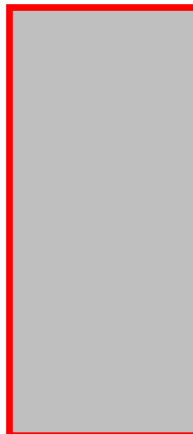


# 2009 Annual School Report Cherrybrook Technology High School

NSW Public Schools – Leading the way



# Messages

## Principal's message

2009 was a remarkably successful year for Cherrybrook Technology High with students excelling in all areas of the curriculum and in many extra curricula activities.

The year commenced with a wonderful High Achievers' assembly which saw 131 students from the class of 2008 returning to the school to be congratulated for their outstanding achievement in making the HSC honour roll. Michael West, an aeronautical engineer and one of Cherrybrook's early school captains, gave a rousing speech that ranged over many things including the work he has done at NASA, the aerospace project he is working on for his PhD and the excellent education he received at our school.

Excellent education was certainly what the class of 2008 reflected with fifteen students achieving the top band in each of their courses of study. The school also had eight students amongst the top twenty in the state in six separate courses of study whilst nine scored a University Admission Index in excess of 99.

The school's successes in sport were equally outstanding and for the second year in a row we were named the champion sporting school in the very competitive Metropolitan North Region. In order to reach this great height Cherrybrook won all three zone carnivals i.e. swimming, cross country and athletics, a feat not achieved by any school in Northern Sydney for many, many years.

Amongst many outstanding individual performances throughout the year a number really stood out. These included students' efforts at the all schools athletics where Emma Hunt came first in the 100m, 200m and 400m. Ben Jaworski achieved 1<sup>st</sup> in the 200m and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 100m and Jenny Blundell achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 800m. This followed on from her 1<sup>st</sup> in the CHS Cross Country.

For the first time the Cherrybrook girls' team was named the champion school team at the CHS athletics carnival – a quite extraordinary achievement given this award is normally reserved for one of the specialist sport high schools. Beyond the athletics track Luke Parish represented NSW and Australia in school baseball whilst Jody Rudlin achieved a first in CHS gymnastics.

Cherrybrook also had many students who performed with distinction at the CHS and NSW all schools swimming, athletics and cross-country carnivals.

In the realm of performing arts the school produced the outstanding musical *HMS Pinnafore* and the annual MADD concert; both terrific productions. Students also participated in regional and state drama and dance festivals, in

eisteddfods and in the Schools' Spectacular where Bianca Oeschle was magnificent as our first featured artist.

In the field of technology it was the year of the laptop or more correctly the year of the Digital Education Revolution with Cherrybrook leading the state in the implementation of this program – a program that has the potential to revolutionise teaching and learning in NSW.

The school also continued to promote our international program with students being involved in very successful exchanges with schools from Germany and France. Whilst the school's Asia Engagement projects, supported by the Federal Government, go from strength to strength.

Again in 2009 the school's student leaders did a great job and amongst other things led some very positive environmental action, 'super – mega happy week' and fabulous fund raising activities particularly for the victims of the Victorian bushfire tragedy. These initiatives contributed to student morale and a sense of school community as well as assisting those in unfortunate circumstances.

Environmentally, there were some great changes around the school with the construction of new multi-purpose courts and new gardens established with the help of students, dedicated staff and P&C working bees. Pleasingly, the school's water tanks have also finally been installed.

As I prepared this message I reflected on the success of Cherrybrook and I also reflected on some of the issues educators and students will face in 2010 and beyond.

Last year I wrote the stand out challenge would be to implement the Rudd digital revolution in a manner which truly assists with teaching and learning. I believe we have made a great start but the challenge will continue as a new year group receives their laptops early in 2010 and our wireless infrastructure is extended throughout the school.



Another great challenge on the horizon will be the need to come to terms with the new national curriculum, scheduled for partial implementation in 2011. It is absolutely vital that this curriculum remains as rigorous as our current NSW one. Those involved in the development must not allow for a “dumbing down” of what our students learn nor in any way detract from the high international standing our NSW HSC has attained.

2010 will certainly be another huge year in education. At Cherrybrook, we will do as we have always done and face the educational challenges with optimism and professionalism at a time when student numbers will rise to about 2000, remembering always this school is above all else about students being given the opportunity to realise their potential.



***Mr Gary Johnson and the Laptop Trial Class***

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.

**Gary Johnson**

### **Parents and Citizen's message**



***Staff and Parents at the Term 2 Working Bee***

The Cherrybrook Technology High School Parents and Citizens (P&C) continued to support the school in 2009. Our members

and volunteers worked closely with our Principal, Mr. Gary Johnson and the deputies Mr Richard Di Marzo, Mrs Jenny Weal, Mr Mark Watson and Mr Russell Summerhayes and the many dedicated teachers at Cherrybrook Technology High School.

Once again, the school achieved excellent academic and sporting results. As a P&C, we are proud to support the school in all its endeavours.

This was the first year that we operated as an incorporated P&C with a constitution and an updated set of rules. We encouraged all those interested to become members.

The P&C thanks the Cherrybrook Technology High School families for the financial support with the voluntary contribution scheme. These contributions are vital to the ongoing support the P&C extends to all areas of the school. During 2009, funds were raised for projects requested by Mr Johnson and the school, including much needed extensions to the MPC.

The P&C continued to be actively involved in ground improvements and thanks to the efforts of Mrs Anna Zielinski and Mr Brett Clements, we saw the installation of two 60 000 litre tanks. Water saved will enable us to water the school grounds and in the near future will be connected to the toilet block.

Two successful working bees were held in 2009. Our thanks go to Mr Johnson, Mr Di Marzo and Mr Watson for their involvement and for the excellent BBQ lunches. Another highlight of the working bees was the excellent morning teas provided by the Community Life Church. Our thanks are also extended to Mrs Narelle Smith for her help with the working bees around the school. Our wonderful general assistants, Mr John Burroughs, Mr Nick Tockuss and Mr Paul Laing, care for the grounds and attended working bees. Their work and support is appreciated.

The P&C continued to provide funds for the student sponsorship scheme, which saw many students achieve their goals at zone, regional, state and national levels.

The school canteen, ably led by Mrs Heather Lane and Mrs May Chang, has again been able to contribute the sum of \$40 000 to the P&C. We thank these ladies and the canteen committee, along with the many volunteers, for their management and the provision of excellent nutritious food.

The P&C is grateful to the various volunteers in the canteen, library and lost property department. I was able to thank all these helpers at the volunteer thank you lunch, which was catered for by the hospitality staff and students.

A feature of the year was the acknowledgement of the tireless work of Mrs Di Bennett (past President) and Mr Alistair Bennett (past Treasurer). They were both awarded life membership of the P&C. Our gratitude also goes to the parent representatives and community members on the School Council. They enabled the close relationship between the P&C and the School Council to continue. We also acknowledged the work of outgoing president Mrs Julianne Middleton.

A highlight of the year was the attendance by teachers at the P&C meetings. They spoke about their specialist areas with interest and enthusiasm. Thanks goes to Mrs Fiona Hay from Mathematics, Mrs Jenny Bevan, the Welfare Head Teacher, Mr Mark Wade, from LOTE, who spoke about Smartboards, and Ms Jenny Weal who presented on planning and curriculum.

Further thanks go to outgoing executive members Mrs Kerry Levy and Ms Sonya Junkkari. Kerry worked tirelessly for the catering committee as did Sonya in her role of canteen treasurer. All of us who have attended any presentation assembly or function would acknowledge the wonderful array of refreshments served by Mrs Kathryn Ralton, the catering committee and the many volunteers.

A special thank you goes to Mr Felix Lam for offering to audit the P&C accounts for 2009 on a volunteer basis.

In conclusion, I would like to say thank you to all executives of the P&C, who donate their time freely to support this wonderfully successful school.

**Mike Charlton**

## **Student representatives' message**

2009 was an exciting year for the SRC and a busy one for all the student representatives. We had a great team to work with and are proud of our achievements. The year started with the Valentine roses' fundraiser which was an incredible success and raised \$5000 for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. This would not have been possible without the generous donations of many, many roses by Mr Mohammed Khan.

We continued to support many important causes including: The Leukaemia Foundation, in our March fundraiser, and Shades for Aides Day.

Year 12 had a great year. We fought each other for rankings, we worked well together and came to grips with the fact that none of us could score a perfect 100 any more in the Higher School certificate and we would now be measured by an ATAR. It was not all work. We dressed as pirates and princesses for the February swimming carnival and, despite the rain, came dressed as superheroes for the annual athletics carnival.

Probably the highlight of the SRC calendar was the success of 'super-mega-happy-week', a tradition that was started by the previous SRC. The carnivale mask day was well supported but no one could have foreseen the incredible success of the Cherrybrook Technology High School Talent quest. We had all kinds of acts from drumming, to singing, to dancing, to eyebrow raising! Nearly the whole school packed into the hall to witness the diversity of talent on show.

We also watched in wonder as Mr Paul Craft had his dreadlocks shaved in the name of charity, raising over \$5000. This initiative was mostly organised by the Year 10 students from our SRC group.

We handed our SCR badges over at the beginning of term three and left the school in the capable hands of Jessica and Josh. We had a fun year and wish all future students the best.

**Brittney Van Saarloos and Amir Khan**



*Cherrybrook Technology High School Captains,  
Brittney van Saarloos and Amir Khan, at the Year 12  
Graduation Ceremony 2009*

## **Our school at a glance**

Opened in 1992, Cherrybrook Technology High School is situated in the north-west Sydney metropolitan region.

