Wade High School
Annual School Report

Steps to replace front cover picture
1. Right-click on the front cover picture.
2. Go to Change Picture.
3. Browse your files, locate the picture* and double-click your selection.
4. Click on any one of the four corner handles of the picture. Expand to fill the white space.
5. If required click and drag the picture to be suitably aligned.
* Select a high resolution picture, particularly if printing. You may "zoom" to 300% to assess the quality of the picture.

Insert logo here
1. Right-click on this box.
2. Go to Change Picture.
3. Browse for your logo.
4. Click Insert.
Our school at a glance

In 2010 sixteen new teachers commenced working at the school. Many of these are in their first years of teaching but some have arrived with more experienced backgrounds. Ms Callan our Head Teacher Mentor worked closely with the new teachers and has provided invaluable advice for each as they commenced their exciting careers in education. Ms Callan is to be congratulated on the quality of our New Scheme Teachers Induction and support program.

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

Significant programs and initiatives

Year 7 Accelerated Reader Program

The School has been running Accelerated Reader for all year 7 for the last three years. The purpose for beginning and continuing the program was to encourage the development of reading skills for all students. Its underlying philosophy is to make reading enjoyable and to get positive feedback upon successful completion of a book. The program is run by the Teacher Librarian, with support from the STLA teacher and classroom teachers. It is particularly useful in picking up students with reading/comprehension problems who can then be targeted for reading assistance. It also provides an opportunity to help extend good readers.

HSIE (Initiatives, Successes, Progress on achieving Faculty Targets)

The Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) faculty focussed on improving student assessment in the teaching and learning cycle. Assessment for Learning and in-class assessment were implemented across the majority of all assessment tasks set. Senior assessments focussed on preparing students for the HSC exam. This meant the majority were in-class. The response from students was positive, as it catered for all needs and took the pressure and hassle which take home tasks can carry.

HSC HSIE

Ancient History, Retail Services, Business Studies and Legal Studies were studied by the 2011 Year 12 cohort. Solid results were achieved across all four subjects, in particular, Retail Services, which increased from the previous two years.

SC HSIE

The last School Certificate produced solid results from the 2012 Year 10 cohort. There was a significant improvement in both Australian History and Australian Geography in students attaining Band 3 and Band 4 results, rather than Band 1 and Band 2. Band 6’s.....

Acceleration

One student from Year 10 participated in acceleration in a HSIE subject. This student actively participated in Preliminary Ancient History.

Additional programs (eg Nemo)

Year 8 Geography students participated in a combined Quality Teaching and ‘Thinking Skills’ assessment challenge – ‘The Madagascar Expo’. Students learnt about Rainforests and Grasslands based around the movie ‘Madagascar’. Students were required to put ‘on show’ activities they had completed throughout the term and they were also asked a range of questions from their teachers. The aim of this assessment was to give students responsibility for their own learning and engage students in their learning.

Mathematics Report - for School Report

Initiatives

- Year 12 Applied Maths class developing children’s story books as part of an assessment and visiting ABC Good Start at Driver to read them to the preschool aged children
- Introduction of Interactive Whiteboard technology extensively to all year groups
“Maths in Trades” day at Griffith TAFE

Faculty Targets
- Achieved top bands in each of the HSC courses requiring examinations. That is, 3 Band 6 results in Mathematics, 1 Band 6 result in General Mathematics and 1 E4 in Mathematics Extension One.
- Achieved Band 6 results in School Certificate examination
- Decreased the number of students achieving Band 2 or lower in School Certificate examination by 13%
- Did not meet target of achieving state average or higher in HSC courses.

(Don’t put this in!! ;))

Additional Programs
- Development for implementation in 2012, elective choices for Year 10 5.1 students.
- Forms part of Wade High School’s Raising Responsibilities Initiative

Whole School Initiatives
- Implementation of the Senior Success program for Year 11 2011, developed into a Senior Induction program for implementation to Yr 11 2012.
- Co-ordinating the subject selection process for Year 8 electives
- Co-ordinating the student selection process and implementation of the A-1 student reward scheme.

OTHER MATTERS

Unfortunately, due to major staffing issues we were unable to achieve our Faculty Targets or introduce any initiatives. The goal is to achieve them this year as we now have a full LOTE staff.

