

Our school at a glance

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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Our School Annual Report 2008 summarises the performance of our students and the satisfaction of staff, students and parent body in the way that we meet the educational needs of our school community.

As you will discover, the academic performance of our students remains consistent with, and in several instances better than, the State and National mean.

We are continuing to refine our curriculum and teaching practices to individualise our programs and ensure that we have the necessary resources, staff and facilities to give every student at our school the best possible opportunities for success.

During 2008 we continued to focus on literacy and numeracy as our main priority whilst at the same time using new technologies including Interactive Whiteboards, Pocket PC's, Lego robotics and IPODS to engage and enable more effective teaching and learning strategies in all areas of the curriculum.

Our beautiful school has the Canungra Creek running on our western border with a stunning bank area owned by the school. We have had an Amphitheatre constructed on this site which is used for School events and performances. 2008 saw the continuation of our Environmental area surrounding the amphitheatre and more than 400 trees were planted during the year. Each child in the school planted at least 1 tree. Enrolment growth in 2008 led to a new Bendigo building with 2 teaching spaces being added to our facilities.

The dedication of our staff and support of our Parents and Citizen's Association, School Community and local businesses has enabled us to achieve a strong level of community satisfaction. Without their support we would not be able to achieve nor offer the variety of opportunities that our students currently enjoy. We try to live the saying 'it takes a village to educate a child'.

To complete the education of our students, we have committed heavily to reinforcing positive values and behaviours in our students. Values education is specifically taught to our students on a weekly basis and actively encouraged and reinforced in all classes, during playtimes and on parade. Program Achieve has also been intergrated into our curriculum. We as a staff believe that it is our behaviour towards students, parents and each other that provides positive role modelling for the students and that reinforces the values we teach.

As our motto encourages we are constantly reflecting, reviewing and assessing our performance to ensure that we continue to 'Aim High'.

Regards,

Colleen Murphy

Principal

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School Profile

Canungra State School is situated in a small, picturesque, rural town in the Gold Coast Hinterland. Canungra stands as the gateway to Lamington National Park and in the foothills of the National Parks of Tamborine Mountain.

Canungra State School is a co-educational school with a growing student population. In 2008 the primary school reached 380 students from Years P-7. Our mobility can be attributed to the movement of Defence Force families, as well as a growing number of families moving to Canungra as a lifestyle choice due to our rural location and proximity to the Gold Coast.

In the 2008 year, we offered 16 classes, 2 classes in each of the 8 year levels. The attendance rate at Canungra averages at 94% with the majority of absences due to illness and family reasons.

The students come from a range of socio-economic backgrounds but predominantly those of a middle socio-economic standing.

The school draws its student enrolment from the growing Canungra Township, surrounding small acreage developments, and the Canungra Army Base-Kokoda Barracks.

The students who reside in Canungra and attend the school are offered a range of co-curricular and extra curricular activities. Apart from school based programs, the Canungra Township has a wide range of activities for primary aged children. The following list is not exhaustive.

Active After Schools Program; Canungra Fitness & Dance; AFL Clinics; Soccer; Rugby League; Scouts & Guides; Pony Club; Tae Kwon Do; Swimming Club; Camp Draft; Canungra Rodeo; Canungra Show; Discos

Curriculum offerings

Curriculum at this school is organised about the eight Key Learning Areas (KLAs) for both the writing and the delivery of school programs.

The Essential Learnings and Standards as well as the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework have been used to develop integrated units based around five organisers:

Natural World	Personal World	Changing World	Amazing World	Democratic World
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Literacy and Numeracy are embedded across the Curriculum.

The Canungra Community has a rich history and a unique natural setting. Our School Community has a beautiful creek which forms part of our school grounds. Threaded through our Curriculum Organizers as listed above, we aim to ensure that students who attend our school have the opportunity to become 'experts' on their Community. *It is this focus that creates our Distinctive Learning Community.*

ICT's are integrated throughout the curriculum and students are exposed to and interact with leading technologies in robotics, computer programming and wireless technologies in file sharing on pocket pc's, as well as developing computer skills in formal lessons on a weekly basis. All units of work include activities using these computer skills. Interactive whiteboards are also in use within the school.

