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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

Riverleigh School in 2008 was a great place to be. Students are well mannered and show genuine regard for and respect for each other. Results of Opinion Surveys across all sections of our school community, Parents, Students and Staff indicate Riverleigh to be a cohesive learning environment which values the efforts made by all who contribute to the partnership of producing citizens of tomorrow. With a heavy emphasis on REAL SKILLS FOR REAL LIVING students were actively engaged in a wide variety of learning situations.

Riverleigh is a small, closely-knit, rural community where the children all care for one another and get along well. The children love their school and enjoy going every day. The school has a long history of family involvement and several generations have attended the school. Children in the school are like one family. Staff are approachable and enthusiastic and everyone in the school community makes you feel as if you belong..

### Future outlook

The enrolment at Riverleigh will fall in 2009. We will continue to deliver quality learning experiences which respond to the learning needs of students enrolled here. Our REAL SKILLS FOR REAL LIVING Life Skills learning experiences will continue to be a key focus during 2009, with students continuing to improve the streetscape of road frontage. This program will provide links to the English/ Maths/ SOSE/ Science/ Health/ KLA with real life applications of student literacy and numeracy skills.

# Our school at a glance

## School Profile

Riverleigh State School is a small Band 5, co-educational state school that offers primary education to students in Years Prep to 7. Riverleigh is located 10km west of Mundubbera in the Central Burnett and draws its enrolment from the Mundubbera and Eidsvold rural area. During 2008 Riverleigh had a stable enrolment of 11 students. Throughout 2008 there was one teaching principal, two teacher aides, one administration officer, a cleaner and a casual groundsperson employed at the school.

## Curriculum offerings

### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Maths – Go Maths Program

English

LOTE – German – Year 4 – 7 – delivered by visiting Specialist Teacher.

Technology

SOSE / Science – delivered through Integrated Units primarily.

ICT for LEARNING are fully integrated across all KLA.

PE – delivered by visiting Specialist Teacher

Music - delivered by visiting Specialist Teacher

Throughout 2007 our SOSE / Science Integrated Units

YEARS 1,2,3	YEARS 4,5,6,7
T1 – People I know	T1 - Aussie Icons
T2 – Rules – school, community,	T2 - Government / Democracy
T3 – China / Olympics	T3 – China / Olympics
T4 – My Amazing Body	T4 - My Amazing Body

### REAL SKILLS FOR REAL LIVING

Throughout 2008 students engaged in curriculum based activities which had a significant emphasis on practical application of knowledge from Key Learning Areas.

Improving student engagement through

fine motor/ social skills program

school vegetable garden

weekly cooking activities

design and construction of garden bed edgings for road frontage streetscape.

### Extra curricula activities

**Arts Council** – students attended 3 presentations by visiting Arts Council on Tour.

**Maths Team Challenge** – 3 Teams of students participated in the local Burnett District Maths Team Challenge involving schools from the Biggenden, Monto, Eidsvold, Gayndah and Mundubbera communities.

**Swimming Carnival** - students participated in interschool carnivals.

**Athletics Carnival** – students participated in interschool carnivals.

**Under 8's** – students from years 1 – 3 had an opportunity to join with their peers from across the local area to join in the fun and experiences of Under 8's activities hosted by Mundubbera School P – 3 classes. Older students helped out with setting up, supervision and clean up.

**Gayndah Soccer / Netball Carnival** - students from year 3 – 7 participated. The training opportunities which were organized locally in Mundubbera provided a valuable opportunity for our students to interact and form friendships on a social level with students of similar age drawn from schools in the Mundubbera area.

**Mundubbera Softball Carnival** – students from years 3 – 7 joined with other students from across the local area to be involved in this carnival.

#### School Camp

In 2008 Riverleigh P & C were successful with their application to Country Womens Association for a Drought Assistance Grant of almost \$3000. This was put to good use as the students, accompanied by staff and parents traveled to Brisbane for a week. On the way south we took the opportunity to spend several hours at Australia Zoo marvelling at the many animal exhibits. While being accommodated at the Wynnum Sea Scouts Hut students were able to visit Queensland Parliament House, Queensland Museum and Science Center, South Bank, Queen Street Mall, Brisbane City Hall Clock Tower and took the opportunity to experience some of the urban modes of transport (river ferry, electric train) and leisure activities – 10 Pin Bowling, Movie (Nim's Island) and Suncorp Stadium.

#### Whale Watching

Students were joined by parents, past students, staff and several broader community members on a wonderful day trip on AWESOME, a high speed whale watching boat from Hervey Bay.

#### German Excursion

Mr Brown, LOTE Teacher organized a one day excursions with a real German feel to the King Ludwig Restaurant at Montville. Students from Riverleigh and Boynewood traveled together with parents also joining in the fun of the day. While in the area students visited a cheese and yoghurt factory, German Clock House, chocolate and candy makers at Malaney.

**A Bush Christmas** – In early December 2008 students again joined with Boynewood students to travel to Maryborough to the Brolga Theatre to be thoroughly entertained by the FAME troopers in a real stage production of a Bush Christmas. It was a total delight for the students to experience the atmosphere of a theatre full to capacity and have the drama unfold before them on stage.

#### Small Schools Cultural Camp

Riverleigh students joined students from six other local small schools to engage in a variety of educational, cultural, sporting and social interactions. A Bush Poet engaged the students and expanded their literacy experiences in challenging ways. Other educational opportunities were presented through Aboriginal Cultural, dance and drama, gymnastic, aqua fun and safety, little athletics and art activities.

