


QUEENSLAND STATE SCHOOL REPORTING - 2009

Murray's Bridge State School (1177)

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Principal's foreword

Introduction

The School Annual Report outlines the operations and outcomes for the 2009 school year.

Murray's Bridge State School has continued to provide quality education as well as cultural opportunities for rural children. We never let the fact that we are a small school minimise our educational offerings. Rather, the smallness of our size allows us to offer activities and opportunities that many larger schools can not.

We have continued to enhance our environment and technologies in 2009. We have also provided maximum one-on-one student learning time in order to assist students to reach their potential.

To create a greater understanding of our English language and Mathematics our professional development has centred around:

Functional Grammar - full course, 9 evenings

First Steps Maths – numeracy

School progress towards its goals in 2009

In 2009 we made good progress to attain the majority of our goals. These included:

Provision of individual support for students with high needs

Enhancing literacy and numeracy learning

Utilising our ICT infrastructure across the curriculum

Providing the workforce with necessary professional development to carry out our priorities

Addressing workplace health and safety issues

Completing the Triennial School Review

We have continued to refurbish the school environment using both school funds and government allocations.

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Future outlook

In 2010 we are intending to:

- Re-develop our English, Maths and Science Programs
- Stay focussed and informed in regards to the National Curriculum
- Continue to provide opportunities for students to work at their own levels regardless of year levels
- Raise awareness of indigenous perspectives in the curriculum and work towards embedding these into our practices
- Continue to utilise NAPLAN feedback to assist staff to plan learning experiences
- Provide a community meeting point
- Provide an area, facilities and resources for Playgroup meetings and activities
- Provide professional development to enhance our goals
- Continue to participate in community events
- As a curriculum initiative travel to Cairns, visit Cape Tribulation and the Daintree Rainforest, Tjapukai Community Centre, Green Island and Kuranda.

Our staff profile

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: Co-educational

Year levels offered: Prep to Year 7 in the one classroom

Total student enrolments for this school:

Total Enrolment	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb 2009 – Nov 2009)
14	6	8	68%

Characteristics of the student body:

One Prep student arrived from China.

Class sizes – Proportion of school classes achieving class size targets in 2009

Phase	Average Class Size	Percentage of classes in the school			
		On or under target	Under Target	On Target	Over Target
Prep – Year 3	14	100%	100%	0%	0%
Year 4 – Year 10					
Year 11 – Year 12					
All Classes	14	100%	100%	0%	0%

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	0
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0
Exclusions	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0

Our staff profile

Curriculum offerings

Our curriculum has a central focus of literacy and numeracy. Knowing and understanding each student allows the teachers to optimise student learning in a calm, caring classroom.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Prep Year more formal teaching due to class structure in a one teacher school
- Students' field knowledge enhanced due to one teacher situation
- Projects and investigations around Landcare and the Murray-Darling Catchments conservation
- DPI Hermitage Research Station Competition – won in 2009 with over 200 entries
- Dance – various forms
- Cultural activities – theatre, live shows
- Leadership programs for Years 6 & 7
- Morgan Park activities – as spectators at events e.g. polocrosse

Extra curricula activities

All students, individually and collectively participate in local shows, competitions and events.

Some of these activities which include:

- Jumpers & Jazz Festival
- Warwick Rose & Rodeo Parade
- Hermitage Country Women's association International Day – students research and present information on the country being studied. Some students reached national level
- Rugby League Day
- Warwick Show
- World Colouring Day – fund raising for less advantage overseas students
- Sporting activities – with like schools, community events, cross country, representative

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

All staff utilise computers in researching, planning and lesson preparation.

Due to or small numbers all students have daily access to technology. With the introduction of wireless they are able to use the computers throughout the school including outside in the grounds. All students from Prep to Year 7 use computers to research, prepare projects and learn and practise skills. They have become an integral part of our learning.

Students can use digital cameras and videos to enhance their work and link these to the computers.

A Wii was purchased to assist in physical skills, eye-hand co-ordination and brain skills. Being able to mentally analyse a diagram, a picture or a form has been of assistance in some of the questions presented in the NAPLAN Tests.

Our staff profile

Social climate

At Murray's Bridge we believe that children should be entitled to work and play in a safe, tolerant and disciplined environment in which mutual respect is embedded. This environment in turn promotes an atmosphere in which good teaching and learning can occur.

The whole school community, consisting of all the adults (both parents and staff) and children, is encouraged and reminded of our statement of purpose. Good relationships are valued and personal attributes of honesty, responsibility, respect and tolerance is encouraged by all. All students are well-behaved and act in a caring way to others.

