



PARKHURST STATE SCHOOL

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ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT 2007

Principal's Foreword

Parkhurst State School opened on June 11th 1900 with twenty seven children. It is located ten kilometres north of Rockhampton on the Bruce Highway on 3.5 hectares of land, featuring landscaped gardens designed to encourage natural bird and insect life. Primary school enrolments in 2007 were around 239 with steady increases expected as new homes are built in satellite estates to the north of the school. The school caters for children from Preparatory Year to Year Seven. Teaching staff includes the equivalent of eight fulltime classroom teachers, a Teacher Librarian/Head of Curriculum and a Preparatory Year Teacher. Visiting teachers in Health and Physical Education Classroom Music, Languages Other Than English (French) facilitate programs on a weekly basis. A Support Teacher Learning Difficulties is based at the school providing a service to students two days a week.

Future Outlook

- A **computer server** was installed in late 2007. This has significantly improved connectivity within the school computer infrastructure. We intend to develop use of this network to enhance the learning process for both staff and students.
- A dedicated **Bus Drop Off Area** for school busses and parents to access was constructed to ensure improved safety for pupils coming to and leaving the school was completed during Term two 2007. We plan to develop this area to include a shelter and covered walkway to protect students and staff during inclement weather.
- The proposed improvement and redevelopment of the current Assembly Area Development into a more purposeful complex including ...
 - An enhanced ramp area is to be built at the rear of the facility and a door to the back of the stage area is to be placed to allow easy access to the stage.
 - A shed to contain the sound system is to be erected at the rear of the assembly area.
- Plans are also underway to apply for a grant to build a second Shade Structure in front of E Block. This is intended to provide an eating area for children once the proposed tuckshop is established next to the staff room.

Our School At a Glance

School Profile

Parkhurst State School has a current enrolment of 195 pupils. This enrolment is made up of twenty five students from Prep and 170 students in Years One to Seven. All classes at Parkhurst are coeducational. Our students are drawn from a wide socioeconomic background. Two buses convey pupils from their homes in the northern estates daily.

Curriculum Offerings

Our Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

Key Learning Areas are supported by a number of innovations and distinctive curriculum offerings including ...

- Robotics ICT
- Environmental focus
- Contract based literacy and numeracy programs
- 'Make, Bake and Take' Program
- Construction and graphics for boys and girls
- Intervention and pre intervention support and enrichment programs for identified students
- Support Programs for indigenous students
- Learning support for students identifies as requiring additional support
- French for students in Years Six and Seven
- Super Duper Music Looper. Each student creates their own unique song by cutting and pasting "loops". Every class's group of songs is burnt to CD to take home. Parkhurst School won National competition for composition. The newly established Music Lab will extend this activity into the new year.
- Digital Pedagogies are a strong feature across all classrooms, including interactive whiteboards and data projectors in all classrooms

Extra Curricula Activities

We endeavour to provide a wide range of activities for all students to cater for individual and group development including ...

- Anzac Day March
- Choir
- Eisteddfod
- Sports Representatives
- Writers' group 'Scribbler's Club' conducted by Learning Support Teacher
- Interschool sporting opportunities across a variety of sports and codes
- Drama Club
- Instrumental Music
- Keyboard Tuition
- Guitar Tuition
- School camps for students in Years Six and Seven to enhance personal development and outdoor education
- Sports training for athletes before school

Extra Curricula Activities 'cont

- Environmental Education including maintaining the school's Butterfly garden and the propagation of pentas plants
- Cultural focused activities and excursions
- National Maths, Science and English competitions

How Computers are used to assist Learning

In late 2007 we invested significantly in ICT development and improved schoolwide ICT infrastructure. Every classroom had an interactive whiteboard and ceiling mounted data projector installed. Staff were participated in professional learning to use and navigate the accompanying software. Education Queensland's 'Computers for Teachers' initiative was established within the school, providing all classroom teachers with access to a dedicated laptop computer.

A purpose built Music Lab was also established in 2007 with an interactive white board and accompanying midi keyboards to promote musical composition by students within our school Music Program. This will be further developed throughout 2008. A new computer lab with an interactive white board was also established in E Block. Staff have displayed a commitment to work towards achieving their ICT Pedagogical Licences in 2008.

Staff and students have ready access to a wide range of information and communication technology hardware and software including ...

- Email and Internet access
- Project based web research
- Weekly class access to Computer and Music Laboratories
- Digital imaging and video capturing
- Online reporting using OneSchool portal
- Direct curriculum integration of a range of generic software applications scaffolded and sequenced across the school (eg; Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel, Word, Publisher)
- ICTs are an integrated expression tool within all teacher's curriculum planning

Social Climate

Parkhurst State School has long been recognised for its friendly, family atmosphere that provides ...

