

## **Kurrajong East Public School ~ Timeline**

1876	Application for provisional school at Buttsworth Swamp signed by local residents – 22 pupils from 7 families were pledged to attend the school.
1878	Buttsworth Swamp Provisional School opened with first teacher Miss Jane Taylor. Slab building measuring 20 feet by 12 feet served the dual purpose of schoolroom on weekdays and Wesleyan Church on Sundays. Furniture from the old Freeman’s Reach school.
1890	Petition by local residents to re-site the school to Bull Ridge due to population growth along the ridge.
1891	Provisional school opened on Bull Ridge.
1898	School upgraded from provisional to public school status.
1899	School renamed Morgan Public School in honour of the local Member of Parliament, William Morgan.
1901	Name of school reverted to Bull Ridge Public School.
1907	Schoolroom extended 11 feet by local builder Alfred Case.
1913	Workbench supplied by department for the instruction of boys in carpentry.
1922	Name of school changed to East Kurrajong Public School, now known as Kurrajong East according to departmental conventions.
1928	School building destroyed by fire on 25 January 1928. Lessons were conducted by teacher Mr Francis Robinson in the teacher’s residence until the new building was completed.
1929	New building ready for use at the beginning of the school year. Cost of construction £493.
1930	A severe hailstorm in December 1930 broke panes of glass in the schoolroom and residence.
1935	Average attendance 10 pupils due to poor economic circumstances of the parents as a result of the Great Depression. Children were needed at home for farm work.

1938	Colo Shire Council Sanitary Inspectors assessed the cess pits at the school and deemed that they posed a serious health risk.
1938	Department inspector commented on the lovely school garden which included an outline map of Australia showing features such as railways.
1942	An air raid shelter was constructed by the teacher, Mr Fred Lett and some of the parents in case of enemy attack. The hole quickly filled with water.
1950	Electricity connected to the school by June 1950. A 'wireless' radio enabled pupils to listen to school programmes provided by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Electric lights replaced kerosene lamps.
1957	School closed in March due to low numbers.
1958	Re-opened May 1958 with George Veichert as Teacher-in-Charge.
1963	Telephone connected to the school. Prior to this time the telephone at the Gosper's across the road from the school was used in an emergency.
1970s	School uniforms introduced for the first time.
1975	First demountable classroom installed at school.
1978	School reclassified to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class school which resulted in the appointment of the first Principal John Burlison. School Centenary – 59 pupils. School badge designed by Phillip Wholohan.
1978	Building extended to provide additional classroom and loft, school also included one demountable building and brick toilet block – 48 pupils.
1980	Demountable accommodation provided by department which included principal's office, library, clerical assistant's office, storeroom, staff toilets and staffroom.
1987	Corporal punishment abolished from 1 <sup>st</sup> January.
1993	Opening of multi-purpose court on 6 November 1993 which was available for hire to local people.
2002	151 pupils attending from 100 families.
2003	125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations held in March.
2004	Construction of permanent brick building housing two classrooms, new demountable accommodation for office and library provided by department.