Annual Report - 2010
The Toowoomba Preparatory School

SCHOOL DETAILS

School Sector: Independent Anglican Day and Boarding School

School's Address: 2 Campbell Street, Toowoomba, QLD 4350

Total Enrolment (2010): 480

Year Levels Offered: Prep Year – Year 7

Co-educational

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

- Learning Support Program – all students Prep – 7
  - Learning difficulties
  - Enrichment
- English as a Second Language Program
- Performing Arts Program
  - Choirs (Years 1 – 7)
  - Chapel Choir
  - Year 2 String Program
  - Year 4 Band Program
  - Recorder Band
  - Concert Band
  - Stage Band
  - Orchestra
  - String Ensembles
  - Jazz Ensemble
  - String Out
  - Eisteddfod
  - Instrumental and Vocal Lessons
  - School Musical (Years 4 – 7)
  - Speech and Drama
- Visual Arts Program (Years 1 – 7) / Art Club
- Manual Arts Program (Years 5 – 7) / Woodwork Club
- Science Program
  - Includes laboratory
- French Program (P - 7)
- Chess Program (Years 2 – 4)

Wider Curricular Activities

- School Camps (Years 3 – 7)
- Weekend Adventure Camps (Years 6 and 7)
- Themed Socials (Years 4 – 7)
- Sport
  - AFL
  - Aquathon
  - Athletics
  - Ball Games
  - Basketball
  - Cricket
  - Cross Country
  - Equestrian
  - Football
  - Hockey
  - Netball
  - Rugby League
  - Rugby Union
  - Softball
  - Swimming
  - Tennis
  - Volleyball
- School Musical (Years 4 – 7)
- Assembly Performances (Prep – Year 3)
- Educational Expos
- Performing Arts Concerts
- Exhibition of Children's Art
- Excursions

SCHOOL CULTURE

Staff Development Priorities for 2010

The Toowoomba Preparatory School has a strong commitment to ensuring that all teachers are given sound and relevant professional development opportunities that assist them in providing the best possible learning experiences for their students. During 2010 the major focus centred around equipping teachers with the tools and skills required to effectively use a variety of digital technologies in the classroom environment.

Teachers were provided with numerous professional development sessions in the use of interactive whiteboards (IWBs) and worked collaboratively to program learning experiences that integrated IWB and computer based activities into all subject areas.

Another major professional development focus for 2010 was the exploration of the draft Australian Curriculum. Working together, the teachers conducted an audit of the school's current curriculum and familiarised themselves with the requirements of the Australian Curriculum. In doing so, the teachers at The Toowoomba Prep School have become well equipped to fully implement the Australian curriculum in the future.

Pastoral Care

Toowoomba Prep is an Anglican School and is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment, where respect and values are at the forefront of everything we do. Our students grow in confidence, character, knowledge and skills through the care and support of their school community. They are encouraged to develop self-discipline and develop an awareness of their own spiritual growth.

With a culture based on Christian values and respect for others, our students learn to acknowledge and appreciate diversity and value others.

Weekly Chapel Services are held for each sub-school (Lower/Middle/Upper) and students are involved in presenting stories, singing, leading prayers and readings. Communion Services are generally held every third Saturday during the school term for boarders, school families and the wider community. Special Family Chapel Services are also held throughout the year.

Human Relationships Education Program

Our Human Relationships Education program aims to provide each student with effective strategies to assist them in their social interactions with others, personal development and awareness of the social norms and expectations of the school and local community. Through regular weekly lessons, via stories and messages at Assemblies and Chapel Services, students are given opportunities to develop empathy, resilience and other life-long qualities.

We have a strong commitment to child protection through the appointment of Child Protection Officers, as well as specific policies on child welfare, behaviour management and anti-bullying programs.

Parental Involvement

The Toowoomba Preparatory School believes that the education of children is a partnership between home and school and sees the involvement of parents as integral to the holistic development of each child. Many avenues are provided for parents to become involved in the work of the school. For example, our parents are regularly involved in our classroom reading programs, school excursions and outings, they are heavily involved in the organisation and running of the School Fete, Clothing Shop, the annual Exhibition of Children’s Art and School Tuckshop.

The Parents and Friends Association works closely in conjunction with the Head of School and the School Council to organise functions for the school community and provide financial support for the purchase of school resources. For example, the majority of Interactive Whiteboards currently used at the school, were kindly donated by the parent bodies.

ACADEMIC RESULTS

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy Results - 2010

NUMERACY			
Year Level	**School Mean**	**State Mean**	**% above benchmark**
Year 3	449	378	100%
Year 5	524	474	98%
Year 7	579	546	98%

GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION			
Year Level	**School Mean**	**State Mean**	**% above benchmark**
Year 3	492	398	100%
Year 5	528	483	95%
Year 7	533	529	93%

SPELLING			
Year Level	**School Mean**	**State Mean**	**% above benchmark**
Year 3	442	371	100%
Year 5	498	468	97%
Year 7	537	535	95%

WRITING			
Year Level	**School Mean**	**State Mean**	**% above benchmark**
Year 3	464	402	100%
Year 5	489	472	92%
Year 7	547	531	97%

READING			
Year Level	**School Mean**	**State Mean**	**% above benchmark**
Year 3	476	393	100%
Year 5	516	468	97%
Year 7	552	537	98%

2011 figures not yet available.