Congratulations to our Year 12 students who gained Early Entry into university. In total there were 41 offers made from UOW, UC, CSU, La Trobe, UNE and Notre Dame to 26 of our Year 12s – some students received more than one offer. For those students who have two or three offers, they are now in the enviable position where they can choose which early entry offer to accept. It is a great accomplishment that close to one third of our Year 12 cohort have received offers to university before their ATARs are known and testament to the value of hard work and commitment during the senior years. Universities recognise that ATARs are not always the best indicator of who will be successful in a particular course. Early entry offers are made to students who work consistently in Years 11 and 12, those who show an interest in their chosen field and those likely to succeed at university in their chosen course. The application process is quite a lengthy one for most universities and requires very good preparation.

Student achievement in 2011

Year 12 2011
The Total Year 12 cohort of 2011 was 84 students of whom 39 students have received university offers - this is 46% of total cohort.

Students at WHS continue to perform at a high level in state wide assessments. In the HSC students achieved a number of Band 6 results.

A number of students participated in the school’s acceleration program, completing at least one Preliminary HSC course whilst still in Year 10, with other students completing SC courses from Year 9. Students in the acceleration program achieved the top marks in the Year 12 Mathematics and Mathematics Extension 1 Courses and in the History, Geography, and Citizenship component of the SC.

Year 9 into 10 ‘Raising Responsibility’ Day

The last year 10 group completing the School Certificate had their final assembly on Monday
and our next Year 10 group had their first Raising Responsibility day on Tuesday. The school community should be extremely proud of both groups of students and how they conducted themselves over these two days. Particular praise must go to our Yr 9 students. At a time of the year when many students may lose focus our Yr 9 students took up the challenge of raising their responsibility.

The student’s attention and behaviour at our morning assembly reflected what responsible students look like. Their respect when listening to the speakers, listening to the ‘band’ and listening to staff talk about responsibility and learning was noted by those attending the assembly. For the remainder of the day as students participated in activities designed to raise their responsibility within the community (volunteering program), with themselves (relaxing and stress management) and with their peers (team work activities) students continued to adopt an attitude reflecting responsible behaviour.

A huge thank you goes to all the staff involved in the planning of the day with particular mention to our Yr 9 Advisors Mrs Kain and Mr Boland. The day was very well organised and the involvement of so many of our teaching staff reflects the school’s commitment to be innovative in how we develop lifelong learning skills and how professional we deliver innovative teaching programs.

Year 10 in 2012 can look forward to a year dotted with many opportunities to raise their responsibility. The school, with its focus on PBL, believes the removal of the School Certificate will give more opportunities to put students in responsible situations and as a result extend their abilities to achieve academically, socially and within their community.

Principal’s message

Wade High School has continued its transformation during 2011, with once again some significant staffing changes and a continued growth in student enrolments. We farewelled a number of staff at the end of 2010 and have welcomed several new teachers to the fold. We have enjoyed the enthusiastic approach of our new, young teachers and their approach and efforts have been appreciated by the community, the students and existing staff.

I would like to extend my congratulations and thanks to the entire teaching and support staff at Wade High School for their efforts and support during 2011.

Students achieved in such a broad range of subjects, cultural, community and co-curricular activities and the pride and enthusiasm with which they approached these activities fills us with great hope for the future.

In 2011 the school continued its Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) journey by developing values and analysing data. The Wade High School Community has now committed to the values of Respectful; Responsible, Learners as the cornerstone of our PBL.

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.

Ken Chalmers
Principal

P & C Message

As for my annual report, you may note that this time last year the P&C put forward the goals of building our children a much needed and long overdue COLA, and the huge need to refurbish our science labs.

It is very satisfying to announce that through the hard work of our Principals Mr Chalmers and Mr Payne and our P&C Committee, Wade High has successfully received funding from the Department of Education’s joint funding program, which provides dollar for dollar funding
for approved projects. We have been granted $130,000 for the construction of a COLA and from funds raised directly through our Canteen our P&C has donated $50,000 to this project. Plans are currently underway and Wade High will finally have a COLA by the end of 2012.

More good news for our children is the allocation of $570,000 to go towards the upgrade of our science labs, with work to begin early in the year. Obviously as parents and a P&C we are very excited about these long overdue upgrades for our school, which will make significant improvements to our children’s learning environment.

Our P&C has also raised almost $40,000 this year. Our school canteen contributing $34,000 and almost $5,000 received from the Volunteers grant.

In 2011 we have been able to donate almost $60,000, including $500 to Royal Far West, $3,000 each to our Math’s, and Music faculties, $3,000 for Australian Business Week and $50,000 towards a COLA.

The $5,000 Volunteers grant, made it possible to purchase equipment, and 2 laptops to make our volunteer canteen and P&C treasurer’s jobs a little easier.

