Euabalong West Public School is a PP6 school in the far north of the Riverina Region. Euabalong West Public School is supported by an active P&C and the surrounding community. The staff are dedicated and committed to providing a dynamic learning environment that provides individual learning programs that meet the needs of all learners. In 2008 the school was supported with funding from the Country Areas and Priority Schools Programs.

Students
The school comprises one multi-stage class from Kindergarten to Year 6. At the end of 2008, fifteen students from twelve families were enrolled at Euabalong West Public School.

Staff
Teaching Staff
Euabalong West Public School has an experienced staff who are committed to providing relevant and engaging learning programs. Teaching staff during 2008, comprised:

- 1 Primary Principal
- 0.2 (2 days per fortnight) Release from Face to Face

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

School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS)

- 0.5 (5 days per fortnight) School Administrative Manager
- The school also employs a General Assistant and a causal Teachers Aide (Special)

No permanent staff left the school in 2008.

Significant programs and initiatives
Significant programs and initiatives at Euabalong West Public School in 2008 included:

- Priority Schools Program
- Country Areas Program
- Transition to School
- Active After Schools and Communities
- Investing in Our Schools

Student achievement in 2008

Literacy and Numeracy - NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5
In 2008, two Year 3 students sat the NAPLAN Literacy and Numeracy assessment. There were no Year 5 students at Euabalong West.

Owing to this small number, detailed results cannot be printed for privacy reasons.
Principal's message

The Annual School Report is a summary of the school's achievements in 2008 and provides information regarding our priorities for 2009.

At Euabalong West Public School quality teaching and learning are our central focus. We strive to provide our students with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values for a productive and rewarding life. We aim to provide a well-rounded education that values and supports the intellectual, creative, physical, social and emotional development of each child and ensure that students have the appropriate information and technology skills to meet their educational needs.

It is with a great deal of pride in our school, its students, parents and our wonderful staff that I report on our achievements for 2008.

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.

Sarah Kable
Principal

P&C message

The Euabalong West P&C association has enthusiastically worked with the school over the last 3 years.

2006 saw a new committee formed and the commencement of many successful fund raising activities such as Chocolate box drives, Bonanzas and raffles. This enabled the P&C to contribute significantly the annual school excursions, making it more affordable for families to participate.

In September 2007, the school celebrated it’s 75th anniversary and over 140 past and present teachers, students and parents gathered from all over the state to be a part of the wonderful day of events, memorabilia and socialising. This event would not have been as successful had it not been for the superb banding together of all community members, school staff and the P&C committee.

The P&C was also successful in obtaining a joint CWA/DPI grant of $3000 which again saw a generous contribution to the annual excursion to Sydney enabling all children to enjoy.

The continuation of more successful fundraising in 2008 has put the P&C in a sound financial position where it is able to donate items to the school, which are beneficial to the schools day-to-day happenings.

The P&C, however limited with the lack of interested and active members, will strive to continue with its support of the school, it’s staff and students.

Katherine Arnold
P&C Representative

Student representative’s message

Euabalong West Public School may be a small school but we don’t miss out on much. In 2008 we participated in many extra curricular activities including the Small Schools Athletics Carnival, a week at Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation Camp, attending Halogen Young Leaders Conference and completing a Year 6/7 Transition and Orientation program. We also had opportunities to perform for our community on many occasions such as the Oliver Townsend Memorial Concert, the CWA Mexican Fiesta, Education Week and our end of year Christmas concert.

We would like to thank everybody at Euabalong West Public School for all that they have done in helping to make us who we are today. We will miss the vibrant students and dedicated staff. Thank you.

Kiarra Barby, Rebecca Glover and Bruce White
Student Leaders
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

The final enrolment figure for 2008 was 15, with 7 students in K-2 and 8 students in 3-6. The students, 6 boys and 9 girls, were from twelve families.

Student attendance profile

During the past number years the attendance rate at Euabalong West Public School had started to make notable improvements. However, there has been a concern over the rate of partial attendances at the school and the decrease in the attendance rate during 2008. In 2009, students will be rewarded for excellent attendance during each term. Teachers will continue to remind parents of the importance of regular attendance at school.

Class sizes

In March 2003 the Government announced its commitment to publish primary class sizes in annual school reports in order to provide parents with as much local information as possible.

