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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Welcome to the Urangan Point State School 2008 Annual Report. Urangan Point State School is a Band 7 school located at the tourism and fishing end of Hervey Bay. Urangan Point is a primary school providing a quality education for all students from prep through to year 7. Our school serves a diverse community made up of families who have made educational choices to transport their children to the school, families who own or rent houses in the area and families who live in caravan parks. While the majority of students come from the local area, we have children who travel from Booral, River Heads, Point Vernon, Pialba and Torquay. At Urangan Point State School we:

- actively encourage our children to strive to be active citizens in a learning community
- aim to provide quality education in a safe, tolerant and disciplined environment, where everyone is encouraged to take responsibility for their own behaviour.
- prepare our students for an active role in their democratic society. There is a strong focus on high expectations, equity, inclusiveness and the building of social capital.

Future outlook

Our focus at Urangan Point is to continue to develop all students' academic and social skills and to keep working towards the improvement of all student's Literacy and Numeracy outcomes. In 2009 the emphasis will continue to be on the implementation of the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework. The integration of ICT's across all Key Learning Areas will continue to receive a high priority.

At Urangan Point, the provision of a caring, positive and supportive environment in which adults and children continue to work together in a climate of mutual respect is a high priority.

The school will undertake a Triennial School Review during 2009. Information gathered from parents, staff and students during this process will be used to inform future school decisions and strategic planning.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Urangan Point State School opened in 1916. It has in the past and continues to have strong links to the fishing industry of Hervey Bay.

Total student enrolments for this school during 2008 were 263.

Year levels offered at Urangan Point are Prep to Year 7.

Urangan Point State School is a Co-educational campus.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings include:

- LOTE – Chinese
- Year 4 – 7 Interschool Sport
- Lunch Time activities – sport, skipping, dance, games, drawing
- Instrumental Music
- Chaplaincy Service
- Prep to Year 5 Learn to Swim
- Year 6 and 7 Recreational Swimming
- Indigenous Education Programs – Male and Female Mentoring
- Year 6 and 7 Robotics Programs

Extra curricula activities

- Choir
- ANZAC and Remembrance Day Celebrations
- Arts Council
- School Discos
- Under 8's Day
- Rewards Days
- Instrumental Music – Strings and Orchestra
- Student Council
- Healthy Lives, Deadly Gundhus after school program
- Afterschool Soccer
- School Camps and Excursions
- Urangan Idol
- Seafood Festival

How computers are used to assist learning:

Internet connected computers are used in all classrooms. Teachers use computers and other equipment such as digital cameras, videos and microscopes to plan, teach and assess and report. Students use computers and associated equipment to research, organize, present, communicate, practice and acquire new knowledge.

All teachers received a laptop in 2008 under the Computers for Teachers Program. The majority of staff have participated in professional development opportunities to enhance their computer knowledge to make better use of the resources available to them.

In 2009, in conjunction with the P and C Association, a computer lab will be established at the school to enhance the teaching and learning process. Each Classroom has at least 4 computers and the school library has 10 computers and an interactive whiteboard. A further 3 Interactive Whiteboards are to be installed in 2009.

Our school at a glance

Social climate

A whole-school supportive environment monitored by the Principal and the Support Teacher Learning Difficulties through a special needs team, supports children's social, emotional and academic needs.

The team includes – Principal, Support Teacher Learning Difficulties, Guidance Officer, Classroom teachers, AVT and Special Education Teachers, Behaviour Management Staff, School Chaplain, Indigenous Education Officers and teacher aides. This group works in liaison with other agencies where necessary.

In 2008 the following responses were received from the School Opinion Surveys:

- 95% of parents and 97% of students were satisfied that this was a good school.
- 73% of parents and 98% of students were satisfied with the behaviour at this school.
- 95% of parents and 96% of students were satisfied with safety at school
- 89% of parents and 96% of students were satisfied that students are treated fairly at this school.
- 86% of parents and 98% of students were satisfied that students were happy to go to this school
- 94% of parents and 98% of students were satisfied with the learning opportunities/activities provided for students
- 89% of parents were satisfied that staff are approachable to talk about their child
- 89% of parents were satisfied that the school makes them feel welcome
- 92% of parents were satisfied with the opportunity to participate in the life of the school

As a school community we have invested time into forming strong community relationships. Our parent community is aware of school decisions, can discuss future directions and have an input into the teaching and learning process. Our children can then develop skills for life long learning to enable them to contribute to society as a whole.