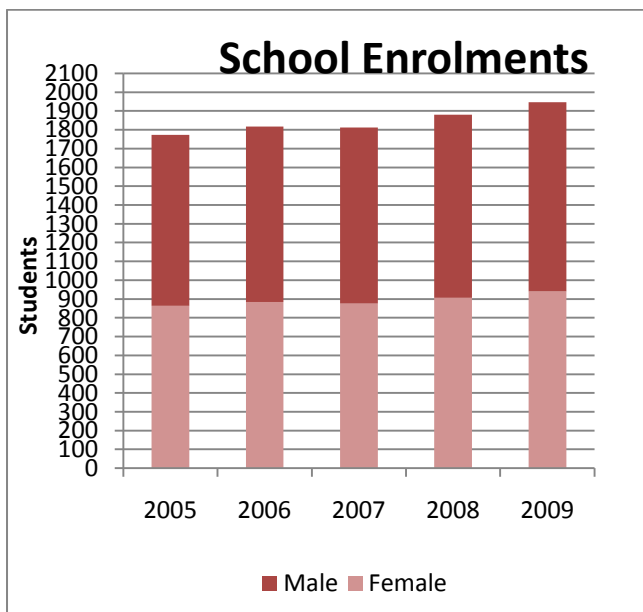
Our school is a purpose-built technology high school with modern and well maintained learning areas located in a bush setting. The school has a reputation for being one of the most dynamic, innovative and high performing comprehensive schools in the state. Students at our school appreciate the excellent facilities that the school offers and enthusiastically immerse themselves in a broad range of learning experiences.

We have a harmonious multicultural population, excellent student welfare programs and outstanding parent support.

## Students

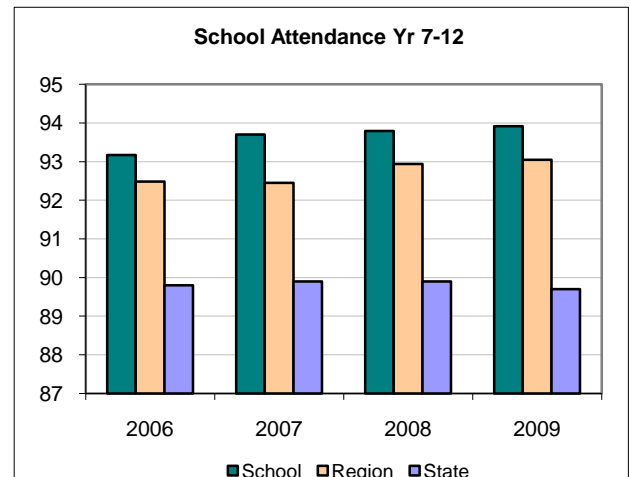
Our school has an excellent reputation within the community and this is reflected in the continuous growth in enrolment numbers each year and in the number of enquiries for enrolment from outside the catchment area. In 2009, the school had a total enrolment of 1975 students. Approximately 55% of students are from language backgrounds other than English.

The following table reflects the total enrolment of the school for students in Years 7 to 10 by gender over a five year period. Enrolments show slightly more male students than female students.



## Attendance

Attendance rates were slightly higher for students in the 2009 cohort compared to previous years. Attendance at Cherrybrook Technology High School continues to be better than the NSW average and the other schools in the region.



## Management of students who do not attend school

In order to maintain and restore regular school attendance we have established sound attendance monitoring practices and regular follow-up of unexplained absences. Parents are notified promptly on the day of their child's absence via an SMS text messaging system and are further advised in writing if an explanation for the absence has not been received. A range of school based strategies are implemented to resolve attendance difficulties that have the welfare of the student as their focus. These include: student and parent interviews via phone calls, letters or interviews, referral to the school welfare team and/or the learning support team, referral to the school counsellor or the development of a school based attendance improvement program. If these interventions prove unsuccessful, support from the Home School Liaison Program is requested and a formal Attendance Improvement Plan may be put in place.

## Retention to Year 12

Eighty seven percent of students from the Year 10, 2007 cohort completed Year 12 in 2009. Retention rates and the number of males and females completing the HSC are shown in the following table.

	SC/03- HSC/05	SC/04- HSC/06	SC/05 HSC/07	SC/06- HSC/08	SC/07 – HSC/09
<b>School</b>	81.4	84.8	83.4	79.6	87.0
<b>SEG</b>	80.3	81.9	82.1	80.4	82.3
<b>State</b>	61.0	61.1	60.8	60.3	61.0

## Post-school destinations

The destinations of the Year 12 students who completed the HSC in 2009 are as follows:

University	66%
TAFE	13%
Private colleges	7%
Employed	8%
Overseas/Unknown	8%

All Cherrybrook Technology High students were successful in gaining an HSC or an equivalent vocational education qualification.

## Staff information

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

### Staff

Cherrybrook Technology High School continues to benefit from its experienced, highly motivated and professional staff. The school has an experienced staff and traditionally the turnover rate is low. In 2009, there were 126 teaching staff with 47 males and 79 females.

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

### Staff establishment

The following table reflects the composition of the school teaching staff:

Position	Number
Principal	1
Deputy Principals	3
Head Teachers	19.5
Classroom Teachers	95.2
Support Teacher Learning Assistance	0.4
Teacher Librarian	2
Teacher of ESL	3
Counsellor	1
Careers	2
School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS)	20.4
Total	146.5

No staff identify as having an Indigenous background.

## Financial summary

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

A full copy of the school's 2009 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meeting of the School Council. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.



**Year 10 students participate in the HillsSip Workready Program**

Canteen	0.00
<b>Total income</b>	<b>3 949 265.62</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Teaching & learning	
Key learning areas	478 840.28
Excursions	578 927.46
Extracurricular dissections	236 616.35
Library	3 222.07
Training & development	41 440.02
Tied funds	409 392.38
Casual relief teachers	193 093.29
Administration & office	466 891.28
School-operated canteen	0.00
Utilities	188 517.50
Maintenance	131 915.68
Trust accounts	273 960.90
Capital programs	184 132.20
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>3 186 949.41</b>
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>762 316.21</b>



**'My Restaurant Rulz' Year 8**

## School performance 2009

### Achievements

#### Creative and Performing Arts

##### Visual Art

2009 was an exciting year for Visual Arts with many successful activities both in and outside the classroom.

The art staff designed and built a large green screen to facilitate photography and film making for the subject.

The 2 Visual Art HSC classes performed very well with five band 6 results and fourteen band 5 results. Two students had their works selected for and displayed in Art express. Works from all students in Year 12 were publically exhibited during Week 6 of Term 3 and received wide ranging acclaim from the community.

Visual arts students from all years were exhibited at the annual MADD evening with a wide range of high standard works on show.



*Neha D'Souza at the opening of Art Express 2009*

##### Music

The Concert Band, under the dynamic leadership of Mrs Pam Merrigan, saw membership soar to over 80 students. A plan was made for the partial division of the band in 2009 and a total division in 2010.

One of the highlights of the Concert Band's achievements was winning gold at the Yamaha Band Festival in June 2009, the first time this had been achieved at Cherrybrook Technology High School. They then achieved second place at the Galston Eisteddfod. Such successes brought them performance invitations for the John Purchase School Fete and Oakhill Drive Public School's Family Fun Day.

Another successful activity the Concert Band ran was the Band Orientation Workshop and the Twilight Concert; an eye-opening experience and opportunity for the primary school students to work with the high school band members.

The other music ensembles were also gaining strength. The Choir and Vocal Ensemble, under the capable direction of Michaela Hodgson, achieved second and fourth places respectively at the Ryde Eisteddfod. The String Ensemble, led by their new conductor, Mr Alan Foley, won a Bronze award at the Yamaha Festival in the Orchestra Section.



*The Cherrybrook Technology High School Choir - prize winners at the Ryde Eisteddfod*

Talented students not only participated in the Music ensembles, individual achievements also abounded. Of particular note was Bianca Oechsle, a Year 11 Music 1 student, who showed outstanding musical ability in winning the National Children's Song Writing Competition, being selected as one of the featured artists at the Schools' Spectacular, and on top of that, she beat many older contestants to be a finalist at the *Australian Idol*.

The Jazz Band had another successful year. The brass section, built in strength, the rhythm section was more cohesive and the saxophones were producing some fantastic solos. The band worked very hard to push their repertoire to new levels.

Jazz Band performances for 2009 included: the High Achievers' Assembly, Showcase, School Leaders' Induction Assembly, the Rotary Dinner Dance at Dural Country Club, several performances for HSC students,

the Year 12 Graduation Assembly, MADD Concert, the Twilight Concert which occurred after the Concert Band Workshop and several weekly assemblies. The band also enjoyed a full-day workshop with Saul Richardson, a leading Jazz Educator in Australia, learning to develop improvisation skills.



*The cast of HMS Pinafore*

## Drama

2009 was another busy year for Drama. Drama students and teachers were heavily involved with the school musical, *HMS Pinafore*, with Ms Olivia Marrée as costume designer and production assistant and Ms Rebecca Constantin creating some terrific choreography. Ms Julianne Cannon played a significant part in the promotion of the production to the school and wider community

The Year 7 and Year 8 Drama Ensembles were also led by Ms Julianne Cannon this year with the Year 8 Ensemble successful in gaining entry to the Arts North Drama Festival held at the NIDA Parade Theatre. Both ensembles also enjoyed presenting their performances at assemblies held throughout the year. Ms Cannon's Drama class also presented a moving tribute at the ANZAC Day Assembly in April.

The Year 12 Drama Camp held at Stewart House, Curl Curl, in June was a great success, and enjoyed by all who attended, with significant progress being made to the compulsory HSC Group Performances. The fruits of the 2009 HSC students' labours were evident in the Year 12 Performance Night in August, which showcased all the HSC Performances for the year.

The Year 11 Performance Retrospective, held early in Term 4 was also a great success. It highlighted the talents of our future HSC performers as individuals, groups and duos. The evening showed a collection of the best performances from the whole of the Preliminary Drama course for 2009.

The MADD concert is always a highlight of the Drama calendar, and all the Drama staff work hard to include performances by students studying the subject throughout the year. Highlights for 2009 were the performances by the Year 9 class, the Year 8 Drama Ensemble and one of the Year 11 Group Performances. In addition, the Year 9 Drama class was invited to perform its piece, 'It's a Barbie World,' at Presentation Night at the end of Term 4.

Each year, the Drama department tries to organise excursions to see various theatrical productions. This year, some of the productions we saw included: *Onstage 2009*, *Ruby Moon*, *The Crucible*, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* and *Chatroom*.

2009 was also a year of some outstanding individual achievements.

