

Performance of our students



Address	4 Davenport Street, Nobby, QLD, 4360
Phone	07 4696 3233
Fax	07 4696 3295
Email	the.principal@nobbyss.eq.edu.au
Website	www.nobbyss.eq.edu.au

PRINCIPAL'S FOREWORD

Introduction

Nobby State School is committed to providing quality education in a caring and secure environment in which students can become active citizens. The opportunity for each student exists for him or her to reach their true potential and develop their learning skills. The school also encourages the community to participate in educational opportunities whenever possible. We achieve this by offering varied educational opportunities through integrated units, hands on activities, sporting chances, a disciplined and supportive school environment and varying classroom routines. This School Annual Report will detail some of our key outcomes and provide information about our school.

Future Outlook

During 2009 the Nobby school community will continue to strive to provide a well rounded education for our children. The following areas have been identified as priorities during this year:

- All teachers and teacher aides to complete Literacy Training.
- Collaborate with the community to investigate, plan and refine plans to acquit funding

Performance of our students

under the National Schools Pride and Projects for the 21st Century funding programs.

- Continue to learn about, and implement, curriculum and assessment alignment.
- Implement weekly playgroup for pre-prep aged children during second semester.
- Participate in transition days for senior students with local high school.
- Invite parents and the wider community to the school for culminating days, special events and fun sports afternoons.
- Utilise interactive whiteboards for the use of learning through ICT'S in our classrooms.
- Upgrade recycling area by adding a surrounding fence, a concrete base and a new recycling sign. This will occur in line with teaching and learning opportunities designed to teach students about caring for their school, community and environment.

School Profile

Total student enrolments for the school: 31

Year levels offered: Prep – year 7 Coeducational

Nobby State School is a small rural school in the Darling Downs District. The school is located approximately 30km south of Toowoomba and 8km from Clifton.

The Nobby community is part of the Clifton Shire. Nobby is predominantly rural farm land with large tracts of good agricultural and grazing land. Approximately half of the school families live on farms while the rest reside in the township of Nobby.

Our school offers Prep to Year 7 teaching area, catering for play based opportunities for the students in years P-2.

We also boast netball courts, a full size multi purpose sports court, two heated swimming pools, large ovals, cross country course, soccer and football goals, cricket pitch, running track, fully air conditioned classrooms and office, two playgrounds with junior and senior play equipment and a large range of sports equipment for the children to use. We have many covered areas for children

Performance of our students

to read or eat lunch, two fully functioning vegetable gardens and a host of fruit trees, recycling program and children's project club.

Curriculum Offerings

Our Distinctive curriculum offerings

Literacy and numeracy blocks and integrated units of work are part of our everyday curriculum. Each year level focuses on a unit of work and explores the key learning areas to promote deeper understanding. In addition to these curriculum strands, children are exposed to:

- 45 minute Physical Education Lesson
- 45 minute music lesson weekly
- 2 x 45 minute LOTE lessons weekly for years 4, 5,6 and 7
- Instrumental Music with cluster schools
- Sports events with cluster schools
- Transition days for all year 7 students to local high schools
- Various school camps and excursions

Extra Curricular Activities

Active After School Communities

For two one hour sessions each week, the children participate in an active and fun hour of physical activity. During term 1 and 4 the children use the school pool and term 2 and 3, students participate in games or sport based activities. Students receive a healthy afternoon tea on Active After School Communities' afternoons.

Art Workshops

Easter and Christmas art activities are offered each year. The children have the opportunity to make presents for their families. These activities are handmade and are supervised during

workshops at the school.

Project Club

The senior children run a project club committee in which they take the children's ideas for fundraising and organise social events throughout the year. Any funds raised by this committee are then used to purchase sports equipment that can be used by the children during play time.

Recycling and Environmental Programs

The children run a recycling program (newspapers and aluminium tins) at the school to raise money so they can improve the school grounds. Painting murals, mosaic stepping stones with tiles and purchasing a shade cover are some of the projects that have been completed with this money.

Vegetable and Edible Gardens

Two vegetable gardens are offered to the children for their use. Seedlings are provided and the children have the opportunity to tend to these gardens in their lunch time. Children are more than welcome to eat any of the vegetables and fruit during school hours.

Performance of our students

How computers are used to assist learning

There are six networked computers in the junior classroom and four networked computers in the upstairs classrooms. This is a ratio of 1 computer to every 2 children. Each computer is linked to the internet, each other and has numerous programs. The network has educational games ranging from the Prep level through to the senior level. They are language and mathematical based games. Computers are used everyday for educational purposes with keyboard, internet, research and word skills being practiced. Children and staff have access to a data projector to enhance computer lessons. Our children are very computer literate and are confident in using technology throughout their daily lives.

Social Climate

Nobby offers a very safe and friendly environment in which children have the opportunity to engage in learning resulting in the children wanting to do their best. This is supported by high expectations of staff, students and parents. Our small numbers of children ensure that everyone is well known and understood and treated fairly in and out of the playground. Our behaviour management program offers children positive rewards as well as supporting those having problems. The School Opinion Survey was above average for parents and students being happy with the school, its discipline and environment. Children report that they are happy to go to school and are treated fairly by staff. The children are the central focus and we encourage them to have a say in some of our policies, social events and the climate of the school. They have the opportunity to paint murals, design gardens and influence some of the curriculum programs offered. Nobby is a great place to have an education. Our school is truly “a small country school in a beautiful country setting.”