In response to the School Opinion Survey it was found that:

- 71% of students expressed their satisfaction with the behaviour of the students and their safety
- 71% of students expressed their satisfaction with being happy to go to this school
- 100% of parents expressed their satisfaction with the behaviour of the students
- 100% of parents expressed their satisfaction with school discipline

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Overall many areas of the School Opinion Survey showed that the whole community – students, parents and staff are very satisfied with the school. This includes the learning activities, technology, behaviour, environment and relationships. Many of the results were above the state and like schools results. This is especially so in the areas of resources and school operations where **all** items were above the average.

Performance measure	Result 2009
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school	100%
Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school	71%
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied with their child's school	100%
Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives	80%
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school	100%

Involving parents in their child's education

Even though we are a small school we have a very active and interested school community. We have 80% of our families represented at P&C Meetings and those who are unable to attend still participate in school and P&C organised functions.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to meet and discuss their child's/children's progress with teachers both in a formal manner and informally.

Parents assist with our Kids' Café cooking, craft, transporting children to a variety of activities and events, sport and sport training sessions.

Parents are invited to celebrations of students' work and are welcome in the classroom anytime.

Newsletters and school noticeboard and chalkboard also keep the community abreast with what is happening at Murray's Bridge.

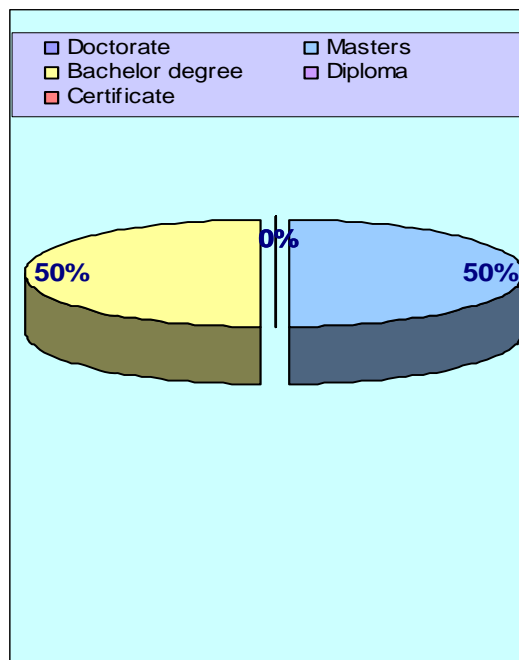
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous Staff

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	2	6	0
Full-time equivalents	2	3	0

Qualifications of all teachers

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



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

Our staff profile

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2009 were \$4,564. The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Functional Language – all teachers for 9 weeks
- Literacy Training – 6 days
- Autism
- Mathematics – First Steps Numeracy
- Moderation – QCATS, Year 2 Diagnostic Net
- Workplace Health & Safety
- Immersion

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2009 was 100 %.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 100% in 2009.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the 2009 school year, 69% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2009 school year.

Performance of our students

Key student outcomes

Attendance

Student attendance - 2009									
The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2009 was 91%.									
Student attendance for each year level									
Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
90%			91%		90%	95%			
Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school									
<p>Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DET policies, SMS-PR-029: Managing Student Absences and SMS-PR-036: Roll Marking in State Schools, which outline processes for managing and recording student attendance and absenteeism.</p> <p>The class roll is marked at the beginning of the day and after the lunch break. Parents are required to notify the school in writing or by telephone of a student's absence. The telephoned absences are noted on a data sheet. If students are absent for 3 days without notification parents are contacted.</p>									

Achievement – Years 3, 5, 7, and 9

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.

In 2009 there were no Year 3 or Year 5 students present at Murray's Bridge State School.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	
Reading	Average score for the school in 2009			448	
	Average score for Australia in 2009	410.8	493.9	541.1	
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	100%	50%	100%
		2009			100%
	For the school the percentage of students in the upper two bands	2008	67%	0%	50%
		2009			0%
Writing	Average score for the school in 2009			457	
	Average score for Australia in 2009	414.5	484.7	532.4	
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	100%	50%	50%
		2009			100%

Performance of our students

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	
	For the school the percentage of students in the upper two bands	2008	67%	0%	50%
		2009			0%
Spelling	Average score for the school in 2009				476
	Average score for Australia in 2009		404.8	487.2	540.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	100%	50%	100%
		2009			100%
	For the school the percentage of students in the upper two bands	2008	0%	0%	50%
		2009			0%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school in 2009				444
	Average score for Australia in 2009		419.7	499.7	539.5
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	100%	50%	50%
		2009			50%
	For the school the percentage of students in the upper two bands	2008	67%	0%	50%
		2009			0%
Numeracy	Average score for the school in 2009				451
	Average score for Australia in 2009		393.9	486.8	543.6
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	100%	50%	100%
		2009			100%
	For the school the percentage of students in the upper two bands	2008	33%	0%	50%
		2009			0%