

# Bucasia State School

## 2008 School Annual Report

### School Details

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### Principal's Foreword

#### **Introduction**

Bucasia State School is located in the Northern Beaches area of the Mackay district approximately 16km from the city centre. The school is situated among picturesque and well landscaped gardens and grounds. School enrolments are growing as expected.

Our school community prides itself on the qualities and characteristics that make this school a unique and vibrant place to be a part of: Community & School Spirit, Academic, Cultural, and Sporting Excellence, caring and committed staff and a positive innovative learning environment are all valued elements of our school. Our school motto 'Oceans of Success – Live and Learn' encapsulates our belief that student learning and success is our core business with literacy and numeracy being our focus to ensure 'oceans of success' for the students in our care.

#### **Future Outlook**

##### Learning

- 1) Consistent Curriculum Planning, Assessment and Reporting across the school.
- 2) Establish school data base to track individual and class performance over time. Formalise benchmark testing to identify class requirements over 12 months. Used to inform future planning and analyse performance.
- 3) Innovative learning experiences to inspire and engage learners in the middle phase.

##### Schools

- 1) Formalise ICT resources and structures to ensure recent upgrades are utilised to capacity. Includes completion of cabling and maintenance plans to improve reliable access.
- 2) Expand Literacy resources to support this area across the school.
- 3) Facilities planning to ensure adequate resources available to cater for expected growth.

##### Workforce

- 1) Motivate staff to become involved in extra curricular experiences with students - establish academic, sporting, cultural and social groups to vary and extend learning options.
- 2) Expose staff to effective models of ICT integration across all subject areas.
- 3) Develop and enhance a staff culture of support, team work and motivation to achieve the best our school can be.

# Bucasia State School

## *Our school at a glance*

### **School Profile**

Total enrolments:	248
Year levels offered:	Prep-7
Structure:	Co-educational

### **Curriculum offerings**

#### ***Our distinctive curriculum offerings and Extra Curricula Activities:***

Our distinctive curriculum offerings:

The School's Vision is: "Oceans of Success – Making Waves at Bucasia"

The successes we are looking for are expressed in the qualities of a life long learner. It is therefore a Curriculum for life. The qualities of a life long learner, while future focussed, are embedded in the everyday lives of our students.

Through the implementation of the school curriculum plan we ensure that the planned learning experiences and assessment tasks enable our students and Teachers to achieve "Oceans of Success".

Our Curriculum is based on Integrated Units formed from the Essential Learnings in the Education Queensland Curriculum. They are organised according to Health & Lifestyle (I am a healthy and informed citizen), Communication & Technology (I am a creative citizen), Cultures & Community (I am an informed and democratic citizen) and Investigating our World (I am an informed eco-citizen).

- Instrumental Music.
- Arts focus
- National Academic Competitions – Maths, English, Science, Writing, Spelling.
- ICT (Technology / computer based skills) integrated throughout all subject offerings.
- "Strut" – Community Arts event.
- Rock-Pop-Mime – Community event.
- School Choirs.
- Yr 6 Leadership camp (term 4).
- Community Involvement Projects eg: Bucasia's Got Talent, Wakkakirri

Parents, in the Opinion Survey, reported a level of satisfaction with the variety of school activities at 86.1%

Students reported their level of satisfaction at 66.2%

#### ***How computers are used to assist learning:***

- Minimum 2 computers per classroom.
- Computer lab network for class use.
- Teacher in-service to develop confidence and skills.
- Access to an Interactive White Board available in each Teaching block.
- Students are using computers as a tool to develop their language and numeracy skills. This is through the use of specific software and items such as learning objects. Lessons are designed to enhance children's learning and to stimulate further investigations in subject areas.

