

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS 2008

The following is a summary of the highlights by the school and students this year. This has been another outstanding year and successes cover all areas.

ACADEMIC:

HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OUTCOMES 2008:

* University Admission Index (UAI's over 90)	Zoe Stephenson 96.55
	Samantha Munns 96.1
	Ryan Keeble 94.6
	Kate Murphy 93.55
	Alex Wheeler 93.35
	Eric Butler 92.05

* Band 6's were achieved in:	Ancient History (1)
	Biology (1)
	Chemistry (1)
	Community & Family Studies (1)
	Engineering Studies (4)
	Geography (2)
	Industrial Technology (1)
	Legal Studies (2)
	Mathematics (General) (1)
	Mathematics (2)
	Mathematics (Extension) (2)
	Music (1)
	PDH&PE (3)

* Students sat for 28 subjects of which 7 achieved means above the state average:

English Standard – 1.2%
Engineering Studies – 15% above the state mean
General Maths – 1.6%
Information Technology (VET) – 6%
Metal & Engineering (VET) – 0.2%
PDHPE – 11.9%
Primary Industries (VET) – 3.1%

* A number of subjects were on or just below the state average!

* 14 students achieved Principals recommendation into University early Admission Scheme. Universities included The University of New England, Charles Sturt and Southern Cross.

* HSC subjects with the combined bands 5&6 outcomes above state average are: (Note : State combined percentages are in brackets)

Community & Family Studies - 50% (40%)
Food Technology - 12% (6%)
Engineering Studies – 100% (30%)
English Standard – 12%% (6%)
Mathematics – 50% (45%)
Maths Extension – 100% (33%)
Modern History – 50% (41%)
PDHPE – 50% (32%)

- * HSC subjects which achieved fewer combined bands 1&2 compared to the state are:
 - Design & Technology – 0% (5%)
 - Drama – 0% (2%)
 - Economics – 0% (13%)
 - Engineering Studies – 0% (9%)
 - English Advanced – 0% (1%)
 - Geography – 8% (9%)
 - Legal Studies – 0% (8%)
 - Mathematics General – 7% (17%)
 - Modern History – 0% (7%)
 - PDHPE – 0% (14%)
 - Physics – 0% (11%)

- * SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OUTCOMES 2008: 48 Year 10 students were successful in obtaining their School Certificate. The subjects which demonstrated on or above state outcomes in the two highest combined achievement bands (band 5 and 6) were English, History and Geography. In the Computing Skills Test, no student demonstrated incompetent levels of achievement, however, the percentage of students obtaining highly competent outcomes was below the state average.

- * Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN (Literacy & Numeracy) Outcomes
 - Our school cohort achieved results below the state average in most of the dimensions, Reading, Writing, Literacy and Numeracy.
 - However, Year 7 Growth Comparisons (from Year 5 Basic Skills 2006) were above state average in all dimensions. Year 9 Growth Comparisons (from Year 7 2006 SNAP/ELLA) were above state average except for Writing.
 - Year 7 Boys achieved particularly lower outcomes compared to the state in Writing Skills.
 - Year 7 Indigenous students achieved significantly better outcomes in Numeracy compared to Indigenous state results.
 - Year 9 Girls achieved outcomes above the state average in Reading, Writing and Literacy. However, Boys were significantly below.
 - Year 9 Indigenous students were on or slightly below the achievement of Indigenous state results in Reading, Writing and Literacy.
 - Year 9 Indigenous students achieved significantly better outcomes in Numeracy compared to Indigenous state results.

