

PO address	PO Box 2489 Innisfail Q'ld 4860
Phone	4064 5138
Fax	(07) 40 645101
Email	Kspan5@eq.edu.au

Website or Contact Person	<a href="http://www.palmeastss.eq.edu.au">http://www.palmeastss.eq.edu.au</a>
---------------------------	---

## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

At East Palmerston State School we are a team, we consist of staff, parents and children working together to improve school curriculum results and improve our facilities. I'm sure with the positive attitudes and keen participants, who make this lovely community school, feel like one big happy family, that we will achieve all of the outcomes and goals set forth in our AOP.

### Future outlook

The future at East Palmerston, continues to look great! The parents and staff are keen to make improvements that will benefit all of the children and are willing to put in extra effort and extra time to reach the goals, we set forth, as a team. It is envisaged that this positive attitude when not only assist those children who currently attend the school but encourage others to attend our school and take advantage of the great learning opportunities. In 2008 the will undertake it's Triennial School Review, where parents, staff, children and community members will plan the next three years of development. This plan is available to view on the school website, in July 2008.

## School Profile

Total student enrolments for your school: 18

Year levels offered: prep to Year 7

### Coeducational

School Community and Location

East Palmerston State School is located in a rural area known as East Palmerston. The school has been established for 70 years and serves a stable, farming community. The nearest town is Innisfail which is approximately 26km from the school. The school has an active Parents and Citizens Association.

Students: There are 18 students of different cultural backgrounds currently enrolled in the school. Over the last 3 years enrolments have fluctuated between 29 and 11.

## Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings include:

- Literacy, Numeracy, SOSE, Science, HPE, The Arts, technology, Italian, You Can do It! (for the juniors) and V-Kids (for the seniors)
- We are part of the SMCSA (small schools sporting association) and are included in carnivals for athletics, softball, netball, soccer, cricket and cross country.

Extra curricula activities

- “Enviro” club is run on Wednesday afternoons. The children are involved in growing fruit and vegetables to sell at their stall. They are also keen gardeners who like to maintain and add to the existing flower gardens. There is a rainforest plot situated at the rear of the school and the children have completed a rainforest walk and have begun naming each of the trees. They hope to include a frog pond, a butterfly sanctuary, a bush tucker garden and a fruit orchard next to the rainforest walk.
- We have a school choir who compete at the local Young Performers and the local eisteddfod.
- The children participate in the Australasian Academic Competitions.
- “Enviro” Club consists of children from all grades working together to hold movie nights and other events to fundraise for community/ world wide programs.
- Our school hosts the *Cross country* for small schools in the district. We also host an *International Day* in term three and invite other small schools to join us in celebrating *Harmony Day* and *NAIDOC week*. This day is filled with many hands on activities, foods from many countries and cultural dances perform for the students.

## How computers are used to assist learning

We currently have a ration of one computer for each child. Children are allocated an ICT skills lesson during the week and are shown how to use a particular elements of Microsoft Office (word, publisher, power point, excel, web page). They then use these skills throughout all other subject areas.

## Our school at a glance

### Social climate

The school opinion surveys show that parents and students are happy with our school and believe they are getting a good education. The 2007 overall satisfaction rating for students surveyed placed us in the high 70 percentile, while parents overall satisfaction survey placed us in the 70 percentile and staff satisfaction surveys rated in the 90 percentile. Parents did identify that they would like to see an improvement in their child's literacy and numeracy skills. Hence we now have a new reading program and numeracy program which has shown an improvement in both areas of the curriculum. This year the school joined with other small schools in the district, to host an International Day and the Cross Country. The children have attended excursions to compliment the units of work they are studying, attended plays, community events and small school sporting carnivals with some children advancing and attending carnivals as district representatives.

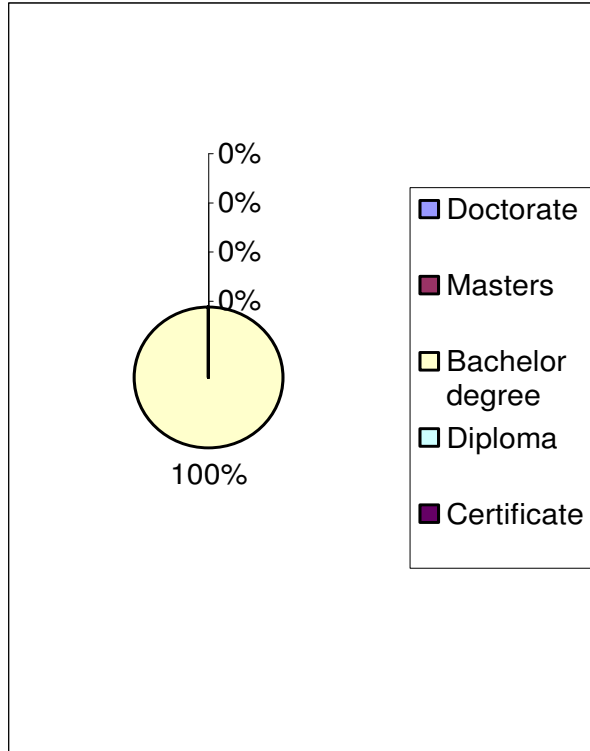
### Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents are welcome to assist with any of the activities we have at our school. At the beginning of the year we encourage the parents to attend an afternoon to discuss the curriculum and to answer any questions of concern they may have regarding their child's education. We encourage parents to join us on school outings and to become involved in the after school "Enviro" club, as well as in class group activities such as reading or numeracy groups and art activities. We hold an open day at the end of each term inviting parents to see what the children have completed over the past term. It is also a time when the children teach their parents the particular skill they have learnt during ICT lessons.

Although a small community our parents have a P&C body which hold fundraising events, social functions and assist with the writing of grants. This small group of people is very much appreciated for their hard work and dedication to the school.

## Qualifications of all teachers

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



## Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was \$ 2 750.
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:  
 Science spectacular -1day  
 ASSISTM-3 days  
 Principal Conference- 2 days  
 ICT- 1 Day  
 District PD- 2 Days
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was 100 %.

## Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2007.

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

- From the end of the 2006 school year, 92 % 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 94 %.

## 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		67%			
Writing		67%			
Number		67%			
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		494	646	
	Average score for Queensland		527	606	672
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	100%	100%	
		2006	80%	80%	75%
Writing	Average score for the school		498	725	
	Average score for Queensland		523	600	681
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	100%	100%	
		2006	80%	80%	100%
Numeracy	Average score for the school		478	671	
	Average score for Queensland		521	588	648
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	75%	100%	
		2006	20%	100%	100%

## Other Key Outcomes

### Value added

I have been the principal at this school for two years. I am dedicated and feel strongly about the benefits your child will receive while attending our country style, family orientated school. I am working with my community and staff to make the necessary curriculum improvements, facilities improvements and general atmosphere of the school welcoming when your children attend this great little school. As a team, we have already begun implementing improvements in many areas which have enhanced our student's academic achievements. This positive attitude and need to continually assess what we are doing, and improve where ever we see necessary, for the benefits of the children, is what makes this a great school for your children to attend.

## Performance of our students

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

Parent Satisfaction Rating:	Our School Mean 3.14	The State Mean 2.90	Like School Mean 3.07
Student Satisfaction Rating:	Our School Mean 2.99	The State Mean 3.02	Like School Mean 3.15
Staff Satisfaction Rating:	Our School Mean 3.60	The State Mean 2.85	Like School Mean 3.26

# 2007 School Annual Report