant in Indigenous history for the local area. Mr Lyons also gave the students the opportunity to taste some local "bush tucker", such as Witchetty Grubs. On completion of the visits to the sites all students returned to Yanco Agricultural High School for a BBQ lunch and an afternoon of activities. This day was very positive in developing close links with the Tirkandi Inaburra School.

In Term 4 2012, Grace Kalinan (Year 7), was presented with a Proud and Deadly award for her achievements in the NAPLAN examinations earlier in the year.

Cameron Read in Year 10 was part of the Australian Olympic Commission welcome home parade in Sydney. Cameron was part of the NSW Public Schools Millennium Marching Band, which welcomed home our Australian athletes after participating in the London Olympics.

Multicultural education

The students of YAHS come predominantly from rural communities of Anglo Saxon background. A harmonious residential campus, based upon antiracism, tolerance of others and respect for individual differences has been nurtured over the past ten years. Understanding of cultural, linguistic and religious differences is embodied within the broad curriculum.

In 2011 students travelled to France, visited the Western Front battle fields and London. Previous visits were China in 2006 and 2009, Vietnam in 2007 and New Zealand in 2008. In 2013 a visit to Canada is planned.

YAHS students in 2011 have raised in excess of \$2100 to support three students in East Timor in attending the Agricultural College in Los Palos, East Timor (annually). This very successful program was established in 2006 in conjunction with the Leeton Shire Council and has provided concrete understanding of the needs of other communities and cultures beyond the wealth of Australian communities.

Within the Language Other Than English (LOTE) program, Year 7 engages in a language and cultural program centred upon the Japanese language. The movement to an Asian language is recognition that there is need to focus on our near neighbours and where our international trade is focused.

Other programs

Respect and Responsibility

Respect and Responsibility are essential criteria in developing harmony between all students and staff who live in a residential high school. In an environment where many people live together on a 24 hour, 7 day a week basis, respect and responsibility for oneself and others around them is a skill each student must develop if there is to be a caring and peaceful environment.

Care of others is seen in the roles played by school prefects, dorm prefects, house captains, SRC members, team leaders of show stock teams, school venturers, fishing club members, Maitland reading tutors and sporting team helpers.

Staff were trained in Peer Support, Rock Water and RAP (Resourceful Adolescent Program) so that new initiatives can be introduced to enhance the current student leadership and support networks. The knowledge gained will be used to further engage students in skill development and awareness of others in a positive manner.

A variety of programs were carried out this year to develop the student in the areas of empathy and giving. Students travelled to Tirkandi School for NAIDOC celebrations and shared the day with the students of that school. A group of Year 11 students helped throughout the year at Gralee Special School in Leeton, working with disabled students. A memorial wall was planned in the school to show respect for students who have lost their lives while still at the school or within a short time of leaving the school. Many students in the school continue to travel to Griffith to donate blood. The school continues to win the Vampire award for the most blood donated from schools in the area.

Students had charity drives throughout the year raising funds for the education of agricultural students in Luro, East Timor and to support Careflight. Students also raised funds to send a fellow student overseas to compete in the world titles of his chosen field in Wales.

Student Leadership

In 2012 the leadership opportunities were varied for students, enabling them to broaden their knowledge and understanding of others.

All of Year 10 and a select group of Year 9 attended two seminars on Youth Mental Health at Griffith. These days were part of the support given to country families by the Red Dog Institute and local school counsellors. Year 10 completed a leadership course which includes skills in leadership, problem solving, First Aid, Bronze Medallion and mediation to prepare for the role of a dorm prefect.

Year 9 travelled to Borambola for a 2 day camp where they developed problem solving, leadership and management skills. A group of Year 9 students trained for two days in Peer Support, so that in 2013 they can run the course with the new Year 7 students. The group further developed skills of problem solving and empathy to help them in the management and direction of younger students.

Dorm prefects in Year 11 continue to provide a valuable leadership role in the dormitory situation. They tend and care for younger students in a responsible manner. These senior

students develop a lasting rapport with their 'dormies' by showing good attitudes and leadership. Year 11 school prefects elect travelled to Sydney to train for the important role of leading the school. They attended the Young Leaders Conference, visited Parliament House and spent many hours learning about their future role as captains and prefects.

Year 7 travelled to Lake Talbot for an overnight camp. The aim of the camp is to aid students in the further transition to high school and to help with making friends and learning more about the unique Yanco family.

Year 6 students had a three day stay at school to ready them for a life at boarding school. The parents came also and had their own style of lessons. Classes were held, tours were given of the farm and surrounds and lots of games were played to help the young students to gain awareness of what high school away from home will be like.

The SRC maintains an important role in many aspects of school life, from organising school socials to providing a strong leadership foundation for all year groups. Many students have taken on responsibilities of coaching, managing, coordinating sporting and agricultural teams e.g. cricket, football, netball, show stock teams, marching.