Our P&C deserve to feel very proud of all these wonderful achievements, which benefit all our children at Wade High.

It is important for our community to acknowledge that all the financial support received by the P&C comes directly through our canteen... So a huge Thank you... to Sylvia, her staff, the canteen committee, and especially all the wonderful volunteers, who give up their valuable time to work in our canteen.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents to consider becoming a canteen volunteer. It can be as little as 1 hour a term, Sylvia is always looking for volunteers and she makes it very easy for us.

As a school we do not run any major fundraisers so please consider putting your name on the roster for 2012 to help raise money that is spent directly for our children.

I would also like to invite any interested parents to become active members of the P&C. The meetings are held every 2nd Monday of the month at 7.30pm. It is a great way to meet new people and become involved in your child’s education.

Thank you to the committed group of parents and teachers who have attended meetings throughout the year. Your time and valuable contributions in decision making, has all been very much appreciated. I must thank our treasurer Sharon DeValentin and Secretary Sue Chilvers, who are both extremely busy working mothers, but have worked tirelessly for our committee this year. I believe we have made a great team and want you to know your time and hard work has not gone unnoticed.

To Lesley and our office staff for always being there to support us, and to our amazing teachers and Principals, that do so much for our children. Thank you for your continued commitment, hard work and innovative approach to education that helps to make our school so outstanding.

Most importantly congratulations to all the students of Wade High School, who are the reason we are all here. They continue to excel in all areas of the school curriculum, and make us proud to be part of Public Education. I look forward to all the good things 2012 has to offer and wish the incoming P&C Committee every success for the coming year.

Wade High School 40 year anniversary and Open Day 1st October 2011

On behalf of the P&C Committee, and I am sure the whole Wade High School Community, I would like to publicly
congratulate Pam Wardle and Hazel Lorenzi for their amazing effort and passion in organising the open day on the 1st October to celebrate 40 years of WHS.

The afternoon was a huge success with many young and old coming through the school and reminiscing about days gone by. The ladies organised a free afternoon tea for our visitors, school tours, compiled wonderful memorabilia and photos, and a PowerPoint for everyone’s enjoyment.

Thanks to the tireless effort of these amazing ladies and their small team of helpers Wade was able celebrate a great milestone, and because of Hazel and Pam’s effort we were able to enjoy some great old fashioned community spirit in our school that I hope can continue and possibly become a more common event for us all to enjoy.

Thank You Hazel and Pam, your dedication and hard work for our school community is very much appreciated!

Julie Andreazza
P&C President WHS 2011

Student representative’s message

2011 has been a busy but productive year for the Wade High School Student Representative Council. The SRC would like to thank Ms Miners for her guidance over the last two years and wish her all the best for her move in 2012.

A major initiative of the SRC was to explore and develop the “Fun without Alcohol Program”. FAP enabled us to explore leisure activities that are healthy and stimulating and especially to highlight some of the dangers of alcohol.

We ran fundraising activities for Wade High Community members who had lost items in house fires and other difficult circumstances.

Matt, Jordon, Nglan and Brad represented Wade High at the Riverina Region SRC Conference. From this conference Matt and Jordon were selected to attend the State SRC Conference as representatives of Wade High and Riverina Region. The entire SRC attended a student leadership workshop in Albury and returned with a number of ideas about changes to our SRC and improvements that could be initiated.

Once again Harmony Day and Crazy Hair Day proved to be popular with the student body and students were very generous in their donations to the worthy causes.

Matthew Griffin & Jordon Joyce
Wade High School SRC

Wade High School Sports Dinner

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
Student attendance profile

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<td>89.9</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>89.9</td>
<td>89.2</td>
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</table>

The School also acknowledges good attendance as part of the PBL approach to student learning and behaviour.

Structure of classes

Wade High School has a number of different structures for classes across the Years. Students in Year 7 are placed in ungraded classes based on social and learning needs. Some Year 8 classes are graded according to learning needs in certain subjects whilst others are ungraded. Students also choose elective courses from Year 8, based on student interest and are able to access the learning centre in small groups for intensive learning experiences.

Retention to Year 12

Post-school destinations

The Total Year 12 cohort of 2011 was 84 students of whom 39 students have received university offers - this is 46% of total cohort; 16 will be completing TAFE or other Tertiary courses; 55 students will be continuing in tertiary study namely TAFE, private provider or University - this is 65% of total cohort and 21 have gained full-time employment or an apprenticeship.