- * The University of New England, Charles Sturt University and Southern Cross University provide a Recommendation Admission Scheme, which is an early pathway into University entrance. This year was an outstanding achievement for our 2008 HSC candidates with 13 students being successful.
 - Charles Sturt University
Kate Murphy, Jessica Lucas, Shani Harrigan, Jessie Barkley, Justin Evans, Victoria Hynds, Kate Imrie, Emily Morrissey, Douglas Thompson
 - University of New England
Nicholas Adam, Jessie Barkley, Amelia Greenwood, Shani Harrigan, Victoria Hynds, Emily Morrissey, Samantha Munns, Kate Murphy, Alexander Wheeler
 - Southern Cross University
Richard Duggan, Victoria Hynds, Kate Imrie

- * In the Shakespeare Festival, held on 28 March, judges awarded best actor to Madeleine Storer, Jessica Staniforth and Bethanie Hain. Jessica Staniforth was also named "Young Shakespearean Artist of the Year". Best Duologues were awarded to Ruby Bouwsema & Alyssa Verrender and Tiona Davidson & Maddison Quinlin. Best

Scene was stolen by Madeleine Storer, Jessica Murphy & Amelia Adam and Aaron Percival, Alexander Lee & Bethanie Hain.

- * Isabel Enks achieved outstanding success in the Rotary District 9650 Harvey World Travel Public Speaking Competition. Isabel won both the local and zone competitions and will now compete in the inter-zone final at Walcha in February. Congratulations also to Rhiannon Bowden, Jessica Staniforth and Amelia Adam for their participation in the competition.
- * Nine students in Years 9 and 10, Brooke Thomas, Alyssa Verrender, Katie Lee, Ruby Bouwsema, Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy, Jessica Staniforth, Isabel Enks, Claire Bennell and Amelia Adam represented the school in the Premier's Debating Challenge. Well done to the Year 9 team in their first grueling round of the Challenge, always debating with good humour and team spirit. The Year 10 debaters performed very well winning the zone and arguing all the way to the Western Regional Semi-Finals. Congratulations to Jessica Staniforth for being selected in the Western Region debating team which competed at the Junior State Debating Championships at Sydney University.
- * NAIDOC Week celebrations commenced with a flag raising ceremony with special guests including Aboriginal Elders, Mr Bill Robinson, Myra and Jill Cain. Throughout the week a number of Aboriginal students spoke on the assembly about the importance of NAIDOC Week and reconciliation. The week ended with a scrumptious BBQ lunch in the quadrangle with our local Elders.
- * Gamilaraay Language Program was introduced to Year 8 students. This was organised and presented by community members Aunty Maureen Sulter and Mrs Suellyn Tighe whose expertise in this field is highly valued by our school.
- * 16 Indigenous and non-Indigenous students from Year 9 choreographed and performed dances at the "Vibe Alive" youth festival held at Coonamble in late August. Getting their groove on at the festival were Joshua Thurston, Dean Wrench, Dyllon Tighe, Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy, Ruby Bouwsema, Anna Ramage, Taneya Watton, Aleesha Connell, Natalee Trow, Dominic Stafford, Zachariah Khodary, Melissa Coughlan, Imogen Morrissey, Cory Ross, Jarrod Michael and David Sulter - well done!
- * Students from Beverly Hills Intensive English School and Chatswood Intensive English Centre enhanced their multicultural understanding and enjoyed life at Coonabarabran for a week, attending numerous activities both within the school and community. Students at both schools thoroughly enjoyed what is now a highly anticipated annual event.
- * Students from Coonabarabran High also got to expand their multicultural understanding when they travelled to Sydney to visit Beverly Hills and Chatswood Intensive English Schools. Students enjoyed eating a variety of foods and experiencing cultural diversity at a number of special locations, including visiting a Mosque. CHS diplomats included Brooke Thomas, Joshua Stafford, Dominic Stafford, Zoie Fowke, Elise Baker, Amelia Adam, Emma Doel, Tracey-lee Glennister, Georgia Hunt, Sara Jaiswal, Jessica Murphy, Chanel McGlashan, Rachael Kelly, Rachel Elton, Bethanie Hain and Isabel Enks.
- * Year 11 and 12 Modern History students participated in an excursion to the War Memorial in Canberra. Particular emphasis was placed on the study of World War I and the Pacific theatre of World War II.