Middle School

YAHS is committed to supporting our Middle School students, currently Years 7 and 8, in ways that inspire them to be successful and to achieve their best possible learning outcomes. The middle years of schooling are an important stage in student development. Experiencing positive relationships, being genuinely engaged in learning and developing high self-esteem, are outcomes that will ensure the students entering Stage 5 courses are well prepared to meet the challenges of all subjects. We want to help them to become independent learners and to develop confidence, resilience, a love of learning and respect for others.

The YAHS Middle School program this year has continued to support students in their transition from Primary School into High School. The key to a successful Middle School Program is flexibility. Middle Schooling demands that we review our traditional thinking, practises, processes and organisation to promote effective continuity in student learning and development.

This year the main values of Middle Schooling were maintained in regards to the following:

- Creating gender based classes
- Home rooms with teachers and not the students moving
- Reducing the number of teachers per class by grouping subjects to on teacher. The groupings being English/History, Science/Mathematics and PDHPE/Geography. All other subjects are taught individually
- In Year 7 we have a theme for their first major assessment task
- Running a middle school day focusing on team building, welfare, trouble shooting and fun

In 2012 the results of this program were evident in the NAPLAN results. There were significant improvements in literacy and numeracy. It is our aim in 2013 to further improve the skills and attitudes of our Stage 4 students, so they may continue to succeed. With the introduction of National curriculum in the next couple of years, we are hoping to put together some more themed programs to consolidate their understanding of common elements in some KLA's.

Transition

Traditional or typical transition programs cannot be implemented at Yanco Agricultural High School because students come from across NSW and from a large number of different schools.

Not only are students transitioning to High school they are also leaving home and living initially with strangers. This adds extra anxiety, homesickness and complexity to their commencement of high school. There is also a major transition for parents as they send their child away to be effectively raised by strangers.

Since 2009 Yanco Agricultural High School has run a three day transition program for Year 6 students in November. This program has successfully diminished and alleviated the 'shock' associated with enrolling and attending a residential high school for both parents and students. Continual evaluation each year has enabled a suitable program to be developed and presented. The program has been designed to induct both parents and students into residential living and schooling at Yanco Agricultural High School. In addition the 'school' to gains more knowledge and insight into the students joining the community. This knowledge and understanding allowed staff to prepare for the individual needs of each child.

The program covered school physical orientation (school building, dormitories, farm and school grounds and facilities), school procedures and organisation (school day times, activities, middle schooling, weekends, etc), library, computers (access, use, policies, emails, etc), get to know you activities for parents and students, school canteen (accounts, uniforms, book packs), administration (enrolment, custody, travel, leave, payments), health (medical, counsellor, dietary needs), sample lessons (science, mathematics, Agriculture, food technology), meet buddies(Year 10 Peer Support Leaders for 2013), extracurricular activities available, learning support provisions, scholarships, meet & greet (staff - teaching, administration, farm, dining, cleaning, maintenance, matrons, etc) P&C representatives, Isolated Children's Parent representative.

Overwhelmingly the feedback from all who attended or participated in the program (students, parents and staff) was overwhelmingly supportive and positive. Two parents who attended the 2011 program decided that Yanco Agricultural High School was not the correct choice for their child (distance too far from home) and did not take up their position in 2012. Of those who commenced 2012 only one student in Year 7 withdrew during the year due to changed family circumstances.

The transition program has eliminated the unknown for both parents and students and reduced the anxiety associated with this major change in all their lives. It also permits teachers to structure their programs to cater for the incoming cohort. The program continues to be modified based on the feedback from each year.

The transition program has been expanded to include a three week immersion program at the start of 2013. This program will allow greater time to be spent assessing students and inducting

them into the many complexities of living and studying at a residential high school. The 'Preparation for Boarding School' booklet developed by Yanco Agricultural High School provides the backbone for this program.

Showstock Program

Equine

The equestrian team has been involved in a variety of activities within the school curriculum as well as extra-curricular activities throughout 2012. The school equestrian complex has housed up to 52 horses throughout the year. There has been 17 students enrolled in the TAFE based Horse Industry Skills course in Year 11 and 12 with 26 students enrolled in the 9- 10 Animal Management (Horse) School Endorsed course.



Students have been involved in the following events within the local community, Team Penning, One Day Eventing (ODE), local shows, interschool competitions, stockman's Challenge events and campdrafting. The school has also hosted several visiting instructors to further develop the skills of the students. Students have displayed a high level of horsemanship skills and been excellent ambassadors for the school. Highlights from these events would be; success at the North West Equestrian Expo where Isaac Mannion placed 1st and several others placed in the C Grade ODE. Blake Paulston was 13 years boys' age champion. The school received an award for Best Presented Large School.



For the first time, in 2012, students attended Canberra Royal (Stock horse Classes) and Sydney Royal (Stock horse classes), where the students represented the school to a very high standard and achieved excellent results. Future events planned for 2013 include attending the Australian Stock Horse Nationals in Tamworth and a trip to Equitana for senior students. This would help to engage the students with all aspects of the industry all in one location.