Year 12 students undertaking vocational or trade training

19% of the Year 12 cohort undertook Vocational Courses through TAFE. 50% of the Year 12 cohort undertook a school based Vocational Education and Training course as part of their HSC. The VET courses studied were Hospitality, Primary Industries and retail.

Management of non-attendance

Wade HS has developed a comprehensive approach to student non-attendance. Included in this are regular roll checks, close liaison with the Home School Liaison Officer, rewards for the large percentage of students whose attendance is above 90% and negotiated individual attendance plans.
Year 12 students attaining HSC or equivalent vocational educational qualification

The total Year 12 cohort for 2011 was 84 students, all of whom attained the Higher School Certificate as their final school qualification.

Staff information

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

Wade High School has a positive mix of experienced and new teachers as part of the total staff. Over the past few years a number of experienced teachers have transferred or retired. Generally speaking these teachers have been replaced by New Scheme Teachers who are supported in their early career teaching by the Head Teacher Mentor.

The Wade High School SASS and support staff are experienced and most competent and ensure the smooth operation of the school. Wade High School staff are also supported by the In-built Relief Program and the Teacher Relief Program.

Staff establishment

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<td>Assistant Principal(s)</td>
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<td>Teacher of ESL</td>
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Wade High School has one Indigenous classroom teacher, one Aboriginal Education Worker and one Aboriginal Languages Tutor.

Staff retention

Wade High School continues to undergo a staffing transformation. 2011 saw the appointment of a number of new teachers all of whom have brought an enthusiasm for the profession and fresh outlooks to the school. This has enabled the school to initiate a number of innovative and engaging programs. The new teachers have also benefited from the support and knowledge of their more experienced colleagues and the Head Teacher Mentor.

Teacher qualifications

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

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<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>% of staff</th>
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Financial summary

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

The school and P&C have set aside funds to erect a COLA over the basketball courts. These funds in addition to DET grants such as the Premier’s Sporting Challenge Grant and the 50/50 grant will enable the school to provide shelter in inclement weather for the entire school student body.
A full copy of the school’s 2011 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School Council and/or the parent body. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

## School performance 2011

Wade High School Students enjoyed another very successful year in a broad range of activities.

### Achievements

#### Arts

Once again Wade High School’s Community was treated to an outstanding night of entertainment with our MAAD Night production.

#### Sport

On Thursday, 1st of December, at the Exies Club, about 150 staff and students from Wade High enjoyed their annual Sports Presentation Dinner. It was a great night to celebrate the wonderful achievements that our students have made in Sport. Students at Wade High once again made the school and the Griffith Community proud, not only by their athletic prowess, but their dedication, enthusiasm and sportsmanship.

Wade’s sporting highlights began even before Term 1 started this year, with the Girls Tennis Team named Young Sporting Team of the Year at the Griffith Australia Day awards in January.

There was a changing of the guard in the pool this year. Our senior girls, Jessica Soligo, Elise Delpiano, Meg Signor, Shannan Russell and Emma Groat took a step back to concentrate on their studies, but there was a big influx of enthusiastic yr 7 swimmers to step into their shoes including Jordyn Garbuio, Thea Bianchini, Teegan Carnell, Lydia Hanna, Brooke Tilston and Isabelle Wood. Wade High won the Zone Swimming Carnival and Ben Vearing, Fletcher Shilson-Josling, Teegan

### Financial Summary

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Goldman and Maddie Lyons were announced as Zone Age Champions. We also had 12 students travel to Sydney and compete valiantly.

As the year got under way our cricketers achieved mixed results and Tom Valeri followed his brothers footsteps by gaining selection in the Riverina Team. Teegan Carnell, Natasja Vasta and Alex Blissett were victorious at the Zone Cross Country Carnival. Both the Boys and Girls Tennis Teams again had successful seasons, with the girls coming 6th in the State. Both those teams also competed in the Australian Tennis School Championships in Albury later in the year. I would like to acknowledge Cheryl Rule from the Griffith Tennis Club for her help in organising our teams.

Wade High School was again victorious at the Zone Athletics Carnival and I thank Griffith Little A’s for their support in helping us to run both the School and the Zone Carnival. Jack Catanzariti, Teegan Carnell and Laura Andreazza were Zone Age Champions. We also had 5 relay teams who went on to compete at State. Nathan Richards, Teegan Carnell, Jack Catanzariti, Laura Andreazza, Mark Semmler and Shannan Russel all achieved Top 10 results at State in their respective events which is an absolute credit to all of them. Well done!

