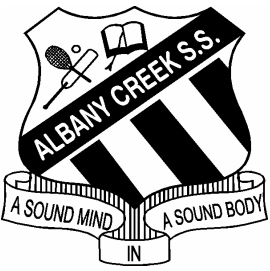


Our school at a glance

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Principal's foreword

Introduction

The aim of the Annual School Report is to provide parents and the community with a set of information that is common for all State and Non-state Schools in Queensland. It provides an overview of the highlights and successes of Albany Creek State School during the 2008 academic year.

During 2008, the school has placed a heavy emphasis on teacher professional development as the school embraces the goals of Education Queensland's 2010 Strategic Plan. As well, all of our results in the Year 3, 5 and 7 Tests and the School Opinion Surveys have been thoroughly analysed so that teaching and learning can be focused on specific areas of need.

Our school has achieved the following key outcomes during 2008:

Planned and developed of a range of strategies in curriculum, teaching and learning to continue the implementation of our Early Years Philosophy;

Continued professional development activities associated with the implementation of the *Mathematics* and *English Syllabuses* as well as the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework (QCAR);

Implemented strategies to enhance outcomes for students in the Middle Phase of Learning;

Embedded planning that integrates curriculum, pedagogy, assessment and reporting in response to students' and community needs; and

Implemented intervention strategies to improve learning outcomes for all students; Incorporated a range of inclusive practices to meet the educational needs of all students.

Should you require any further information in relation to the report, please contact the

Our school at a glance

school.

Future outlook

During 2009 the school is aiming to improve results in:

- the students' opinion about the school, particularly in relation to the curriculum;
- the National Year 3, 5 and 7 Tests in Literacy and Numeracy.

School Profile

Albany Creek State School is co-educational with children attending from Preparatory Year to Year 7. During 2008 there was an enrolment of 885 students, mostly accommodated in single classrooms, double-teaching areas, and modular classrooms.

Curriculum offerings

For Years 1-7, the school has a well-established core curriculum that focuses on eight Key Learning Areas, namely: English, Mathematics, Studies of Society and Environment, Science, The Arts, Technology, Physical Education and Health, Languages Other Than English (Japanese). In the Preparatory Year the Early Years Curriculum Guidelines are used to develop our teaching and learning programs.

Our students are encouraged to achieve academic excellence. We cater for individual needs to afford all students the opportunity to realize their academic potential through the design of relevant, inclusive, flexible, intellectually challenging and innovative learning experiences and assessment strategies. Students are motivated to strive for learning independence and to present knowledge that can be used and applied.

A variety of useful, problem-solving strategies for a changing and challenging environment are provided in order to foster critical thinking skills and to encourage the development of creativity. We foster an environment that embraces information and communication technology, with access to computers in every classroom throughout the entire campus, two computer laboratories and the development of a *Smart Classroom* with an electronic whiteboard and multiple computers as an extension to our Resource Centre.

We believe quality outcomes within our school will be achieved by making learning experiences that are active rather than passive, child oriented, guided by stakeholder expectations, structured to allow full pupil participation, varied and based on a "democratic" classroom model.

Extra curricula activities

Our school has a well-developed Social Skills Program from Preschool to Year 7,

Our school at a glance

Instrumental Music and Choral Programs. A feature of the school is the Permaculture Garden with vegetables, herbs, fruit trees, a frog pond and chickens. The garden is open each lunch hour so that students from any year level can participate in this unique program. Our Public Speaking Competition has been held for 33 years. The school also offers a large interschool sports program as well.

How computers are used to assist learning

All teachers have been issued with a laptop as a part of the *Computers for Teachers* initiative and three members of the teaching staff now have their *ICT Pedagogical Licence*. Staff and students are continually exploring new and innovative ways of using Information and Communications Technology (ICT) as tools for teaching, learning and administering. ICTs are embedded into classroom units of work prepared by teachers. This integrated approach strengthens the concept for students that using ICTs is a part of their everyday lives. During 2008, the school continued as a pilot school for the "One School" Administration Program that is currently being implemented in all schools.

Social climate

During the past three years the school has implemented a Social Skills Program in all year levels. This work has been successful according to the latest School Opinion Surveys. In 2007 the survey results indicated that a large majority of parents (92%) and students (79%) felt that the school was a "safe" place. Most parents (78%) also believed that their children were treated fairly at school and over 81% of students stated that they were happy at school. 64% of parents expressed satisfaction with student behaviour while 75% were satisfied with student discipline in 2007.

