Principal’s foreword

Introduction

Aloomba State School is a small school close to a major centre (Cairns) and has a close-knit community where the school is the focal point. Many school events are organised throughout the year which are well attended and supported by our local community. We all have a great deal of pride in our small school and get many positive comments about our friendly polite students, supportive parent group, dedicated staff, our well maintained school grounds and great educational achievements and initiatives.

2011 Highlights:

- Green Island Excursion
- P & C Trivia Night – a fantastic extravaganza where the school is transformed according to the theme. This has been well attended by many from our community and beyond for the past ten years.
- Junior Trivia
- Holloway’s Beach Leadership Camp & 6/7 Student Camp.
- Rotary Junior Speaking Contest (finalists in both categories)
- UNSW Competitions
- Sports Coaching Clinics
- Surfing Scientist Presentation
- Obstathon
- Cross Country
- Queensland Day Celebration
- Anzac Day Ceremony
- Bravehearts Program (P – 3 students)
- Robotics Challenge Program
- Chess Coaching Clinics & Tournaments
- Excelsior Program
- Gala Sports Carnival
School progress towards its goals in 2011

Persuasive Text PD
National Curriculum (C2C) PD completed
ICT resources purchased
Sequenced ICT curriculum implemented
Go Maths resources funded
Spelling Mastery Program maintained (Yrs 1-7)
PetPep Program
Readers Cup

Future outlook

Our school will continue to implement the National Curriculum (C2C) programs Literacy, Numeracy and Science in 2012.
We aim to maintain our very good student behaviour standards and aim to further improve levels of academic achievement. Programs and activities to support enrich and/or extend students learning will be maintained and developed further.

Focus on Enrichment Activities & ICT
Improve Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Number results across the school.
Literacy & Numeracy PD to be ongoing.
Robotics Program for all 4-7 students.
Science PD
Enrichment activities eg. Readers Cup Challenge, Rotary Speaking Contest.
Cairns Post Book Reviews.
Thinking skills activities to be embedded in curriculum.
Social/Emotional learning programs to be ongoing.
School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational
Year levels offered: Prep - Year 7

Total student enrolments for this school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrolment</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Enrolment Continuity (Feb 2011 – Nov 2011)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Characteristics of the student body:

Our student body consists of a mix of urban/rural families. The school is in a cane farming district. Our student population is stable with a high enrolment continuity rate. Approx 5% of our students reside in a single parent family.

Class sizes – Proportion of school classes achieving class size targets in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Average Class Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep – Year 3</td>
<td>18.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 – Year 10</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 – Year 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Classes</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Disciplinary Absences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disciplinary Absences</th>
<th>Count of Incidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusions</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancellations of Enrolment</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our school at a glance

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings
- All Key Learning Areas from Prep to Year Seven
- Instrumental music (Strings)
- Technology Studies
- Environmental studies and activities
- Spelling Mastery Program

Extra curricula activities
- Rotary Junior Speaking contest
- Leadership Program/Camp for student leaders
- UNSW School competitions
- Robotics Challenge
- Gala Sports Carnival
- Perceptual Motor Program (Prep/One)
- Sports clinics

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Computers are used in every grade and technology lessons are sequenced in levels. The Robotics Challenge is part of the Year 4-7 curriculum.

Social climate

The School Opinion Survey indicates that parents are very satisfied (well above the state average) with the social climate of the school. We have an Enrolment Management Plan in place as the demand to enrol children is high from outside our catchment area. Aloomba State School is fortunate to have such wonderful staff, parents, students and community support. The staff all work over and above their duties and their caring and dedication creates a wonderful working environment. We have a great school and wonderful students – absolutely everyone who meets our children comment on their fantastic behaviour, manners and friendliness.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Our school is a happy, caring environment where parents, students and teachers all support each other and there is obvious mutual respect and support. All are focussed on providing the best learning environment for students.
Performance measure | Result 2011
---|---
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school | 97%
Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school | 97%
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 | 78%
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school | 98%

Involving parents in their child’s education

Parents are invited and encouraged to attend many functions at the school including sports days, Queensland Day Celebrations, Anzac Day service, and student fundraising events. We often involve parents by including events or prizes especially for them. We have many parents who volunteer and help out in the classrooms. The P & C often initiate and organise activities for our children and provide valued support for our school programs.

