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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This report describes a snapshot of our progress and outcomes for the 2008 school year. This year Glenwood had a record enrolment of 13 prep students begin their primary schooling at Glenwood State School. Our increased Prep enrolments saw our student numbers swell to 84. This ensured that our staff increased to an extra teacher, which enabled us to make smaller classes and group fewer year levels.

Our P&C made positive links with the community, working closely with the Glenwood Progress Association, Glenwood Lions, Tiaro RSL, Gootchie CWA and other community members. They also secured a grant as follows:

- \$30,000 for a shade structure to be erected over our new playground

Finally, our reputation and standing in the community increased as committed staff worked closely with students and parents to make our school a great school. I would like to thank all those involved with our school, especially our staff, for their continued dedication to our students this year – we are smart and strong.

Future outlook

At Glenwood State School we gather data for the purpose of school improvement and accountability. We use the data to inform our teaching and learning, and to respond to identified needs. Data contained in this report has led us to identify strategies to facilitate improvement in the coming year in the areas of:

- Year 2 Net/Early Literacy – implementation of a screening program to identify skills students bring to school and areas for development; exploration of Oral Language programs.
- Year 7 Numeracy – students found the test for this aspect quite difficult. We will be preparing for the test more intensely; ensuring students can read and comprehend the types of tasks presented in the test. In terms of teaching, we will closely monitor relating what is learned to real world situations.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Glenwood State School is situated on the Bruce Highway, roughly half way between Gympie and Maryborough. We enjoy the privilege of being a small school even with our increased enrolments. Total student enrolments for our school in 2006 were 81 students in years Prep – 7. In 2008 we currently have an enrolment of 74 students in years Prep – 7. Our staffing allocation allows us to currently have four multi-age classes, those being Prep/1, years 2/3, years 4/5 and years 6/7. Our demographics show a mix of family structures. Our socio-economic profile is also diverse, although we have a high concentration of students from low socio-economic backgrounds. Our students have a range of life experiences and histories. There are few students whose families are traditionally local, most having come to Glenwood from other areas of Queensland and interstate communities. There has been considerable growth in the population of Glenwood in recent times.

Our motto is “Grow with Strength”. We are committed as a community to being SMART and STRONG in all aspects of life, particularly valuing:

Skills for knowing how to learn and fostering a love of learning

Being able to read, interpret and understand in both literacy and numeracy

Building adaptability and courage through providing challenge and meeting change with confidence in self

Becoming problem solvers

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- German as our Language Other Than English
- Choir, which participates in Choral Fanfare and Eisteddfod.
- Multi-Skills Program – once a week, mixed age groups engage in activities including cooking, gardening, games, sport, charity projects.... whatever we can source from the local community and staff
- Student Leadership Program from years 4 – 7
- Responsible Behaviour through Restitution – explicitly teaching actions and consequences
- Opportunities to mix with students from other small and larger schools
- Year 7/8 transition program, in conjunction with local Gympie high schools

After School Sport – offered on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons until 5pm at no cost

Our school at a glance

Extra curricula activities

Day excursions for years Prep/1 and 2/3

- Overnight camps for years 4/5 and 6/7
- Participation in the Broncos Rugby League Challenge and interschool Netball competitions

How computers are used to assist learning

We have reequipped our computer facilities over the last three years. We now have up to date computers, with internet access, in all classrooms with a view to expanding to the Resource Centre in the near future. Students access computers for a variety of reasons. They use games that consolidate learning, digital objects to challenge their learning, and other software to publish work and produce digital portfolios. We have acquired an Interactive Whiteboard that we are currently trialing in classrooms. Students also access our digital cameras to record memories and then create photo albums and so on. We are also experimenting with Digital Animation, and budgeting to procure a range of technologies other than computers to enhance these and other learnings.

Social climate

At Glenwood State School we strive to build and maintain a positive social climate. We have in recent years built our reputation on this. We are often complimented by visitors and parents on the happy, settled and positive atmosphere of our school. This change can also be attributed to the implementation of our Responsible Behaviour Plan for students, which demands restitution for mistakes and does not tolerate bullying or physical conflict. Where we have had to deal with these issues, feedback has been positive. We are known for 'doing something about it' (ie bullying) and working closely with families to establish support teams for students. Our students are happy to come to our school and feel safe. They also tell us that they are treated fairly, in both praise and consequences. Parents communicate freely with us to keep our students' discipline and behaviour on track. We welcome continuous improvement.

Involving parents in their child's education.