- Jessica Waterson, Year 11, successfully auditioned for the Arts Unit's prestigious Senior Drama Ensemble and was able to work with other talented Drama students from the Sydney region. Jessica performed in two plays: *The Elephant Man* at PACT Theatre, and in a featured role in *Chatroom* at the Seymour Centre.
- Jessica Waterson, James Hughes and Ian Smith, all in Year 11, were accepted to attend the State Drama Camp at Elanora, and James was nominated as a Student Ambassador for the Griffin Theatre. Ian played a key role in *HMS Pinafore* in Term 2.
- Year 9 student Erin Fitzpatrick was successful in auditioning for the Arts Unit's Stage 5 Drama Ensemble, and performed at the State Drama Festival at the Seymour Centre as part of the Ensemble.
- Madison Thorne of Year 7 was privileged to be part of the Arts Unit's Year 7 Ensemble which also performed at the State Drama Festival. All students received the full support of the Drama staff in their efforts to enhance their drama experiences.

Ms Julianne Cannon was selected as a tutor for the NSW Department of Education and Training Arts Unit's Senior Drama Ensemble.



## Sport

It was a very successful year for Cherrybrook Technology High School sport, with victories in the Zone Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics carnivals. These, together with our achievements in Grade Sport, saw Cherrybrook Technology High being awarded the Kuring-gai Zone Champion School for the second consecutive year. For the first time we were also the Metropolitan North Champion School.

The year began with the annual swimming carnivals at Epping and Hornsby pools where 17 records were broken at the junior pool by: Marcus Hagland, Freeman Fung, Alicia Van Arkel, Jeremy Tunkunas Scott, James Lott, Jonathan Shen, Jenna Liimatainen and Damien Yabsley. At the senior pool, 6 records were broken; 5 by Atte Liimatainen and one by the 16 years Strickland Relay Team.

The cross country carnival was also held in Term 1 and it was refreshing to see the number of students who were willing to participate to the best of their ability in the carnival. The fastest time on the day went to Nathan Varnish who completed his run in 9 minutes and 24 seconds! The age champions were as follows.

Girls: 12 Years - Georgia Wincup, 13 years - Erin Blundell, 14 years - Michelle Young, 15 years - Jenny Blundell, 16 years - Nerida Blundy, 17 years - Emma Hunt and 18 years - Maxine Rees.

Boys: 12 Years - Marcus Haglund, 13 years - Cole Rudlin, 14 years - Ryan Flemming, 15 years - Mitchell Yabsley, 16 years - Chris New-Tolley, 17 years - Nathan Varnish and 18 years - Shane Campbell.



***Jenny Blundell wins the 15 years Cross Country***

Unfortunately the 2009 Athletics carnival was plagued by rain and only a few events were run, but this did not stop Cherrybrook Technology High from presenting a team that was strong enough to go on to be the Zone Champions.

The sports department also supplemented the curriculum with the inclusion of two Boot Camps for Stage 5 students, in June and November. Students were put through rigorous

training and ended up tired and dirty as the sessions tested their stamina and ability. The Stage 5 sports electives continue to be effective and popular choices with Year 9 and 10 students.

Individual students achieved excellent results in a variety of sports with 62 students representing North Sydney Region at CHS events. Erin Blundell, Jenny Blundell, Nerida Blundy, Rhianna Brown, Mitchell Yabsley, Jin Su Jung, Emma Hunt, Benjamin Jaworski, Emma McKenzie and Nelson Osifo all represented Combined High Schools in athletics. Jenny Blundell and Emma Hunt represented CHS in Cross Country. Other CHS representatives were Caitlyn Thomas (Basketball), Luke Parish (Basketball), Jody Rudlin (Gymnastics) and Alex Duong (Volleyball).

Cherrybrook Technology High School students had exceptional results at National Athletics where: Jenny Blundell won a Silver Medal in the 800m, Emma Hunt a Bronze in the 400m as well as Silver medals in the 4 x 100m relay and a Gold medal in the 4 x 400m relay, Ben Jaworski won a Gold medal in the 200m, a Silver medal in the 100m and a Gold in the 4 x 100m relay. Caitlyn Thomas (Basketball) and Alex Duong (Volleyball) were recipients of Sydney North Blue Awards.



***Outstanding performers from the 2009 Athletics Carnival***

In 2009, the annual ski trip went ahead with 5 staff members and 32 students in the winter school holidays. With some of the best snow that the Victorian Alps had to offer the staff and students had an excellent week and were marvellous ambassadors for our school.

Once the warmer months hit it was back in the pool with the Year 8 swimschool and lifesaving program. This successful week runs with the assistance of Year 9 and 10 students who tutor and lead their peers in water safety.



**Cherrybrook Technology High School Annual Ski Trip**

Fifty two girls from Cherrybrook Technology High School represented our school at the Breakfast with the Stars program. This year the address was led by Dr Imke Fisher who is the President of Womensport and Recreation. All the girls who went had high profile female sports personalities sitting at their tables and enjoyed the conversation and the breakfast.

Overall Cherrybrook Technology High School has had an excellent year in sport and looks forward to future success in 2010.

## Student achievement in 2009

### 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.

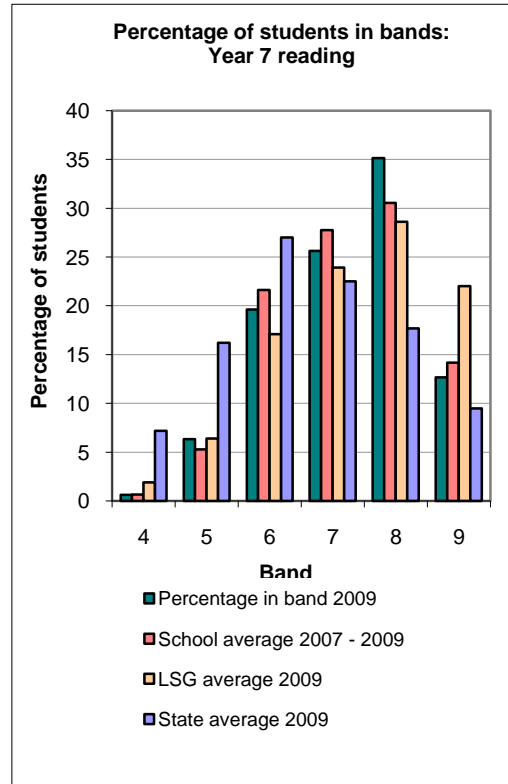
The achievement scale represents increasing levels of skills and understandings demonstrated in the assessments.

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) Yr 7: from Band 4 (lowest) to Band 9 (highest for Year 7) Yr 9: from Band 5 (lowest) to Band 10 (highest for Year 9)

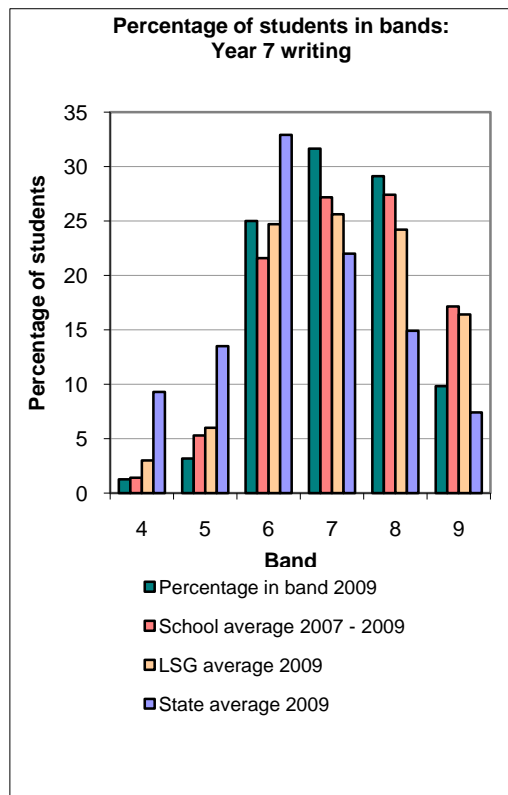
In the School Certificate the performance of students is reported in performance bands ranging from Performance Band 1 (lowest) to Performance Band 6 (highest).

### Literacy – NAPLAN Year 7

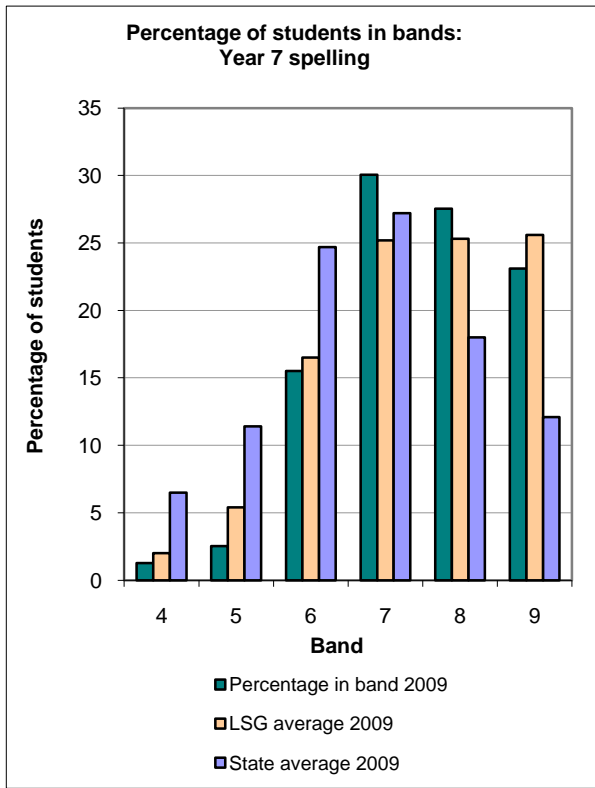
**Reading:** In NAPLAN for Year 7 in reading, students are performing above the state, especially in Band 8.



