2009 School Report – Mueller College

PRIMARY, MIDDLE & SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Mueller College Primary School (Preparatory to Year 6)

There are currently 670 students enrolled in the Primary School. Class sizes range from 20-28, depending on the year level and needs in each class. The curriculum covers all of the State Government requirements as well as specialist teaching areas in Chinese, Physical Education, Music and LEM Phonics. All Children in the Primary School have literacy blocks during the morning. During these literacy teaching sessions, students learn skills in small groups. Aides and parents support the teachers.

The Prep to Year 2 students follow the Early Years Program for literacy which originated in Victoria. The school has an intense phonics program, an extensive library of reading material and it makes use of IT resources. There is a similar approach to numeracy. Maths groups are involved in hands-on activities with Aide and parent co-operation. Years 1 and 2 are involved in a Motor Program. They attend chapel with Prep and Year 3. They visit the residents of the Retirement Village associated with the school. As in all classes in Primary, the children in Years 1 and 2 are learning about God from the Bible.

Years 3 and 4 students are supervised by the Primary Deputy Principal, Mrs Winwood. They too have literacy and numeracy blocks. Children are offered Gifted and Talented extension work where appropriate. The intensive phonics program continues with a specialist teacher as well as class teachers. Students in these years rotate for set subject areas chosen according to the interests and skills of class teachers. Chess is offered as extra-curricula for all the Primary school on Thursday afternoons. Year 3 also learn chess skills in class time as an extension of problem solving in Maths. Year 4 are included in the Friday afternoon intra and inter school sports program. Swimming is a set subject in Term 1 for both classes. Year 4 students are able to stand for Student Leader and are mentored by Years 5 and 6 Student Leaders.

Years 5 and 6 students are supervised by the Primary Principal. Students in these years provide the leaders for the Primary school and a leadership program supports the student leaders. As these years are pre-secondary years, students are involved in rotational lessons for HPE, Music, Chinese, Computer Studies, Art and Science. Year 6 students are encouraged to participate in the Debating Club. They are also assigned as mentors to the Years 1 to 5 classes. The Friday afternoon sporting program encourages team play against local State Schools as well as providing individual choice in areas such as gymnastics, tennis and tenpin bowling. As for all Primary years students are catered for by the Learning Support Unit to assist students with learning needs, either under-achieving or gifted. The Primary Chaplain is involved in these two year levels in Personal Development and Values Education.
Middle School (Years 7-9)

- Full range of academic subjects
- Introductory Home Economics
- Introduction to Industrial Technology
- Specialist Science, Art, Chinese
- Introduction to Consumerism
- Biblical Studies
- Learning Support and Extension Programs for gifted and talented students
- Wide range of sporting and cultural opportunities

Senior School (Years 10-12)

- Full Range of Science, Mathematics, English subjects
- Ancient and Modern History
- Full range of Business Studies and Accountancy subjects
- Full range of IT subjects
- Aerospace Studies
- Music Extension
- Graphics and Design
- Extension English
- Wide range of Vocational Education subjects
- Cert III in Christian Ministry
- School Based Apprenticeships
- School Based Traineeships
- All Year 10 subjects are foundational Senior subjects
- Biblical Studies
- Learning Support and extension support for gifted and talented students
- School of Distance Education for various subjects

A VIBRANT AND EXPANDING CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAM

Cultural, Sporting, Artistic and Spiritual Endeavours

The College offers an expanding range of co-curricular experiences designed to further the God-given gifts of our students.

Instrumental music and choral programs operate both in and out of school time and offers tuition for a broad range of instruments. Students may participate in the College’s band and ensembles which have performed at the Opera House, and been involved in numerous tours and performances.

College musicals are presented each alternate year to our School Showcase. The musicals are always of a distinctly Christian persuasion and are usually written and produced by our own talented staff. Our Choirs, bands, orchestras and individual
presentations are regularly successfully entered in Eisteddfods competitions and concerts.