Our school appointed its first Chaplain in 2007 for one day/week. During 2008, this role has been extended from one day/week to at least three days/week.

Involving parents in their child's education.

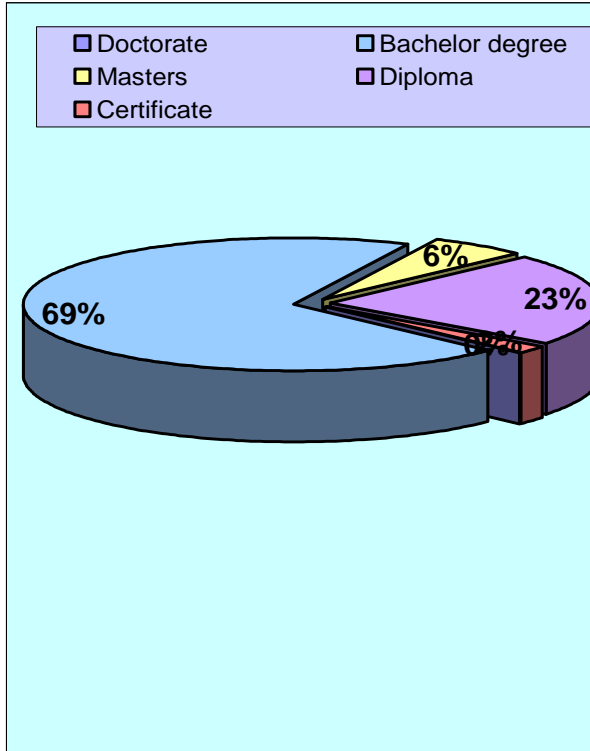
The school and its ethos are highly respected in the community. The 2008 external School Opinion Surveys have indicated that 79% of parents/caregivers and 93% of students are satisfied that they are getting a good education at the school. In addition, 89% of parents/caregivers stated that Albany Creek is a good school.

Numerous parent education programs are provided annually at the school and there are high levels of voluntary work evident across the campus. The school has very active Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) as well as a School Council. The community strongly supports all extra-curricular activities that include a biennial fete and annual events such as a School Concert, a Fancy Dress Ball, a Bush Dance, a Public Speaking Competition and so on. Many parents/caregivers also provide assistance with the school's large interschool sports program.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Bachelor degree	37
Masters	3
Diploma	12
Certificate	1



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$32 054 .

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

- An Arts Alliance with local cluster schools;
- Staff induction programs for newly appointed staff;
- Pupil Free Days – Literacy, Moderation, Queensland Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Framework (QCARF);
- "In-school" professional development program (Hot shots) led by teachers for teachers);
- Literacy Professional Development for all teachers;
- Facilitated whole year level planning, assessment and reporting sessions; and,
- Information and Communication Technology Pedagogical Licences.

Our staff profile

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 93%.

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, 96% 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 95%.

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 and 7.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	391	496	540
	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	91%	94%
Writing	Average score for the school	427	491	536
	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	97%	94%
Spelling	Average score for the school	389	484	537
	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	90%	93%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	397	496	535
	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%	92%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	390	489	558
	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	97%	97%

Performance of our students

Results in the Yr 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	76%
Writing	86%
Number	89%

Value added

A number of other outcomes have been achieved during 2007. These include:

- Many of our students achieving High Distinctions, Distinctions, and Credits in the University of New South Wales International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) and the Australian Mathematics Competition for Year 7;
- Our Optiminds Teams competing so well in the Metropolitan North Competition;
- The success of our interschool sporting teams;
- The continued success of our traditional excursions/events - School Camps, the Year 7 Sydney/Canberra Tour, the Year 1&2 Fancy Dress Ball, the Year 3&4 Bush Dance, Speaking Competition, Kerribee Concert and the Year 7 Volleyball Competition;
- The wonderful performances by our Choirs and Ensembles at various events throughout the year.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The following table indicates the degree of satisfaction from parents, students and teachers against a range of dimensions. These percentages are compared with Education Queensland's (EQ) 2008 target percentages.

Performance Indicator	2008 School Performance	2008 EQ Target
Percentages of parents and students and satisfied that they are getting a good education at the school.	93% students 79% parents	79% students 78% parents
Percentage of	89% parents	84% parents

Performance of our students

parents/caregivers satisfied that the school is a good school.		
Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives.	84% workforce	73% workforce
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school.	94% staff	79% staff