**Writing:** In NAPLAN for Year 7 in writing, 67% of students are performing in the top 3 bands.

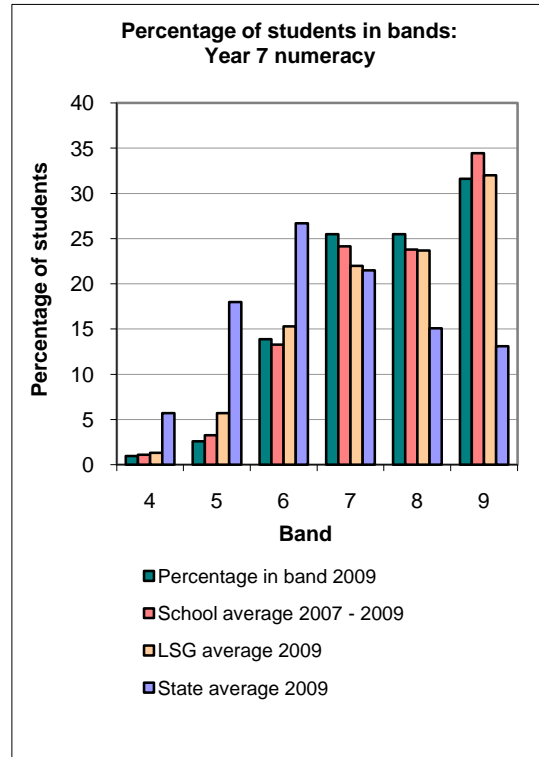


**Spelling:** In NAPLAN for Year 7 in spelling, grammar and punctuation, students are performing well above the state average and like school group average in the upper bands. There are fewer students in the lower bands needing remediation than in the state and like school groups.

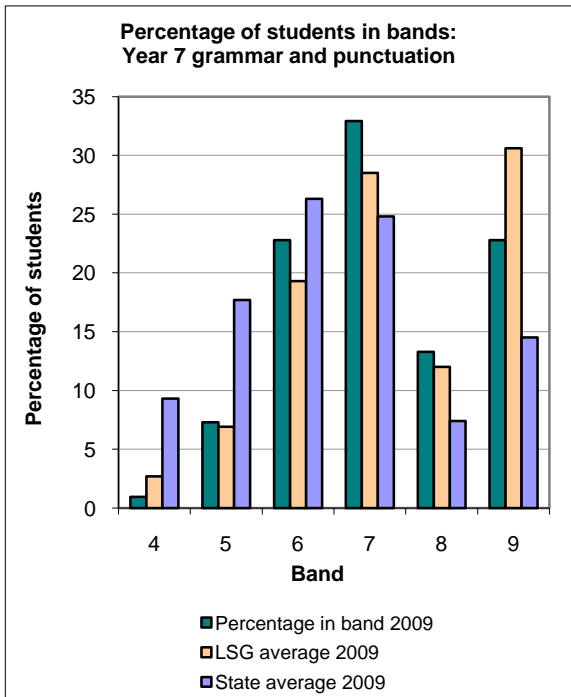


## Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 7

NAPLAN is assessed on a band scale from 4 to 9 for Year 7 numeracy. Results are above the state average in the top bands. Comparison to like school groups and the state shows that there is over 30% of mathematicians in the top bands as determined by NAPLAN in the Year 7, 2009 cohort.



## Grammar and Punctuation:

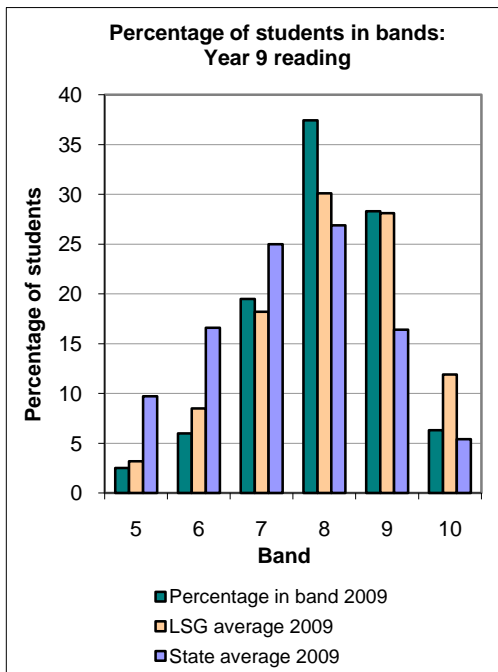


*Josh Henry and Jessica Waterson at the Lions Youth of the Year Competition*

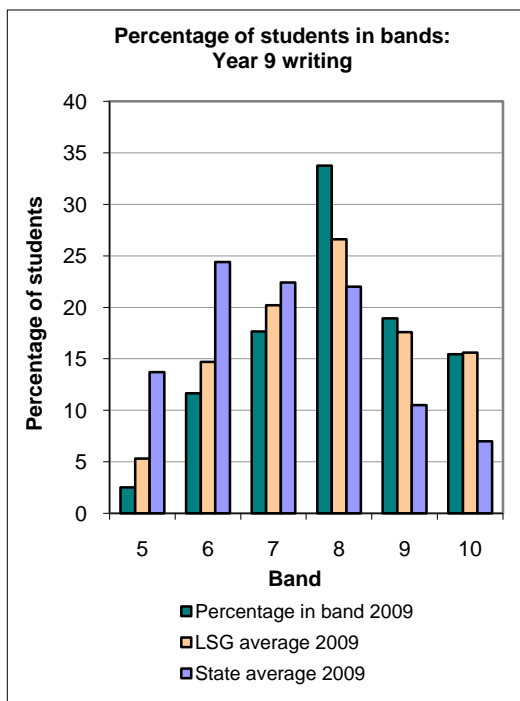
## Literacy – NAPLAN Year 9

NAPLAN is assessed on a band scale from 5 to 10 for Year 9 literacy and covers the areas of reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation. Results are above the state average and above those of like school groups. The following graphs reveals a comparison of mean scores for Cherrybrook Technology High, like schools and the state of NSW.

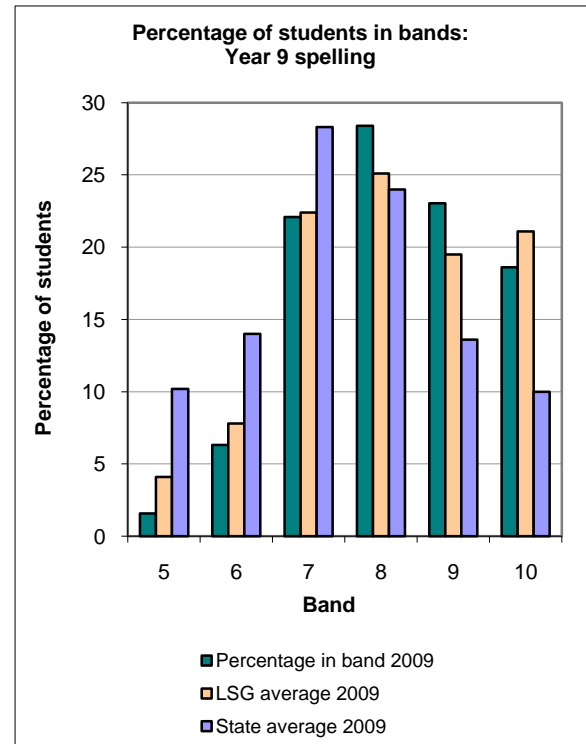
**Reading:** In NAPLAN for Year 9 in reading, students continue to perform well, especially in the top bands.



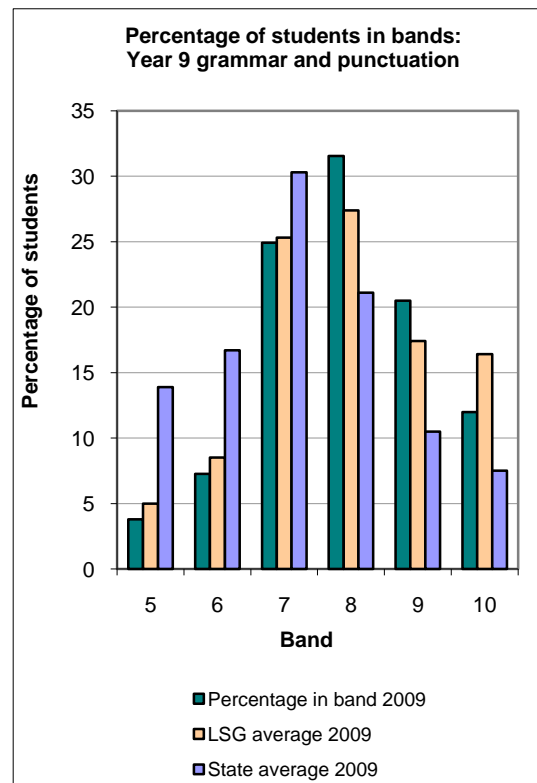
**Writing:** In NAPLAN for Year 9 in writing, 34% of students performed in the top 2 bands.



**Spelling:** In NAPLAN for Year 9 in spelling, grammar and punctuation, students are well above the average for like schools and the state within the top bands.

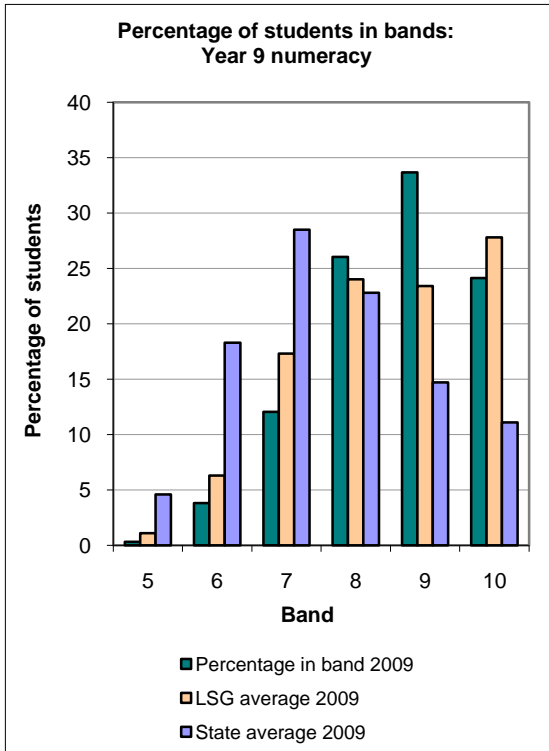


## Grammar and Punctuation:



## Numeracy – NAPLAN Year 9

NAPLAN is assessed on a band scale from 5 to 10 for Year 9 numeracy. Results are above the state average and those of like school groups. The number of students in the top bands for NAPLAN numeracy, 24.1%, is in excess of double the number for the state (11.1%). Band 9 presents a similar pattern 33.7% (14.7% for the state).