- Active inclusive practices to support/extends students requiring assistance
- An open celebration of student, staff and parent achievements Ongoing displays in Administration Foyer and other venues within community
- Student/Parent access to Guidance Personnel, including Behaviour Guidance Officer
- Staff access to Employee Adviser and a trained onsite Rehabilitation Officer
- Providing ongoing support for local, state, national and international charities and organisations, including our adopted orphanage in Zimbabwe
- Smaller school size allows all staff to get to know most students and have a thorough knowledge of their individual/special support needs
- Maintaining a positive, caring and supportive environment involving all stakeholders
- A strong focus on Virtues Education with new virtues introduced and reinforced on a fortnightly basis on parade for pupils

2007 School Survey Results Regarding School Climate

Item	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Behaviour	6.3%	28.1%	25 %	31.3%	9.4%
Discipline	9.4%	18.8%	28.1%	34.4%	9.4%
Pupil safety	3.1%	3.1%	34.4%	43.8%	15.6%
Fair Treatment	6.3%	12.5%	21.9%	31.3%	28.1%

Involving Parents and Carers in Their Child/ren's Education

- An active Parent and Citizen Committee
- An 'open door' policy promotes honest, two way communications and feedback
- School and Classroom Volunteer programs including Reading/Maths Groups, Art and Craft, Religious Education, Sports coaching, excursion and camp supervision
- Regular information dispersal via the school Newsletter, Website, parent/carer nights and interviews, school sign, focused parent forums on school and curriculum related topics, and the distribution of special information fliers
- Input sought into decision making processes, policy feedback
- 'Open door' policy to discuss concerns.
- Parent/Carer/Teacher Information Sessions at the start of the year
- Parent/Carer/Teacher face to face interviews regarding Report Cards twice a year
- Class Expos
- 'Communication Books' for Parents/Carers/Teachers as vehicle for improved communication between the school and home
- Support A Reader and Support A Number Information Sessions
- Parent/Carer skilling sessions to support their children in numeracy and literacy activities
- Weekly parade
- Annual presentation night
- P&C Association's Uniform Shop and Tuckshop
- Attendance at a range of annual sporting events
- Parent/Carer support with a range of Friday Afternoon

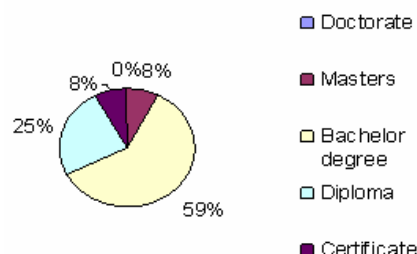
Our Staff Profile

Teacher Qualifications

- Parkhurst State School's Staff comprises a Principal, Head of Curriculum, Teacher Librarian, Health and Physical Education Specialist, Classroom Music Specialist, visiting Instrumental Music Teachers, LOTE Specialist Teacher (French), a Support Teacher Learning Difficulties, Year Two Diagnostic Net Key Teacher, Workplace Health and Safety Officer, rehabilitation Officer and fourteen classroom teachers.
- Staff regularly share their individual and collective expertise across a range of areas including Preparatory Year, Early Childhood Education, Literacy, Numeracy, Behaviour Management, Information and Communication Technologies, Technology, Productive Pedagogies, Assessment and Reporting, Professional Standards for Teachers, Science, Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Physical Education

- Teachers are actively involved in managing and coaching a range of Cluster and District Representative Sports, including Rugby League, Soccer, Netball and Touch Football
- Staff actively participate in a range of school based, cross campus, cluster and district based networks to enhance curriculum knowledge and pedagogy

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of classroom Teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	8
Bachelor degree	59
Diploma	25
Certificate	8



Expenditure on Teacher Participation in Professional Development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was **\$6000** which was 15.7% of our annual budget.

Major professional development initiatives included ...

- First Aid Qualification updates
- Prometheium software Training for Interactive Whiteboard use
- Pedagogical Licence and Pedagogical Certificate Training
- QCARF, including Essential Learnings

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was **67 %**.

Average Staff Attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was **95%** in 2007.

Proportion of Staff retained from the previous School Year

From the end of the 2006 school year, **78%** of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2007 school year.

Performance of Our Students

Student Attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2007 was **95%**

Key Outcomes in the Early and Middle Phases of Learning

2007 School Annual Report

State Schools Shaping the Smart State

Results in the Year Two Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	64%
Writing	92%
Number	80%

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

		Year 3	Year 5	Year 7
Reading	Average score for the school	500	579	647
	Average score for Queensland	527	606	647
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007 2006	97% 92%	62% 91%
Writing	Average score for the school	517	576	699
	Average score for Queensland	523	600	681
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007 2006	94% 87%	92% 94%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	519	557	643
	Average score for Queensland	521	588	648
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007 2006	97% 81%	63% 91%

Value Added

Parkhurst State School continues to address individual and student achievement and school wide performance by delivering a range of proactive pre and intervention programs designed to improve student literacy and numeracy outcomes. A review of individual student progression and achievement in Year Three, Five and Seven Tests for our most recent school leavers gives a clear indication of the 'value added' aspect of children passing through our school.

We are delighted to report that these individual reports show that in virtually all instances, our 2007 Year seven class members developed significantly, against the benchmarks for each of these year levels.

The recent development of the school's ICT infrastructure places Parkhurst as a leader in the use of information and communication technologies within the curriculum and use of relevant pedagogical practices.

Student Parent/Carer Staff Satisfaction with the School

The annual School Opinion Survey for 2007 produced the following results ...

- **87%** of students satisfied that they are getting a good education from school
- **63%** of parents/carers satisfied that they are getting a good education from school
- **56%** of school workforce satisfied with access to learning opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives
- **83%** of staff members satisfied with morale in the school