


Thallon State School 2008 School Annual Report

<i>Living and Learning Together</i> 	PO address	15 Henry Street
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Principal's Foreword

Introduction

Thallon State School promotes life long learning for all community members as a vital role to enable enhancement of choices for future pathways. As a valuable part of Education Queensland we provide high quality education that assists all Queenslanders to love learning, develop judgment and a sense of responsibility, understand the past and prepare to embrace the future.

We equip young people for the future to enable them to contribute to a socially, economically and culturally vibrant society in line with DETA'S Vision: "A Clever Skilled and Creative Queensland". We are committed to Excellence; Inclusiveness; Participation; Safety and Accountability in all learning and development experiences we offer.

Future outlook for 2009

A 'Smart Start' for all students through Access to and Opportunities in effective teaching and learning practices by school community enabling all participants to engage in innovative and enriching learning experiences.

- ❖ Smart Students through increased Real Life Literacy and Numeracy focus with intervention and enrichment programs for students
- ❖ Smart Staff through specialised Support and Development
- ❖ Smart Schools through flexible, innovative and efficient practices in administration, student population management and curriculum delivery
- ❖ Smart Classrooms through enhanced Literacy and Numeracy learning experiences; flexible and cohesive Early Childhood Education Queensland Smart moves
- ❖ Focus on QCAR
- ❖ Focus on Early and Middle Phase of learning

Performance of our students

School Profile

Thallon State School is a small rural co-educational Primary School situated 80 kilometres South of St George. The students of Thallon State School come from varied socio-economic backgrounds and cultures. There are a small number of students that are of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander decent. We have a total enrolment of 49 students at the school.

Curriculum offerings

Our curriculum delivery and school operations align with the departmental, district and cluster initiatives which are developed through consultation with learning and social communities. Our distinctive curriculum offerings are:

Visiting Specialists – Physical Education, Music (classroom) and Instrumental Music

Learning Support for students is coordinated through collaboration between classroom teachers and itinerant specialist and support teachers through cluster workforce agreements

Extra Curricula Activities Include:

- ❖ PCAP run activities (cultural activities E.g. Raw Dance workshops)
- ❖ Thallon State School Small Schools Sports Camp
- ❖ Learn to Swim Classes (Term 1 and Term 4)
- ❖ Thallon hosted Balonne District Touch Trials
- ❖ Culminating Days at the end of each term
- ❖ School Chaplin Program

How computers are used to assist learning:

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs for Learning) have been a huge focus in our school this last year. This is our second year with an ICTs Teacher and Computer Lab. The ICTs Teacher runs sessions with each grade every week and this has greatly improved student's outcomes. The new computer lab also has a smart white board, scanner, digital camera and tablets to help improve student's ICTs skills across the school. Students also learn skills such as word processing, emailing, research on the internet and online chats with authors for Book Week and a War Veteran for ANZAC Day.

Performance of our students

Social climate

At Thallon State School, Students work closely with staff to ensure each individual's needs are taken in to account. Students, Staff and Parents are very supportive of each other and work together to maximise learning outcomes. At Thallon State School we subscribe to the following values:

- ❖ Professionalism in performance
- ❖ Innovation and Creativity
- ❖ Accountability
- ❖ Unity of Purpose
- ❖ Excellence in endeavour
- ❖ Respect for people
- ❖ Diversity and inclusiveness
- ❖ Environmental sustainability
- ❖ Integrity for in-service

We work to ensure that all students are supported, safe and are encouraged to achieve and succeed.

Involving parents in their child's education.

