Recently, parents of Year 7 & 9 students received their child’s NAPLAN results for 2012. From the Schools perspective, the results overall were very pleasing and confirmed the high standard of literacy and numeracy development within the School. I take this opportunity to outline a brief analysis of the current Year 7 & 9 cohort.

For both Year 7 and 9, in all categories, the cohort achieved significantly higher mean scores than the state. In Year 7 and 9, the average Mean score difference was between 37 and 40 points higher. Also of particular note were the significant high scores for both Yr7 & 9 in Reading and Grammar and Punctuation.

As a percentage of Bands awarded, nearly 50% of Year 7s achieved in the top two bands (Band 8 or 9) and in Year 9 it was nearly 40% (in Band 9 or 10).
The graphs above show the well our students are performing. Also of note was the relatively low percentage of students performing below the national benchmark levels. A pleasing range of 0% to 4% was achieved across all sub-categories in both year groups, which highlights the fantastic work of the teachers, Learning Support Department and success of our unique ‘middle schooling’ concept for students with lower abilities.

However, the important aspect of NAPLAN is not necessary how many students achieved in the highest bands, but whether the students across the cohort were improving in their literacy and numeracy skills year to year.

Student Growth Chart

Overall, individual student growth was impressive. The longitudinal chart below compares the student’s progress over two years (2010 and 2012). Overall, in literacy (AVG) a pleasing 84% of all Year 7 and 80% in Year 9 showed improvement over the two years. The growth in Numeracy was just as impressive with 85% for both the Year 7 and 9 cohort showing improvement. It cannot be understated that nearly the whole cohort improved their results and confirms the trend that students who are at Kinross Wolaroi School have high likelihood of improving their literacy and numeracy skills. Also of note were the drastic improvements in Spelling in Year 7 where 19 students achieved growth score differences above 100.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Growth Scores</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</th>
<th>Literacy AVG</th>
<th>Numeracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 2010 to Year 7, 2012</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 2010 to Year 9, 2012</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that writing has not been tracked due to the change from Narrative to Persuasive requirement.

Conclusion

Kinross Wolaroi School supports an integrated approach to literacy and numeracy development, where all subjects are responsible for developing the skills required to communicate effectively and solve numerical problems. The commitment from each Department to this aim has resulted in excellent NAPLAN results year in and year out. Further analysis will identify those students who may have underachieved and they will be targeted with special workshops to improve their skills and understanding.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the students in Year 7 & 9 for their outstanding performance. For more information, please feel free to contact me.

Yooie Choi

Director of Learning