Student results against Key Learning Areas are reported to parents and students using a combination of:-

Written Reports

Face-to-face Interviews

Samples of Student work and achievement.

Written Reports are provided by class teachers twice yearly - towards the end of each school semester. Oral Reporting takes place either at the end of Semester 1 or the start of Semester 2. Further face-to-face

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reporting/dialogue occurs as a result of need communicated either by teacher or parent and at a time and a place deemed convenient to both.

Extra curricula activities

Canungra State School offered a variety of extra-curricular activities in 2008 including;

Active After Schools Community Program running 2 afternoons per week in Semester 1, interschool sport once per term against Canungra and District Primary School Sport Association members, choir, instrumental music, gardening club, lunchtime computer access, chess club, student council, school based sporting competitions in soccer and AFL and school discos.

Social climate

The staff at our school are dedicated professionals who pride themselves on the care and diligence they provide to the students and parents of our community. This is reflected in the school opinion data collected in 2008.

One significant achievement in 2008 was the successful continued involvement in the Nerang Alliance of Schools. The Nerang Alliance Literacy Team (NALT) organised combined literacy based staff meetings which will continue to occur in 2009. The August '08 Professional Development Day which involved all staff, teaching, non teaching and ancillary staff was another success. We had a productive and positive Prep-Year 3 Continuity Day on the Pupil Free Day in Term 4. The involvement of our senior students in the Playground Leaders Program, the continued implementation of the Values Education Framework, Program Achieve and the success of our Year1-7 Student Council are also proud achievements which contribute to a positive, happy and safe learning environment for our entire School Community.

2008 School Opinion Surveys indicate strongly that students feel safe at our school and parents agree that their children are safe and happy while in our care at school. In 2008, 83.2% of students felt safe at our school, 93.6% of parents indicated that they feel their child is safe at our school and 92.8% of staff believe that this school is a safe place in which to work.

Ongoing review of our Responsible Behaviour Plan and efficient tracking and monitoring of behaviour incidences also creates a consistent and fair approach to behaviour management leading to a decrease in behavioural incidences. We ensure that opportunities for positive acknowledgements of appropriate behaviour choices are a regular occurrence.

Involving parents in their child's education.

The community in and around Canungra is a very diverse one. As Canungra is relatively isolated the small community works together to provide a network of support for the school and the community at large. Support at the school comes from such agencies and organisations as the school P&C Association, the Police, Ambulance, the Defence Forces, the Rural and Urban Fire Brigades, Sporting Associations, the Lions Club and RSL Clubs, the Canungra Area Development Association and our local Business Community. They each contribute in their unique ways to enhance the learning opportunities of the students of the school.

Our School invites and encourages parental and community involvement in our school life. Through our various communication channels- Parent Handbook, weekly newsletter, our annual Open Night, individual interviews, our weekly Parade, P&C meetings, class communications and via our students we endeavour to invite and include parents and the wider community in school and class activities.

Our School Watch Committee consisting of Year 7 students delivers our newsletter each week and meets with local community members and businesses on a weekly basis. Student representatives are also part of the Moriarty Park Committee and the Canungra Show Society.

Parent/Volunteer training is offered throughout the year in Support-a-Reader/Writer/Maths Learner/Talker. These adult training programs have been at no cost to participants.