- * In the Whitlam Institute's "What Matters?" Writing Competition, Amelia Adam won the Year 9/10 section, Rebecca Dowling won the Year 11/12 section and Ridley Leathart was the runner-up. Amelia Adam was judged overall winner for the whole competition. The Whitlam Institute flew these students to Sydney for an awards ceremony where they met Gough Whitlam. All three students were later invited to a writing workshop with award winning author Bernard Cohen.
- * A team of Year 10 English students placed third in Australia in the "What the Dickens" online English quiz conducted during Term 2. The students were Amelia Adam, Claire Bennell, Isabel Enks and Jessica Staniforth.
- * A number of English students participated in the "Write 4 Fun" competition. Several have received notification that their entries are to be published in the competition anthology. Students to be published are Claire Bennell, Rhiannon Bowden, Ruby Bouwsema, Alyssa Verrender, Madeleine Storer, Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy, Jessica Fitzpatrick, Marcus Young and Mikaela Hadfield.
- * Six students have been chosen to participate in an AFS exchange Program to Japan during December, 2008. These students are Annie McKinnon, Monique Monzett, Georgia Hunt, Samantha Mills, Lachlan Macintosh and Jessica Murphy.
- * 31 students from Years 7 to 12 participated in the 2008 English International Competition & Assessment for Schools. Coonabarabran High performed exceptionally well, especially as students participated right across Australasia. Our results are as follows:

High Distinction

Bethanie Hain

Distinction

Zoe Stephenson
Victoria Lee

Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy
Connor Graham

Jessica Murphy

Credit

Ryan Keeble
Lachlan Macintosh
Imogen Morrissey
Jemmae Dow

Geoffrey Lee
Isabel Enks
Chris Frith

Jessica Staniforth
Rhiannon Bowden
Alice Fosdick

- * This year 17 students sat for the Australian Mathematics Competition. Of these students, 8 gained a result of Credit, Distinction or High Distinction. Of particular merit is Geoffrey Lee's result which placed him in the top 3% of all candidates in Year 12. Geoffrey is a Year 11 student accelerated to Year 12 Mathematics. Congratulations to all participants and the results of this quality demonstrate once again, the quality and talent of our students:

High Distinction

Geoffrey Lee

Distinction

Ryan Keeble
Liam Morrissey

Samuel Murphy
Connor Graham

Bethanie Hain

Credit

Raju Jaiswal

Jessica Murphy

* In the Science Engineering Challenge, Coonabarabran High School Year 8 and 9 students were placed 4th.

* In the Science Competition the following results were achieved:

Distinction

Bethanie Hain

Credit

Alyssa Verrender
Eric Butler

Geoffrey Lee

Ryan Keeble

* Coonabarabran High School's Science Ambassador this year is Geoffrey Lee.

* Two students, Alyssa Verrender and Bethanie Hain attended the RYSTARS Gifted and Talented Astronomy Camp.

* Spaghetti Bridge Building Competition (trophy donated by Anthony Prugger)
The Winner being Alex Baglee

* Students from Coonabarabran High School were invited to participate in the Western Region Virtual Opportunity Class (RVOC). Over 190 applicants were rigorously tested for placement in this class for 2008. 5 students were selected for the class:

Connor Graham (Yr 7)
Victoria Lee (Yr 8)
Hannah Khodary (Yr 8)

Gemma Evans (Yr 8)
Jayden Wood-Nicholson (Yr 8)

The students completed 6 weekly tasks and 3 major tasks during the 12-week program, with a presentation at the RVOC Expo on 23 September, 2008. The students worked on their tasks online both during school time and at home. Each task was then submitted for marking via email to their group co-ordinator.