The following table shows our class sizes as reported at the 2008 class size audit conducted on Tuesday 25 March 2008.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roll Class</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total per Year</th>
<th>Total in Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Structure of classes

There is one multi-stage class at Euabalong West Public School consisting of all students (K-6).
Staffing Information

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

Staff establishment
Euabalong West Public School is staffed by experienced, dedicated and committed teachers who deliver quality student-centred educational programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Release from Face-to-Face</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The teaching staff is supported by a loyal and knowledgeable SASS staff comprising:

- School Administrative Manager
- General Assistant
- Teachers Aide (Special).

Staff retention
All permanent staff were retained in 2008.

Staff attendance
Staff have access to leave entitlements such as sick leave. The staff attendance figure is not reported as the number of teachers in the school is smaller than the threshold for which this information is provided.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>% of staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree or Diploma</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional learning
The staff at Euabalong West Public School is committed to improving their skills and knowledge. All staff participated in professional learning during 2008 closely aligned with the school’s Management Plan.
Financial Summary

Financial summary

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of financial summary:</th>
<th>30/11/2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>94 484.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>42 618.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>36 825.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>6 554.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>5 735.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>548.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>186 767.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Expenditure                |            |
| Teaching & learning        |            |
| Key learning areas         | 10 731.88  |
| Excursions                 | 2 223.38   |
| Extracurricular dissections| 6 226.30   |
| Library                    | 432.74     |
| Training & development     | 473.32     |
| Tied funds                 | 99 924.10  |
| Casual relief teachers     | 0.00       |
| Administration & office    | 14 450.10  |
| School-operated canteen    | 0.00       |
| Utilities                  | 4 562.30   |
| Maintenance                | 3 384.68   |
| Trust accounts             | 548.50     |
| Capital programs           | 11 564.83  |
| **Total expenditure**      | 154 522.13 |
| **Balance carried forward**| 32 244.96  |

An unusually high income was experienced in the Tied Funds area due to large grants from the Federal Government’s Investing In Our Schools program.

A full copy of the school’s 2008 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.
Achievements

Arts
Funding through the Country Areas Program (CAP) enabled students to access specialist teaching and learning in music. Mrs Meredith Ervin was employed to teach music once per week during Terms Two and Three. This program proved very popular with the senior students who took to playing the recorder with ease. All students K-6 received instruction in singing.

Other significant achievement in the Arts included:

- Participating in the Oliver Townsend Community Concert to help raise funds for local families in need. Students sang songs and performed a dance and creative aerobics.
- Singing for Senior Citizens at Lake Cargelligo Hospital.
- Performing songs, plays and poetry for parents and community members during Book Week and Education Week celebrations.
- Creating individual artworks for entry in the Blue Waters Arts Show and Lake Cargelligo Show.
- Participating in the Musica Viva for Schools Program and several other visiting performances.

Sport
The school continues to provide physical fitness and sporting programs for all pupils. These programs provide skills and enjoyment for students through games and team sports. In 2008 the school was fortunate to have received additional funding through the Active After Schools Program. Nicole Turner was employed once per week to coordinate an extra hour of physical fitness.

Once again the school ran the intensive School Swimming Scheme at the Lake Cargelligo Swimming Pool for ten days during Term Four. The program aims to build confidence and teach children water safety skills.

Euabalong West joined with neighbouring schools for the Small Schools Swimming and Athletics Carnivals and Rankins Springs Round Robin.

The highlight of sports program this year was, without a doubt, the excursion to Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation Camp. Students participated in varies activities providing opportunities to play sports, hike, rock climb, archery, grass ski and camp-out.

Academic
In the National Assessment Program, the results across Years 3 and 5 in literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 8.

The achievement scale represents increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in the assessments.

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

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5
Results can not be reported upon as doing so may allow recognition of individual students.

Progress in literacy
All students, K-6, continued to make progress in literacy during 2008. Reading was defined as a particular strength with all students meeting the minimum benchmark. Students are developing and refining their writing skills and the school will continue to focus on the explicit teaching of text types.

Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 3 and Year 5
Results can not be reported upon as doing so may allow recognition of individual students.