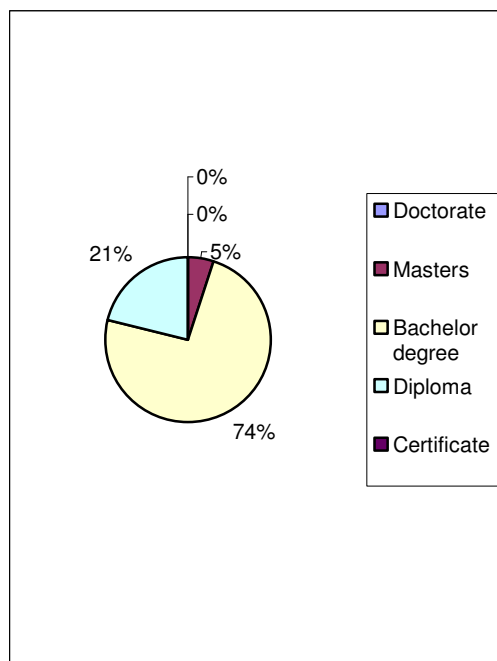
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Qualifications of all teachers.

Canungra State School Staff have a variety of qualifications in areas including;

Education, Languages other than English, Library Management, Environmental Studies, Sports and Human Movements, Arts, Religious Education, Information and Communication Technologies and Psychology.

Highest level of Attainment	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	5
Bachelor degree	74
Diploma	21
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$17 661

The major professional development initiatives in 2008 were as follows:

Curriculum and pedagogical reform in Numeracy and Literacy 'Go Maths' and 'Thrass', Essential Learnings

QCATs, Student safety and wellbeing, anaphylaxis, Planning, Assessment and Reporting frameworks through planning days and cluster workshops

Individual student needs: Gifted and Talented Education.

ICT inservice: ICT Certificates and Pedagogical Licence.

Professional standards for teachers

Code of Conduct

Science through TMDEC Cluster

The involvement of teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 94%.

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Average staff attendance	
For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 98% in 2008.	
Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.	
From the end of the 2007 school year, 89% 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%.

Key outcomes in the early and middle phases of learning

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	80
Writing	88
Number	98

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Our reading, writing and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests.					
			Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school		375	463	532
	Average score for Queensland		371.5	466.1	528.1
	School % of students at or above the national minimum standard	2008	86%	91%	100%
Writing	Average score for the school		412	486	515
	Average score for Queensland		391.8	468.9	522.7
	School % of students at or above the national minimum standard	2008	95%	93%	96%
Spelling	Average score for the school		373	458	529
	Average score for Queensland		366.7	462.0	528.0
	School % of students at or above the national minimum standard	2008	91%	83%	100%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school		362	462	514
	Average score for Queensland		370.4	476.6	518.0
	School % of students at or above the national minimum standard	2008	93%	89%	96%
Numeracy	Average score for the school		383	443	548
	Average score for Queensland		367.9	458.2	539.0
	School % of students at or above the national minimum standard	2008	100%	100%	98%
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school					
% of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at our school				2008	89%
% of parents satisfied that their children are getting a good education at our school				2008	87%
% of parents/caregivers satisfied that this is a good school				2008	90%
% of school workforce engaged in professional development opportunities				2008	81%

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Other Key Outcomes

Value added

While we use the data collected by Education Queensland from Statewide testing, it is the collection of school based data focused on Literacy and Numeracy outcomes for students that will become one of the curriculum drivers in our school. It is this school based data collection that we will aim to use to inform curriculum implementation, teaching practice and assessment and reporting in the future.

Future outlook

Our commitment to 'Aiming High' and providing the best learning outcomes for every student is demonstrated through our ongoing reform of curriculum and pedagogical practices to meet the individual needs of all of our students.

Our primary focus will continue to be on the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy. Constant review and upskilling in innovative practices, programs and technologies will keep us striving for excellence in these areas.

Due to our location amongst significant national parks in the Gold Coast hinterland, our curriculum will also maintain a strong focus on our local environment. We will continue our regeneration work on our beautiful creekbank using school based resources as well as applying for more funding support through our local council and Landcare.

Our social environment and welfare structures will ensure we remain consistent in providing a safe, supportive and caring environment that encourages every student to reach their full potential.