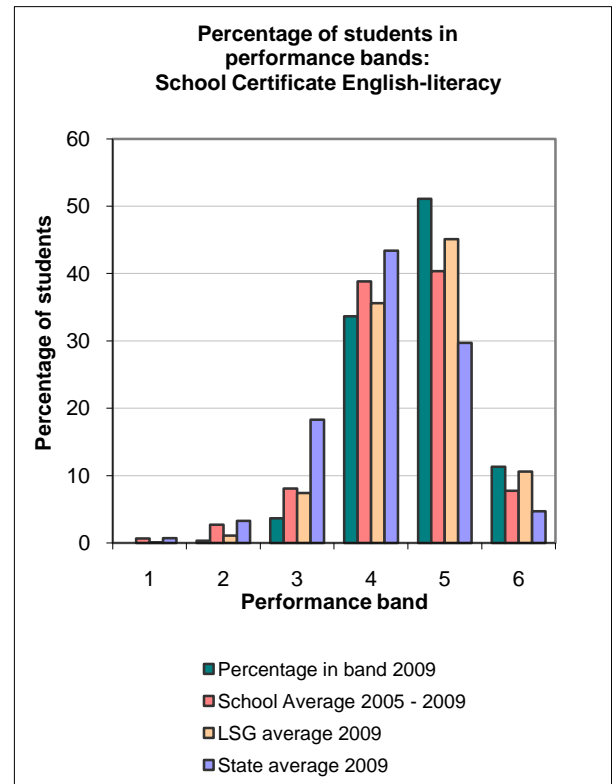


**Stage 5 Market Day**

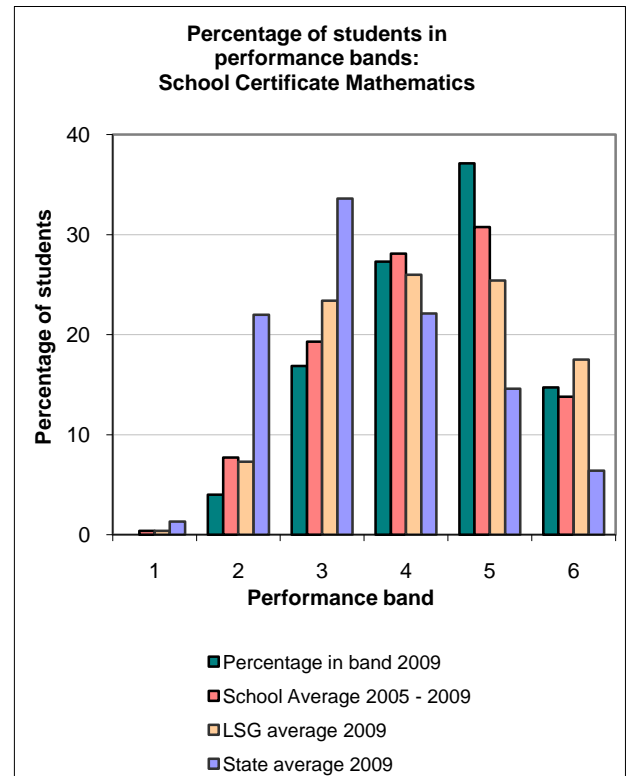
## School Certificate

School Certificate results for 2008 were outstanding with:

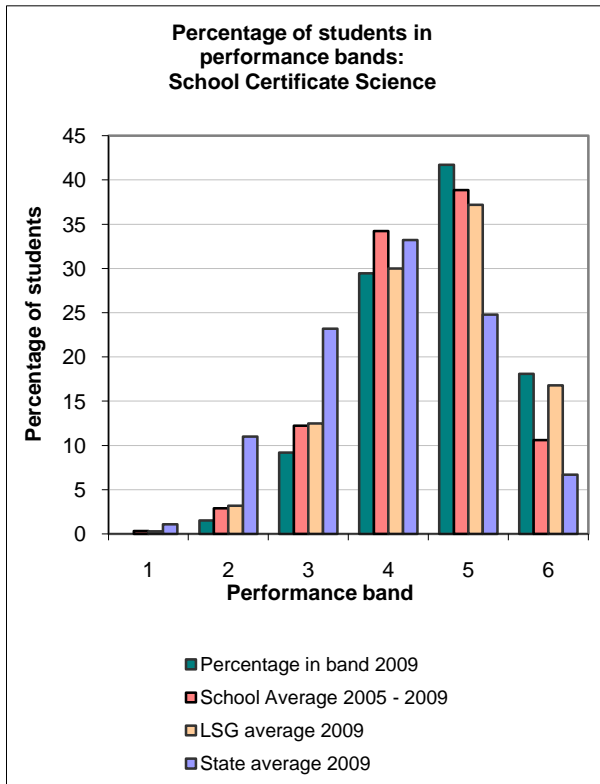
- 62.4% of students achieving the top 2 bands in English-literacy



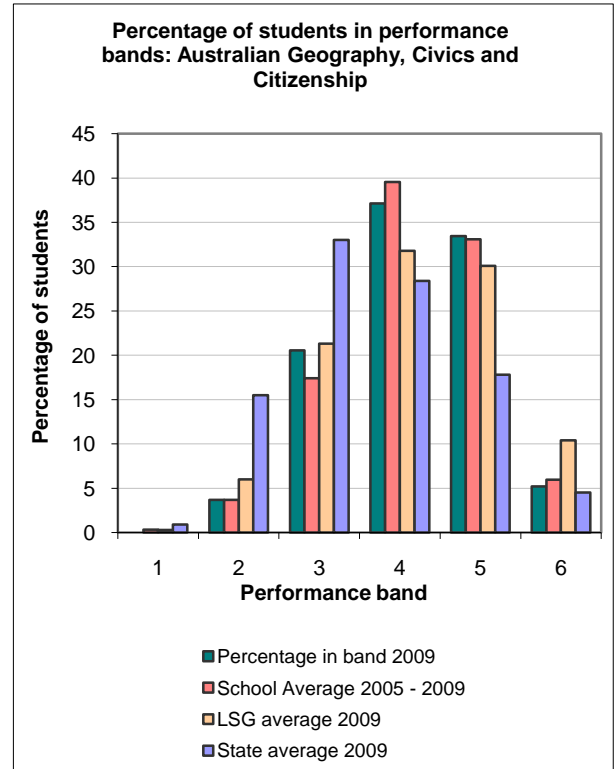
- 51.8% of our Mathematics students achieving the top 2 bands.



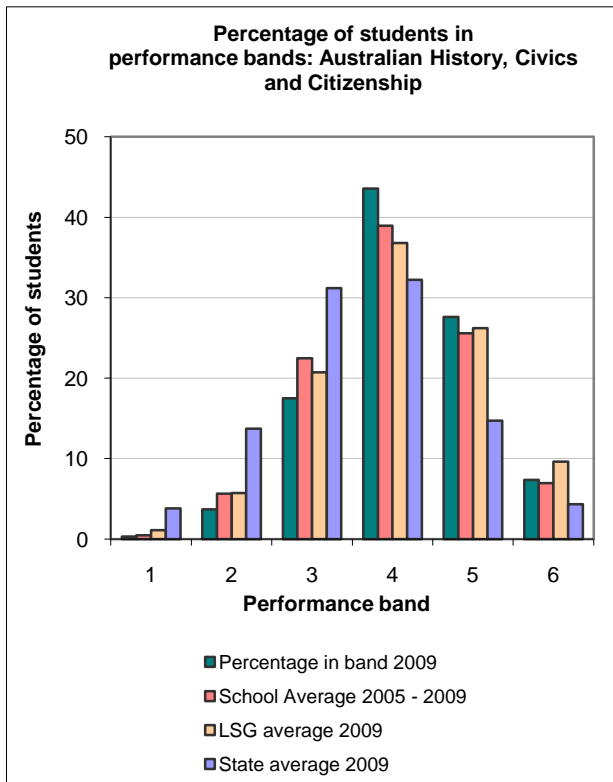
- 59.8% of students in the top 2 bands for Science



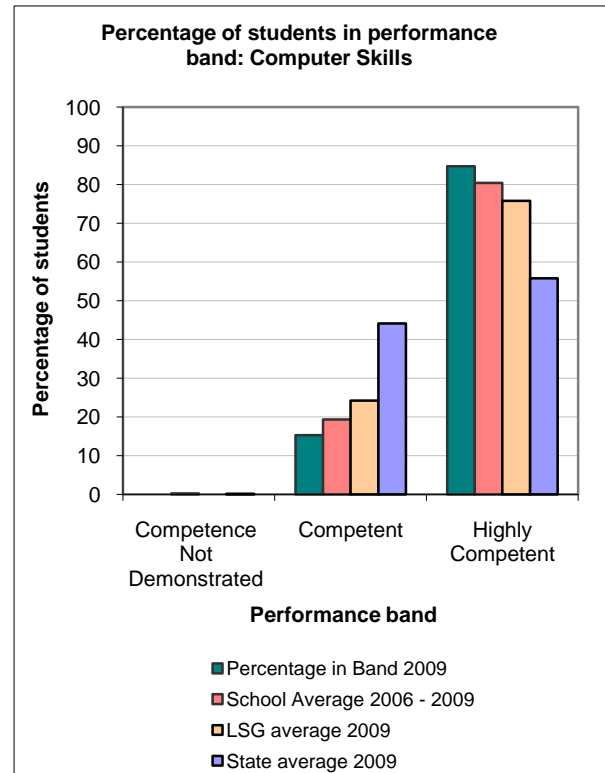
- Australian Geography, Civics and Citizenship 67.5% of students are achieving the top 2 bands.



- 78.6% of students are in the top 3 bands in Australian History, Civics and Citizenship.