Touch Football was another huge success this year and a big thanks must go to Bec Hill and the newly appointed Riverina Coach, Eliza Baddock, for putting so much time and effort into our teams. Team highlights included a top 4 state finals finish by the 7/8 girls team in 2010, followed by a dramatic loss in the State final this year. We also has a top 8 finish by the open girls team, and top 16 by the Open Boys. Individually, we had over 10 students make representative teams in Touch this year. Wow!

The 4 Soccer teams once again put in solid performances in their respective Knockouts, and the Aussie Rules teams enjoyed the Gala Days they participated in. There was a renewed enthusiasm for Rugby League thanks to Rob Foskett’s time and effort. The school enjoyed playing in the new Tri Schools competition developed by Shayne Vonbun at GHS and our Opens side were actually victorious, winning another trophy for our cabinet. Leon, Jesse, Cody and Daniel were all selected in the U15s Riverina side, and 2 of our senior students, Sonny Tupoula and Jacob Palmer have left us to pursue their footy careers in Canberra.

Of course, all of this success would not have been possible without the ongoing support of the school staff, as well as the parents who have chauffeured and chaperoned our athletes around the state, a lot of the time with late changes of plan and short notice. Thank you also to Lesley and our SASS staff for their assistance during the year and helping us to organise this event. It is a huge task at this time of year. Thanks to Sam Arcifa, for his tireless effort and assistance and finally, thank you to all the students who have represented the school for your performances during the year and your attendance tonight.

The Major Award Winners on the night were:

Sub-Junior Sportsman of the Year: Jordyn Garbuio

Sub-Junior Sportswoman of the Year: Teagan Carnell and Maddie Lyons
Junior Sportsman of the Year: Jack Catanazariti
Junior Sportswoman of the Year: Laura Andreazza
Senior Sportsman of the Year: Mark Semmler
Tom Bashford Memorial Award: Daniel Mancinelli and Katrina Scarfone
David Jones All-Rounders: Jesse Forrester and Megan Polkinghorne

Other

LOTE

HSC RESULTS

The LOTE results in the 2011 HSC were excellent. Five students achieved Band 6 (German Beginners – 4, French – 1) and 6 students achieved Band 5 (German Beginners – 3, French Beginners – 1, Italian Beginners – 1, Italian Continuers – 1). We would especially like to congratulate Taylah Reynolds and Ashley Zalunardo who came second and fourth respectively in the State for German Beginners with marks of 98 and 96. This is an amazing achievement. The German Beginners results were 12.61 above the State Mean. These results were the highest results in the 2011 HSC at the school when judged by this criterion.

SC RESULTS

More than 50% of the students received a Grade A or B (7 students – A, 2 students – B) in Year 10 German. These results were extremely pleasing as this was one of our major Faculty Targets – to improve the number of Grade As and Bs in the School Certificate by 10%. We actually improved it by close to 20%.

Year 11 Work Studies

11 Students graduate from the Rural Fire Service Cadet Program.


These students successfully completed the Rural Fire Service Cadet program and graduated on Friday the 21st October, at a special graduation ceremony held at Wade High School.

The students worked very hard on a 10 week program, learning all about the Rural Fire Service and participating in some fantastic practical activities involving the Fire Service truck, learning how to use the fire hoses and basic fire safety.

The students got a taste of what it would be like to be a volunteer Fire Fighter. The students also had the opportunity to work with actual members and volunteers of the local Rural Fire service each week.

The graduation was a great success, attended by Griffith Mayor, Mike Neville, RFS Chief Supt. Ken Hall of the Region South, and RFS Supt. Kevin Adams MIA Zone Manager.

Special Congratulations to Kaine Fattore who won the special RFS perpetual trophy for Cadet of the Year for dedication and effort.

A big special thanks to all those people who have assisted with the success of the program and the graduation ceremony especially; Mr. Sutton and Ms Lees and the Yr 12 PE students, Ms Victor, Ms Hone, Mrs Stubbs and Trey Eldridge from Year 9 for stepping in at the last minute to do the Welcome To Country at the graduation.

THANKYOU!

By Carol-Anne Sutton
Academic

In the National Assessment Program, the results across the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 literacy and numeracy assessments are reported on a scale from Band 1 to Band 10.

