Principal’s foreword

Introduction

‘Striving for Excellence’

This report provides a snapshot of our 2011 school performance; and in particular our social climate and goals. Orion State School is committed to the delivery of not only stimulating and intellectual curriculum, but also a culture of pride and ‘being the best that we can be’. We are a high performing State School where students and families are very proud to be part of the culture of success.

As an organization we have commitment to:

- Aligning School English, Mathematics and Science Curriculum with National Curriculum
- Development of a quality early years program
- Development of individual goals and target setting for each individual student
- Embedding school reading program

In this small, rural school, classroom teachers place a high priority on identifying and addressing the learning needs of individual students. Teachers closely monitor the progress of individual students, identify learning difficulties and tailor classroom activities to meet the student’s readiness and needs.

Throughout 2011 our educational campus was upgraded as a result of the BER Program. Orion State School benefitted from the construction of a new classroom facility. This new facility provides learners with an excellent environment to learn.

As you read through this report, you will develop a clearer picture of the vision and dynamics of Orion State School. The report can be obtained on the school website and in hard copy from the school office.

School progress towards its goals in 2011

In 2011 the staff and students worked hard to achieve our goals as outlined in the School Operational Plan.

Whole School Curriculum plans have been updated to align with National Curriculum. Staff, have engaged in professional development to ensure clear understanding and engagement with this new educational direction. Timetables have been aligned to meet subject requirement.

P&C and PCAP supported our school in the purchase of a reading scheme for the early years, learners. The reading scheme has provided the learners with a resource that supports them develop as confident and fluent readers.

P&C and PCAP also supported our students in a school camp to the Capricorn Coast. This, support provided students with the opportunity to experience and study the coastal environment which is very different from the rural setting of Orion.

ICT’s at Orion State School has taken a leap forward with the purchase of subscriptions for each child in Reading Eggs and Mathletics, technology upgrades with the purchase of laptops for the classroom. The aim is to have a laptop for every student.

The school office has been relocated and refurbished. This provides an administration area that is welcoming and a nice place to be. The school library has also been refurbished and provides a welcoming learning centre.

The main classroom has been relocated to the new BER building. The new learning area is bright, modern and an excellent learning area.
Future outlook

Alignment of Whole School Curriculum Plans with National Curriculum.
To implement National Curriculum in multi age setting and purchase required resources.
Teachers to attend training in delivery of National Curriculum in Mathematics, English and Science.
Teacher Aide to receive professional development in C2C content and assessment.
Assessment of students learning in reading, sight words, spelling and mathematics commencing term 1 and ongoing.
Use assessment data to influence teaching priorities and gaps in students learning and implement intervention.
Imbed Orion State School reading program

Purchase interactive LCD to enhance delivery of curriculum

Reinforce the understanding that Orion SS has an open door policy and the community and parents are welcome at all times.
Monthly Newsletter to be increased to fortnightly.

RAFS (Remote Area Family Services) playgroup to meet at Orion State School or Community Hall three times a year.
Provide opportunities for students to interact with peers through camps, networking with like schools and participating in special days in Springsure and Rolleston.

Development of a School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP).
Increased budget to maintain standards of school grounds.
Our school at a glance

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>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Characteristics of the student body:

In 2011 the enrolment continuity from February to November 2011 was 88%, with one family leaving the district at the end of the year. All students reside in rural residences with half the students belonging to families who own properties, while the other half have parents who work on local properties. No indigenous students were enrolled in our school in 2011. The boy, girl ratio is not even with 3 girls and 6 boys.

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>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 – Year 10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 – Year 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Classes</td>
<td>6.7</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>
Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

In 2011 Orion State School had an array of curriculum offerings to support the many needs of students.
- District/Regional Sports
- PCAP Arts Cluster Days
- Opportunity to participate in curriculum enhancing camps including ICPA sports camp, Ekka Show camp and Technology boot camp
- Swimming lessons in term 1 and 4
- Online interactive learning
- Student Council
- Year 4 to 7 students participate in LOTE (Japanese) via teleconference and virtual classroom.

All students are offered a great deal of support from staff due to small class size.

Extra curricula activities

In term 2 and 3, all Orion State School students participated in tennis lessons with a professional tennis coach, this was funded through PCAP. In 2011 Orion State School travelled to other schools in the district frequently to participate in arts, sport and integrated unit culminating days. On these visits students engaged with peers from other schools.

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning at Orion State School on a regular basis. The principal holds and ICT pedagogical certificate.

Students interact with a range of ICT tolls such as cameras, scanners, computers. Students have a 1:1 ratio to computers. Students utilize computers regularly for a variety of learning experiences ranging from Microsoft Office programs to the learning enhancement and consolidation programs such as Mathletics and Reading Eggs.

Social climate

Orion State School is an extremely friendly, family orientated environment that takes pride in involving the students, parents and community in its events throughout the year. Orion State School is able to access specialist teachers such as guidance officers and specialised staff such as speech and occupational therapists. Although the school is a small population, it prides itself on cluster school involvement.

Orion State School has a zero tolerance to bullying, including cyber bullying and this is clear in our Responsible Behaviour Plan. We acknowledge students, staff and parents have responsibilities in regards to being part of the school community.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

In 2011 our parent opinion survey data indicated strong support of the school through high satisfaction rating on key aspects including 86% of parents feel that their child is getting a good education at this school
88% of parents feel that this is a good school
The aim is to raise this satisfaction level to 100% in 2012.

During 2011 the Orion Community and school were affected by extreme wet weather events. This impacted on our grounds, school access and student ability to attend school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance measure</th>
<th>Result 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school</td>
<td>DW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied with their child’s school</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DW – Data withheld
Our school at a glance

Involving parents in their child’s education
Orion State School has implemented a range of strategies to ensure that our parents as well as the wider community are well informed and involved in the education of their children.

Some strategies include:
- Goal setting for students including discussions with parents and students
- Publications and display of current work and expectations in classroom
- Fortnightly newsletter
- Annual Springsure show display
- End of year awards night
- Semester reporting and parent interviews
- Semester student portfolios
- Regular communication or phone calls with all parents
- Monthly P&C meetings
- Open door policy

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

As depicted by the table below, Orion State School made an effort to reduce our environmental footprint in 2011 with the use of rainwater tanks and the use of solar panels. Students have also been well educated about strategies such as opening the windows for air circulation and turning computers off at the end of the day to reduce electricity use.

Environmental footprint indicators, 2010-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Electricity</th>
<th>Water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KwH</td>
<td>KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>7,315</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>12,190</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% change 10 - 11</td>
<td>-40%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Our staff profile**

**Staff composition, including Indigenous staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching Staff</th>
<th>Indigenous Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</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>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor degree</td>
<td>0</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 $3748.64.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows: National Curriculum and C2C implementation in the classroom.

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 97% 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.
Our staff profile

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 91%. 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</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></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Attendance Distribution
The proportions of students by attendance range.

![Attendance Distribution Graph]

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.

Orion State School is notified of student absences on or prior to the event through a face-to-face meeting, telephone call or handwritten note. Unexplained absences are always followed up through a telephone call from the principal. The roll is marked every morning at 9am and again at the end of the day.
Performance of our students

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.

In all areas, the children at Orion State School achieve at least National Minimum Standard on the 2011 NAPLAN tests. The overall improvement of children at this school is greater than that identified as the national mean improvement in almost all areas.

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.

Find a school

Search by school name

GO

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector

Government

Non-government

SEARCH

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

No indigenous student were in attendance at Orion State School in 2011.