

# EMU CREEK STATE SCHOOL – Annual Report 2007



“Offering quality, multi-age education in a small school environment”

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Leanne Saunders – Acting Principal

## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

This Report summarises the educational and social outcomes of the parents, staff and students in 2007 and goals for the future.

Emu Creek State School is a member of the Clifton Cluster. The Cluster is involved in developing a QCARF Document which will produce common curriculum goals as students transfer within the Cluster. This process is an ongoing one which will constantly evolve.

High expectations, skills, enthusiasm from the students and Staff, the dedication of Staff, the supportive parent body along with a supportive community, is the product of the success of this School which is evidenced throughout this Report.

### Future outlook

The major priority for 2008 is to continue to develop our newly refurbished Library Resource Centre. This project is enhancing the literacy competency in our School. The use of this well resourced Library will continue to be utilised by the local community for pre school and pre prep for literacy sessions, a meeting place for playgroups and a general meeting place to bridge the gap between home and school.

Whole School, Cluster Planning, QCARF initiatives will be a priority at this School throughout the coming year. Through the development of these networks, Education Queensland Essential Learning will be addressed and put into common practise.

# 2007 School Annual Report

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

Emu Creek State School was established in 1875 and is situated 32km South of Toowoomba on the New England Highway on the Darling Downs. Steele Rudd (Arthur Hoey Davis) attended this School and his Selection is 1km from the School entrance. The School Community is very proud of our heritage.

This two teacher School provides a multi-age co-educational setting from Prep to Year 7 for 32 students. These enrolments consist of children from farms and hobby farms in the local area and from the township of Greenmount.

### Curriculum offerings

The curriculum at Emu Creek State School for Prep to Year 7 has a central focus of high levels of literacy and numeracy with the levels of the remaining syllabuses delivered as Integrated Units of Study. Our aim is to provide a supportive learning environment which affords each child the opportunity to reach his or her full physical, intellectual, emotional and social potential.

Teachers at Emu Creek State School plan and deliver sequenced, developmentally appropriate, Integrated Units of Work each term which incorporate the 8 Key Learning Areas.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings are according to Education Queensland:

Prep to Year 3 – *Early Years Curriculum* – Play Based Learning

Years 4-7 – Year 1-10 Syllabuses – Middle Phase of Learning

Projects and investigations that promote higher order thinking and independent time management skills for students

Individualised learning plans constructed to maximize the talents and future opportunities for our students

Knowing and understanding each student, the teacher, the optimal techniques to challenge and extend every student in a calm and caring classroom

Individual progress is mapped, recorded against outcome statements relating to what a student should know and be able to do

Extra curricula activities

Active After School Care – Rugby League, Softball, Hockey Skills, Ball Skills, Team Sports

ANZAC Parade with community focus

Australasian Schools Competitions & UNSW National Tests – English, Mathematics

Arts Council Performances

Book Club & Guided Library Sessions

# 2007 School Annual Report

## Our school at a glance

Chess Competitions

Choir & Musical Eisteddfod

Culminating Days – showcase classroom during final week of term

Concert – End of Year – Class performance Prep-3 *Celebrating 100 years Surf Lifesaving* Musical Item  
and School Musical – *The Phantom of the Music Room* - Years 4-7

Excursions - Toowoomba Airport and Cobb & Co Museum Prep-3 - Radio CFM Years 4-7

Laser Show – Drugs Education Programme – Life Education Van

Maths Team Challenge

School Camp - Years 4,5,6 & 7 – Camp Burleigh, Burleigh Heads

Sporting Events – Athletic Carnival, Small Schools Athletic Carnival, Inter-School Sports (Soccer, Netball), Cross  
Country, Ball Games Carnival, Tennis Competition, Tennis Lessons, Swimming Carnival

### How computers are used to assist learning

During 2007, focused skill based lessons in computing were delivered. The extension of integrating computers across all Key Learning Areas was continued on from 2006.

61.5% of students were satisfied with the way computers are used for learning at Emu Creek State School.

### Social climate

Emu Creek State School is a small School where students and staff develop and foster positive relationships. The aim of our social climate is to provide a caring, considerate and co-operative School Community which acknowledges rights but also understand that with rights, come responsibilities.