* In the Australian Economics Competition the following results were achieved:

High Distinction

Geoffrey Lee

Credit

Rebecca Dowling

* In the Australian Business Studies Competition the following results were achieved:

Credit

Mungo Ryan
Alexander McLean

* In the Australian Geography Competition the following results were achieved:

High Distinction

Geoffrey Lee
Imogen Morrissey

Raju Jaiswal

Nicholas Adam

Distinction

Amelia Adam
Chloe Grant

Claire Bennell
Katie Lee

Bridget Fox
Jessica Murphy

James Watson

Anthony Prugger

Credit

Nicola Murphy

Elise Baker

Isabel Enks

Sara Jaiswal

Sam Murphy

Jessica Staniforth

- * In the NSW Junior History Competition the following results were achieved:

Distinction

George Martin

Lachlan Macintosh

Credit

Jonathon Pogson

Amelia Adam

Sara Jaiswal

Jessica Staniforth

Claire Bennell

Elise Baker

Aaron Norton

Matt Olsen

Mitchell Tink

- * In the NSW Junior Geography Competition the following results were achieved:

High Distinction

Brooke Thomas

Distinction

Matt Olsen

Katie Lee

Sara Jaiswal

Alyssa Verrender

Amelia Adam

Claire Bennell

Gabrielle Teale-McEvoy

Credit

Lachlan Macintosh

Jonathan Pogson

Samuel Reeks

Jessica Staniforth

Chanel McGlashan

Monique Monzett

James Watson

Melody Luxford-Rankin

William Fosdick

Jarrold Michael

Laura McLean

Ruby Bouwsema

Aaron Norton

Mitchell Tink

Jordan McAlpine

Isabel Enks

Elise Baker

Emma Doel

Madeleine Storer

Natalee Trow

Bradley Kable

Anna Ramage

Imogen Morrissey

- * Senior Ancient History students, Year 12 Geography and Drama students visited Sydney in May to undertake lectures, field studies and workshops in their respective areas.

- * Mrs Davis' Year 9 History students experienced a touch of 1930's class by hosting a High Tea in the school hall. The students truly embraced the spirit of the era and the occasion and their costumes and culinary delights were a sight to behold and provided a valuable window into Australia's past as part of their studies "Australia Between the Wars".

- * Year 12 Legal Studies and Year 11 Economics students attended the University of New England for HSC Enrichment lectures.

- * Year 11 Legal Studies visited the District Court at Dubbo during the Criminal sittings of the court in November. The students benefited greatly from witnessing firsthand the State's system of criminal justice in action.

- * Year 11 Geography students undertook local catchment fieldwork studies in the upper Castlereagh River.

- * Year 12 Geography students undertook fieldwork studies at "Toorawandi" as part of their study of a local enterprise.
- * Year 11 Business Studies and Geography students undertook fieldwork at Coffs Harbour in November 2007 as part of their Year 12 coursework.
- * Year 9/10 Commerce students participated in the Australian Sharemarket Game.
- * Year 12 Legal Studies students attended HSC lectures in Dubbo in June.
- * Plans are underway for a European Excursion in April 2009 to France, Belgium and Italy. The focus of the visit will be studies in Modern and Ancient History.
- * Our school's Tournament of Minds team this year continued a longstanding tradition of success in this field of endeavour. Our team comprising Alyssa Verrender, James Watson, Gemma Evans, Victoria Lee, Hannah Khodary, Nathan Verrender and Connor Graham were awarded the Spirit of the Tournament prize at the Regional Finals held at University of New England in August. The team's solution to the Maths & Engineering Challenge was clearly thought out and imaginatively performed.
- * Year 7 Design & Technology have enjoyed studying Bees & Honey and fully enjoyed the excursion where they experienced first hand the extraction of honey from the beehive.
- * Year 8 Design & Technology visited the Gonyah Restaurant at the Country Gardens Motel. When they arrived back at school they were treated to a Belgium delicacy - rich chocolate cascading from chocolate fountains.
- * AGRICULTURE:
 - the cattle team participated again at the local Coonabarabran Show, as well as at Tamworth Show.
 - The first Hoof & Hook competition for the year was at the Northern School's Steer Competition held at Barraba. We achieved Champion Middleweight Steer and the third highest point score in the Hook Competition.
 - Another successful Ag Skills Day with 27 workshops.
- * Year 12 Primary Industries students Simone Inder, Timothy Reeks and Jesse Smith all competed in the World Skills Competition held in Forbes. Simone went on to compete at the State level and ultimately reaching the National level of the competition.
- * In Engineering Studies the outstanding achievement of Andrew Davenport in the 2007 Higher School Certificate by coming 6th in the State with a mark of 95%.
- * Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students assisted in the catering for the North West Equestrian Expo.