Involving parents in their child's education.

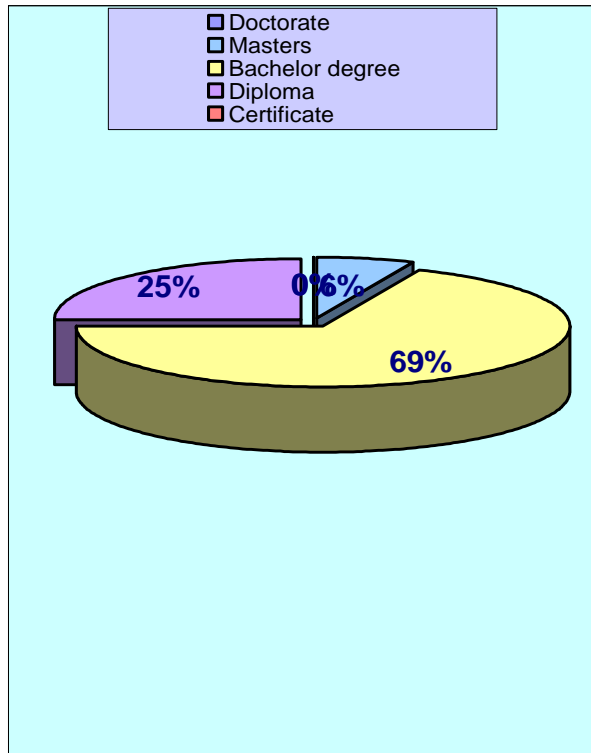
Parents and other community members are encouraged to become involved at Urangan Point by:

- Embracing the schools Open Door Policy—parents are always welcome
- Active P&C including a Parent Helper Group
- Volunteer work in the school tuckshop
- Class meetings at the beginning of each school year
- Parent training opportunities:
- Involvement in Literacy Blocks and morning reading activities
- Support in library resourcing.
- Invitations to classroom activities such as culminating activities at the end of units,
- Yr 7 Graduation
- Excursions
- Track and Field and Swimming Carnivals
- Student Assemblies.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	1
Bachelor degree	11
Diploma	4
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$15 201 .
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - ICT – Computers 4 Teachers
 - QCAR Framework
 - Blueprints Assessment Process
 - P -3 and Teacher Aide Literacy Training
 - First Steps in Maths
 - Smart Classroom Activities
 - One School
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities in 2008 was 71 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 93 % of staff was 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 93 %.

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, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	338	428	483	
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	86 %	80 %	88 %
Writing	Average score for the school	396	423	464	
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	93 %	82 %	85 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	358	431	489	
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	83 %	73 %	85 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	330	447	468	
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	93 %	80 %	88 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	359	439	498	
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	75 %	86 %	92 %

Performance of our students

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	63%
Writing	70%
Number	74%

Value added

In 2008 after analysing school data from the year 3, 5 and 7 tests, the school's key focus was on improving the literacy aspect of numeracy. Two teachers were employed part time to initially provide support for students in years 2, 3, 5 and 7. Year 2 Net Data indicates an increase from 53.8% to 62.8% of students who did not require additional support. No similar comparison can be made for year 3, 5 or 7 at this stage.

The introduction of Male and Female Mentoring programs for indigenous students received great support from staff, students and parents.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The 2008 School Opinion Surveys for both parents and students demonstrate that they are satisfied with the school in all performance areas with Learning Climate and School Community Relations remaining pleasingly high for parents and Students Outcomes and Learning Climate approaching the very satisfied level.

Staff satisfaction with Physical Work Environment, Relationships, School Operations, Morale, Work roles, Work value and Recognition and Support Resources and Training were well above state means. This indicates a happy, committed and innovative workforce dedicated to provided quality teaching and learning for their students.