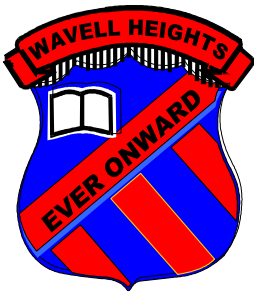


Performance of our students



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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This Annual School Report is intended to inform parents about key achievements by our students and school community during 2008. It is deliberately concise and conforms to a suggested template provided by Education Queensland. I trust parents and potential parents looking for an excellent school will find it both interesting and informative.

Future outlook

Our initiatives for 2009 are included in our School Strategic Plan 2008-2010. This plan sets school direction for the next three years, identifying school priorities and focus areas in curriculum and learning, school practices and workforce. The following are some specific initiatives planned for 2009 and beyond:

- Continuing to implement literacy strategy – literacy – framework for action
- Implementing the numeracy framework for action 2007-2010
- Continuing to implement prep and early phase strategy to promote continuity in the early years
- Continuing to implement QCAR agenda
- Continuing to implement the middle phase strategy
- Continuing to promote the integration of ICTs across the curriculum
- Continuing implementation of “embedding aboriginal and Torres strait islander perspectives in schools” to improve outcomes for indigenous students
- Continuing to implement student health and wellbeing framework, national safe schools framework and smart choices strategy
- Implement the framework for gifted education
- Promoting quality pd opportunities for all staff focused on key priorities
- Continuing to develop programs to support refugee and ESL students
- Continuing to promote the professional standards
- Engaging teachers in the development of their performance framework

Performance of our students

School Profile

Wavell Heights State School is a state, co-educational primary school catering for students in Prep to Year 7. It is situated at Minore Street, Wavell Heights, an inner northern suburb of Brisbane.

Wavell Heights State School was opened in 1948 and grew through the 1960's and 1970's to a school of almost 900. Currently we have an enrolment of 354 students. Consequently we enjoy the comprehensive facilities and resources of a large school yet can offer the individual care and attention possible in a smaller school.

The school enrolment has shown gradual growth over a number of years:

2008	343
2007	340
2006	311
2005	337
2004	325

Of particular interest is the multi-cultural nature of our student population. This adds another welcome dimension to the social interaction amongst the children. "Harmony Day" is always a great opportunity to recognize and celebrate this rich cultural diversity present in our school.

Curriculum offerings

The curriculum is based on the eight key learning areas common to all Queensland State Primary schools. They are;

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Studies of Society
- The Arts
- LOTE (Japanese)
- Technology
- Health and PE.

Our school provides excellent facilities and resources to support teachers in presenting a challenging and stimulating program for our students.

In addition we have a number of specialist teachers who bring specific expertise to programs. Specialist staff include;

- Learning Support Teacher
- Guidance Officer
- Music Teacher
- Sport and PE Teacher
- Advisory visiting teachers (as required)
- Speech therapist
- Teacher Librarian
- English Second Language (ESL) Teacher

To complement the work of teachers and specialist teachers we have a team of skilled and dedicated teacher aides who provide individual and small group support for students.

Extra curricula activities

Our school endeavours to provide a wide variety of extra-curricular activities intended to enrich the school experience for all students. Students are encouraged to participate in the following activities;

- Wakakirri (Primary School Rock Eisteddfod)
- Arts Exhibition and Arts Evening
- School Choir
- School Instrumental Music Program
- Interschool sport
- School Leaders Program
- Swimming & Athletics
- Student Council

Performance of our students

- Concert Band and Music Camps
- District Maths / Science competitions
- Year 6/7 Camping program
- Peer Support Leaders Camp
- Kilometre Club (running)

Wakakirri for example presented almost 100 students with a fantastic opportunity to perform on stage in a major production. With community and staff support it was a major highlight in our school calendar.

Our strong commitment to Inter-school sport saw almost 80 students participating each Friday in organized fixtures. During the year a number of students were selected in District and Met. North teams.