Sheep

This year has been another very successful year of showing and competing for the sheep showstock team. The year kicked off with a horde of students appearing down at the sheep yards in the afternoons. We had a very stylish show team (sheep that is) of both rams and ewes. The experienced students led the way assisting these students in learning how to handle and judge sheep. Our success has shown through the many great highlights during the course of the year.

Members of the showstock team attended the following shows: Gundagai; Canberra Royal; Holbrook Sheep and Wool Fair; Australian Sheep and Wool Fair; Finley Poll Dorset Youth Day; West Wyalong Show; Bendigo Elite White Suffolk Show and Sale; Royal Melbourne Show and finally the Cootamundra Show.

The team returned from each show loaded with ribbons and prizes as well as enjoyable memories and experiences. Some of the highlights for the 'sheep' were Champion and Supreme Ram Short Wool (Canberra); Supreme Schools exhibit (Canberra); Supreme short wool ram (Holbrook); First place for Ewe (Bendigo Elite White Suffolk Show and Sale); Champion White Suffolk Ewe (Melbourne); Champion White Suffolk Ram and Ewe (Cootamundra).



Most of the shows offered students the opportunity to participate in different competitions including: junior judging (meat breeds, long wool, short wool, merino), junior handling, best maintained team and overall school winner. All students went very well in these competitions and demonstrated growth in both their abilities and confidence throughout the year. Students also took the opportunity to be associate judges and stewards at the shows.

Erin Goldsworthy won the Merino judging in Canberra and qualified for state final at Sydney Royal in meat breed judging at Holbrook. Sally Smyth placed first in fleece judging and second in Merino judging at Cootamundra to qualify for the state final in both categories. 'Old man' Royce Johnston placed first in the Senior Handling at Canberra, claimed the Handler's award at Holbrook and qualified for the state finals in merino judging by winning the competition at Cootamundra. Jane Goldsworthy qualified for the state finals in Sydney in Merino judging by placing second at Holbrook. Deanna Johnston won the senior fleece judging at Holbrook. Gavin Evans placed first at Holbrook in junior fleece judging and first in the Handlers competition in Melbourne. Thomas Arnold, at Holbrook, placed second in novice meat judging out of seventy competitors and second in the junior fleece judging. At Bendigo Elite White Suffolk Show & Sale Ryan Van Gemert won the handling competition and placed second in the junior judging. Andrew Haenig won the junior judging at the Elite White Suffollk show. Damian Johnston placed second in handling at both Canberra and Melbourne shows and qualified for the state finals in Sydney for grain judging. At Cootamundra Jessica Power qualified for the state finals in Meat judging by placing second. Sam Barnes came second at Melbourne in the junior judging. Four of the sheep showstock team (Royce Johnston, Sam Barnes, Damian Johnston and Deanna Johnston) also demonstrated their shearing skills at Cootamundra in the Novice section. Royce finished fourth in the competition. The team won the "Best Maintained School" for the second year and the overall School Winner at the Royal Melbourne Show.

Cattle

2012 has been another successful year for the Yanco Cattle Showstock team. Over the year Yanco attended ten shows, three Royals, two junior shows and five local shows, prepared over twenty head of animals for hook and hoof competitions and worked closely with a number of stud breeders. This has enable students to develop skills and to gain a greater network in the beef industry.

The Beef Cattle Show Stock team kick started their showing season this year with a small number of steers and large number of kids arising early after an evening spent at the swimming carnival, to test their luck and skills at beef cattle handling at the Henty show. The students aim was to make the top ten of the group finals later that day and to qualify themselves through to Sydney.

Seven of the students being: Jonathon Murdoch, Xenii Newman-Kell, Inez Mara, Keiley O'Brien, Zoe Howe, Toby Commens and Darcy Booth were deemed successful with a blue ribbon which secured their spot in the Beef Cattle State handling finals which were to be held in conjunction with the Sydney Royal Easter Show, giving a total of ten students qualifying in the state paraders.

The success of the students in the group finals didn't stop there though, with Keiley O'Brien and Brittany Whiteley effectively competing in the group finals over in the fleece and grain pavilion to again secure their spots in the group finals for their respective events. The team showed that they were capable of handling more than cattle when Remi Wilton won the female Sheaf Tossing competition and Jonathon Murdoch, won both the male Sheaf Tossing competition and Whip Cracking competition. The steers shown by the school went on to win both champion and reserve champion in the led steer section overall making Henty a great start to the year.

The next Show on the list for the already successful team to conquer was the 2012 ActewAGL Canberra Royal Show. Here the school exhibited a great team of five steers and showcased an even greater team of 15 students. The students were strong competition in their respective paraders classes positioning 4 seconds from William Booth, Jessica Power, Brittany Whiteley and Keiley O'Brien, 2 thirds from Odette Mara and Darcy Booth, a fourth from Toby Commens, fifth from Zoe Howe and highly commended from Hayley Fairfull, Remi Wilton, Jessica Crick and Xenii Newman-Kell.

