ST ELIZABETH'S, TARRAGINDI

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Matt Edwards - Principal

Principal's Foreword

Introduction

St Elizabeth's Primary School is located 8km south of the Brisbane CBD and was opened by the Presentation Sisters in 1958. The school is recognised within the community for offering a high quality Catholic primary school education. As the school has grown and changed it has continued to build on the traditions established by the Presentation Sisters. Their spirit of justice and love for all still permeates the school community and is strengthened by the traditions established by the parents and teaching staff over the past five decades. There is a high percentage of Catholics in the school. The school currently has an enrolment of 372 with two streams throughout with the exception of Year Five and Six this year. The school is well resourced, particularly in regard to technology. All classrooms are air-conditioned and Phonic Ear Sound Systems are placed in each classroom, assisting auditory processing. Our Year Four students are currently involved in a 1-1 laptop program trial. There is an active parent body and the school is proud of the strong sense of community spirit. The school's Buddies program, Leadership program and camping program play an important role in the life of the school. Our additional specialist lessons in Visual Art, Physical Education, French, Music and Drama add to the holistic education which we value greatly as a school.

School Profile

ST ELIZABETH'S is a Catholic school administered through Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Brisbane.

Coeducational ✓ or Single Sex □

Year levels offered: Primary ✓ Secondary □ P-12 □

Total student enrolments for this school 372

Total Enrolment 372 Girls 193 Boys 179
Characteristics of the student body

The vast majority of students reside in the Annerley-Ekibin Parish. There is a waiting list to enter the Prep Year at St Elizabeth’s. Students are generally well-behaved. The teamwork approach between home and school produces good outcomes for our students. There are a small number of students with additional, verified learning needs, however all students’ needs are taken into account. Most students at St Elizabeth’s have an Australian heritage and come from a mid to high socio-economic background.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

At St Elizabeth’s, a diverse range of programs and activities are offered as part of our curriculum including:
* Specific identified programs and structures for students who require assistance to meet year level expectations, as well as extension programs for students who require this.
* Social Emotional Programs.
* Years Five to Seven participate in inter-school sports in the Mt Gravatt District Sport Association competition. Students in Years Three to Seven also participate in other sports carnivals against other students from schools without our District and Zone.
* Choir is offered for Year Three to Seven.
* A camping program for students in Years Five, Six and Seven.
* A Peer Mediation Program for students in Years Six and Seven.
* A Leadership Program for Years 7
* A highly valued Buddies Program designed to strengthen pastoral care for students.
* Specialised Visual Arts, French, Physical Education and Music programs.

The school also supports Micah Projects in assisting the homeless people in Brisbane by creating Basics Bags (snaplock bags containing toiletry items). This project is coordinated by Year 7 students but is a ‘whole-school’ project that extends to the wider community.
Extra curricula activities

* Band
* School Aerobics - Competitive teams who have performed at National Competitions.
* Speech and Drama
* Instrumental music
* Guitar
* Chess
* Sports Training - Run by the P&F Sports Committee (A very keen group of parents).

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

ICT has become a far greater focus. We have moved away from a computer lab model of ICT integration to a more ubiquitous model which sees technology as a tool for learning to accessed as required. All students have access to digital devices. Currently each year level has its own designated set of devices, which comprises as a minimum of a full class set allocated per year level. In the case of our Year Four students, they are now working within a 1-1 laptop environment which sees each child taking responsibility for their own device, and then using this as an effective tool for education. This program will be expanded to include Year Four to Six in future years.

All classrooms have an interactive data projector and it is an expectation that these are used to enhance learning for students.

Technology is used to enhance the learning experience in a manner which reflects the way in which technology is used effectively and appropriately in society.

Social climate inclusive of pastoral care and our response to bullying

Our school-wide behaviour plan is called Positive Behaviour For Learning. This is a proactive school-wide system of support for defining, teaching and promoting appropriate student behaviours to create positive learning environments. A significant part of this is the teaching of behaviours which proactively address bullying. In the event that bullying occurs, this is dealt with immediately, and an appropriate resolution identified which promotes restored justice and relationships.

Our Buddies Program continues to provide an excellent form of pastoral care in the school for students. Likewise our camping and leadership programs work to foster a positive social climate in the school. Parent Class Coordinators play an important role in enhancing this climate as well.

Our online newsletter includes a calendar of events and activities. The newsletter provides families with comprehensive information about events and activities, such as parent information sessions, assemblies, fete, religious celebrations and any other event happening within the school.
Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

All sources of feedback, both formal and informal, currently suggest that there is a high level of satisfaction from all areas regarding St Elizabeth’s. While this feedback is positive we still look for ways to improve as a school wherever possible.

Parent involvement in their child’s education

Ways in which parents are involved at St Elizabeth’s include:
* Classroom assistance,
* Sports training,
* Class Coordinators,
* Parents and Friends Association,
* Pastoral School Board,
* The School Fete,
* Various Sporting Events,
* Parent Information Evening and Subject Sessions,
* Parent - Teacher Dialogues
* Celebrations of Learning, VIP Day, Mothers’ Day events, Fathers’ Day Events, etc.

Staff Profile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workforce Composition</th>
<th>Teaching Staff</th>
<th>Non-teaching Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Headcounts</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full-time equivalents</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>8.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
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Qualifications of all teachers

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<tr>
<th>Highest level of attainment</th>
<th>Percentage of teachers and leaders at the school attaining this level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
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<td>Masters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelors Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diploma/Certificate</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure on and teacher participation in Professional Learning

The total funds expended on teacher professional learning in 2014 was $43,423.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:

* Peer Learning
* ICT
* Australian Curriculum
* Effective Teacher Planning
* Religious Education

**School Income 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 school 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.

**Average staff attendance rate**

The staff attendance rate was 96.06% in 2014.

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

From the end of the 2013 school year, 90.5% of staff were retained by the school for the 2014 year.

**Key Student Outcomes**

| Whole School Attendance Rate | 97 % |
| Prep Attendance Rate        | N/A  |
| Year 1 Attendance Rate      | 97 % |
| Year 2 Attendance Rate      | 97 % |
| Year 3 Attendance Rate      | 97 % |
| Year 4 Attendance Rate      | 97 % |
| Year 5 Attendance Rate      | 98 % |
| Year 6 Attendance Rate      | 98 % |
| Year 7 Attendance Rate      | 98 % |
Policy and practice to manage student attendance

As children enter class each morning, an on-line attendance record is taken by the class teacher. Children's attendance is also recorded later in the day.

Parents are requested to contact the school when children are absent and this is recorded. When children leave during the day, this is also documented. Late slips must be collected by students when they arrive late for school.

A student's attendance is recorded on our report card. Where a student's attendance rate is significantly lower than others, and absences are unexplained or questionable, a discussion with the student's parents occurs.

**Student Achievement – NAPLAN for Years 3, 5, 7**

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the relevant years are available via the My School website at http://www.myschool.edu.au/.

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