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Principal's foreword - Introduction

The intent of this School Annual Report is to provide parents and the community with information about Glamorgan Vale State School that is common to all State and Non-State Schools in Queensland. It provides an overview of the highlights, successes and challenges at Glamorgan Vale State School during 2008.

At Glamorgan Vale State School our aim is to provide a happy learning atmosphere which encourages the development of each child's full potential. We foster the social, ethical, and academic values of interdependence, achievement, cooperation, and respect for self and others within the school community. Our main priority in this learning/teaching journey is the development of excellent literacy and numeracy skills as major components in the development and pursuit of the Key Learning Areas. Our overarching aim is to cultivate a passion for learning in both staff and students in a safe supportive environment.

Future outlook

With the help of the P and C we are continually updating our resources to enhance the children's learning. We are continually upgrading our skills for integration of ICT in learning, We are including QCAR the new syllabus into our planning using the Essential Learnings and Ways of working.

The Professional Development Priorities for 2009 are: Literacy, Numeracy and ICT Pedagogy

School Profile

Glamorgan Vale State School is a co-educational primary school catering to children from Prep to year 7. The enrolment is quite stable with 65 children enrolled in 2008 and an anticipated enrolment of 55 for 2009. The children are taught in multi-age classes. This means they have the opportunity for academic and social leadership as they progress from class to class, and for progression in terms of ability. The children are enthusiastic, helpful, friendly, and display a deep pride in their school. The parent body expects their children to be active and informed citizens, capable of contributing to society; to achieve positive academic standards; and to enjoy resources, facilities and opportunities equal to other children in the education system.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- At Glamorgan Vale we have a whole of school phonics program using **THRASS**. This program assists visual learners by associating a picture with the sound.
- During 2008 we had **German** language and culture lessons for all students throughout the school.
- During 2008 we had trialled an **Arts specialist teacher** who works with all classes in Visual Arts, Media, Drama and Dance. With the excellent results we have achieved we have decided to continue into the future with this teacher who will work on each area on a two year rotation.
- The teachers **plan together** to ensure that there is a smooth transition from one phase of learning to another as well as between one class to another.
- We participate in **community events** such as the Marburg Show and CWA International Day that promote the academic ability of the school.

Extra curricula activities:

In addition to the general curriculum our students:

Student Leadership: Our student leaders, 2 school captains and 2 school prefects also lead the school council/project club. They are responsible for running the school assembly each week. They have a hand in organising activities in the school for the students.

Sport: Our students gather with others from similar schools in the cluster for sports days; Student in year 5 – 7 participate in interschool sports against schools in the cluster;

Excursions: The students participate in various excursions and camps to enhance our curriculum offering.

Individually and collectively the students participate in local shows, eisteddfods and shire events.

Glamorgan Vale State School also encourages community participation during Grandparents Day, ANZAC Day Observance Ceremonies and under 8s day.

How computers are used to assist learning.

At Glamorgan Vale State School computers are used in a variety of ways depending on the class. They are used to support both Mathematics and Literacy. The internet is used to help the children assess information to be used in research projects. Microsoft Office applications are used to support the children learning across the curriculum. In particular Microsoft Word which is used for publishing work. We have purchased and interactive whiteboard which is used in the Early Years Classroom to enhance their learning. The children in 5/6/7 buddy with the children in the Prep/1/2 class to share their ICT skills.

Our staff profile

Social climate

Glamorgan Vale is situated in the recently created Somerset Council. Glamorgan Vale is situated mid-way between Fernvale and Marburg. Originally the school serviced the Glamorgan Vale farming community, but of late many parents in the area have no links with the agricultural industry. The school's catchment area is quite large, drawing students from as far as Lowood and Fernvale. This means that families are geographically quite widespread. Despite this the school has an active Parents and Citizens Association that provides financial and organisational support.

Involving parents in their child's education.

