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Principal's foreword

Introduction

I am please to present the Agnes Water State School Annual Report for 2008 to our school and wider community. This report highlights important information about this school's organisation, curriculum developments and learning environment. It outlines the uniqueness of Agnes Water State School.

This report provides details about staff qualifications and the professional development activities undertaken in 2008. It also provides details of the learning outcomes achieved by Agnes Water students in literacy and numeracy. This data was collected through the Year 2 Diagnostic Net and the National Years 3, 5 & 7 test process titled Naplan.

A summary is provided at the conclusion of this report to reflect the levels of parent, student and staff satisfaction with Agnes Water State School and its distinctive approaches.

I commend this report to you and would be delighted to provide additional information on any topic should you require it.

Future outlook

In 2009 Agnes Water State School will continue a clear focus on instilling the essentials in numeracy and literacy. The relentless focus on reading will continue and include a renewed emphasis on writing, comprehending and spelling.

A curriculum plan focused on delivering the essentials will continue to be implemented. This plan mandates best practice pedagogy delivered through the use of KLA skill lessons, Rich Tasks, Blueprints and Teacher Generated Tasks.

The focus on IT (Information Technology) skill development and integration into curriculum areas will continue to raise student and parent satisfaction levels. A new Technology block and extended library facilities will enhance curriculum delivery later in 2009. The Head of Curriculum will continue to play a pivotal role within these major focuses in 2009.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Record:

Total student enrolments for this school is 280

Year levels offered are Prep to Year 7

Coeducational or single sex – Agnes Water State School is a Coeducational institution

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Curriculum is characterised by an innovative framework that consists of Key Learning Area Skill lessons, Rich Tasks, Blueprints and Teacher Generated Tasks.

Curriculum focuses are organised through an Early Years and Middle Phase of Learning planning structure.

The Early Years Curriculum is used in the Prep.

Resourcing for individual students/groups/curriculum tasks is managed through the Learning Management meetings held tri-weekly.

Surfing is a major focus sport and drama is a major cultural focus. Agnes Water School has a major environment education role in this community through its involvement in the Reef Guardian project.

Extra curricula activities

Rugby League school team

Drama Group

Choir

Multi media group

School Camps

Little Athletics

Surfboard riding coaching

How computers are used to assist learning

A feature of this school is the building of computer skills in students and the integration of computers into curriculum learning. Agnes Water School teachers plan integrated tasks collaboratively and many of these focus deeply on using computer skills so each student from Prep to Year 7 learns the essential IT skills. Class teachers will assess these skills each year.

The integration of computer skills into curriculum programs is a mandated requirement at this school. Teachers work collaboratively to embed IT into planning and assessment.

Social climate

The social climate of Agnes Water State School is very positive, being underpinned by our agreed values of courtesy, consideration, cooperation and caring for self and others. All staff at Agnes Water are committed to building relationships with students and community members. In 2008 a framework to provide a cooperative, safe and non-threatening environment where students could learn and develop responsible behaviours was implemented. The Agnes Water State School Supportive School Environment Policy is being monitored by Parents and Citizens Association. More than 70% of Agnes Water teaching staff have attended intensive professional development in how to build quality relationships and 85% of staff were trained in the "You Can Do It" Program.

As a result of these initiatives 70% of students and 77% of parents feel this is a safe school. While 74% of students

Our school at a glance

are happy to come to school. In 2008 62% of students and 61% of parents thought that Agnes Water School was a good school. Additionally 78% of parents also stated that their children had good learning opportunities at this school.

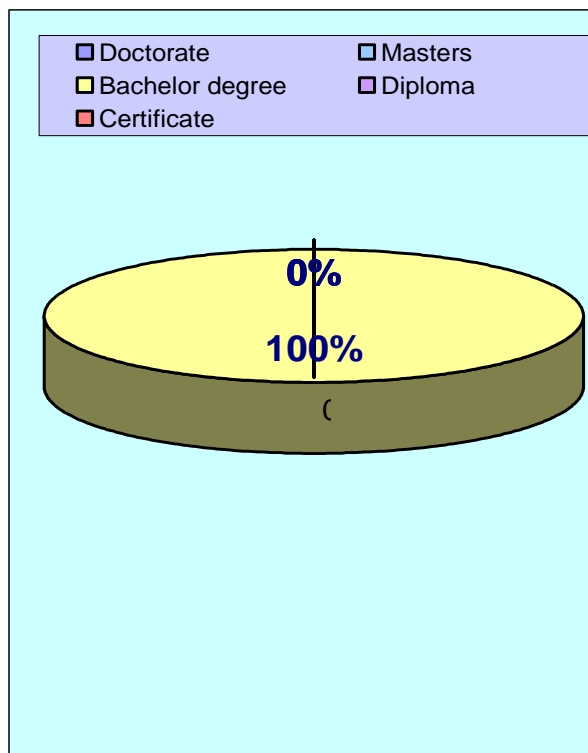
Involving parents in their child's education.

Agnes Water State School continues to recognise the importance of partnerships between the school and parents and community members. In 2008 a continued focus on literacy in the Early Years saw a large and consistent body of parents helping daily with reading and writing throughout the year. Parents were regularly invited to support curriculum programs in class with their expertise. The Support Teacher provided a series of Professional Development days for parents in reading and writing and this was very well patronised. The forms of assessment being used at this school actively involve parents in the final presentations (presentations/culminating activities for Rich Tasks, Blueprints and Teacher Generated Tasks). As well, parents are involved in policy decisions through a strong P & C Association (eg Dress Code & Supportive School Environment Policy)

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	0
Bachelor degree	100%
Diploma	0
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$20683.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Prep Training
- IT Training
- New Basics
- Curriculum Planning, Assessment & Reporting
- "You Can Do It" (social development program)
- Mathematics Inservice
- Literacy Inservice (Early Years)
- Choice Theory Training
- Blueprint Moderation

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 88%.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2008.

Our staff profile

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 92%.

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

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	389	439	532
	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	88%	66%
Writing	Average score for the school	412	460	480
	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	95%	84%
Spelling	Average score for the school	369	441	505
	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%	74%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	385	436	522
	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	95%	74%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	359	416	560
	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	79 %	68 %

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	81%
Writing	90%
Number	95%

Performance of our students

Value added

Learning outcomes in 2008 showed significant improvement with numeracy in the Year 2 cohort. Both reading and numeracy results showed more than 90% of children achieved the required levels.

The NAPLAN tests (Commonwealth) showed our Year 3 students were achieving above the state mean in reading, grammar and writing and at the state average for spelling and numeracy. The Year 5 students achieved the state mean in writing but were slightly below in reading, spelling, grammar and numeracy.

A significant improvement was seen in the Year 7 results which showed the students performed above the state mean for reading, grammar and writing, slightly below in spelling and 100% of students achieved the national benchmark for numeracy.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Approximately 61% of parents think Agnes Water State School is a good school. More than 59% of parents are satisfied or very satisfied with what the students are learning and a similar percentage are happy with the school communication processes. More than 91% of parents are satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of teaching in the technology skills program.

Similarly, more than 70% of students are satisfied or very satisfied with teacher support of learning, the built environment and the way they use computer technology for learning.

The staff at Agnes Water State School have continued to undertake innovation around teaching and learning in 2008. They have made outstanding contributions to student learning and their moral is high with 82% engaged in professional development activities and 81% saying they are happy working at Agnes Water State School.