


WOOMBYE STATE SCHOOL

School Annual Report 2008

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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Woombye is a vibrant school with an absolute focus on students and their learning. Our teachers are committed to planning and preparing thoroughly in order to actively engage students in all curriculum areas. Staff are supportive of one another, the students and the community and a sense of pride in the school is enhanced by the genuine care and compassion displayed by all staff.

Students at Woombye understand it their responsibility to do their very best and in all of their actions to be considerate of others. Our motto "Achievement with Friendship" provides us with a focal point for discussion regarding attitude, goals and achievement. Woombye is known for the achievements of its students and for the friendly yet respectful relationships that exist between students, parents and staff.

Woombye State School has a proud history which is supported by high quality student results in both school assessment and state diagnostic testing. The presentation of our school will continue to be a focus as we strive to provide a vibrant, clean and safe campus that everyone associated with our school may be proud of.

Future outlook

During the next twelve months, Woombye State School will be focused on further improvement in student learning outcomes as well as improving the facilities for the school community. This will be achieved through the following initiatives:-

Continue to develop and implement school-based Curriculum Plan.

Acquire adequate resources to support implementation of 8 KLA's.

Create new "Curriculum Committee" model as driver for curriculum direction for school.

Research, implement and resource a sequential School Science Program.

Continuing focus on ICT in learning by improving ICT resources including creating a computer lab, digital photography hardware and purpose built computer furniture.

Continue with 'Smart Moves Physical Activity Program' in all grade levels.

Introduce 'Streaming' of classes to better cater for student needs including extending more capable students in the classroom environment.

Literacy development for identified students in Middle and Upper School.

Continue identifying Gifted and Talented initiatives to be developed and implemented across school.

Students to be exposed to wide range of problem solving activities.

Leadership program for all Year Seven students.

Enrichment Learning Centre developed for school and lunchtime use.

Construction of New School Library.

Construction of New School Hall.

Refurbishment of E Block.

New playground equipment for Prep/Year 1 area including shade over sandpit.

Send School Newsletters out via email.

Continue to consolidate the 6 C's as foundation to quality behaviour.

Continue to consolidate "How to Handle a Bully" program.

Construction of School Garden Environmental area.

Replace and improve school resources including classroom furniture, display boards, storage areas and other prioritised needs.

Implementation of the C4T Program – 'Computers for Teachers'.

School Profile

Woombye State School is a coeducational school which has an enrolment of 400 students in years Prep school to Year 7. In 2008 three Preparatory classes were formed as we offered Prep for the first time as a full twelve month intake. This is a non-compulsory full time educational option that was available to students who turned 5 between July 2007 and June 2008.

Woombye township has a population of around 1000 people in a community of average age personal income levels, who are predominantly Australian born and predominantly living in their own homes. Compared to both Sunshine Coast and national averages, Woombye has a slightly higher proportion of people aged 15 years and younger.

Woombye State School has a less than 1% of ATSI students and an even smaller percentage of students who have English as a second language.

The Woombye State School Community is very supportive of the school and many of its varied activities. A close knit harmony exists amongst the students and parents of the school reflecting positively in the ethos of the school.

Curriculum offerings

During 2008, Woombye State School focused on the development of integrated units incorporating the 'Essential Learnings'. The eight Key Learning Areas are being combined in an integrated approach with students working to achieve outcomes in all areas simultaneously. We have been working towards creating a school curriculum that is engaging, relevant and that leads to academic achievement. We also have many specialist teachers to provide expert knowledge on their area of experience. The school offers a class music program from Prep to Year 7. An instrumental music program involving woodwind, brass and percussion is available to students in Years 5, 6 and 7 while students in Year 3 upwards are invited to join our stings program.

It is our aim to further develop curriculum units while continuing to provide other extension and enrichment programs such as: Landcare, shed group, computer and chess clubs, sports development squads, Instrumental music programs for both strings, brass and woodwind, Singfest coral festival, other coral opportunities, special art classes and enrichment day activities. 'Active After School' Activities Program is also run at Woombye State School.

Woombye State School also participates annually in local 'Tournament of the Minds' Competitions and were a State Finalist in 2008. Year Six students also compete annually in the local "Six of the Best" Competition involving other local Primary Schools.

A strong link also exists with the University of Central Queensland as we provide host placements for many Student Teachers who continue to enrich our school with their vibrant energy and passion for teaching.

Computer use is slowly evolving in classrooms where they are becoming a more important tool for curriculum delivery. During 2008, a teacher was deployed to Years Three, Four and Five for the specific purpose of teaching computer technology to the students for one hour each week. This was then supported by the classroom teachers who are increasing the inclusion of technology in classroom instruction. Computer laboratories have been identified for development and use during 2009.

OUR STAFF PROFILE

Social climate

Woombye State School is known for its friendly children and dedicated, compassionate staff. In its quest for Education Excellence and Social Justice the school focuses on three words "ACHIEVEMENT with FRIENDSHIP". This is underpinned with a foundation of the '6 C's'. The '6 C's' provide the parameters for the expected level of student behaviour and are:- Courtesy, Consideration, Communication, Co-operation, Care and Compliment.

Essentially this means:

Every student is working to the best of their ability while displaying a high level of quality behaviour at all times.

Every teacher understands the children they teach and is planning their lessons to best cater for the individual needs of each student.

Friendly and productive relationships existing between all staff, parents and students.

We strive to provide a safe and supportive environment for everyone at all times.

