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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Our Location: Ravenswood State School is a co-educational school located in the town of Ravenswood, which is situated 135 kilometres south-west of Townsville. Ravenswood State School is the sole educational facility in the region and services mining and agricultural families in the surrounding area.

Our History: The school has served the community since opening on the 27th October 1873. The original school building and many other buildings in town are remnants of a boomtown created with the discovery of gold in 1869.

Our Purpose: At Ravenswood State School, we strive to improve the learning outcomes of the children by preparing them to become lifelong learners who are responsible, active and reflective citizens. We are committed to the principles of Effective Teaching and Learning and Productive Pedagogies while valuing community involvement as an essential factor in maximising student's learning outcomes.

The following School Annual Report outlines the key features of our educational program and our progress towards our goals for 2008

Future outlook

Significant priorities for Ravenswood State School in 2008 are:

We intend using our newly established computer centre and virtual classroom to enhance the curriculum. We have a 1:1 ratio of computers to students in our school so every student has the opportunity to engage in the smart classroom vision for Queensland schools. By integrating the work in the classroom and the virtual classroom we intend developing and implementing a school wide curriculum plan incorporating the essential learnings framework. This will help to reflect upon teaching strategies and develop an engaging curriculum to ensure the highest possible outcomes for all students in the key areas of literacy and numeracy. We will be maximising the potential of teaching and support staff by providing professional development relevant to improving student outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

We intend applying for funds and support under the active after schools program and PCAP to improve the activity and health of our students and to resource provisions and facilities. There will be a school wide focus on all aspects of health and well being and we will provide engaging activities for the students.

Preparing for potential prep students in 2009 by purchasing resources, developing curriculum, skilling staff and working collaboratively with the local playgroup association
Working collaboratively with other small schools and PCAP to minimise the impact of geographic location on learning.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Ravenswood State School is a co-educational facility offering a quality education for all primary aged students from prep to year seven. Ravenswood is the sole educational facility in the area and attracts students living in the town and from surrounding properties. The school community predominately consists of families associated with mining or grazing.

The number of students attending Ravenswood State School fluctuates as a direct result of the employment opportunities available in the town. The town has a transient population which can affect the enrolments at the school. According to the July census there were 20 students attending Ravenswood State School in 2007

Curriculum offerings

At Ravenswood State School our distinctive curriculum offerings are:

Languages other than English (LOTE) – Japanese which is access via teleconference through Charters Towers School of Distance Education and supported by a teacher aide.

Music and Religious Education funded by Priority Country Area Program (PCAP)

Spelling strategies focused on the sound – letter relationship including THRASS and Jolly Phonics.

Intervention programs (one on one time) to assist students in all aspects of literacy and numeracy.

Extra curricula activities

- Our students enjoy professional swimming coaching in Term one and term four.
- We have established an active after school program that includes tennis, touch football, netball and swimming.
- We attend four arts council performances a year.
- We have PCAP funding for gymnastics lesson and dancing lessons.
- We attended the science train and lab on legs.
- We attended the circus and drama productions at Townsville Civic Theatre.

How computers are used to assist learning.

Computers at Ravenswood State School form an integral part of the curriculum. The school currently possess a very strong computer to student ratio as there are 20 students and 20 new computers. Access to Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is incorporated in all aspects of the curriculum. At Ravenswood State School we believe it is essential all students develop the skills necessary to be effective and critical users of technology. Students use computers to develop typing skills, reading and comprehension skills, research skills, publishing skills and a knowledge of word processing, web page design, spread sheets and data bases. Computers at Ravenswood ensure students overcome the barrier of distance and technology provides students with the ability to visit locations and contact people in a virtual context.

Social climate

Ravenswood State School has a warm and friendly climate. The students and staff are able to develop strong and meaningful relationships. The staff at Ravenswood State School has worked hard to improve the standards of behaviour, through the development of Ravenswood State School's Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

In 2007, School Opinion Survey data shows parent opinion on School Climate, Student Outcomes and School-Community Relations is similar to parent opinion on these issues at both State and Like Schools. The data indicates that most students feel happy and safe at school.



Involving parents in their child's education.

At Ravenswood State School parents are encouraged to be active participants in their child's education. At Ravenswood State School we value community involvement as an essential factor in maximising student's learning outcomes. Parent's involvement in the child's education includes;

Participation in the Parents and Citizens association

Volunteering to assist with learning activities and excursions

Assisting with the End of Year Concert and Halloween Ball performances

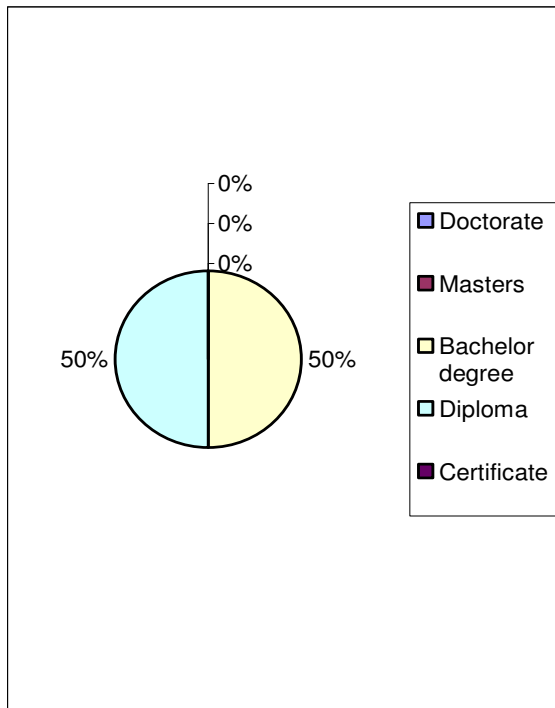
Information evenings Parent – Teacher meetings.



Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers

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



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was \$890 . The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Jolly Phonics
 - Jolly Grammar
 - Year 2 Net and Prep in-service. Year 2 Net Moderation
 - Financial training.
 - PCAP Training
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was 100 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 100% in 2007.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2006 school year, 100 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2007 school year.

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2007 was 100 %.

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	100%
Writing	100%
Number	100%

Our reading, writing and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests

		Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	
Reading	Average score for the school	DW	DW	DW	
	Average score for Queensland	527	606	672	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	DW %	DW %	DW %
		2006	DW %	DW %	DW %
Writing	Average score for the school	DW	DW	DW	
	Average score for Queensland	523	600	681	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	DW %	DW %	DW %
		2006	DW %	DW %	DW %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	DW	DW	DW	
	Average score for Queensland	521	588	648	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	DW %	DW %	DW %
		2006	DW %	DW %	DW %

DW: Data withheld for confidentiality reasons. Students undergoing national assessment performed well in literacy but less well in numeracy.

Other Key Outcomes

Value added

At Ravenswood State School we strive to improve the learning outcomes of all students. The school has implemented a number of programs designed to help all students achieve to their potential. The programs included; an intervention program where students access additional one on one support in all aspects of literacy and numeracy and teaching strategies that focus on explicit teaching of reading, writing and spelling skills.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parent Satisfaction

2007 School Opinion Survey data shows parent satisfaction with Student Outcomes, Learning Climate, School Climate and School-Community Relations are similar to the state average for parent satisfaction in these areas. The data indicates 88% of parents thought that the students were getting a good education from the school.

Student Satisfaction

2007 School Opinion Survey data shows overall student satisfaction was not measurably different to the state average.

Staff Satisfaction

2007 School Opinion Survey data shows staff responses for satisfaction with Physical Work Environment, Relationships, School Operations, Staff Morale and Work Value and Recognition were 100%.