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

It is important for children to have support and a strong link between home and School. Emu Creek School parents and caregivers are afforded a number of opportunities to be involved and participate in their child/ren's education.

Open door to classroom policy

Regular reading assistance

Active members of the Emu Creek State School Parents & Citizens Association

Participating in School activities – excursions, camps, sporting fixtures and other special events

Meet and Greet Evenings for new parents in the community at beginning of year

Tuckshop and Active After School Care Programme

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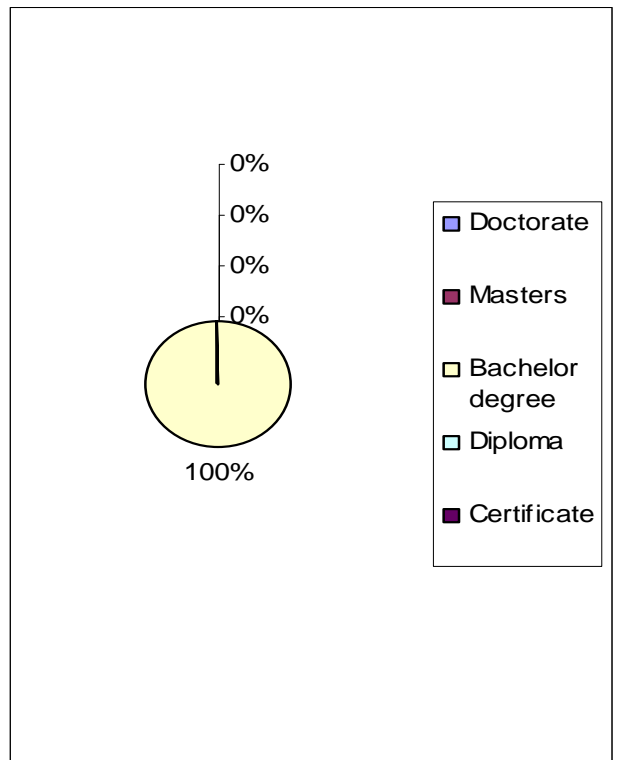
## Our school at a glance

### ANZAC Parade – whole School and community

This School is committed to building strong and positive partnerships with the people in our community. Each term, a social night or event is held to celebrate the successes our students have achieved throughout the term. Parents are encouraged to assist with school activities if they have time.

## Qualifications of all 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



## Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was \$6,854.47.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

Early Years Workshop

Bright Beginnings Conference – QLD Studies Authority

Remedial and Support Teachers – Learning Difficulties

ICT Learning - Joomla Workshop

Prep Professional Development Day

QCARF

Learning Place

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was 100%.

## Our staff profile

### Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff, attendance rate was 96% in 2007.

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the 2006 school year, 100% 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 99%.

## Key outcomes in the early and middle phases of learning

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net					
		Percentage of students not requiring additional support			
Reading		100%			
Writing		100%			
Number		100%			
Our reading, writing and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests					
			Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school		485	587	684
	Average score for Queensland		527	606	672
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	100%	67%	88%
		2006	88%	80%	86%
Writing	Average score for the school		461	587	738
	Average score for Queensland		523	600	681
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	80%	100%	100%
		2006	88%	80%	100%
Numeracy	Average score for the school		487	601	651
	Average score for Queensland		521	588	648
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	80%	100%	88%
		2006	88%	60%	57%

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## Other Key Outcomes

### Value added

At Emu Creek State School we strongly value effort and commitment and have high expectations of all students. Schools are not places for only academic achievement, but importantly must contribute in other ways to develop students who are the future citizens and leaders. The supportive environment at this School ensures that each student feels safe and is capable of reaching their full potential. The core focus of Emu Creek State School is the development of literacy and numeracy skills. Working toward improving our Year 3, 5 and 7 National Benchmarks results, is also a vital part of this School.

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

During 2007, Emu Creek State School conducted a *School Opinion Survey* which indicated the following results:

80% of students were satisfied that they are getting a good education

86% of parents and caregivers were satisfied that it is a good school

100% of staff members felt they were regarded as a valuable staff member