We see community and parent links as being paramount to the school and students' success. We welcome parent involvement in all aspects of school life. We have an active P&C who work both for and with the students. Parents are encouraged at all year levels to be classroom helpers. Our Multi-Skills program draws on the skills and abilities of our parents, inviting them to be involved in teaching our students. These activities have included gardening, quilt making, candle making and sport. We also have parents involved in our After School Sport program as providers, teaching our students active

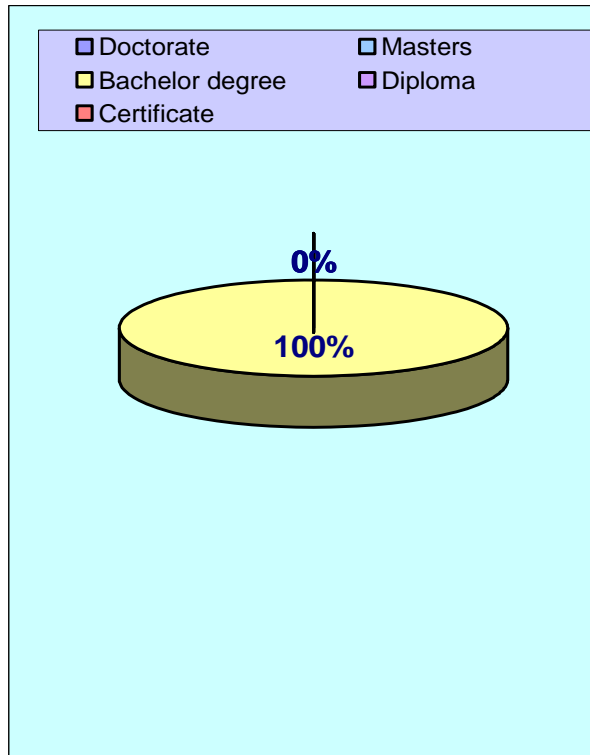
Our school at a glance

skills such as archery, soccer, netball and games. We realise not all parents can be involved at the school site, due to various other commitments. These parents show involvement through supporting special days including sports day, celebration days, open room days and so on. They also support their children in completing homework and budgeting for them to participate in user pays events. We do our best to keep parents informed and involved in what goes on in classrooms. Each week we publish in our newsletter highlights from each class and describe the new learning that has taken place. We also offer interviews and written reports twice a year. In addition, staff are available at any time of the year to discuss student progress and participation in learning.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	
Masters	
Bachelor degree	3
Diploma	
Certificate	



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$ 4985.23
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows: Year 2 NET, Prep-Year 3 Literacy Training, Interactive Whiteboard training, Investigations Training, First Aid Training, Workplace Health and Safety Training, Rehabilitation Training.
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 67 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 94% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 79 % of staff were 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 94 %.

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
Reading	Average score for the school		283	398	524
	Average score for Queensland		371.1	466.1	528.1
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	55%	75%	87%
Writing	Average score for the school		315	401	503
	Average score for Queensland		391.8	468.9	522.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	80%	64%	86%
Spelling	Average score for the school		297	439	499
	Average score for Queensland		366.7	462.0	528.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	70%	82%	86%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school		300	468	498
	Average score for Queensland		370.4	476.6	518.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	60%	91%	93%
Numeracy	Average score for the school		330	419	519
	Average score for Queensland		367.9	458.2	539.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	82%	75 %	100%

Performance of our students

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	20%
Writing	100%
Number	60%

Value added
<p>Student Responsibility Establishment of a behaviour management approach based on restitution and real world consequences Focusing of behaviour on student choices and student responsibility Continuation of student leadership program and inclusion of years 3 – 7 Student fundraising projects initiated Established tradition of the Big Day Out at end of year, utilizing student fundraising and school monies to give everyone a treat as a reward for good behaviour</p> <p>Self and Health Education Increased students participating in the Active After School Communities Program Great results and representation at Cross Country and District Athletics Participation in the Broncos Challenge Participation in interschool Netball Establishment of our vegie garden with community support Establishment of new daily routine – 10 minutes walk, run or jog every day, whole school</p> <p>Curriculum and Assessment Establishment of our school reading program and levels Purchase of new resources to enable hands on teaching and learning in mathematics Continue tracking and data gathering to note trends Information, Communication and Technology The establishment of our Web Site The purchase of new computers Computer resource upgrades, staff ICT professional development and computers for every year level</p> <p>School and community projects Commenced beautification of grounds, planting of gardens Continued to strengthen links with Community Groups</p>

Performance of our students

Second annual Spring Fair

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

According to School Opinion Surveys, satisfaction relative to State mean for Glenwood State School was:

PARENT SATISFACTION was in line with State Means and like schools targets.

STAFF SATISFACTION was well above State Means and like schools targets.

STUDENT SATISFACTION was also well above State Means and significantly higher than like schools targets. All of these areas have shown consistent growth in the past couple of years. There has been a trend of more confidence in the school and more awareness of the school in the community. Questions included in the surveys describe satisfaction with quality of education, access to learning opportunities, staff morale, and whether people think this is a good school. We are very proud of our improved results across all groups, particularly a dramatic increase in student satisfaction.