Students are involved in community service and Mission projects from time to time. Both primary and secondary students get involved in fundraising for these projects, which include 40hr Famine, orphanages and AMOS. These are valuable opportunities for the students to demonstrate their Christian faith in practical ways.

A range of sporting opportunities including Inter-house athletics, cross country and swimming carnivals are highlights of the school year. Over the years we have had students represent the College at the local, State, National and even the International level in a variety of sports including swimming, yachting, shooting, rugby league, netball, basketball, cricket, athletics, cross country running etc.

A range of inter-school teams sports are offered for both upper primary and secondary teams. The College also participates in inter-school Athletics, Swimming and Cross-Country Carnivals.

Students have the opportunity to gain district, zone and representative honours in athletics, cross-country and a large number of other sports. We have a separate Sports Award Night at the end of each year which is a fitting commendation to those who have achieved at a high level throughout the year, either as an individual or as a member of a team. Our radio controlled model aeroplane club called MUROC has generated much interest over the years and in 2007 won the inaugural Queensland UAV (Unmanned Air Vehicle) Outback Rescue Challenge, then followed up in 2008 with first and second place in the National UAV competition. This was a prestigious accomplishment, since we competed against all schools, including those that specialize in Aerospace studies. The College has now been accepted to be one of only 25 schools in Queensland offering Aerospace Studies in 2009.

Ministry Mission trips both within Australia and overseas are an important part of our identity as a Christian College. We have, since 1997, conducted mission trips to places like Vanuatu, Fiji, the Solomons, Kazakhstan, China, the Philippines and soon, Mongolia. These are valuable learning experiences for our students and give them a real sense of ‘mission’ and servanthood, as modelled by Christ. In 2007 & 2009 we took three groups of students, past students and parents, as part of a Schoolies Week program, to remote villages in Vanuatu to distribute gifts through the Samaritan’s Purse Shoe-box appeal.

Descriptive Information

- **School sector:** Independent
- **School’s address:** 75 Morris Road, Rothwell, 4022 (PO Box 487 Redcliffe Q 4020)
- **Total enrolments:** 1279
- **Year levels offered:** Preschool to Year 12
- **Co-educational or single sex:** Co-Educational

**Distinctive curriculum offerings** (for more subject-related details see the ‘Curriculum’ heading on this website.

- **Learning Support and other Educational Support Programs**
  - Gifted & Talented Program (yr 1-9)
  - Phonological Awareness Program
Dyslexia Support Program
Literacy Support Program
Numeracy Support Program
Social Skills Program (years 7-12)
Alternative Curriculum Education Programs (aka Arethusa Program)
Vocational Education and Training
Head Start program (university courses)
Theological studies (Cert III in Christian Ministry)
Modified Curriculum Education
Programs to cater for academic, practical arts, social sciences, business, IT, physical development and Christian Studies.
Unique Student Leadership Program from years 6-12
Alpha Smart Program
Occupational Therapy support program
‘Visualising & Verbalising’ Speech Therapy Program
- Extensive use of computers and multimedia resources for all students from Prep to year 12.
- All students study computers compulsorily until year 9 where elective courses are offered to cater of individual differences and interests of students.
- Separate Primary and Secondary computer labs are available, complete with multi-media facilities.
- Students offered certificate courses in a wide variety of subjects/strands including IT, Hospitality, Child Care, Construction, Engineering, Christian Studies, and many others.
- Select students are offered traineeships and school-based apprenticeship training in a variety of faculties.
- Our Learning Support Department is well resourced with a dedicated team of qualified teachers, support staff and other professionals, with special emphasis on literacy and numeracy development.