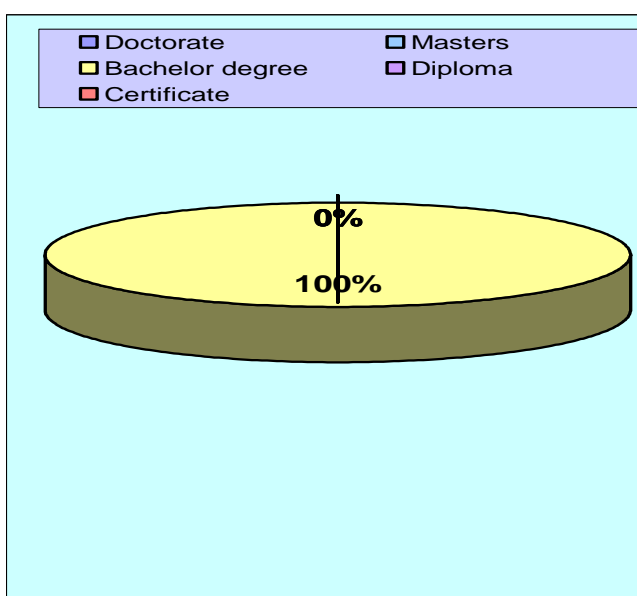
Weekly newsletters and regular contact with parents and the broader community maintain healthy and helpful partnerships. Parents are involved in their child's education through training and encouraging parent helpers in the classroom and ensuring all parents connect personally with their child's teacher at least once per semester.

Our parents assist with classroom activities, assisting teachers with delivery of programmes across the Key Learning Areas, particularly with our home reading programmes, art and craft group work and swimming lesson supervision. They are also available for extra curriculum events, as well as volunteering for the Tuckshop.

The P & C is extremely supportive and plays a significant part in realising the goals and aspirations of the school. The P & C raises a significant amount through an Annual Country Fair to support the school curriculum and facilities enhancements. They also provide support to school management and operation in setting strategic direction by reviewing, planning and monitoring the Annual Operations Plan and Budget, as well as major participation in the Triennial School Review.

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	100
Diploma	0
Certificate	0



Our staff profile

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$2613.
- The major professional development initiatives were: Literacy, QCAR, ICT.
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 100 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2006 school year, 76% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2007 school year.

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 92%.

Performance of our students

Key outcomes

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	50%
Writing	88%
Number	88%

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	302	392	545
	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	58%	57%
Writing	Average score for the school	345	344	505
	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	75%	40%
Spelling	Average score for the school	317	391	498
	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	92%	60%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	330	404	507
	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	83%	67%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	339	426	574
	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	92%	86%

Other Key Outcomes

Performance of our students

Value added

At Glamorgan Vale State School we have four core values in our school. They are consideration, honesty, responsibility and respect. The children are able to get a Glam Award when they have demonstrated these values throughout the day. At the end of the term, the students get award a Gold, Silver or Bronze Glam Award if they have reach certain level of Glam Awards.

Glamorgan Vale State School is part of the GOSSSTE cluster. This cluster consists of 7 other small school. We have been working closer together to provide the students with better access to a variety of activities. During 2008 we provided the students with sports skills in AFL and NRL. We conduct an interschool sports program during term 1 (T-Ball and Volleyball) and term 4 (Soccer and netball). During the year we conduct cross country, athletics and swimming carnivals for the children to compete against larger groups of students. It is our intent to expand what is offered to the students both sporting and academically.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

The parents of Glamorgan Vale State School are very supportive of the school. Significantly, our School-community relations rated highly with 94% of parents very satisfied or satisfied that the school makes them feel welcome and that they have the opportunity to participate in the life of the school. Similarly 94% of parents were very satisfied or satisfied with how the school is developing the student's computer technology skills.

The students of Glamorgan Vale Sate School are friendly, enthusiastic towards learning and enjoy participating in the variety of community based activities we join in with 88% of students were very satisfied or satisfied that they were doing the best that they could do in their school work and that 84% of the students were very satisfied or satisfied with the computer technology skills they had learnt. Support for the teachers was high with 92% of students indicating that they were very satisfied or satisfied with the interest the teachers takes in their learning and that

Glamorgan Vale State School has a very professional and hardworking staff. In many areas the staff survey responses were above the state average with 100% very satisfied or satisfied with various areas of the school. These included getting on well with the students and other staff, that there was a good team spirit and that this is a well organised place to work. They also felt that they got support within the school to do their job well and that they were well informed. The staff at Glamorgan Vale State School does a wonderful job everyday taking into consideration the individual needs of each child to help them achieve the best they can be and this was reflected in the survey with 100% very satisfied or satisfied that people let them know how well they are doing in their work.