### **Social climate**

Our school acknowledges the importance of positive relationships and communication between all stakeholders. We also value the recognition of positive social behaviours and endeavour to do this in the following ways:

- Weekly "Student of the Week" Class awards presented on Parade.
- "Blue Star Cards" awarded to individuals who demonstrate the "S.T.A.R" qualities of – Safety, Teamwork, Attitude, Respect. Additional recognition for those who achieve the goals of 5 and then 10 STAR cards over time.
- Social Justice committee meets fortnightly to ensure student welfare and special needs are catered for. This includes extended learning challenges and the social development of all students via Class Camps and targeted social skills.
- Introduction of our School Responsible Behaviour Plan
- Introduction of the School Chaplaincy service to support Student and Parent Social Needs

# Bucasia State School

## *Our school at a glance*

54.7% of students reported satisfaction with the behaviour of students at this school.

75% of parents reported satisfaction with the behaviour of students at this school.

# Bucasia State School

## *Our school at a glance*

### **Involving parents in their child's education**

- Special class events promoting student work with a parent/family audience.
- Parent assistance and involvement in school community events eg "STRUT", "Rock Pop Mime", Wakkakirri preparation.
- Informal and formal parent / teacher interviews.
- Volunteer Parent / family helpers in classrooms.
- Education Week activities, displays and performances
- Parade performances of children's learning achievements

### **Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school**

88.9% of parents expressed satisfaction that their child is getting a good education at school.

Students reported their level of satisfaction at 81.5%

Parent responses to the Opinion Survey question about this being a good school indicated a level of satisfaction at 91.7%

95.8% of staff members reported that they were satisfied with the morale in the school.

### **Value added**

In 2008 Bucasia State School value added to student achievement by improving on reading, writing and numeracy scores for the year 2 net. School results were above the state mean in all three areas. Bucasia SS was flagged above the state mean – in the parents' opinions of the school's student outcomes, curriculum, pedagogy, learning climate, school climate and school community relationships – a steady improvement has been noted in all areas over the past couple of years. Students at the school also rate the school as a good school and this has also shown consistent improvement over the past couple of years. In 2008 Bucasia State School was flagged as being above the state mean with 1.5% of students being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the school. Parents' opinion survey also showed that this school is rated highly by them as being a good school. There were no parents who responded to the survey with dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the school and rating it as not being a good school.

### **Student attendance**

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 93.2%

# Bucasia State School

## *Our Staff Profile*

### **Qualifications of all teachers and school leaders**

*Highest level of attainment*

*Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school*

Doctorate

Masters

Bachelor degree

Diploma

Certificate

### **Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development**

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$12782

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Literacy in the Early Years and Early Phase of Learning
- School Planning Cycle to track class content and units to be studied
- Functional Grammar workshops (4 staff)
- 1st steps in Number (8 staff)
- Primary Connections Science & Literacy
- Inspiring Learners in the Middle Phase
- Literacy training for teachers
- Staff well being

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 100%

### **Average staff attendance**

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate in 2008 was 96%

### **Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year**

93% of staff were retained by the school from the end of the 2007 school year for the entire 2008 school year.

# Bucasia State School

## Performance of our students

Please note that as information published in the tables below must maintain the privacy of individual students, data may have been withheld, especially for cohort sizes less than five. In these situations the 'Value Added' section at the beginning of this report provides a narrative in regards to student performance. Similarly, District Special Schools and Outdoor Education Centres may (or will) not have information to publish in these tables.

### **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:	77.4
Writing:	87.1
Number:	93.5

#### **Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar & punctuation and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 Literacy and Numeracy Tests (NAPLAN)**

		Yr 3:	Yr 5:	Yr 7:	Yr 9:
<b>Reading</b>	Average score for School:	340	457	529	
	Average score for QLD:	371.1	466.1	528.1	568.2
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard	2008 78	85	93	
<b>Writing</b>	Average score for School:	386	438	534	
	Average score for QLD:	391.8	468.9	522.7	555.3
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard	2008 84	82	93	
<b>Spelling</b>	Average score for School:	350	445	514	
	Average score for QLD:	366.7	462	528	567.8
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard	2008 84	82	83	
<b>Grammar and Punctuation</b>	Average score for School:	316	474	523	
	Average score for QLD:	370.4	476.6	518	563.2
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard	2008 78	91	86	
<b>Numeracy</b>	Average score for School:	336	443	529	
	Average score for QLD:	367.9	458.2	539	570.7
	Percentage of school students at or above the National Minimum Standard	2008 78	88	93	