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

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 7
Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 7

Literacy – NAPLAN Year 9

Percentage in bands:
Year 7 Grammar & Punctuation

Percentage in bands:
Year 9 Reading

Percentage in bands:
Year 7 Numeracy

Percentage in bands:
Year 9 Writing

Percentage in bands:
Year 9 Spelling

Bands
- Percentage in Bands
- School Average 2008-2011
- SSG % in Band 2011
School Certificate: Relative performance from Year 5 (value-added)

Percentage of students in performance bands: Computer Skills

Percentage of students in performance bands: Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship

Higher School Certificate
Higher School Certificate relative performance comparison to School Certificate (value-adding)

Minimum Standards data

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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. The percentages of our students achieving at or above these standards are reported below.

Significant programs and initiatives

*Gifted and Talented*
Wade High School offers a wide range of Gifted and Talented Programs for all Year Groups. In 2011, Year 7 and 8 are exposed to a range of subjects on a term by term basis. They are identified by teacher nomination or through the Wade High reporting system. The focus of the programs is based around the expectations of ‘working together’ and ‘actively participating’. Years 9, 10 and 11 are offered acceleration within a subject they are identified as being Gifted and Talented, through teacher nomination or through the Wade High reporting system. This means students can study a subject above their year group. In Year 11, we had three students accelerated into Year 12 HSC subjects. Jacob Calabria completed 2 Unit Mathematics and received a Band 6 (96). Navdeep Kaur completed 2 unit Mathematics and received a Band 5 (83). Elijah McKellar-Qasi completed 2 Unit Food Technology and received a Band 4 (77). In Year 10, three students completed Preliminary Visual Arts, Ancient History, Mathematics and Industrial Technology. All three are continuing on with these HSC courses in 2012.

**Positive Behaviour for Learning – Respectful, Responsible, Learners**

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is two years into its five year implementation with great progress made in 2011. Whole school expectations and the teaching of these expectations to all students and staff were a focus throughout 2011. Lessons on these expectations were created by Wade High students. Wade High’s Merit system was imbedded with the PBL values of Respectful, Responsible, Learners in 2011, with more rewards and recognition of student achievements applied.

**Aboriginal education**

**Air Force Day**

Aboriginal students were given the opportunity to travel to Gilgowiee to participate in presentations from Air Force and Army Recruitment. The presentations were focused on career opportunities for Indigenous Students in the Defence Force. 8 Students from year 8-12 took the opportunity to go, some on the likelihood of a Hot Air Balloon Ride, unfortunately due to weather this didn’t eventuate! However, students were able to speak with members of the defence force about their career aspirations and gain valuable information on recruitment pathways available to them.

**Wiradyuri Lesson Year 7**

In 2011, as with previous years, Merv Firebrace-Jones has been working closely with the English faculty to promote the recognition of Aboriginal culture and languages within the classrooms. Merv visits each year 7 Class once a fortnight and runs one-off lessons teaching simple Wiradyuri words through song, word-puzzles and graphically. He also coaches year 7 students through the film "Rabbit-Proof Fence", teaching them about concepts such as Assimilation.

In Year 8 our Indigenous students and those who have shown an interest in the language are given the opportunity to continue studying Wiradyuri through the Learning Centre. Here the students are introduced to longer words and Wiradyuri phrases. The students begin integrating Wiradyuri words and concepts into their own Narrative writing.

In Year 9 our students who wish to continue learning the language from year 9 are exposed to complex Wiradyuri sentences. Students begin writing and speaking almost exclusively in the language.

**Cross Age Tutoring**

Cross age tutoring involved taking year 9 boys to the Wiradjuri Aboriginal preschool where they could interact with the younger children in a way in which they are the mentor. This was an experience which
enabled teachers to see these boys embrace a mentor role and present themselves to the children as a big brother and in some cases as Uncle.

The benefits that the students of Wade build are confidence in themselves to interact with smaller children and walk their walk, responsibility of knowing that appropriate verbal and physical language they use are continually teaching the smaller children and respect not only from the preschoolers but also the teachers as their behaviour and enthusiasm proved to be respectful and professional.

**Shine Workshop**

The Shine workshop was an event where the girls could interact with each other and learn and talk about issues they were going through. It was heavily based on sex education and the responsibilities of being safe both physically and mentally with themselves and others.

The day involved talks by healthcare professionals from the local Aboriginal Medical Centre and other women who talked about the importance of individual feelings and the need to listen to listen to your own needs. The purpose of this information was to empower young girls to give themselves strength in time of adversity and allow themselves to ‘Shine’ in positive and safe ways.

A physical interpretation of this event were the pastel drawings the girls had done, the painted rhinestone faces they had created to represent themselves and drawings on a pair of thongs which symbolized where they want to go and the type of person they want to be.