How computers are used to assist learning

Significant progress has continued to be made to meet and exceed Education Queensland targets for the use of computers in classrooms.

The 2008 ICT Census showed that we had a ratio of 1:4 students per computer.

Approximately \$38,915 was allocated in the school budget for ICT equipment acquisition, consumables and technical support. (A technician was employed for approximately 15 hours per week).

All classrooms are provided with computers, all linked to the Internet.

The Computer Lab established in 2005 has been a great asset in providing teachers and students with further flexible options for the integration of ICTs into the wider curriculum.

Data from the Parent and Student Survey – 2008

Parent Responses

"How satisfied are you with?"	School Score	State
Child's access to computers	2.81	2.84
Developing child's computer skills	2.91	2.77

Student Responses

"How satisfied are you with?"	School Score	State
Internet access	3.00	2.87
Developing your computer skills	3.12	2.97

Social climate

A continuing priority for our school community is developing and maintaining a Supportive School Environment. We believe that children do best when they feel happy and safe at school. The relatively small size of our school we believe assists us in these efforts.

Specific initiatives adopted to promote a supportive school environment include;

- Constant reflection and emphasis by teachers on building positive and respectful relationships with students
- Peer Support Program
- Year 7 Student Leadership Program
- Buddy Programs
- You Can Do It" Program
- Revised Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students
- Firm but fair discipline practices with known and consistent consequences

Performance of our students

- High expectations and commitment to traditional values
- Student Council
- Various social activities for students
- Treat Yourself Right Campaign, Fruit and Veg Breaks

Involving parents in their child's education.

Our school is committed to building a spirit of partnership and co-operation with parents. Specific initiatives to promote parent involvement include;

- The Admin team, teachers and other staff are approachable and are committed to an "Open Door" policy
- An effective Classroom Volunteers program operates with up to 90 volunteers involved
- The appointment of a Parent Liaison Officer and Class Parent Reps
- Curriculum Newsletters each term
- Weekly Newsletter
- Parent-Teacher nights
- Parent Forums
- Providing 3 written student progress reports to parents throughout the year
- Providing Parent Workshops led by teachers
- Open Days, celebrations and special activities
- Education Week activities
- Friday assemblies
- Parents and Citizens Association
- Parents involved in sports coaching

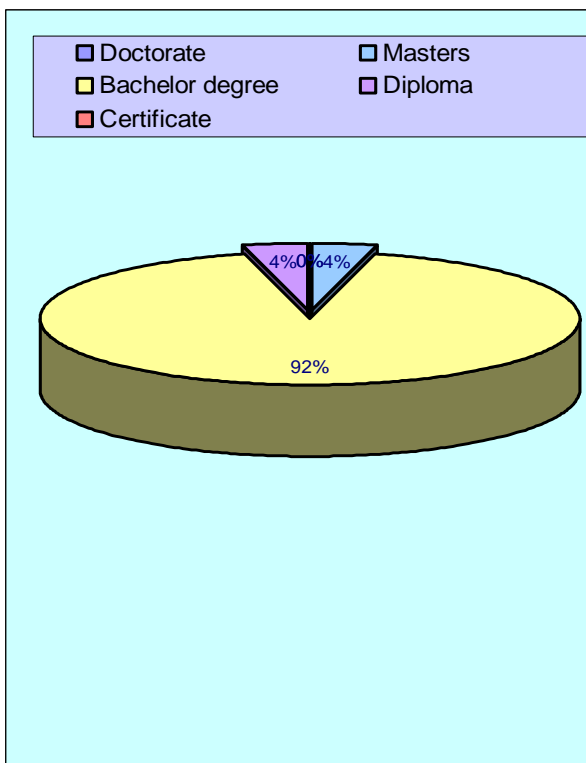
Parent Responses

"How satisfied are you with?"	School Score	State Score
School staff are approachable	3.14	3.12
Opportunities to participate in life of the school	3.75	2.69
The school makes you feel welcome	3.17	3.11
The school communicates well with you	2.92	2.90

Performance of our students

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	4
Bachelor degree	92
Diploma	4
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$6 615.08.