Middle School (Years 7-9)

Lessons for the Gifted and talented students to allow foe extension work, accelerated progression, and to develop critical thinking skills
Year Seven Camp – a time to bond the children with those who are new to Mueller College and equip them for the transition into a Middle School Environment
Social Skills Program for those children that need to learn how to interact with others in the school environment
Buddy system with some of the senior students for students who find it hard to interact with peers

Extra-curricula activities include:

Inter-School Sports Mathletics – Years 4 to 6
Chess Club
Maths Competitions
Gifted and Talented
Primary and Secondary Orchestras,
Choirs and Bands and Instrumental Music
Debating Years 6 and 7
Chapel Services and outreach to Australia and Overseas
Mission Outreach to Vanuatu, China and Mongolia
Camping / Trips (Bike Hikes, Ski Trips, Music Tours,
Sports Competitions,
Years 7 and 11 Camps)
Sound, Lighting and Technical Supporters
Student Leader Mentoring Program
F1 Challenge (Remote Racing Cars) National Competition.

Social climate:
Mueller is a friendly, caring school that emphasizes distinctive Christian values together with high quality instruction and support by a team of committed Christian teachers. All of our teachers are committed Christians who are dedicated to going the extra mile for students, to help them reach their God-given potential. Teaching occurs in modern, spacious classrooms and specialized areas.

Parental involvement:
• Faith and Action Committee (our equivalent of a P & F Association)
• MUROC (Mueller Radio Operated aircraft) - radio control airplanes & UAV development
• Reading Program
• Host families for International Students
• Volunteers for Tuckshop, Uniform Shop, Library, maintenance, Learning Support, Sport training, Chapel presentations, Industry (Careers) talks.
• Working Bees

STAFFING INFORMATION Qualifications of all teachers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor Degree</td>
<td>78.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of PD activity</th>
<th>Number of teachers participating in activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A wide variety covering all subject areas, first aid, positive behaviour, intervention,</td>
<td>All staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phonics, music, vision impairment, CSAQ networks, TESOL, Early Years Conference,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSA workshops, Aspergers, ISQ seminars and projects</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of teachers participating in at least one activity in the program year</td>
<td>All staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2009 were $16,448.35. The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2009 was 100%.

**Average staff attendance for the school, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave periods of up to 5 days:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Staff</th>
<th>Number of School Days</th>
<th>Total Days Staff Absences (includes PD, excursions etc)</th>
<th>Average Staff Attendance Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>723</td>
<td>96.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96.5% in 2009.

**Proportion of teaching staff retained from the previous year:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of permanent teaching staff at end of program year (Head Count)</th>
<th>Number of these staff retained in the following year</th>
<th>% retention rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>85.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the end of 2008, 85.8% of staff were retained for the entire 2009 school year.

**KEY STUDENT OUTCOMES**

**Average student attendance rate:**
Total number of students 1279  
Number of school days in program year 189  
Total number of student absences 15,382  
Average Attendance Rate% 93.6%

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2009 was 93.6%.

### 2009 Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 Test Results

#### Year 3 Test Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspects of Literacy</th>
<th>College Average</th>
<th>State Average</th>
<th>% above National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and Viewing</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>98.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td><strong>408</strong></td>
<td><strong>372</strong></td>
<td><strong>97.5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>College Average</th>
<th>State Average</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and Viewing</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>93.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>93.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>91.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>98.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td><strong>483</strong></td>
<td><strong>470</strong></td>
<td><strong>98.1</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<th>College Average</th>
<th>State Average</th>
<th>% above National Benchmark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and Viewing</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>96.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>92.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>95.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>94.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td><strong>538</strong></td>
<td><strong>539</strong></td>
<td><strong>93.7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading and Viewing</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>92.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>96.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>90.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>92.5</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Numeracy</strong></td>
<td><strong>588</strong></td>
<td><strong>579</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Apparent retention rate- Year 10 to 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 10 Base</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Retention Rate %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of students</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>84.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 cohort is 84.4%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of students awarded a Senior Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students who received an Overall Position (OP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Educational and Training (VET)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education at the end of Year 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Year 12 students who received an OP 1-15 or an IBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 12 2008 Student Destinations (Yr 12- 2009, updated in Sept 2010)

Year 12 2008 Student Destinations in brief (click here for the link)

Secondary Assessment and Reporting
Assessment is on-going and regular.