Thallon State School shares a long standing partnership with the townships of Thallon and Daymar, surrounding properties and border community Mungindi. We provide organised activities and opportunities for our parents to be involved in their child's learning. There involvement includes:

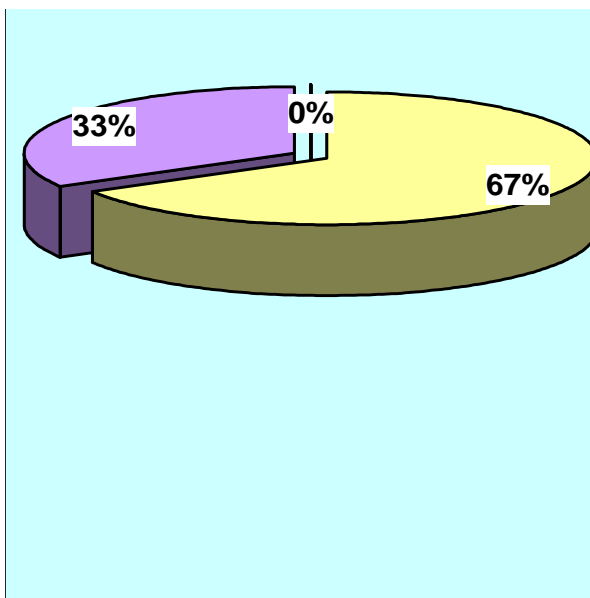
- ❖ Volunteers on excursions and with sporting activities
- ❖ Volunteers in the tuckshop
- ❖ Volunteers in P&C activities
- ❖ Volunteers in the school and classrooms
- ❖ Regular contact is made with class teachers by phone, note, face to face, and vice versa
- ❖ Written reports are distributed at the end of each semester and parents are strongly encouraged to take advantage of our Face To Face Parent Teacher interview as follow up.
- ❖ Parental involvement is regularly promoted and encouraged through the use of our community newsletter, individual contact and P&C meetings.
- ❖ Strategic decisions within the school are achieved through an established process, which invites in input of staff and parents.



Performance of our students

Qualifications of all teachers

Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	2
Diploma	1
Certificate	0



THALLON STATE SCHOOL STAFF

TEACHING PRINCIPAL

FELICITY MASSON

TEACHER

BRON HILES

TEACHER

LOUISE FULWOOD

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

LORRAINE LEWIS

TEACHER AIDE/CLEANER

LIZ SPACKMAN

TEACHER AIDE/FACILITIES OFFICER

BRENDA STAHLHUT

TEACHER AIDE

JANE TREVETHAN

TEACHER AIDE PREP

ANNE MAREE HILES

TEACHER AIDE

LEESA BEATTY

Performance of our students

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$6352.58

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

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 - Moderation for Year 2 Net
 - Cluster Moderation – QCATS and class work
 - Thrass Training
 - Principal's Conferences
 - Purchasing Policy Training
 - Non-Violent Crisis Training
 - Behaviour Management – Peter Miles
 - Finance Training
 - Admin Conference
 - Mathematics / Numeracy inservice

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 50 %.

Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 98% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the 2007 school year, 100% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Student attendance

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

Performance of our students

Key outcomes

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.					
Domain	Measures		Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school		313	433	528
	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	86%	67%	100%
Writing	Average score for the school		390	474	519
	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	100%	100%	100%
Spelling	Average score for the school		309	433	435
	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	86%	100%	N/A
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school		336	469	511
	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	100%	100%	100%
Numeracy	Average score for the school		327	450	528
	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	100%	100%	100%

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

Performance of our students

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	86%
Writing	100%
Number	100%

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

At Thallon State School we endeavour to include parents in student's education. The P&C work closely with the staff to consult on implementation and management of school policies. We provide information through newsletters, daily communication books, parent teacher interviews fostering strong parent-teacher partnerships and communication methods such as regular reports and assemblies. Our P&C work to support our students in various ways such as financial support for staff and the instrumental music program, fundraising for student activities and buying resources.

Parents are aware that we have an open door policy and that they are always welcome in our classrooms. We also invite parents to attend the end of term culminating day and share in many different experiences such as swimming carnival, athletics carnivals, sports camp and other activities. At Thallon State School we look at Parents as key stakeholders in student's education.