The P & C also take on the grounds care role for the school. Through fundraising the P & C provides many resources for the school which are described as ‘icing on the cake’. They sponsored 4 children on a school leadership camp, subsidised excursions, organised student events and made a fabulous World Teachers Day lunch for staff.

Many parents volunteer as classroom helpers and work in the tuckshop.

Fundraising & Community Events:

Trivia Night, Student Disco, Christmas Raffles and BBQ, Tuckshop (once a week), Working Bees, World Teachers Day Lunch for staff.

P & C Purchases: $7 694

P & C Donations- bus hire for: $2050.00

(Green Island excursion, Holloways Beach EEC, swim bus, Lote luncheon)

- Technology boot camp 75.00
- Student attending state athletics 250.00
- Parent library 500.00
- School library books 1216.00
- Refurbishment of table tennis tables 437.77
- Resources, books, posters 122.98
- Australian Scholarship Group - books / posters 849.85
- Newart Library shelving 2000.00
- Bravehearts program 192.00

TUCKSHOP PROFIT AND FUNDRAISING $8 343

The P & C also paid for small maintenance expenses such as soap, signs etc.

Groundscare was paid for by the P & C and the P & C received $3968 from the school budget for this purpose.
Reducing the school’s environmental footprint

Data is sourced from school’s annual utilities return and is reliant on the accuracy of these returns.

Aloomba State School has for many years been proactive in promoting environmental awareness. We have actively encouraged litter-free lunches and made and distributed a “Family Energy Game” which encouraged family discussion and awareness of wasting energy. This game was promoted by environmental groups, and many schools Australia-wide have used it.

Our environmental activities and programs are practical and sustainable, encouraging all the community to adopt practices that become a natural part of their lifestyle.

Environmental footprint indicators, 2010-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Electricity (KwH)</th>
<th>Water (KL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>47,239</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>43,439</td>
<td>432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change 10 - 11</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>-22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

Workforce Composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching Staff</th>
<th>Indigenous Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Qualifications of all teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest level of attainment</th>
<th>Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor degree</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2011 was $5,456. Some PD was cost neutral or provided by funds from District Office.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Persuasive Text
- Earthsmart Science PD
- Maths 1st Steps PD
- Dyslexia Seminar
- Peer Teacher Mentoring Sessions
- Pre-service Teacher Mentoring
- Work Experience Students
- National curriculum (C2C)
- Gifted Ed PD
- One School Training
- Child Protection
- Health Smart – Staff Yoga
- First Aide Certificate Course
- Cleaners PD

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2011 was 100%.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 98% in 2011.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 100% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2011 school year.

School income broken down by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.

To access our income details, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following “Find a school” text box.
Where it says ‘Search by school name’, type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select <GO>. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school’s My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting ‘School finances’ in the menu box in the top left corner of the school’s entry web page. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of income by funding source.
Performance of our students

Key student outcomes.

Student attendance - 2011

The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage) in 2011 was 95%.

The overall attendance rate for all Queensland state Primary schools over the same period was 92%.

Student attendance rate for each year level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Year 6</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Attendance Distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.

Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

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.

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All student absences are noted and coded in class rolls. Any unexplained absences are followed up by phone call to the parents on the morning of the absence.

Newsletter items, reminding parents of the importance of school attendance particularly at vital times eg. Naplan preparation and test times are regularly included in the weekly newsletter.

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.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the My School link above. You will then be taken to the My School website with the following 'Find a school' text box.
Performance of our students

Where it says ‘Search by school name’, type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results you wish to view, and select <GO>.

Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy before being able to access NAPLAN data.

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school’s NAPLAN results.

Achievement – Closing the Gap

The gap between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous students in attendance, attainment and retention is negligible and not applicable to our student body. We have 5% Indigenous population (4 students).