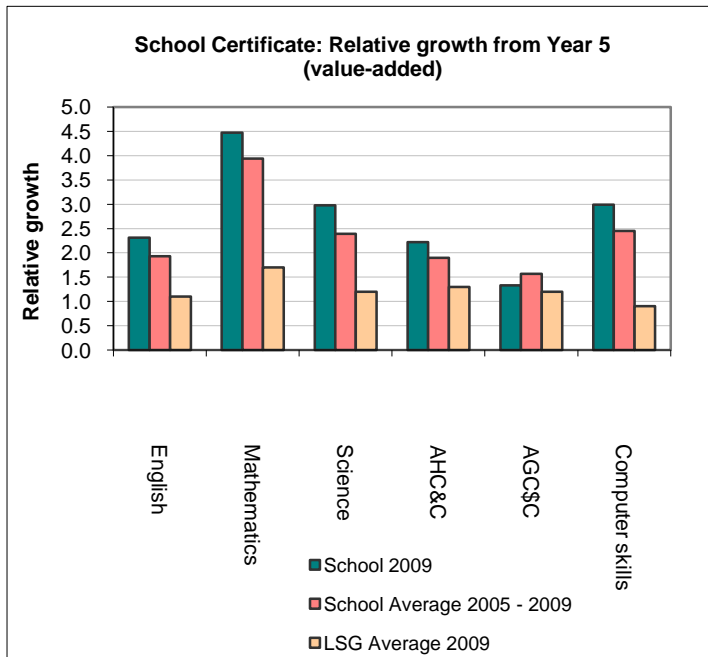


- 100% of our students sitting the Computer skills assessment were competent or highly competent



## School Certificate relative performance comparison to Year 5 (value-adding)

Below is the value added growth from Year 5 showing the continual pursuit of excellence for Cherrybrook Technology High School.



**Year 8 Public Speaking Finalists 2009**

### Mathematics

HSC Mathematics students may sit for courses ranging from the General Mathematics course through to Extension 2 students who study 4 units of Mathematics. All courses were above the state average and all courses had many students in bands 5 and 6.

Extension Mathematics had 56 students presenting for Extension 1 and 18 students presenting for Extension 2. Of these students 48% were in the top band for Extension 1 and 77% in the top band in Extension 2. The most outstanding results were achieved by James Koh and Steven Siu who shared 99% for Extension 1 Mathematics and 97% for Extension 2 Mathematics. Michael Seo also achieved 99% for Extension 1 mathematics. A large cohort of 113 students sat the 2 Unit Mathematics paper and of these 58% were in the top 2 bands. One hundred and seventeen students sat General Mathematics with Alexander Tenser gaining an exceptional mark of 98% which placed him sixteenth in the state.

### Science

Science offers HSC courses in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and General Science.

In Biology, 44% of students were in the top two bands with Maxine Rees, Linda Grove and Arjun Shukla attaining 95 from a possible 100. Chemistry students achieved similar results with 46% of students in bands 5 and 6. Maxine Rees achieved the highest result with a mark of 95. Physics presented 64 students, 58% attaining band 5 or 6. The top mark of 95 was gained by Arjun Shukla. Of the 39 students that presented for Senior Science, Melissa Thompson achieved 94%. Seventy five per cent of students in Senior Science achieved a band 5 or 6.

### HSIE

HSIE continues to present a wide range of subjects for the HSC with continued excellence in all areas.

Twenty percent of students who sat for the Ancient History examination achieved band 6 and of these 62.1 % of students were in the top 2 bands. Jessica

## Higher School Certificate

The school's HSC results continue to be outstanding with the vast majority of subjects performing well above the state and like school group averages.

Two hundred and seventy four students sat the HSC in 2009 and 13 of these appeared on the HSC honour role for academic excellence after achieving band 6 in at least five of their 2 Unit courses. Fourteen students achieved an ATAR greater than 99.

The top ATAR was achieved by Jessie Leung who scored a mark of 99.8 from a possible 99.95.

### English

At Cherrybrook in 2009, 162 students sat the HSC exam in Advanced English, 122 in Standard English and 27 in English as a Second Language (ESL). Of the Advanced candidates, 17 presented at Extension 1 level and 9 at Extension 2 level. Results across all courses continue to be outstanding with the achievements of our Advanced English students for 2009, unparalleled by any other non selective school in the state, public or private. The results included Erica Long who was placed eleventh in the state. Sixty seven per cent of students achieved a band 5 or 6 for Advanced English. All other courses performed above the state average. English as a Second Language students averaged ten marks higher than the state.

Ragusa gained a mark of 97. In Modern History the highest result went to Jessica McKillop, who gained 94. Of the 24 students who sat for Modern History 62% achieved a result in the top 2 bands. This is well above the state average of 40.1% of students in the top 2 bands.

Business Studies continues to be a popular HSC subject with 87 students completing the course. Sixty two per cent of students achieved either a band 5 or 6 and the highest mark of 97 was attained by Matthew Tan. This placed him twelfth in the state.

Legal Studies had 30 students complete the course with 66.6% of students in bands 5 and 6. The highest result was Erica Long with 96.

Of the 44 students who studied Economics, 56% gained a band 5 or 6. The highest result was 96 from Kapil Mistry.

A small cohort sat Geography and Society and Culture. The highest mark for Geography was 88, achieved by Jessica Ragusa and 86 in Society and Culture achieved by Hollie Scott.

### Languages

CTHS presented students in a wide range of school-based language courses including German Continuers and Extension, Japanese Beginners, Continuers and Extension and French Continuers. In addition students presented for the HSC in a range of languages, through Saturday school or independent tutors including Armenian Continuers where Saro Karadonian achieved the first place in the state.

Language results continue to be excellent. Japanese Continuers and Extension students all achieved the top 2 bands. Seventy per cent of Japanese Continuers students achieved a band 6. This is 40% higher than the state average. The highest achievement in French Continuers was Diva Abrahamian with 91, the highest in German Continuers was Linda Grove with 89.

### Creative Arts

Creative Arts attracts a wide variety of students and generally they achieve a high value added component, relative to Year 10 performance. Most notable is Music 2, where 75% of students achieved a band 5 or 6. The highest mark achieved was 93 achieved by Matthew New-Tolley for Music 1 and Saro Karadonian for Music 2. In Extension Music both Laura Pagni and Kenny Lee gained 47 marks from a possible 50.

In Drama, all students gained a band 4 or 5. Over twenty per cent of students who presented for Visual Arts achieved a band 6 with Jennifer Strilakos achieving a result of 96%

### Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Students studying PDHPE received excellent results in the 2009 HSC with 53% of candidates receiving a band 5 or 6. The top mark was 93, achieved by Adam Bugaj.

PDHPE continues to grow in popularity in the junior years with the successful implementation of Physical Activity and Sports Studies (PASS) and the Women in Sport module.

### Technology and Applied Studies (TAS) and Vocational Education

TAS candidates continued to perform well, with all subjects adding value to the Year 10 projected results of the students. Some of the achievements of TAS subjects included: in Textiles and Design 50% of the candidates achieved a band 5, in Design and Technology Courtney Dell received a mark of 97 placing her tenth in the state and in Engineering over 50% of candidates achieved a band 5 or 6.

Student numbers in Vocational Education and training increased with the most popular framework being Hospitality with 42 students.

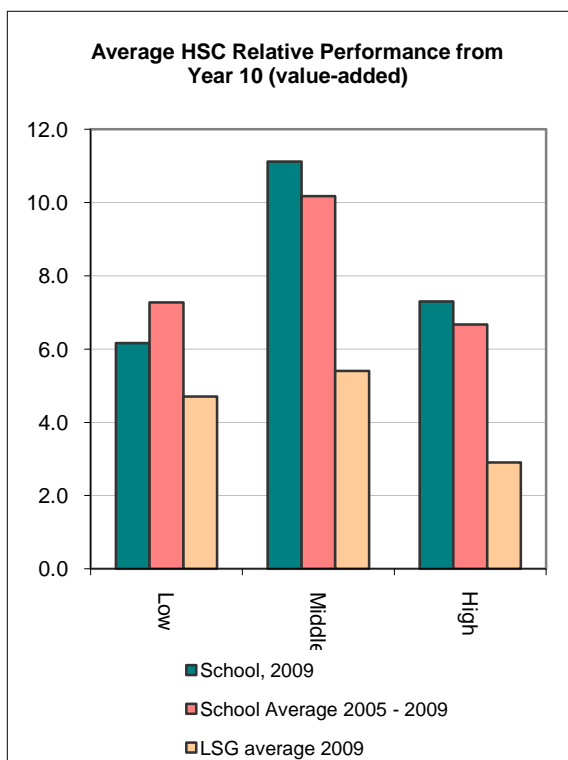


*HSC Major Art work 2009 Patricia Alborough*

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

The value added data for Cherrybrook Technology High School is outstanding. Students across the whole range of abilities improve and grow and perform well in external tests. Cherrybrook Technology High continues to out-perform like school groups as shown in the following graphs.





### 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.

### Percentage of Year 7 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2009

Percentage of Year 7 students achieving at and above minimum standard	
Reading	99.1
Writing	98.4
Spelling	98.4
Punctuation and grammar	98.7
Numeracy	98.7

### Percentage of Year 9 students in our school achieving at or above the minimum standard in 2009

Percentage of Year 9 students achieving at and above minimum standard	
Reading	97.5
Writing	97.5
Spelling	98.4
Punctuation and grammar	96.2
Numeracy	99.7

## Significant programs and initiatives

### Social Justice

Cherrybrook Technology High School students are encouraged to be proactive and take on leadership roles in promoting social justice issues in our school and wider community. Our aim is for students to develop awareness of social justice issues and to develop the skills needed to translate this into action.

During 2009, students were involved in and led a variety of whole school projects.

Students organised and presented at our 2<sup>nd</sup> International Women’s Day breakfast which was attended by over 100 guests. This event raised \$1000 which was shared between *Mahboba’s Promise*, an Australian aid organisation that works with women and children in Afghanistan, and *Room to Read*, which supports literacy programs in a number of countries.

After attending the World Vision Leadership Convention, students were inspired and motivated to again organise the *World Vision 40 Hour Famine*. Year 12 students, Hannah Smith and Reinet de Wett also organised a lunch time concert in support of the 40 Hour Famine that consisted of eating competitions, music and entertaining skits. It was terrific to see so many students and staff supporting this event.

Students were encouraged to attend Social Justice meetings on Tuesday at lunch time to discuss and put forward ideas that they would like to learn about and/or support. One such student-led initiative was RSPCA cupcake day, organised by Jack Lai in Year 9. Students volunteered to bake and sell cakes. This day raised \$700 for the RSPCA.

Staff and parents again knitted squares for *ABC Wrap With Love* and many students attended learn to knit classes at lunchtime. Mrs Howard and library staff patiently spent many lunch times picking up dropped stitches and trying to teach our students what seems to be a “lost art”.