The major professional development initiatives in 2008 were based around;

- Implementing QCAR
- Literacy Training
- Incorporating ICTs into the curriculum
- The Early Years of Learning
- Understanding and meeting the needs of ESL and Refugee students
- Utilising student performance data to inform teaching, learning and assessment processes

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 95 %.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 97% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the 2007 school year 92 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 94 %.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	400	484	542
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89 %	86 %	95 %
Writing	Average score for the school	420	477	545
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89 %	90 %	98 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	383	477	547
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89 %	87 %	95 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	403	460	519
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89 %	88 %	88 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	387	463	553
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89 %	90 %	100 %

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	88%
Writing	94%
Number	88%

Performance of our students

Value added

Student performance in the NAPLAN Testing Program was above state averages in fourteen out of the fifteen areas assessed. A clear focus in 2009 and beyond has been to build upon this success and further improve our results in the 3, 5 & 7 Testing regime. Year 2 Net results were consistently above State and Like School means.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

2008 was a highly successful year at Wavell Heights State School. School surveys undertaken indicated a high level of satisfaction from Parents, Students and School Staff.

Parent and caregiver Responses:

The State target in 2008 for the percentage of parents and caregivers satisfied that they were getting a good education from their school was 80%, Wavell Heights State School achieved 83%.

The State target in 2008 for the percentage of parents and caregivers satisfied that the school is a good school was 88%. Wavell Heights State School achieved 92%.

The following data points to the success of these initiatives (Based on Parent School Opinion Survey 2008)

"How satisfied are you?"	School Score	State Average Score
My child is happy to go to this school	3.27	3.18
My child is safe at this school	3.41	3.00
With student discipline	2.97	2.64
With behaviour of students	2.89	2.46
This is a good school	3.27	3.18

Year 5 and 7 Student Responses

"How satisfied are you?"	School Score	State Average Score
I feel safe at this school	3.53	3.18
I am happy to go to this school	3.22	3.19
With student behaviour	2.31	2.18
This is a good school	3.47	3.31

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction levels at Wavell Heights State School reflect the great work being done and the strength of the relationships developed in our school. The following Summary of Satisfaction levels based on Confidential State-wide Opinion Surveys is clear evidence of this.

Performance of our students

CATEGORY	PARENT OPINION		STUDENT OPINION	
	Wavell Parents	State Average	Wavell Students	State Average
Student Outcomes	2.99	2.92	3.16	3.14
Curriculum	3.04	3.00	2.99	3.02
Pedagogy	2.99	2.83	2.92	2.94
Learning Climate	3.02	2.98	3.25	3.17
School Climate	2.89	2.86	2.94	2.84
School Community Relations	2.98	2.93	N/A	N/A
Resources	2.78	2.81	3.04	2.89
Overall	2.95	2.90	3.07	2.98

Summary Comment:

In every category Parent satisfaction levels match or exceed State Average levels. This is clear evidence that our school enjoys strong community support and confidence.

Student satisfaction levels match or exceed State Average levels in most categories. It is particularly encouraging that the highest satisfaction rating for students related to learning climate. This reflects the quality of relationships developed between students and teachers which we know is critical to learning.

Staff Opinion

CATEGORY	STAFF OPINION	
	Wavell Staff	State Average
Environment	3.34	2.75
Relations	3.54	3.03
Operations	3.37	2.81
Morale	3.59	2.99
Resources	3.16	2.66
Roles	3.23	2.93
Value	3.37	2.90
Overall	3.36	2.85

Summary Comment

Our school has a staff of 42 full time and part time teachers and support personnel. Satisfaction levels are well above State Averages in every category. This indicates that our school staff are a happy, cohesive and supportive team which has numerous positive "spin offs" for our students and the wider school community.