Involving parents in their child's education

Parents of our students are welcomed at every opportunity to take part in the schooling life of their children. We have an active P & C committee who meet once a month to discuss school fundraising issues, parent days and various activities that are aimed at supporting the school and children. Parents, grandparents and other relatives are welcome to attend events, activities, opportunities, learning experiences and general day-to-day school life.

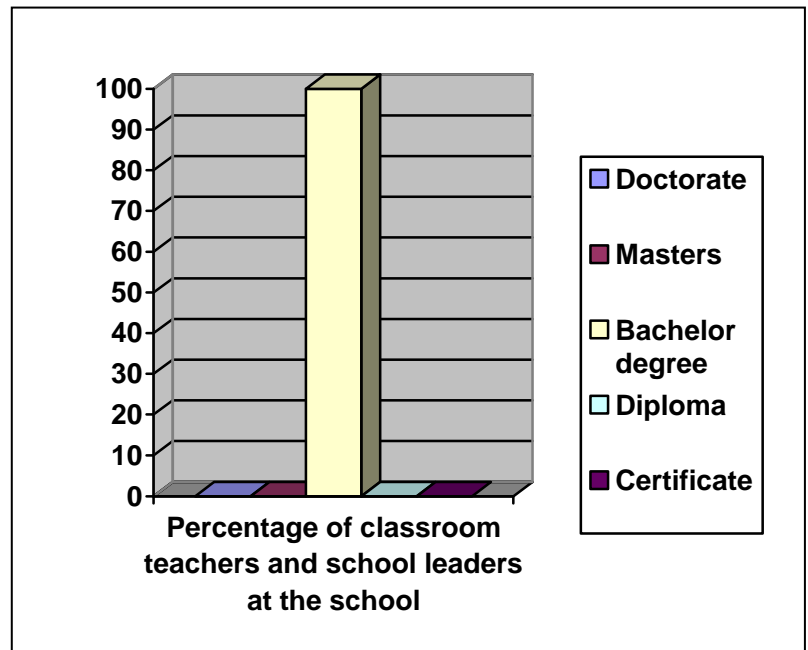
Activities include:

- Support a Reader
- Reading Groups
- Art activities
- Maths groups
- Tuckshop Days
- Excursions
- Special parades
- Culminating Days from our integrated units
- Special family days (valentines day, education week)
- Sports afternoons and sports training
- Playgroup for pre prep aged children weekly
- Multi purpose court for whole school and community use

Performance of our students

Qualifications of our teachers

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



Our teaching staff at Nobby reveals a wealth and range of many different experiences and interests. We have one full time teaching position and one permanent part-time. The principal has a teaching and administrative role in the school. We have a further 10 staff members who are employed as specialist teachers, administration officers, teacher aides, cleaners and grounds people.

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$4513.48.

The major professional development initiatives were as follows:-

- Early Years conference
- Kinesiology Information session for parents

Performance of our students

- First Aid & CPR Training
- Various Principal's meetings
- Assessment and alignment workshop
- Literacy Framework Training for teachers and teacher aides

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities was 100% during 2008.

Average staff attendance

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

Proportion of teaching staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the 2007 school year, 55% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 98%.

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		268	456	516
	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	25 %	100 %	100 %
Writing	Average score for the school		351	449	575
	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	88 %	100 %	100 %
Spelling	Average score for the school		366.7	462.0	528.0
	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	63 %	67 %	100 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school		295	459	545
	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	75 %	100 %	100 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school		372	470	561
	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 %

Performance of our students

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	67%
Writing	67%
Number	83%

OTHER KEY OUTCOMES

Value Added

For a small band 5 school, Nobby certainly does measure up to all other schools in Queensland. We are able to offer an excellent adult to teacher ratio, in an environment where all children are well known to all staff therefore improving relationships and respect between staff and students. In 2007, the school started with 1 prep student and ended the year with 2. In 2008, we began the year with 6 prep students and 2 in 2009. We currently offer a playgroup afternoon where pre prep age children are invited to participate in school activities once a week during semester 2. This allows new families to get to know the school prior to beginning school. We have found this to be a great way in introducing new families to the school and a great way of transitioning pre-prep aged children in day to day routines of school life. Parents and the wider community have expressed their satisfaction in such a program.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

According to results taken from the School Opinion Surveys completed in semester 2 2008, Nobby State School staff was satisfied with all areas of school life in most item frequencies asked

Performance of our students

on the School Opinion Surveys. Most notable was a strong satisfaction with the physical work conditions, school operations, support, training & resources, work roles and work value & recognition.

Parents were satisfied that Nobby is developing their child's computer and technology skills and that the school is preparing their children for the future. Parents showed satisfaction with the opportunities provided to them to discuss how their children are being taught, that they have opportunities to participate in the life of the school and that they have opportunities to participate in school decision making. Parents were strongly satisfied with the resources at Nobby SS and the environmental focus on education.

Student results indicate that the students at Nobby SS are strongly satisfied with ALL areas of the school. All responses indicate better results than the state average, however, most results indicated a satisfaction level much higher than the state mean and in most cases, higher than the mean of like schools.