We supported programs for homeless people by joining with our SRC to raise \$2000 for *The Dish* that provides meals each Friday evening for homeless people in the Hornsby area. This program needs support and some of our senior students are volunteering to help serve meals each Friday evening. Junior students are also selling lollies to raise money for this program.

Towards the end of 2009, Year 7 students were invited to apply for and attend a leadership training day that was organised and run by Year 10 and 11 Social Justice

Leaders. Students enjoyed themselves while learning about team work, communication and leadership.

Our students again showed their commitment by participating in a number of projects such as the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal, Anglicare Winter Appeal and Christmas Gift Giving. They also had a number of opportunities to attend wonderful events such as United Nations Youth Association Conference and Youth Action for Climate Change

All students were encouraged to get involved, better understand global issues and develop their skills so they can fully participate in our world as active, global citizens.



*Social Justice- Wrapped with Love.*

### **Aboriginal education**

In 2009, the staff were introduced to the new Aboriginal Education policy at a staff meeting. For Northern Sydney schools such as ours the emphasis of the policy is to promote cultural understanding of Aboriginal heritage and culture. A small group of teachers began to unpack the policy and prepare for 2010 Aboriginal Awareness *Other Interest Group*. The school management plan has a directed focus on introducing Aboriginal Studies in 2011 and the group is working towards this.

Cherrybrook Technology High School has 3 students who identify as Aboriginal. Each student has an individual learning plan to assist their performance.

### **Multicultural education**

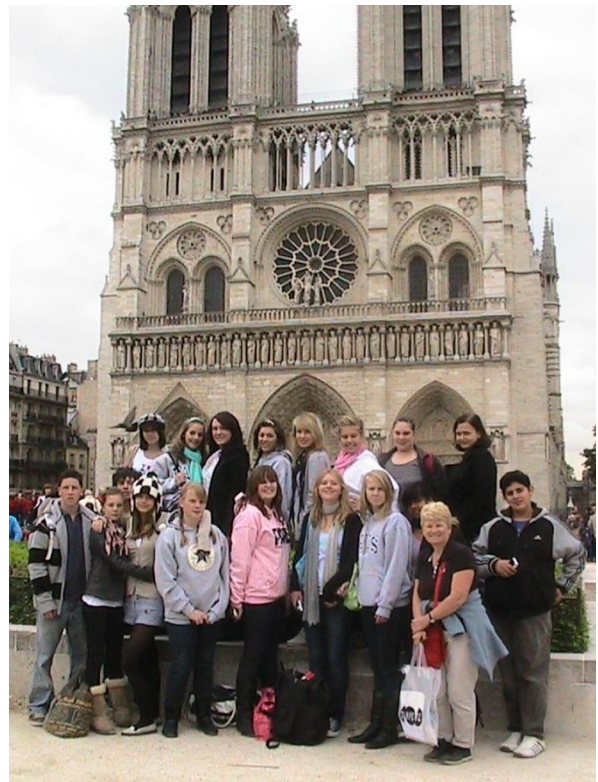
The school continues to reflect the cultural and linguistic diversity of Australia with over 50% of our students having a language background other than English. Whilst the majority of our non English-speaking background (NESB) students are either born or have grown up in Australia, the more recently arrived ESL students comprise approximately 11% of the

school population and receive support from 3 specialist teachers across all KLA areas.

The school also has a number of full fee-paying international students, who also receive targeted support. The school provides interpreter and translation services for parent-teacher nights and other functions. The focus of the multicultural group this year was participation in the 'Asia Engagement' Project, discussed later in this report

Eighteen students and two teachers visited Collège de la Fontaine des Près in Senlis, about 40 kilometres north east of Paris. Students attended lessons and billeted with host families. Students then toured Paris and the Loire valley. The students commented on the incredible experience they had being immersed in the French culture.

Students in 2010 at Cherrybrook Technology High School will again visit Germany.



*Cherrybrook Technology High School students visit France*

## Respect and responsibility

Cherrybrook Technology High is committed to producing self directed and responsible students who achieve their potential within a collaborative environment. Some of the support programs that assist and develop respect and responsibility are: Acceptance Day for Year 8, a 'Boys and Girls' Gender program for Year 9, Peer Support for Year 7 and Year 11, Crossroads for Year 10. The Hills Schools Industry Partnerships also assisted and ran vocational courses for targeted students.

Anti-bullying strategies are clearly communicated to all students to ensure that the school is a safe environment. Performances by outside presenters have been used this year to highlight a number of issues that are relevant to defining bullying and its impact on individuals.

Camps are held for Stages 4, 5 and 6 to focus on setting challenges and goals appropriate to the age of the students.

The Year 6 into 7 Transition Program successfully integrates students into their new environment and helps share the experience of older students in the expectations and responsibility of high school.

The continuation of the 'Havubean Cafe' for targeted Year 10 students has resulted in some at-risk students successfully gaining part time employment as they gain confidence and experience in making coffee and dealing with people. Forty students are trained annually.



**Chris Annetts, Marcus Haglund, Erik Ostman and Jungu Kang- students from the Cherrybrook Technology High School Chess Team**

The Cherrybrook welfare system continues to be evaluated and strengthened with weekly meetings for the welfare team members and ongoing monitoring of the students identified by the team. A key responsibility of the welfare team is to provide support for our funded students and to manage integration programs for our students with disabilities. During 2009, the school had 3 students with mental illness, 7 students with autism, 2 with physical disabilities and thirty students with literacy and intellectual difficulties. The Support Teacher Learning Assistance (STLA) and the teachers' aides

have supported these students through a variety of programs and intensive learning opportunities.



**Boot Camp at Cherrybrook Technology High School**

## Progress on 2009 targets

### Targets for 2009

**Target 1: Increase teacher engagement in relevant professional learning activities to enhance staff growth and morale.**

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Introduce a new professional learning application
- Continue and develop *Other Interest Groups* with focused learning outcomes
- Develop and begin implementation of a three year plan.

Success will be measured by:

- *Other Interest Group* evaluation and Staff Development Evaluation
- School Technology plan written and implementation begun.

### 2009 Achievement and evaluation of Target 1.

Cherrybrook's school management plan 2009-2011 is well underway with many of the targets already being met. To complement the success of *Other Interest Groups* a team decision was made to implement a workshop to supplement teacher learning in the areas of technology. This especially focused on the software on the DER laptops after the rollout period. *Other Interest Groups* expanded to include an environmental group, gifted and talented team and boys' literacy team. All groups reported back to staff in Term 4 to share their findings and the successes their groups had during the year. The intent is to continue to expand the opportunities open to staff to contribute to whole

school programs and participate in meaningful professional learning.

**Target 2: Extend cultural awareness activities through participation in the Asia Engagement project.**

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Include representation from every KLA in Multicultural *Other Interest Group* (OIG)
- Move and extend Multicultural week
- To use a staff forum to discuss Asia Engagement classroom activities from Multicultural week
- To make better use of student Multicultural representatives
- To develop presentations that showcase KLA involvement in Asia Engagement
- To have a three year plan that increases the integration of Asian resources into the classroom.

Success will be measured by:

- OIG evaluation and Staff Development Evaluation.

**2009 Achievement and evaluation of Target 2.**

Asia Engagement is a Federal Government initiative to promote Asian languages and culture in Australian schools. After successfully receiving \$15 000 in Federal Government funding under the National Asian Language and Studies in Schools Project, Cherrybrook teachers formed an Asia Engagement Committee and integrated Chinese studies into the existing curriculum targeting Years 7 and 8.

In classes, Year 7 and 8 students: discussed traditional Chinese Medicine in Science, showcased projects such as making wind chimes in Woodwork, cooked up fried rice in Food Technology, experimented with dying and printing techniques in Textiles, focused on Chinese inventions in History, learnt about judo in Physical Education classes. In Mathematics students dreamt of how they could spend \$5000 during a seven day holiday in China whilst in Languages, students researched the origin of Chinese scripts and its influence on Japanese writing.

The project is a part of the school management plan for 3 years. In 2010, the project will include all five target countries: Korea, Indonesia, India, Japan and China, across Years 7-10. In addition Cherrybrook has successfully established a partner school link in Shanghai. An English class in Year 10 is currently running a cultural exchange program via email.

The strategy of integrating Asian studies across subject areas aims to broaden students' view of the world and encourage them to become more tolerant and understanding of different cultures and people. The project of 2009 was well received by students through the student survey.

**Target 3: To enrich learning experience of GATS students in Year 7 using a Quality teaching model.**

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Use data to identify GATs students and place on student confidential
- Take part in Met North Middle Years project, *Engage, Enrich, Extend*. Eight teachers to develop cross KLA project for 7T and 7K (7K identified through Selective Test and Basic Skills Test results)
- Use *Other Interest Groups* to develop projects using QT model
- Participation in the University of Western Sydney survey on student learning environments and its affect on student learning outcomes.

Success will be measured by:

- *Other Interest Group* evaluation and results
- NAPLAN data of core classes.

Teachers who participated in the project shared lesson ideas and strategies for Gifted and Talented students and presented their findings to the staff at a staff meeting. The two year University survey will be reported in the 2010 Annual School Report.

**Target 4: Improve the physical outdoor environment.**

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Extend the Piazza area when new demountables installed
- Develop an *Other Interest Group* on the state of the playground
- Align all environmental activities into an environment plan
- Increase bolted seating with tables for students.
- Capital works project to extend and cover basketball courts.

Success will be measured by

- Piazza area extension completed
- Observed improvement in the state of the playground
- Plan for Environmental issues developed (working towards green initiatives)
- Seats purchased and installed
- Work on basketball courts project begun.

After investigation and sourcing of quotes for the extension of the Piazza area it was decided that the money would be better spent on the extension of the storage area of the Multi Purpose Centre (MPC). This

will allow the school to: 1. Rid ourselves of the unsightly containers in the Piazza area that store excess desks and chairs. 2. Remove the Occupational Health and Safety risk involved when moving countless chairs and desks backwards and forwards to the MPC. 3. Have an area, when empty, which can be used during exams by special provision students. This will minimise the impact on the rest of the school during busy exam periods. Project Managers have undertaken preliminary site investigations with a view to beginning the tender process in Term 2 2010.