Jessica Crick then went on to win the 17-25 years old open junior judging title with Keiley O'Brien placing second to her and Jessica Power placing third in the 16 years age group.

After competing at the Nation's Capital the students then represented the school during the Easter Holidays at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Here the cattle team exhibited a larger team of steers and gained many ribbons from the animals that they had prepared for the hoof and hook competition. It should be noted though, that two of the animals the students took away were bred by the school: one being a Limousin x Murray Grey which was awarded Reserve Champion Trade Steer or Heifer and the other being a Pure Bred Murray Grey which gained the Champion School's Carcase award and helped the Murray Grey breed with the Stan Hill Trophy win by over



ten points.

The students then proved their worth over the animals with some stand out placings in the paraders competition including Zoe Howe and Xenii Newman-Kell who both were first in their age groups. Brittany Whiteley represented Yanco proudly and was awarded a third place in the school paraders section, whilst Toby Commens, Inez Mara and Jess Crick placed 3rd in their respective heats, Thomas Gilvarry 5th, Darcy Booth 6th and Jonathon Murdoch received a highly commended. Bailey Taylor and Keiley O'Brien must also be congratulated on competing at this high level.



Thanks to the Beckenham Limousin stud the cattle show stock team was offered a great opportunity to break in and show a team of heifers at this year's 2012 National Birubi Junior Limousin show. Although the number of students that attended was low, the achievements definitely weren't with Yanco being a strong contester over the three day show. Troy Kylstra was named Champion in his age groups junior judging section with Kylie Fairfull, Darcy Booth and Keiley O'Brien all receiving reserve champion.

In the paraders section Yanco had three students win their class and go on to compete for Championship awards. Troy Kylstra and Darcy Booth both were awarded Champion paraders of their section, whilst all other students placed in the top 5 of the class. The schools junior judging team was highly successful in gaining the Champion Team Judging title and a pure Limousin steer breed by Garren Park Genetics; this was a great addition to our steer team for Melbourne.

The school found the National Dubbo All Breeds Junior Heifer Show a great chance to show off our steers and develop ourselves within the beef industry throughout various demonstrations and activities that were held. The steers shown placed 1st to 5th along with the students placing well in their respective paraders and junior judging classes. Stand out results were Toby Commens who was awarded Reserve Champion parader and James Littlehales Reserve Champion Junior Judge. All students competed at a high level and placed in their paraders and this assisted the School in being awarded Champion School of the show.



At Melbourne Royal 15 of the students participated in the School and College's Paraders competition. All of the students who paraded placed with: Troy Kylstra, Logan Manwaring, Kaitlyn McKay, Jessica Johnston, Jessica Crick all receiving first. Kylie Fairfull, James Littlehales, Darcy Booth coming in at second, third places went to Odette Mara, Will Petersen, Zoe Howe, fourth to Nicole Fairley, Andrew Thorn and both Hayley Fairfull, Inez Mara received Highly Commended. Jessica Crick then went on to wow the judges and gain the title of being the 2012 Melbourne Royal Reserve Champion School or College Parader. With such great results the students then secured the Champion School or College award. This was an outstanding effort by all involved.

Term 4 is a busy time of year for the showstock team with both Cootamundra and Albury show being qualifiers for Sydney Royal. Inez Mara and Troy Kylstra have secured their spot in the state cattle paraders, whilst poultry girl Breanna Carr will be competing in the Cattle Junior Judging Finals. Many of the cattle students have shown their diversity and secured spots at state finals in other areas. Zoe Howe will be competing in the Grain and Meat Sheep section, Jessica Power Meat Sheep, Keiley O'Brien Fruit & Vegies and Fleece, and Odette Mara the Fruit and Vegetable section. Albury show is still on the calendar where we hope more students will secure their spots.

The year also saw the students work heavily with some breeders and were given the chance to break in a number of Shorthorn and Limousin heifers. The students really enjoyed this process and got the opportunity to show these heifers at local shows which enabled the students to learn more about the show scene. Through this connection the students were given the wonderful opportunity to visit the properties of these breeders and learn about their beef production. This enables students to identify with the beef industry at a greater level and consider other job possibilities.

The classroom and show team activities were more heavily interacted with the year 10 classes working with the carcass animals and learning about the beef industry and following the animals from the start process to analysing the final product. The year 7 students also got the chance to not only feed the dairy calves but were able to tame the animals and displayed these animals and the school at the local show.

2012 has been a great year for all members of the beef cattle show stock team. We have seen many new faces come and join and fare welled a few of the older ones. All involved in the team have shared many skills and good experiences throughout the year and always participated in the extra curricular activity to the best of their potential. We have enjoyed Mr Collins joining our team and we look forward to a successful 2013.

We wish to thank all donators of animals to the school, without your support over the year these opportunities would not be possible, Thank You.

Poultry

This year was another bright year for the poultry team, with birds placing at every show despite the fact that we lacked members. Together Jacquiline Ervin (10), Kathy Mara (7) and I, Breanna Carr (9), entered enthusiastically in many shows. Some of them included West Wyalong, Leeton, Ardlethan, Albury and Junee.

