

2008 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

HEBEL STATE SCHOOL

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Principal's foreword

Introduction

The staff and parents at Hebel State School are committed to working together to provide a safe supportive environment in which all students can learn.

We are a well resourced for a small school. As well as 2 classrooms we have a resource centre that includes a library, a kitchen and a large area for art and science activities. In addition we have a large playground with shaded play equipment, a sandpit and open grassed areas. The completion of a multi purpose court has provided a range other sporting activities to cater for our sports oriented children. Tennis is a real favourite and the court has ample space for any number of group activities including ball games and many student generated activities during breaks.

Future outlook

In 2009 teachers will continue to improve and diversify integration of ICTs (Mathletics / Ziptales) to enhance learning, particularly in the upper school classroom. There is a continued focus on improving literacy and numeracy through a range of diagnostic assessment tools and the continuing endeavour to cater for individual student needs. Additional reading and numeracy resources will be implemented to provide a greater range of more current and engaging activities.

School Profile

Hebel State School is a small 2-teacher school in a rural remote community situated close to the border half way between Lightning Ridge in NSW and Dirranbandi in QLD. There are currently 30 students enrolled in years Prep to 7. Currently the classes are divided into Years P-3 and Years 4-7. Hebel is co-educational.

2008 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

HEBEL STATE SCHOOL

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

At Hebel State School we offer comprehensive curriculum programs for students from Prep to Year 7. Students are encouraged to reach their full potential in all areas.

At Hebel State School we offer a range of valuable learning experiences in multi-age settings across the eight Key Learning Areas.

- Provide an integrated approach while incorporating ICTs into the delivery and teaching of the KLAs.
- Offer specialised Arts and PE lessons through weekly or fortnightly visits from Arts and PE teachers.
- Participate in regular swim / sports camps run by PCAP.
- Conduct French lessons twice weekly by teleconference and teacher visits twice per term.
- Have a strong literacy focus incorporating guided reading, a metalinguistic approach to spelling and daily writing opportunities.

Extra curricula activities

These are limited due to the distances children travel to attend the school. We offer in school opportunities to participate in activities through Arts Council and PCAP. While the school provided no extra curricular activities the local communities in both Lightning Ridge and Dirranbandi provide opportunities for a range of activities from swimming, various sporting pursuits and pony club.

How computers are used to assist learning

Students have access to computers in classrooms. The 4-7 classroom has 6 computers for its 16 students while the P-3 classroom has 4 computers for 16 students. Computers are used for students to research, prepare and present their work. In addition computers, data projectors and an interactive whiteboard are used as teaching tools through presentation and interactivity.

Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents and community members at Hebel are very involved in school activities. A number of retired residents visit each week to help the younger children with their reading. Local volunteers provide religious education. Parents are actively involved in the P&C and it is usual for each family to be represented at meetings. The P&C hold a successful seafood dinner each year to raise funds. In the 2007 school opinion survey 100% of parents reported that they believe Hebel State School was a good school.

Student attendance

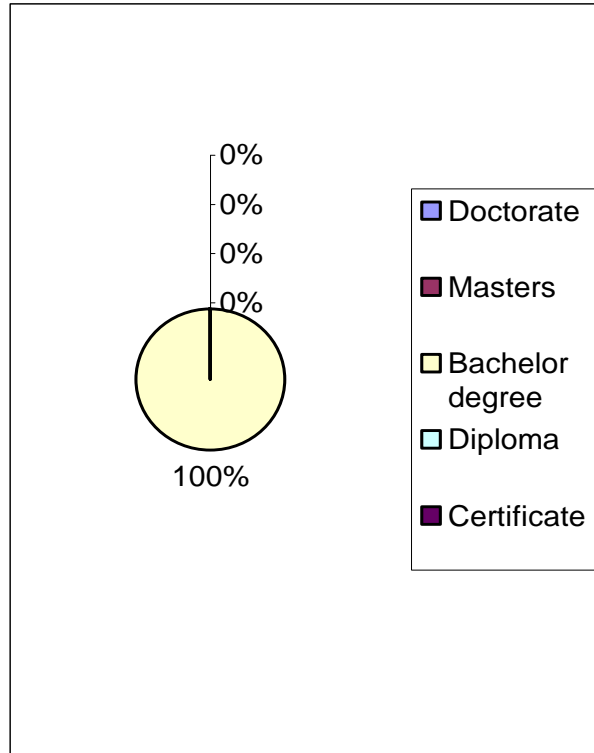
The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 92 %.

2008 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

HEBEL STATE SCHOOL

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



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	e

.94

2008 SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT

HEBEL STATE SCHOOL

Other Key Outcomes

Value added

The students at Hebel State School are regularly involved in a range of cultural activities. While in 2006 students ventured to Canberra it was decided that major cultural excursions would be conducted on a biennial basis. A trip to Sydney is planned for 2009. All students are involved in a week long sports camp that sees students experience a wide range of sports and develop a variety of skills with qualified coaches. Every year students do exceptionally well in the CWA International poster competition and senior students travel to St George at the end of the year to immerse in a French day as a culminating experience to LOTE. Our small school status ensures that each child is valued as an individual and our multi-age classrooms provide the perfect environment for family ties and strong community building. The parents and the community value education and have high expectations of student achievement in all areas. School and community events are always extremely well supported from across the district from Lightning Ridge in the south to Dirranbandi in the north.

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$6265.
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
- Principal Induction – Roma / January 2008 – 2 days.
- Principal's Conferences – March (Miles) / September (Charleville) – 4 days
- Science / Maths Curriculum Workshops – St George / Roma
- Purchasing Policy – Face to Face / St George
- 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, 57 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.