Woombye State School's ability to cater to the needs of the individual student is managed exceptionally well by the Student Needs Committee. These needs range from the students with learning difficulties through to students of exceptional abilities. This Committee meets each Monday morning dealing with referrals from Staff and Parents pertaining to students who require assistance outside the scope of general classroom operations. The Committee is made up of Classroom Teachers, Learning Support Teacher, Guidance Officer and Behaviour Management Specialist.

Woombye State School has adopted the responsible thinking process to enable all children to understand that they are responsible for their own actions. This is a very precise and successful process to teach children appropriate behaviour and for managing unacceptable behaviours occasionally exhibited by students.

Involving parents in their child's education.

Woombye State School is committed to involving parents in the education of their children. The involvement can take many forms and is dependent on the availability of the parent. The school creates many opportunities for involvement and encourages parents to participate wherever possible.

Opportunities include but are not limited to:

Parent teacher interviews, school assemblies, P&C association, School Council, Safety Committee, Volunteer and parent assistance in the classroom and on excursions, the lower grades Motor Program, Enrichment activities and the Home Reading program.

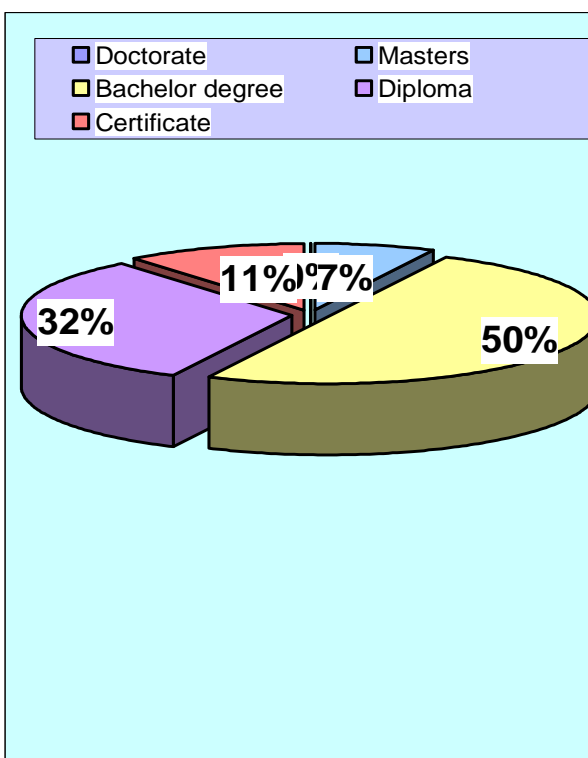
The school also strives to keep the community informed through a variety of means including: school newsletters, class news reports, end of term progress reports, P&C reports, various community committees, regularly updated school website and the Principal's Annual Report.

Parents and Students report favourable on their opinion surveys of how well the school does in regard to all aspects of school life.

OUR STAFF PROFILE

Qualifications of all teachers. (Double click anywhere in the first two columns below. A spreadsheet appears. Enter the percentages for your school then click outside the spreadsheet to return to the word template.)

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	2
Bachelor degree	14
Diploma	9
Certificate	3



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$15000.00
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - * Teacher release for unit planning;
 - * Prep to Year 3 Literacy Training (5 day blocks);
 - * 'One School' Training;
 - * Certificate in Horticulture;
 - * 'Giftred and Talented' Training;
 - * Inhouse peer training for ICT;
 - * Anaplyxis training.
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 90 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008.

OUR STAFF PROFILE

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 97% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Student attendance

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

PERFORMANCE OF OUR STUDENTS

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		354	478	530
	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	83%	83%	98%
Writing	Average score for the school		370	468	506
	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	87%	89%	87%
Spelling	Average score for the school		355	480	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	87%	96%	96%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school		380	507	529
	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	94%	98%	100%
Numeracy	Average score for the school		372	478	556
	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	98%	96%	98%

PERFORMANCE OF OUR STUDENTS

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	20%
Writing	18%
Number	14%

Value added

Woombye State School has continued its trend of achieving quality results in the Year Two Net Results as well as the Year Three, Five and Seven Test Results. Reading in Year Three and Year Five is currently in the low to mid 80% range of students above the National Benchmark while writing in Years Three, Five and Seven sits in the high 80% range of students above the National Benchmark. Year Three spelling also is situated in the high 80% range of students above the National Benchmark. These results are quite good while we show an exceptional standard with our Year Seven writing, Years Five and Seven spelling, Years Three Five and Seven grammar, punctuation and numeracy with all areas in the high 90% range of students above the National Benchmark. This is a tremendous achievement ensuring our students are well prepared for their step into secondary school.

Much of the quality of the education provided for the students at Woombye State School can be attributed to the high level of experience and professionalism of the staff. Many of the staff have been at Woombye State School for many years and are recognised as exceptional teachers. The students respond to this high quality and produce very good learning outcomes.

Woombye State School has also been able to maintain its population at around the 400 student mark even with the level of competition being offered by a number of Private Schools very close by. The cohort that suffers most as a result of the Private Schools being nearby is our Year Seven cohort. Parents wishing their children to attend a private school for their secondary education are electing to remove their students at the end of Year Six as the local Private Schools begin the student's secondary education from Year Seven.

PERFORMANCE OF OUR STUDENTS

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Percentage of Parents satisfied that this is a good school – 95%.

Percentage of Staff Members satisfied with morale of school – 97%

Percentage of Students satisfied that they are getting a good education at this school – 93%

Woombye State School has had a long standing reputation in the community of being a quality school that is satisfying the needs to the best of its ability for the parents, staff and students. 2008 continued with this tradition with high level of satisfaction being expressed by all associated with the school.

The high achievements of the school is best attributed to the high quality of staff professionalism and their focus on individual students, motivated students and a community that is proud of its school.