ART - MUSIC - DANCE

- * Numerous awards at the Coonabarabran Show in Art, including Overall Champion in the school section, Isabella Herrmann.
- * Entries submitted and numerous awards in the Youth Week Portrait Competition held in the Coonabarabran Library.

- * BATS!! Our musical for 2008 consumed our time in Term 1 and early Term 2. As always, the performances came together after a lot of rehearsing, and the cast, crew and audience had a wonderful time. See the "Bats" report in ORION 2008 for the details as recorded by Lynne Estens.
- * Four senior students (and their parents) persevered with a monthly rehearsal and performance program for the Beijing Olympic Marching Band and the Concert Tour in China. Our students Nicholas Adam, Alexander Lee, Annie McKinnon and Alice Riley also performed in Sydney's Anzac Day Parade and at the Sydney Schools' Spectacular as part of the Millennium Marching Band.
- * Hugh Ryan was again selected to be part of the State Junior Band and perform in the Sydney Opera House during the Festival of Instruments.
- * The School Choir once again participated in this year's Celebration Concert. Rehearsals were held in Armidale in Term 3, followed by two concerts in Lazenby Hall, UNE in Term 4. Money raised from this non-profit event contributed to much-needed equipment for the Paediatric Unit at the Armidale Hospital.
- * The University of Newcastle Wind Orchestra conducted their now annual tour giving workshops for instrumentalists of a range of standards. A public concert was held early in December and the workshop culminated with two school concerts on the final day.
- * Coonabarabran High School students are a significant and important part of our community concert band. The Orbital Swing Band plays at many functions throughout the year including Australia Day (which often involves organising holidays around the events), PAI&H Show, Anzac Day (march, ceremony and luncheon performances), Senior Citizens' Week and Awards Night! Coonabarabran High School students who are band members include: Elise Baker, Bethanie Hain, Alice Riley, Gemma Evans (flutes), Amelia Adam, Mrs Jan Keppie, Victoria Lee, Bonnie Coulter-Buckley (clarinets), Nicholas Adam (trumpet), Alexander Lee, Annie McKinnon (saxophones), Jessica Fitzpatrick (bass guitar), Hannah Khodary (percussion), Hugh Ryan (drum kit).
- * Jack Ayoub has been given a music scholarship by the U3A Choir (Sydney). The award scholarships each year to encourage students in their music studies.
- * Nicholas Adam was the bugler at the school and town Anzac Day services.
- * The Battle of the Bands was again contested in Dubbo. The rock band members included Annie McKinnon, Alexander Lee and Ridley Leathart. This band also played for some community events. The band was on the "Best Original Song" category (written by Annie McKinnon). Annie won Best Acoustic Guitar performer and Ridley Leathart won "Best Male Singer" category.
- * Jenna-Lee Broeksema and Melissa Coughlan have continued to support the young members of the Coonabarabran Strings by playing and helping them in rehearsals and performances.
- * The Moorambilla Festival included workshops and concerts which were held in Coonamble. Our student participants included Jack Ayoub, Simon Bouwsema and Adam McNeice who had an amazing and inspirational time.
- * Australian Music Examination Board examinations have been held this year in both Coonabarabran and Dubbo. Our students included:

Written Examinations:	Grade 5 Theory of Music	Alice Riley
	Grade 4 Theory of Music	Rhiannon Bowden
	Grade 2 Theory of Music	Jessica Staniforth
	Grade 1 Theory of Music	Madeleine Storer Rachel Storer
Practical Examinations	Grade 6 Clarinet	Amelia Adam
	Grade 5 Piano	Rhiannon Bowden
	Grade 3 Flute	Bonnie Coulter-Buckley
	Grade 2 Clarinet	Danielle Andrews
	Grade 1 Piano	Rachel Storer
	Preliminary Grade Violin	Danielle Andrews

- * Once again the School Formal Assemblies provided opportunities for our musicians to prepare and present performance items. Performers included Nicholas Adam, Annie McKinnon, Alexander Lee, Isabel Enks, Jessica Staniforth, Chanel McGlashan, Zoe Stephenson and Ridley Leathart.
- * Year 10 Music class completed their junior schooling with a final Sunset Concert. This year's performance featured Claire Bennell, Rhiannon Bowden, Amy Coombes, Isabel Enks, Jessica Halsted, Jordan McAlpine, Jonathon Pogson, Jessica Staniforth and Corrine Towney.
- * Wind lessons have continued this year under the tutelage of Katherine Richardson who travelled to and from Gilgandra each week to support our budding wind instrumentalists.
- * All Year 8 Music classes prepared repertoire for their end-of-year concert. Each class performed pieces for Guitar Band and Class Concert Band, as well as having the opportunity for individuals and small groups to present interesting and fun items.

SPORT

- * The Open Girls Netball team were the North West Champions and eventually finished 14th in the State.
- * The Girls Squash team were also Regional Championships and eventually finished 8th in the State.
- * The Open Boys Basketball made the top 20 in the State.
- * The following team made the semi-finals in North West competitions:

Girls Basketball	Girls Touch	Girls Tennis
14's Girls Netball	14's Rugby League	Lawn Bowls
- * Alison Row became Senior Girl Champion at the North East/North West Athletics Carnival for Disabled Students in Gunnedah.
- * Kayla Quinlin achieved success in the Riding for the Disabled at the North West Equestrian Expo, achieving the Reserve Girl Rider. This wonderful activity has been of great benefit for our students and would not happen without much valued voluntary community support.
- * 24 students were selected in various North West teams
- * Emma Kable represented North West in both Athletics and Swimming.

- * Kate Murphy and Zoe Stephenson represented North West in both Cricket and Athletics. They were both in the regional 4x400m Relay team that finished 4th at the State carnival. Kate also came 4th in the 400m event and 5th in the 200m. Zoe came 5th in both the 800m and 1500m.
- * Thomas Britton came 9th in the 15 Years Shot Put at the State carnival and Emma Kable also came 9th in 12 Years Long Jump.
- * Coonabarabran High won the Single Cup for the first time since 1999.
- * Students were selected to represent North West Region in a variety of sports:

Rugby League

David Maynard Justin Evans

Netball

Tahlia Kable Kate Imrie

Basketball

Liam Morrissey Ricky Duggan Nicholas Oakes

Swimming (Individual)

Emma Kable Jacinta Hayes

Cricket

Zoe Stephenson Kate Murphy

Rugby Union

John Korff

Tennis

Imogen Morrissey

Squash

Simone Munns Gabrielle Olsen Keira Daniels
Holly Purdy

Cross Country

Raju Jaiswal Nicola Murphy

Athletics

Zoe Stephenson Kate Murphy Jake McDonald
Emma Kable Isabel Enks Thomas Britton

OTHER

- * The "Even Start" study program provided tutorial sessions to 19 students in Year 8 after hours on Literacy and Numeracy. A comparison of pre and post tuition testing has demonstrated significantly improved outcomes in these key learning areas.
- * Students "Baked for Burma" and raised almost \$900 which was donated to World Vision to assist victims of the Burmese Cyclone.