Narrandera Show saw Jacqui and Breanna walking away with ribbons with Jacqui's Silver Spangled Hamburg hen getting Champion Junior Female and Breanna's Silver Spangled Hamburg rooster (Kevin) getting Champion Junior male.



Kathy's first time showing poultry was excellent, with both of her roosters coming away with a 1st and 2nd place. We congratulate Kathy for getting in and "having a go".

The chooks shown were Silver Spangled Hamburgs, Silver Sebrights and Pekin Bantams.

Next year we hope to encourage more students to show poultry or at least to come and have a look. There is more to showing a chook than meets the eye, though, as Mr Dixon soon found out as the three of us washed our chooks (he looked a bit surprised!). It has been a big learning curve for him and the three of us are grateful for him taking up the position, so thank you Mr Dixon for letting the poultry show stock team get back on its feet.

Connected Learning

In 2012 staff consolidated the skills learned and continued to take advantage of the technology in their classrooms including ten SmartBoards. A number of staff have embraced the Moodle teaching environment by creating workspaces for their classes which can be accessed while at school as well as when at home. The Commonwealth DER laptop program was continued with the provision of laptops to Year 9 students. Having witnessed the value of these devices for students in years nine through twelve, staff discussed the possibility of the provision of DER laptops to all students within the school. It is planned to implement this in early 2013 and continue this after 2013 when the Commonwealth program is discontinued. Staff took advantage of a number of online professional development courses through 2012 to enhance their ICT skills. All teaching staff have been provided with a DER laptop through the Commonwealth program.

The DEC provided Connected Classroom equipment significantly improved our access to curriculum resources for students and training and development opportunities for staff. The connected classroom includes an interactive white board together with videoconferencing facilities for staff and student use. These facilities were used throughout the year for students studying Stage 6 courses via Distance Education.

School Assets and Hostel





During 2012, the following **major** projects were completed at the school:

 Construction of Federally funded Trade Training Centre in Hospitality and Engineering (\$1.5M)



- Purchase of storage container for metals classes (\$5,000)
- Carpeting and repainting of teacher residence (\$20,000)
- Kubota Teaching Tractor (\$19,000)
- Upgrade of Breakwell Dormitory Bathroom (\$20,000)
- Construction of Automotive Studies workshop (\$25,000). An additional \$25000 funding was supplied by the State government to allow this project to be completed.
- Construction of storage shed for equipment owned by the YAHS Fishing Club, the Scouts and Venturers groups and the Welfare Team (\$30,000)
- Amenities block at Pool financed by P. & C. (\$150,000)



- Medical Centre upgrade of plumbing and structure (\$30,000)
- Replacement of brick paths around Hindmarsh dormitory with concrete.
- Upgrade of MAZE accounting system (\$18,000)

- New roller door on metalwork room (\$2,500)
- New storage system for school records and archives (\$12,000)
- Window coverings and furnishing of new dormitory buildings (\$35,000)
- Purchase of tandem trailer for Sheep Showstock (\$8,000)
- Drilling of bore for upgrading irrigation system for school ovals (\$40,000)

Community Use of Facilities

The school's diverse facilities were used for the following community uses in 2012.

Church Leaders Retreat, Horsemanship Clinic and other Equine Workshops, Wedding photos, Junior Rugby League Knockout Carnival, Celebration of 100 years of Murrumbidgee Irrigation, P and C Art Show, P and C Fun Day, Inter school sports carnivals, Various formal DEC meetings and seminars and as a Staging post for SES Flood Rescues in March



Progress on 2012 targets

There were five targets for 2012 and the following indicates our success with these.

Target 1

In Year 9 Literacy increase the number of students scoring in Bands 8, 9 and 10 by 2 in each Band compared to the 2011 NAPLAN results.

Bands	8	9	10
Reading 2011	19	9	5
Reading 2012	22	7	3
Writing 2011	21	6	2
Writing 2012	14	4	2
Spelling 2011	16	13	1
Spelling 2012	18	10	2
Grammar/Punctuation 2011	27	5	2
Grammar/Punctuation 2012	21	8	4

The numbers in green indicate where the school has reached its target. The school has partially reached its target but writing remains a concern and programs have been implemented during 2012 and continuing in 2013 to address this issue.



In Reading 45.1% of students achieved a Band 8, 9 or 10 compared to the State DEC of 42.8%

In Writing 27.8% of students achieved a Band 8, 9 or 10 compared to the State DEC of 34.7%

In Spelling 41.7% of students achieved a Band 8, 9 or 10 compared to the State DEC of 51%

In Grammar and Punctuation 45.9% of students achieved a Band 8, 9 or 10 compared to the State DEC of 41.7%

This target was partially met.

Target 2

In Year 9 Numeracy increase the number of students scoring in Bands 8, 9 and 10 by 2 in each Band compared to the 2011 NAPLAN results.