Progress in numeracy
All students, K-6, demonstrated improvement in numeracy in 2008. Number has remained an area of strength as a result of the continued implementation of the Count Me in Too and Counting On numeracy programs.

Minimum standards
The Commonwealth Government sets minimum standards for reading, writing, grammar and punctuation, spelling and numeracy for years 3, 5, 7 and 9.
The performance of the students in our school in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy is compared to these minimum standards.

Results can not be reported upon as doing so may allow recognition of individual students.

**Significant programs and initiatives**

**Aboriginal education**

In 2008, four Indigenous students attended Euabalong West Public School. Our school continued to integrate Aboriginal education perspectives within teaching and learning programs to develop positive attitudes across all key learning areas. Students studied Aboriginal culture in HSIE and English, and participated in NAIDOC day celebrations with neighbouring school.

**Multicultural education**

Multicultural education is an important component in the primary school curriculum. Euabalong West Public School endeavours to expose its students to a wide range of multicultural experiences, including:

- Harmony Day activities.
- Class project on Mexico for the Country Women’s Association Country of the Year project. Students presented their research assignments to the CWA, performed a Mexican dance and sang a Mexican song. This project has led to an increased student interest in learning about other countries and a developing awareness of other cultures and lifestyles.
- Cultural study of China to coincide with the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

**Respect and responsibility**

The safety and well-being of all students is the first priority at Euabalong West Public School. Respect and responsibility is at the core of the school’s discipline code.

All student welfare needs continue to be met through effective and consistent implementation of school policy. The school’s behaviour management program continues to reward desired student behaviour while providing consistent, manageable consequences for undesirable behaviour.

In 2008, students participated in ANZAC and Remembrance Say memorials.

**Transition to School**

Euabalong West Public School hosted ten Transition to School days in 2008, Terms Three and Four, for incoming kindergarten students. During the transition program, the children integrated directly into the mainstream class with support from a teachers aide. The program was highly successful in enabling teachers to better understand and prepare for the individual needs of the incoming students. The program also allowed for the involved children to ease gently into the school routine and placate any fears.

**Priority Schools Program (PSP)**

PSP funding has allowed Euabalong West Public School the opportunity to both initiate and support literacy and numeracy programs within teaching and learning practices.

As a result of the Staffing Supplement and PSP funds, additional teacher time allowed for the explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy concepts in focus Primary and Infants groups. This team teaching ensured students received direct attention and individualised support resulting in engaged learners and improved student outcomes.

PSP funding also complemented CAP funds to employ a Teachers Aide (See below).

PSP funds were also used to purchase literacy based resources to support classroom programs. A new selection of Home Readers was bought to replace old and un-levelled texts and a second resource, The Green Box Comprehension Reading Scheme, was purchased to support Senior reading programs.

**Country Areas Program (CAP)**

The Country Areas Program enabled students to access specialist teaching and learning in music (See Arts).

CAP funds were also used to employ a Teachers Aide. This additional classroom support made possible the opportunity for stage based numeracy groups during the implementation of the Count Me In Too mathematics program, focussing heavily on the K-2 age group.
Our Targets

Progress on 2008 targets

Target 1
**To have all students achieving at a stage appropriate level in Literacy and Numeracy outcomes.**

Our achievements include:

- Continued implementation of Count Me in Too and Counting On to develop students’ numeracy skills. All students, K-4, are achieving growth and are perfat the expected level in SENA numeracy assessments.
- Explicit stage based teaching of literacy and numeracy one day per week enabling teachers to focus on the specific learning needs of each student. Teaching and learning programs were focused on specific content and concepts, leading to an improvement in the delivery of lessons. Writing skills were explicitly taught to all students.

Target 2
**To improve student learning outcomes in information and communication technology (ICT) across all Key Learning Areas.**

Our achievements include:

- Regular implementation of SMARTboard technology into teaching and learning programs.
- Students demonstrating increased confidence when interacting with new technologies.

Target 3
**To enhance students’ leadership skills.**

Our achievements include:

- Senior students took on the role of Peer Support leaders in Term Four to work with younger peers in a series of confidence building and team leading activities.
- Senior students were provided increased leadership opportunities, i.e. supporting peers and collaborating with the principal on whole school decision making.

- School welfare practices encouraged students to be proactive in their education through implementation of the Quality Teaching elements self-regulation and student support.
Key Evaluations

Key evaluations
It is a requirement for all NSW public schools to conduct at least two annual evaluations – one related to educational and management practice and the other related to curriculum. In 2008 our school carried out evaluations of leadership and music.

Educational and management practice

Leadership

Background
Students, parents and teachers were surveyed to ascertain the strengths and weaknesses of leadership at Euabalong West Public School. Their responses are presented below.

Findings and conclusions
The survey results indicated that parents were very happy with the leadership within the school. Parents felt that school leaders understood the school and encouraged the best from staff and students, inspiring and motivating learners. Parents agreed that school leaders valued the contribution of individuals and that the school was always looking for ways to improve what it did. Survey results indicated that parents felt their school was a caring school and that the school introduced changes that were good for the students.

All staff displayed a positive attitude towards leadership within the school.

Future directions
2009 will see a change in leadership at Euabalong West Public School when a new principal begins duty. School leadership will remain a priority in 2009 as evident in the school improvement plan at the discretion of the new principal.

Curriculum

Music

Background
Music (CAPA) was the key learning area chosen for evaluation this year. 2007 teaching and learning programs were evaluated and resulted in the planning of additional music opportunities for the students to be supported by the purchase of new resources.

Findings and conclusions
Parents generally agreed that music was an important subject within the primary school curriculum. Survey results indicated that the school should purchase further equipment to support the teaching and learning of music.

Students, particularly grades 3-6, felt better equipped to play a musical instrument as a result of 2008 learning programs. Students indicated that they enjoyed singing and even more so when it included corresponding movements and dance steps. Some students expressed a desire to have a greater range of instruments to choose from though all students indicated an enjoyment and appreciation of music.

Future directions
The school will continue to present music in engaging and innovative ways. Students will continue to travel to alternate venues to enjoy visiting performances, i.e. Musica Viva.

Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction
In 2008 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school. Their responses are presented below.

In survey analysis, an overwhelming response of satisfaction was gained from parents in response to a range of questions about school image, student welfare and curriculum areas.

Overall, extremely positive results were achieved, with parents indicating they were happy with the current academic and social opportunities provided for students.

Parents indicated their support of interschool visits and local excursions and wished for this to continue. Suggestions included more parent involvement in programs such as Count Me in Too and reading and more skills practice in athletics events.
Targets for 2009

2009 targets form a part of the new 2009-2011 Improvement Plan and are as follows.

Target 1
All students achieving stage based outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy.

Strategies to achieve this target include:
- Continued implementation of the Count Me In Too numeracy program.
- Professional learning opportunities for staff and parents.
- Targeted support for students identified with individual learning needs
- Explicit modelled and scaffolded teaching of text types

Our success will be measured by:
- Regular monitoring of student progress.
- Parents report greater understanding and ability to assist their children at home.
- Student show growth of at least one skill band in NAPLAN results between Years 3 and 5.
- Student work samples demonstrate that syllabus outcomes are met.
- All teachers and students will utilise Innovative Technology to enhance the planning, programming and learning mathematics.

Target 2
To develop consistent and authentic school-based methods of assessments in Literacy and Numeracy.

Strategies to achieve this target include:
- Staff to work with staff from the small schools network to ensure consistency in teacher judgement of work samples to measure achievement.
- Staff development in Consistent Teacher Judgement.
- Development of writing rubrics.

Our success will be measured by:
- Students self assess work samples against rubrics.
- Judgement of student achievement is consistent.

Target 3
All senior students demonstrating leadership skills within the school and the community.

Strategies to achieve this target include:
- Establish Student Leadership team.
- All Stage 2 and 3 students participate in activities to develop leadership skills.

Our success will be measured by:
- Feedback from students, staff and parents indicate satisfaction with the activities of the Student Leadership Team.
- Decrease in the percentage of unexplained absences.
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.

Sarah Kable Principal  
Sue Lesker Teacher  
Helen Gieeson School Administrative Manager  
Wendy Brett Teachers Aide (Special)

School contact information
Euabalong West Public School  
Uabba Street  
Ph: (02) 6896 6649  
Fax: (02) 6896 6691  
Email: euabalongw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
School Code: 1867

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:  