Parent/Teacher interviews are scheduled for:

- the early part of Term 2, within several weeks of Term 1 reports being issued
- the early part of Term 3, after the Mid Year Reports are received by parents.

Formal written reports will be issued at the end of each Semester and will provide a summary of the progress of the student. Informal reporting will occur throughout the year through comments, ratings and suggestions on assignments, projects or homework. Parents are encouraged to communicate with class teachers if there are concerns or problems.
Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction

Parent Survey: Prep 2009

There were three areas surveyed. These were School Management, Teaching and Learning and Staff. 108 responses were received.

School Management

82% of parents strongly agreed and 13% agreed with the nine questions presented.
Comments used
- Fun, fantastic, wonderful, educational, organised, positive, balanced, activities fantastic, great introduction, interest sparked and welcoming -about program offered.
- Happy, friendly staff, safe, cared for, valued, enjoyed, supported and settled easily - about child satisfaction.
- Well resourced, beautiful, impressed and loved specialist areas -about the facilities and resources

Teaching and Learning

77% of parents strongly agreed and 18% agreed with the seven questions presented.
Comments used
- Excellent, impressed, variety, constantly learning, caters for different ages and abilities, prepared for Yr 1, great diverse program, prefer bar set high and love the fact my child is reading –about program offered
- Enthusiastic about learning, has something to talk about, loves most part of day and very happy- about child satisfaction
- Variety of teachers, methods and content, pleased had plan for each term to support- about resources

Staff

84% of parents strongly agreed and 12% agreed with the five questions presented.
Comments used
- Approachable, helpful, very happy staff, funny, likeable, excellent, warm, open friendly, firm, fair, wonderful and fantastic
- Genuine care for children and parents, always informed, keen to assist, easy to talk to, really do care and offer understanding and support
- Impressive school, talented teachers

How Computers are used to assist learning:

Information Communication and technology (ICT) refers to the creation, manipulation, storage, retrieval and communication of information and to the range of technological devices and systems used to perform these functions. As ICT at Mueller College continues to grow, students from prep to year 12 are constantly exposed to computers and related technologies, and are actively instructed in the use of these mediums throughout their schooling at Mueller College. WE have a total of 8 Computer Laboratories or smaller computer annexes in which this instruction takes place, as well as many computers that are located within classrooms and other instructional areas.
Computers across the Curriculum

Primary curriculum is based around 3 main areas.

These are:

1. Learning about computers (LAC)
2. Integrating computers into other curriculum areas.
3. Using the computers for Maths and English. Within these 3 areas, students will be required to master 5 different overall categories, each with their own sub ‘levels’ of ability. Students will master a certain level before advancing to the next level. Students in the same class may in fact be on different levels. Students may be on one level for one category, and be on another level for another category. A record should be kept of each competency attained.

Secondary Curriculum and Computers

All students at Mueller College study computing skills in Years 7 and 8. Computing studies are part of the elective program in year 9 and also within the Senior school (years 10-12). Students are given the opportunity to use the computer resources across the curriculum for classwork, assignments, research and individual projects, as part of their normal school routine. Our well equipped computer labs are available for use during lunch hours and also out of school hours. All computers are networked and installed with a very sophisticated and effective filter system to negate inappropriate sites being explored. Our New Multi-Media Centre caters for the more adventurous students.

Ultimately, our students learn skills that will afford them a future career and also enable them to serve God, be it in a computer related field, or simply performing a task in a more efficient fashion. In our media-rich world today it is becoming even more important that all people are instructed in their use, enabling people to feel connected to others, and also aware of new technologies that are constantly being developed.

Students may develop skills in multimedia or web publishing and go on to develop resources that aid industry, medical advancement, future technologies or even to provide a Christian ministry to people of other cultures or ethnicity.