Band	8	9	10
Numeracy 2011	17	9	4
Numeracy 2012	17	13	5

In Numeracy 53.9% of students achieved a Band 8. 9 or 10 compared to the State DEC of 42.9%

The trend data indicates we moving our students in the positive direction and we achieved this target in Bands 9 and 10 but not Band 8.

This target was mostly met.



Target 3

All students completing the HSC exhibit positive value adding from their Year 10 School Certificate performance. Data supplied breaks the cohort into low, middle and high achievers. The table below indicates the performance of the Year 12 cohort compared to the previous 5 years.



As can be seen the 2012 performance was greatly improved on the previous years. Students in the middle performance band exhibited significant positive value adding. Unfortunately the low and high groups did not achieve as anticipated. In reality though, the HSC performance in 2012 was much improved with all students achieving the results required to access their chosen tertiary courses with all students being offered their preferred courses. In addition Scott Gill was placed first in the Business Services examination and Teresa Sutton placed second in the Primary Industries. These are exceptional results.

This target was partially met

Target 4

Have a greater percentage of student's participation in the school farm operations.

Maintain and extend enrolments in Agriculture throughout the school.

The numbers in Agricultural subjects continue to increase and the results at the HSC were the best attained for many years.

In Agriculture 17 students sat for the examination and achieved a course mean of 76.8 compared to

the previous 5 years of 73.9 and the State DEC mean of 66.8. This is a significant improvement on previous years.

In Primary Industries 46 students from Years 10, 11 and 12 sat the examination and achieved a mean of 82.7 compared to the previous 5 years of 79.3 and a State DEC mean of 75.4. Five Band 6 results including second and fifth in the State were achieved. This was an outstanding success for the school.

Have YAHS recognized as a centre of excellence for Agriculture and skills based training.

This is a long term goal that will not be achieved in this short time period. Over the next 3 to 5 years it is hoped this centre will be achieved.

Enhance the natural resource management of the school farm by implementing conservation strategies.

This is also a long term goal with both the agriculture and farm staff working together to ensure this target is reached over a number of years.

This target has been largely met in 2012.



Gate Run Champions 2012

Target 5

Continue the increase in retention rate of all new students (years 7 to 11) entering the school in 2012 compared to the previous 4 years.

In previous years the withdrawal rate of students was approx. 9%.

Student Withdrawals 2012 (incl. at the end of the year and not returning 2013)

Year 7	4
Year 8	7
Year 9	12
Year 10	20
Year 11	11
Year 12	3

This was a total of 57 students left the school during the year. Below is breakdown of the reasons.

Another School	11
Financial	12
TAFE/Employment/Apprenticeship	17
Not Fitting In	11
Family Relocation	5
Illness (not school related)	1

Many of these reasons are very positive with 17 of the students (30%) finding employment and/or further training in their field of choice. Financial reasons accounted for 21% of students leaving the school. Only 19% of those withdrawing from the school were due to not being able to fit into the residential nature of the school.

Moving to another school for personal choices or not fitting into this school accounted for 22 students of those leaving representing 6% of the school population.

This target was met.

School evaluation

NSW public schools conduct evaluation to support the effective implementation of the school plan. In 2012 our school carried out evaluation of Student Welfare and the Curriculum area was Social Science.

Student Welfare

Background

Student Welfare was selected to be reviewed in 2012. The arrival of a new Head Teacher Welfare Boys gave an opportunity to get a feel for how the system is understood by those using it. We examined feedback from staff, students and parents in order to identify strengths and weaknesses in the current feeling of wellbeing about the students. The data was collected using a "survey monkey" which is an online survey system. People were not asked to identify themselves. There were 30 questions asked using a variety of scales of agreement, direct responses and some chances for people to respond with comments. The information from these surveys will be utilised to improve the programs in the future.

Findings

Students feel safe at the school and most appear to know where to go to get help. Some appear to talk to friends so perhaps some training for students to assist each other may be of benefit. The students have many ideas for making the weekends and after school times more interesting. Some of course are impossible but others in the list will be looked into. The welfare and level system is an area where the students need to be involved in a review and education of the system to all students. Students know how to become involved in leadership activities at a senior level but do not appear to have a grasp of junior year participation.

Future Directions

Students know how to become involved in leadership activities at a senior level but do not appear to have a grasp of junior year participation. We need to gather more information from students on how they believe they can be leaders. This along with other information needs to be disseminated to students through the SRC. More review on how to involve younger students in leadership roles is a longer term goal. The implementation of Peer Support in 2013 is a step in this direction.

Social Science

Background

There have been some recent changes to the delivery of curriculum delivery at Yanco Agricultural High School

- The establishment of Middle Schooling. The 2013 HSC cohort will be the first group to complete high school by using Middle Schooling.
- Years 7 & 8 Geography classes were given to Middle Schooling. As a result, the Social Science faculty has dropped back from three teachers to two.
- 3. HSIE has been taught by both Science and PE teachers.

Findings

- The benefit of Middle Schooling to students far outweighs any concerns that we have with the delivery of HSIE to Stage 4 students.
- Economics has not been selected by students. A student completed Economics in 2011 by Distance Education and is now studying in the Agricultural Economics.
- 3. Business Studies numbers have varied in recent years. This is a rigorous subject and many candidates fail to meet the academic demands of the course.
- 4. Geography continues to attract large numbers against the region and State trends. These numbers are well above Riverina & State statistics. Less academic students are happy to choose Geography as an easier alternative. One student achieved a Band 5 with a HSC mark of 88%. Six from 16 students had Geography in their best three subject results.
- Stage 5 Geography uses case studies to engage and be relevant to rural students. The use of Clickview Online has strongly enhanced the visual resources to support the curriculum.

 Commerce attracts the academic students and supports their pathways to Stage 6 and their university / job pathways.

Future Directions

- Increased demand for Legal Studies is required to create a class. More students will hopefully choose Legal Studies to assist in their pathways in tertiary studies.
- Changes have been made in the Geography delivery for the 2013 cohort. A much deeper study of the Australian Alps / Alpine Ecosystems will be delivered with the use of technology.
- 3. The Geography results remain a concern and improvement will be a priority. Geography Skills will be emphasized and more tutorials made available to students to strengthen skills with writing extended responses.

Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction

In 2012 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school.

Their responses are presented here.

Teachers

Areas staff indicate the school does very well.

- Extracurricular opportunities that are provided for students
- Producing independent and well-rounded students who succeed post-school
- Resources and support offered by library and librarian
- Mentoring through senior school
- Innovative lessons
- Affinity with Agriculture showstock opportunities
- Care for students day and night
- Sport participation
- Cohesive year groups who care for each other
- Students a credit to school when outside the school
- Relationships between staff and students supporting student learning after hours
- Transition programs
- Fostering leadership
- School Profile in Community
- Recognising and rewarding student achievement



Suggestions by staff for Improvement

- HT to work as a team to ensure consistency with support and leadership from Senior Executive
- Limit extra-curricular activities for seniors
- Review school programs more regularly
- Improved communication better systems
- Whole staff a 'better team'
- Improvements in technology software, hardware, training
- Improved support for early career teachers improved induction program, improved duty induction as first duty can be very daunting for new young staff
- Enrichment classes for more able students
- Make up 'How Tos' for each area and event
- Constantly review calendar and events coming up

Both student and parent's views were requested on a survey that looked closely at student welfare.

Insignificant numbers of parents returned the survey to present their thoughts. 254 students replied to surveys spread across all years – 145 female and 110 male students. Findings included.

- 90.2% either very happy or happy at school
- 99.2% feel safe at school
- Only 7.9% indicated they were often bullied or harassed at school with the most common places being the dormitories or playground
- 91.7% of students indicated they participated in school activities/sport, some every day of the week
- Many students indicated they wished to see more activities at weekends
- The Levels system was not understood well by students
- 90.9% of students indicated they are encouraged to take leadership roles in the school

In general students feel safe at school and most appear to know where to get help. Some appear

to talk to friends and are still reluctant to call on the support of a staff member.

Professional learning

In 2012 a total of \$40,427 was expended on professional development of staff. This included \$14,737 from global funds due to the short fall of funds from the DEC (\$25,690). While the total amount expended is allocated almost equally between course costs (\$17,449) and casual relief (\$19,026), due to the chronic shortage of casual staff, many classes for staff involved in professional development were covered by other teaching staff and so the true cost of professional development should actually be much higher than it is. All teachers were engaged in a variety professional opportunities along of with administrative staff.

Throughout the year, school development days (non-student days) are assigned to staff, coinciding with the designated leave weekends, to provide whole school professional development and faculty development for all teaching staff. On these days the following areas were covered:

- Mandatory annual training in CPR training and Emergency Care, Child Protection and Code of Conduct, Anaphylaxis treatment
- First Aid and Resourceful Adolescent Program
- Workplace Health and Safety
- Faculty based programs.

Attendance by staff at regional Teaching and Learning Forums was strong in Terms 2 and 3 with the majority of staff taking these opportunities for ongoing professional development.



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.

The school Targets for 2013 remain the same as 2012 as we continue to follow through with our three year School Plan.

School priority 1

Teaching and Learning

Outcomes for 2012–2014

Continue the growth of literacy and numeracy from Year 7 to Year 9.

Establish a Gifted and Talented program across all years.

Ensure positive value adding from Year 10 to Year 12 ensuring students achieve to their potential.

Support and refine the Middle school initiative.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

Target 1

In Year 9 Literacy increase the number of students scoring in Bands 8, 9 and 10 by 2 in each Band compared to the 2012 NAPLAN results.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Improvement in persuasive writing across all year group. Staff meeting sessions to inform all staff.
- Complete staff training in "Stepping Out" writing. Ongoing over 2012 and 2013. Cross curricula approach.
- Collection of exemplar writing responses to share among whole staff.
- Analyse NAPLAN in regards to questions rather than just marks.
- Whole school program of revision (integrated middle school).
- Analyse data to identify areas of development (new students in 9 – 11 also)
- Employ teacher to add support in LAST area.

- LAST to work across all KLA's.
- Encourage staff to participate in Professional Learning to expand their knowledge.
- Tap into Internal Professional Sharing during staff meetings.
- Include links to Literacy and Numeracy websites on School's website.
- Literacy Prep program

Target 2

In Year 9 Numeracy increase the number of students scoring in Bands 8, 9 and 10 by 2 in each Band compared to the 2012 NAPLAN results.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Include Numeracy in Maitland for at least one term in the year.
- Identify and incorporate Numeracy focus from KLA syllabus.
- Numeracy Prep program
- Maths faculty internal professional sharing.
- Access programs through Riverina Numeracy, Maths Consultants.

Target 3

All students completing the HSC exhibit positive value adding from their Year 10 School Certificate performance.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Continued attendance at external KLA study days.
- Participation in KLA VC days.
- Analysing data, eg. RAP, Naplan, SMART data
- Continue developing Timewise/Study Skills workshops/ HSC mentors programs.
- Continue VC online marking (E.g. By science)
- Encourage staff to participate in real HSC marking and VC marking, engages in pilot marking in KLA's.
- LAST to work with KLA's on extended responses.
- Formalise the Tutorial program for all HSC Courses.

- Start up in-school study days for Preliminary courses.
- Academic excursions look at for future senior students.
- Investigate and improve senior working and study spaces up dorms.
- Monitor extracurricular activities to maximize class time.
- Add resources to the school website to benefit students and staff. For example; Links to HSC resources, assessment policies, assessment schedules, assessment tasks, links specific to parents.
- Investigate non ATAR range of subjects for students.
- Use of Moodle technology.

School priority 2

Agriculture including equine

Outcomes for 2012–2014

Increase the interaction between the school farm and curriculum.

Increase the profile of Agriculture within the school.

2013 Targets to achieve this outcome include:

Target 4

Have a greater percentage of student's participation in the school farm operations.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Develop specific courses with a greater enterprise focus
- Offer Primary Industry courses with industry focus (Equine/Sheep/Beef)
- Demonstrating best practice and increased use of technology
- Use of iPads and applications in Primary Industry classes
- Better utilisation of staff and expertise
- Stand alone AG faculty
- Farm meetings
- Enterprise coordination

- Period allowance to coordinate teaching with the farm activities
- Build farm resource base to better cater for increasing Primary Industry numbers. Asset register of all farm equipment with priority order for replacement. Inclusion of equipment and machinery purchase and replacement in each budget
- Recognised as a centre of excellence for Agriculture and skills based training
- Only offer courses with creditability. Must consider integrity of courses we offer
- Use environmental grants to establish wildlife corridors to enhance biodiversity
- Implement conservation strategies
- Increase gross margin for agricultural enterprises
- Farm operate of a break-even budget.
- Commercially viable wool sheep stud and lucerne hay
- Annual ram sale
- Money generated turned back into farm improvements

School priority 3

Sustainable Schools and Community Engagement

Outcomes for 2012–2014

Enhanced delivery of our services.

Support and strengthen teacher capacity to improve student learning outcomes.

Improved teacher quality through the use of the Quality Teaching Framework.

Develop and maintain active student engagement within the student community.

2013 Target to achieve this outcome include:

Target 5

Continue the increase in retention rate of all new students (years 7 to 11) entering the school in 2013 compared to the previous 4 years.

Strategies to achieve these targets include:

- Use surveys to monitor the wellbeing of students.
- Improve communication from school to parents and community – reports, website, newsletters.
- Staff are encouraged to access resources both within and outside the school to improve overall student learning and engagement.
- Improved school leadership model.
- Greater support for beginning teachers.
- Professional learning and staff welfare become a priority.
- Increased awareness and involvement in community and environmental activities.

School priority 4

Technology

Outcomes for 2012–2014

Increased connected learning throughout all learning stages in the school.

Ensure all connected learning devices are used to maximum potential.

Increased access to digital technologies including the internet.

Improve record keeping using digital means.

There are no targets for this school priority.

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.

Daryl Finch	Principal
Lisa O'Brien	Deputy Principal
Denis Benjamin	Deputy Principal
Bruce Hammond	BSM
Di Gill	President P. & C.

Hariett Condon	SRC
Clare Bolam	School Captain
Scott Gill	School Captain
Alanna Rolfe	Head Teacher Welfare
Jason Sachs	Head Teacher Welfare
Robert Ash	HT Social Science
Shaun Brooker	Head Teacher Science
Greg Press	Head Teacher Maths
Amy Dolstra	HT English/History
Julie Fitzsimon	Registrar
Suzanne Morris	Acting SAM
Trish Kirk	Careers Adviser
Kim Weller	Teacher
Fiona Edwards	Teacher
Mark Dixon	Teacher
Alison Giles	Teacher
Megan Thurgood	Teacher
Elyse North	Teacher
Scott McGrevy	Teacher
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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:

http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/asr