The Environment OIG is in its second year and membership has increased. The group is canvassing a range of issues not restricting itself to discussions on the state of the playground. 2010 is the DET's Year of Sustainability and this has seen the group look at a number of issues including: waste management, resource usage and curriculum links. Twenty new flip top lids have been purchased and will be installed to deal with the issue of birds pulling rubbish out of the bins after recess and lunch.

The School's Environmental Plan will be in a consultation phase in Term 1 2010. This will be finalised for presentation Term 2 2010, highlighting directions in relation to improving sustainability across a number areas of the school's operation.

The P&C have undertaken a tour of the school to target areas for improvement and have agreed to fund the purchase of new covered seating areas for the top playground.

The BER project, the multipurpose court construction, has been finalised and is currently in use. This has been a real asset for the PDHPE staff and for student use in general at recess and lunch.



***The Cherrybrook Technology High Student Executive team at the Term 2 Working Bee.***

## 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 2009, our school carried out evaluations of Technology and the Music Ensemble groups.

## Curriculum and Educational & Management Practice

### Technology at Cherrybrook Technology High School

As part of the 2009-2011 School Management Plan, Cherrybrook Technology High School conducted a review of its technology practices and processes. The review was conducted using the draft framework developed by the Council of Educational Training and Youth Affairs. The aim of the review was to formulate an extensive three year technology plan for Cherrybrook Technology High School. The results of the review had to be revised due to the State Initiative, Laptops 4 Learning, now called DER (Digital Education Revolution).

#### Background

Cherrybrook Technology High School was originally established as a purpose built Technology High School in 1992. The focus was on technology in both theme and delivery. The school was rigorously evaluated and assessed and allowed to retain the title 'Technology High'. The main administrative systems that run the school were largely developed by one of the founding Deputy Principals, Mr Dave Wilson, and maintained by the current Deputy Principal, Mr Mark Watson. The school is aware these systems will need to be gradually phased out and new software introduced in line with DET updates.

#### Findings and conclusions

##### a) Findings from the Draft Framework Evaluation.

Based on the findings from the draft framework evaluation executive teachers and staff representatives found the following priorities were needed to make Cherrybrook Technology High School a 'leading' school rather than a 'developing' school in the area of technology. Mr James Laird, Head Teacher Information Technology, has driven the evaluation and formulation of the three year plan.

The priorities that were found, in order:

1. Personalising and extending student learning
2. Enabling leadership
3. Providing reliable infrastructure
4. Providing, accessing and managing teaching and learning resources
5. Automating business processes.

Highest on this list is the generation of a technology vision that drives the school and the plan. To be a 'leading school', collaborative teams must be used to realise a clear articulated vision of ICT (Information and Communication Technology) in teaching, learning and administration. As this is a three year plan, the aim for 2010 is to share the findings with the whole staff and the P&C to begin the implementation towards being a 'leading school'.

#### **b) Findings from the DER laptop rollout.**

Concurrent and integral to the development of an overall technology plan Cherrybrook Technology High School needed an implementation plan for the New South Wales Government initiative of a laptop for every child in Year 9. The technology team leaders and senior executive researched the implementation of laptop programs from around the globe and determined the following priorities that guided the rollout process.

1. Staff must be kept informed of all developments to be mentally prepared.
2. Cherrybrook Technology High School volunteered to be one of the three trial schools for this program. This involved planning for a) the installation of the wireless network and the location of the wireless ports b) creation of a trial class of selected students c) selecting and professionally developing staff with a range of abilities for the trial d) Re-timetabling student classes e) meeting and informing parents f) developing current school policies and practices for the user charter.
3. All staff needed professional development on programs available for the new laptops and in the use of Moodle as a means of resource distribution.
4. Ongoing technical support that was needed to assist the success of the program.

Each of these stages was successfully carried out from June 2009 and evaluated at every step.

Some of the problems evaluated from the trial program included: limited wireless access for teachers, staff not having the same laptop the students had, stage classes at Cherrybrook Technology High School where half of the class had a laptop and half did not, inappropriate use of the laptops by students eg bypassing the DET blocks and accessing unsuitable sites.

Despite the problems indicated above, Cherrybrook Technology High School successfully implemented the trial and we were quickly recognised as a lighthouse school. Many schools visited Cherrybrook and Cherrybrook teachers delivered professional learning sessions across the state. This included a range of subjects from IT to Art to Mathematics to Science and also Languages. Cherrybrook Technology High

School staff, led by Mr Mark Watson, guided the DET to the current allocation of technical support officers. On the Cherrybrook Technology High School website the technology taskforce placed supporting documentation, policies and lessons to support teachers all over the state. The technical support officers, Mr Abel Lin and Ms Verity Smith, have been integral to the successful implementation of the rollout.



***Year 9 students receive their laptops***

#### **Future directions**

2010 will see focus groups working on specific aspects of the technology plan. (1. Personalising and extending student learning. 2. Enabling leadership. 3. Providing reliable infrastructure. 4. Providing, accessing and managing teaching and learning resources. 5. Automating business processes) Teaching and learning strategies to assist the DER Laptop roll out will also continue.

#### **Other directions include:**

Establishment of another Moodle server to support the storage necessary from increased traffic through the current server.

Reduction of paper; the school management plan aims to reduce paper by 5% by 2011

#### **Educational and Management practice**

##### **Background**

Music is an important part of the well rounded and successful opportunities offered to students at Cherrybrook Technology High School. As well as running a school based musical or drama production every second year at Cherrybrook, the following musical experiences are offered.

**Core Ensembles:** Choir, Concert Band, String Ensemble and Saxophone group.

**Extension Ensembles:** Jazz Band, Vocal Ensemble

In 2009, an orchestra was also formed to support the musical *HMS Pinafore*.

During the year, a Music Ensemble Committee was formed with a group of dedicated parents, teachers and ensemble members.

### Findings and conclusions

The music ensemble meetings identified the following problems to improve the Cherrybrook Technology High School music program. These include:

1. Continue the music ensemble meetings to review practices and policies.
2. Expand the profile of student leaders within the band.
3. Increase the performance opportunities for students.
4. Increase the parent participation at school musical events.
5. Cater to the increased numbers of students in the concert band.
6. Take stock of the musical register and update some of the instruments.

### Future directions

The music department and ensemble committee are committed to building on the successes of the evaluation and making 2010 a better year. Future directions include:

Continue to divide the concert band and diversify the scores performed by each group.

Appointment of a SASS staff member to: oversee the administration of ensemble groups, and to keep parents up to date with ensemble news and upcoming events.

Purchase of new instruments as the need arises.

### Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction

In 2009, the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school. The number of enrolments continues to rise across all years indicating the community confidence in the school's academic, sporting and cultural achievements as well as the strong supportive systems in place to assist students. Parents evaluated highly their ability to contribute to the P&C, the music ensemble groups, sporting programs and the invitation to join with staff in professional learning opportunities.

The University of Western Sydney asked students from Years 7 to 10 specific questions related to school perception of its academic reputation and school pride. Students of all abilities were ranked on a scale of 1-6 for their perception of school pride. The average scores are listed below.

Year 7	5.41
Year 8	5.20
Year 9	5.14
Year 10	4.99

Our levels of school pride were compared to 7 other schools. Students at Cherrybrook Technology High School indicated significantly higher levels of school pride and perception than 5 of the 8 schools. Their pride and perception was similar to the two other schools in the study.

The study also addressed motivation and the question, "What makes a student work?" The study found that intrinsic motivation, and an interest in the work itself, affects students self concept and also that both of these things decrease slightly from Years 7 to 10. The research suggested that a key element of academic success is engagement and the environmental factors are paramount to success.

Teachers were asked to evaluate their participation and the success of *Other Interest Groups*. This was a key evaluation area for 2008. The groups have reported successfully at Staff Development Days and in Staff meetings. Attendance and participation of the groups has expanded and the program is planned for further expansion in 2010. The number of *Other Interest Groups* ready to run in 2010 is double the number offered two years ago in 2008.



*The 2009-2010 Student Executive Team*

### Professional learning

During 2009, staff participated in a wide range of professional learning activities that enhanced their ability to deliver quality teaching and learning. The majority of the professional learning was centred on technology as staff expanded their knowledge in Office programs such as One Note, the Adobe suite of programs and the use of the Moodle server. Staff development days were also technology centred to prepare teachers for the DER rollout.

2009 also saw the appointment of Ms Julie Vella as a shared Head Teacher Mentor. Her role was to support and guide teachers through their first years and support their accreditation for professional competence.

The average expenditure per teacher on professional learning at Cherrybrook Technology High School was \$412.

## School development 2009 – 2011

### Targets for 2010

**Target One: Align school management systems by moving to i-school.**

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Curriculum staff and SASS staff professional development of new elements of the system.
- Staff use of welfare system in i-school
- Investigation of other uses to further align school systems
- Development of other elements of the i-school system to support system's success.

Success will be measured by:

- Staff using i-school for daily activities eg finding students, collecting timetables, updating class lists, formulating letters, accessing the calendar, booking rooms etc.

**Target Two: Extend cultural awareness activities through participation in the Asia Engagement project.**

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Evaluate 2009 plan for Asia Engagement strategies
- Continue the cross KLA focus on Asia Engagement through the *Other Interest Group* forum
- Purchase more resources for Multicultural corridor
- Expand China focus to include other Asian countries
- Extend current Asia focus from Stage 4 to include Stage 5
- Include the multicultural day in Term 4 as part of the Asia Engagement focus.

Success will be measured by

- Plan reported to staff of OIG activities for 2009
- Completion of the multicultural corridor
- Continuation of Cross KLA multicultural group.

**Target Three: Improve the school's physical environment**

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- Completion of school BER project for the outdoor basketball courts
- Complete the extension of the hall to store chairs and provide a space for special provisions students.

Success will be measured by

- Basketball courts being used by students and staff
- Hall project completed.

## 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.

Mr Gary Johnson, Principal

Ms Jenny Weal, Deputy Principal

Mr James Laird, Head Teacher Technology

Mrs Rosemary Edwards, Senior Administrative Assistant

Mrs Enone Melville, Teacher Librarian

### School contact information

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Parents can find out more information about Annual School Reports, how to interpret information in the reports and have the opportunity to provide feedback about these reports at:

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



**Year 8 participate in World of Maths Day**