### How computers are used to assist learning

ICT are integral to many of our classroom and administrative experiences.

Students routinely :-

- engage in online learning activities in Maths.
- use online resources to enhance their keyboarding skills improving their personal efficiency.
- publish their personal writing tasks.
- use digital camera to record participation in both key curriculum and extra curricular activities.
- manage digital images in a variety of ways. All students produced their own personal powerpoint presentation of 2008 – My Year at Riverleigh. This was then recorded on CD, each student having a lasting record of their learning experiences and friendships for 2008.

Staff routinely:-

- communicate with peers
- involve themselves in learning communities.
- locate essential workplace resources – HR policies and information.
- use ICT resources to complete workplace tasks

### Social climate

#### Pastoral Care Programs

Within our caring nurturing environment students at Riverleigh have access to Religious Instruction provided by visiting accredited person to provide a non denominational lesson for ½ hour each Friday afternoon.

#### School Opinion Survey 2008

Results indicate a healthy school climate with our School Mean being comparable with both the State Mean and Like School Mean comparisons for questions relevant to School Climate across all sectors Parents, Students and Staff.

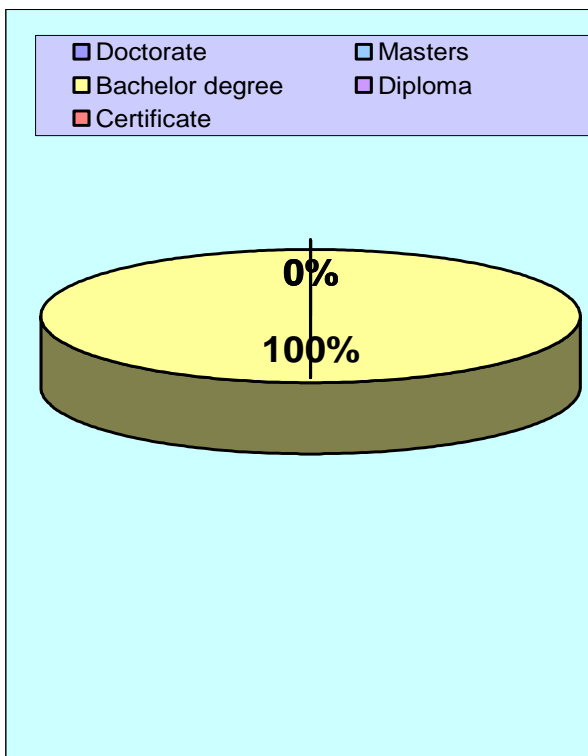
### Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents are welcome to be involved in the educational experiences students engage in. Parent contribution by way of support through our P & C Association is valued. Parent support to provide transport and/ or assistance for students to attend a variety of off site carnivals (Soccer/ Netball Gayndah, Athletics/ Swimming, Softball, Under 8's) and camps (School Camp supervision and catering / Cultural Camp catering) is essential and this contribution is acknowledged. Parents are welcomed to be involved in school activities.

As a special treat Parents, Grandparents and community members were treated to a Christmas Dinner (prepared by students) and Concert (student performers). Forty-six guests returned positive acceptances and students were knee deep in planning the big occasion. In the weeks before, students cooked Rich Fruit Christmas Cake, a Gingerbread House and Streamed Christmas Pudding and made table decorations. While still working on presenting credible performance of Christmas entertainment students managed to prepare Fruit Punch Drinks, Entrée 'nibblies', Roast Beef and Vegetable Dinner complete. Dessert and Coffee and Cake.

**Qualifications of all teachers**

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	1
Diploma	0
Certificate	0



### **Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.**

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$4080 .

The major professional development initiatives are as follows: Teaching staff participated in several activities relevant to Computers for Teachers program. Literacy training P -3 was another key component of our Professional Development for 2008 with both Teacher and Teacher Aides being involved. One School training was another key area.

During 2008 the Teaching/ Leadership of Riverleigh engaged in Professional Development opportunities which were organised locally through the Burnett Cluster of schools and more specifically through the Wide Bay West District and relevant to:-

Literacy Training (Principal/ Class Teacher)  
ICT – Computer for Teachers (Principal/ Teacher)  
One School – (Principal/ Teacher)

Ancillary support staff were updated in:-

Financial management (AAEP)  
Cleaners Update (Cleaner)

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 100% 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.

## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 95 %.

### 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	311	NA	511
	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 100 %	NA	100 %
Writing	Average score for the school	387	NA	530
	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%	NA	100 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	379	NA	511
	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 100 %	NA	100 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	341	NA	542
	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 %	NA	100 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	410	NA	536
	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 %	NA	100 %

### Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

100% Percentage of students not requiring additional support

## Performance of our students

Reading	100%
Writing	100%
Number	100%

### Value added

As a small rural school we aim to work on developing the individual strengths of each student.

Our consistent achievement results in Year 2 Net for Reading, Writing and Number have identified **no** Riverleigh students as requiring additional support in the past three years.

Our Year 3 test data indicates consistency in the achievement of students since 2004. During this time **no** Riverleigh students have achieved below the National Benchmarks across the key indicators.

In 2008, **no** Year 5 students were enrolled.

In 2008, **no** Year 7 students were identified as being below the National Literacy Benchmarks. Our results in Numeracy achievement for Riverleigh students showed consistent progress when comparisons of individual student results from year 3, year 5 and through to year 7 were analysed.

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parent satisfaction with Riverleigh as providing a good education and being a good school is 90%.

100% of our staff are satisfied with morale in the school.

100% of students believe they are getting a good education from Riverleigh school.