Posters have been placed around the school showing off their amazing works.

**Aboriginal Awards Night**

The Aboriginal Awards Night is a ceremony which celebrates the achievements of Aboriginal students from Wade, Griffith and Marion high schools. The hard work and dedication of the students of Griffith were astounding as they were receiving awards such as 100% attendance, outstanding achievements at school for their studies and completion of year their HSC.

There were also whole school achievement awards acknowledging the input and opportunities that they provided for their Aboriginal students. 2011 was the year Wade high won this accolade with thanks from the AECG and the community for taking such care of their Aboriginal students and working tirelessly to close the gap for their Aboriginal students. This night also allowed Wade another opportunity to stand in the spotlight with one of their teachers being invited to be a guest speaker. Alyssa Feeney was asked to speak to the audience about her education and how it helped her to get to where she is today. Miss Feeney spoke about her challenges with community perceptions and how those perceptions played a part in her self-belief that she could succeed in any field she entered. Wade high school can stand very proud as acknowledgment of their hard work was greatly appreciated and that 2012 is going to be a bright and successful outcome for its students, teachers and Aboriginal education.

**All Stars Match**

The All Stars match is a mimic of the NRL All Stars match played at the start of every year
for the past three years. Our rendition is a touch game played between the Aboriginal All Stars of the school and the Wade All Stars. It is a match that allows each team and the school to appreciate each other, the talents that we all possess and acknowledge the Aboriginal people of this country for NAIDOC week. Last year we celebrated by having a barbeque with kangaroo sausages and a win by the Wade All Stars which was organized by AEW Yaltara Penrith and refereed by the Wade’s PE staff.

Other programs

The Careers Expo: It was wonderful to see so many students and parents at the Tertiary Day/Careers Expo at the Ex-Servicemen’s Club. Thirteen schools from the Riverina region were able to access representatives from universities, private colleges, TAFE, government organisations and local businesses. The feedback I have had from those who attended has been extremely positive. The 54 institutions/companies who attended were impressed with the interest and thoughtful questions asked by Wade High students. Students were able to find out about careers and courses they are thinking of pursuing and it was great to see them so excited and enthusiastic about the possibilities they were made aware of. Many students have come to see me since the event and it is great to hear them talking about their career pathway plans.

ABW November 2011

Congratulations to all the Year 10s who participated in Australian Business Week and behaved so admirably all week. It was fantastic to see our students rise to the challenge of running a company. It was certainly a stressful, hectic and exhausting week for all involved but also lots of fun. Congratulations to Company 4, Savera Travels, for being the Grand Champion winning team. Members of the team were Michael McWhirter, Alex Blackburn, Taylah Lloyd, Alanna McRae, Owen Munro, Erum Shaista, Emma Whitworth and Zane Rebellato, very ably led by the CEO Laura Andreazza.

The computer simulation winning team was Company 3, Walk-a-Bout. The members of this team were Jared Bianchini, Angus Brewer, Ryan Camm, Nicole Grieve, Satinderjit Kaur, Shelby Kschenka, Marc McGarry, Nicole Montalto, Tori Wallace, Nicholas Witherspoon and CEO Sunalica Kumar. Congratulations to Go There, winners of the Corporate Games, Reise for the best trade display, Boss Unlimited for their excellent video advertisement, La Voyage for their impressive oral presentation and Savera Travels for their outstanding written company report.

The results this year were extremely close and all teams, and their teacher mentors, displayed a very healthy competitive spirit. The theme this year was travel and the students certainly let their imaginations and design ideas run wild. All companies thought long and hard over decisions to be made in each quarter and all ended up increasing production and their share price and making a profit. Enterprise education aims to help students to be innovative, to recognise opportunities, demonstrate initiative, make decisions, solve problems and take responsibility. We saw students doing all these things during the week. As well as this they had lots of fun dressing up for the video commercials, filming scenes, painting and decorating trade displays, participating in
tug-o'-war, team games and challenges and devouring at least one year’s supply of chips, lollies and cakes!

A huge thanks to everyone who helped during the week. Mrs Hill and Mrs Brain must especially be thanked for their expertise on the Simulation program and for their assistance with the smooth running of the week. Thanks to our nine teacher mentors, Mrs Kain, Ms Friend, Mr Batson, Mr Whight, Mrs Boland, Mrs Chapman, Ms Martinez, Miss Miners and Miss McLeish worked closely with their companies all week and tried very hard to let team members make their own decisions. Thank you to the speakers who delivered lectures during the week – Mr Barker, Mrs Hill, Mrs Brain, Ms Tweedie, Ms Gorton, Mrs Sergi – and to our judges – Mr Brain, Ms Tweedie, Ms Johnson, Jarrod Calabria, Peta Larkin and Elise Delpiano. Thanks also to Ms Dessmann and Ms Martinez for helping with the Corporate Games, Ms Feeney for her expertise with the video editing and Mr Casey and Mr Semmler for their help with the Day One Challenge. Thank you to Sam Arcifa for helping with the set up of equipment and trade displays, to our office ladies and Shirley McKenzie for all their work and patience with last minute requests. I must also acknowledge all those who had to move out of their normal classrooms for the week and staff who took classes for those involved in ABW. The week involves lots of noisy children at times running everywhere, so I thank everyone affected for their patience and understanding.

The Wade High P&C Association once again made a very generous donation towards the cost of ABW and we appreciate this very much. It must be noted that a large portion of P&C funds come from our Canteen Committee – it is most important that we support our canteen who, in turn, provide funds which make it possible for the school to provide such worthwhile but costly programs as ABW for our students.

All Year 10s commented on how much they had learnt during the week, particularly with regards to the value of teamwork and communication, two very important employment related skills.

GIRLS GET ACTIVE
Girls from Wade High School had the chance to meet and interact with some of Australia’s most prominent and successful sports women on Wednesday 19th October at the Schoolgirls’ Get Active Event at West End Stadium. This event, which was organised by Womensport and Recreation NSW and Griffith City Council, aimed to help build community awareness of the lack of gender balance in organised and recreational sport and encourage girls to stay actively involved in any sport. TEN athletes from many major Australian sporting sectors including women’s basketball, cricket, cycling, gymnastics, netball and AFL, as well as representatives from a few lesser known competitive sports like Ultimate Frisbee talked briefly about themselves, signed autographs, ran small modified games with the students and then enjoyed a healthy morning tea. Year 11 students Peta Larkin, Emma Groat, Meg Signor, Maddi Gregor & Shannan Russell were also fortunate enough to be specially invited to have lunch with the athletes.
LIVEFIT (FORMALLY SPESHIL SPORTS)
This Term, Year 9 girls have been given the opportunity to participate in the Live Fit Program (now in Wakaden Street). Students will participate in a six week program which involves aerobic type activities, weights, boxing, gym and fitness. Thank you must go to Mrs Pilkington for her organisation.
YEAR 11 CROSS ROADS

To complement the PDHPE course in senior years at high school, YEAR 11 STUDENTS are required to complete the mandatory 25-hour Personal Development and Health course – Crossroads which took place as an overnight excursion at Borambola Sport and Recreation Centre - Wagga on Monday 21st November 2011 to Wednesday 23rd November 2011 (Term 4, Week 7). The Crossroads course provides an opportunity to extend knowledge and skills previously developed in the Years 7-10 PDHPE Program. It provides young people with an opportunity to discuss issues which are important to them and to develop skills, action plans and strategies for managing issues which they may confront in their lives. The following topics are included in the course: Drug Education and Relationships.

WELFARE COMMITTEE

Year Advisers examined the many facets of their job description. A role statement will be finalised this year for Year Advisers Years 7 to 12.

Progress on 2011 targets

Target 1

To increase the participation in extra-curricular and sporting activities by 5%

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Use of the Premier’s Sporting Challenge to develop resources and facilities to further encourage participation.
- Year 7 & 8 Gala Days involving local and regional schools
- Promotion of sport through Assemblies and Sporting Awards. Continued emphasis on Special Sports Dinner.

Our success will be measured by:

- Increased participation rates in school carnivals and representative teams
- Successful Gala Days

Our achievements include:

- Livefit formerly SPESHIL SPORTS
- Girls Get Active
- ABW November 2011

Congratulations to all the Year 10s who participated in Australian Business Week and behaved so admirably all week.

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 2011 our school carried out evaluations of [Enter text here.]
Educational and management practice
Evaluation of the Learning Centre Program

Background
The Learning Centre was established in 2010 with aim to support middle performing students through small group and individualised learning. The centre was also established to support accelerated and Gifted & Talented students.

Findings and conclusions
There was a need to further enhance the programs and target resources, especially for middle performing students. The program was found to be successful.

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.

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.

Ken Chalmers Principal
Don Dixon Deputy Principal
Julie Andreazza P&C President
Matthew Griffin Student Representative Council
Matthew Sutton Teacher/Federation Rep

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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: