



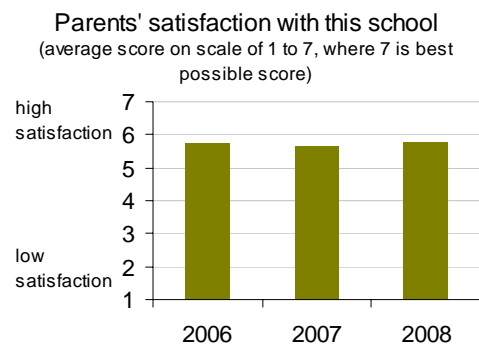
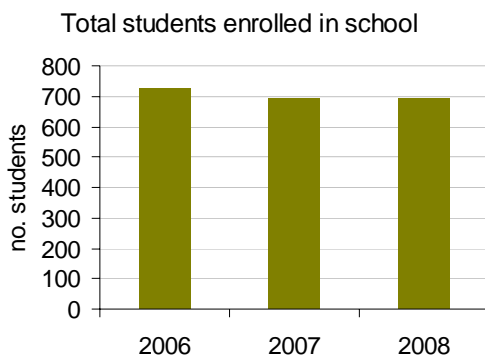
**Wodonga Primary School**  
**0037**

**2008 Annual Report to the  
School Community**



## School Overview

Wodonga Primary School services the urban township of Wodonga. The school continues to maintain high populations of students from across the area and not only from the immediate local community. The school provides quality education for a diverse population. Our student backgrounds are varied in relation to social and economic situations as well as family dynamics. We have experienced a small growth in students from other nationalities as well as English as a Second Language students. The use of the cluster ESL teacher has supported both students and teachers with the introduction into our educational system. Wodonga Primary School commenced the year with 694 students and operated with 31 classrooms in 2008. Classes were mainly developed into age appropriate (straight) classes with the inclusion of 2 composite classes (Year 1 /2 and Year 5 /6) to support smaller class sizes. Wodonga PS actively strives to maintain classes at the smallest size possible to ensure that individual needs of students can be met. Enrolments continued to rise throughout the year with student numbers peaking at 710 during Term 3. These numbers continue to demonstrate consistent enrolment patterns over the past 2 years at Wodonga PS. Parent Satisfaction has remained consistent at the school over the past 3 years.



### Commonwealth Requirements

- Teacher Satisfaction - The school mean for teacher satisfaction (morale) at this school was 77 on a scale from 0 to 100 where 100 is the best possible score.
- Teacher Absence - to be included when data is available
- Teacher Retention – Of the 43 teaching staff at Wodonga PS at June 2007 (including those on leave without pay), 39 or 91% were still at the school at June 2008. This figure across all Government schools was 84%.
- Teacher participation in professional learning –All teaching staff have participated in professional learning throughout the year, such as the, Regional Common Curriculum (Numeracy), Australian Government Quality Teacher Program and the Induction / Mentoring for Beginning program for teachers.
- Teacher Qualifications – All teachers at Wodonga Primary school are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching. The requirements for registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching can be found at;

<http://www.vit.vic.edu.au/content.asp?>

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## Principal's Report

Wodonga Primary School continued to provide quality educational opportunities to all students throughout 2008. The commencement of the Stage 2 building project was eagerly awaited although resulted in class movements, playground restrictions and shared learning spaces. I commend the teaching staff of Wodonga PS for their continued high quality teaching approaches that ensured that student focus was maintained. The development of the Wodonga Primary School Whole School assessment schedule set high expectations for staff in relation to the collection and analysis of individual student performance data. This enabled the development of personal learning approaches for each student. Student progress is tracked via the Data Tracking Wall that plots each child in the school at their current literacy level.

The Regional Common Curriculum PD (numeracy) enabled staff to develop consistent assessment and teaching approaches across our school. Data gathered throughout the year has set a benchmark for future years and provides starting points for teachers with all students. School-based professional learning for teachers was focused on writing approaches.

Leadership Learning Walks were implemented throughout the year to support and guide teachers in literacy teaching approaches. These walks were a valuable tool to developing a consistent approach across the school and setting foci for staff PD sessions.

Wodonga PS was awarded the Hume Region "Permission to Shine – School Improvement" award for the implementation of key literacy strategies and structures to support student outcomes.



Wodonga Primary School maintained exemplary specialist programs – Art, Music, LOTE (Japanese) and Physical Education. These programs provide opportunities for students to extend their skills and to take their learning into the community. During 2008, Wodonga Primary School was a part of the Victorian State School Spectacular – this enabled a small group of students to experience the thrill of participating in a major State-wide event as well as the work involved in leading up to the performance. Our school also won a major award related to the Premiers Reading Challenge and another small group of students experienced the thrill of accepting the award in Melbourne and bringing it back to our school assembly.

A special thank you to our outgoing School Council President – Robert Groat. He has led our School through major building works, 150<sup>th</sup> celebration as well as the implementation of our School Strategic Plan.



## Student Learning

### Student Learning Outcomes

Goal: Improve Student Learning with a specific focus on Literacy/Numeracy on a whole school basis’.

#### Targets:

- To improve English Writing VELs outcomes by 10% over the period 2006/2007/2008 in Years 1 to 6.
- To improve school Reading, Writing and Number AIM means Years 3 and 5 to LSG mean levels in each of 2006/2007/2008.
- To improve Mathematics VELs means in Measurement by 15% over the period 2006/2007/2008 in Years 1 to 6.

The following outlines some of the key strategies in 2008:

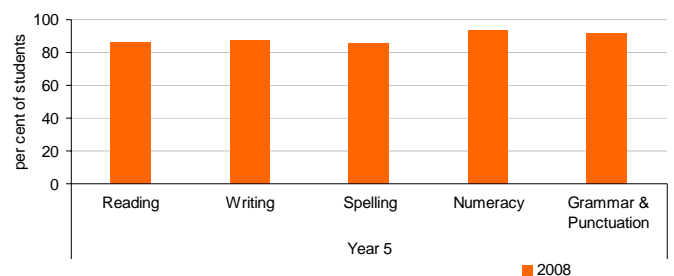
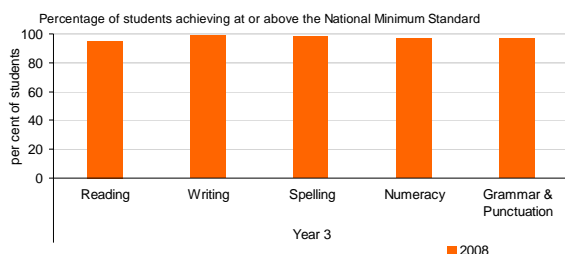
#### Literacy:

- Establishment of Wodonga Primary School Assessment schedule to ensure that assessments can gain precise knowledge of student progress and needs in literacy
- Establishment of the Literacy Data wall to track student progress and to promote teaching and learning dialogue related to effective teaching approaches.
- Establishment of Leadership walks in Literacy with key criteria and strategies for observation. Feedback provided to individual teachers and teams.

#### Numeracy :

- In the past 12 months Wodonga Primary School has established a whole school assessment strategy that is based on the Numeracy Fluency Interview Assessment that was a Hume Region Initiative.
- 2008 was the Regional Introduction of Common Curriculum - Numeracy strategies. Wodonga Primary School participated in a number of Professional Development Days where the focus was the implementation of this initiative.
- Monitoring of all students but particularly students identified at risk in numeracy development
- Enhanced data collation has occurred through the recording of the Interview results on a common data base which will be used for analysis and to provide a basis for future needs based teaching. This enhanced data collection will identify students at risk and provide a basis for developing an Individual Improvement Learning Plans.

### Percentage of students achieving at or above the National Minimum Standards



## Student Engagement and Wellbeing

*Wodonga Primary School continues to maintain a high focus on student engagement and wellbeing. Our Right on Track program specifically targets the development of strong skills and understandings related to our school values. The school expanded their values to include the National Values and we used every opportunity throughout the year to celebrate and reinforce the values.*

*The school based Shining Star initiative rewarded students across the school for consistently demonstrating the school values. This initiative worked as a partnership reward program with local businesses.*

*Staff Professional Learning continued to be a major focus with all staff having initial training in Restorative Practises while a representative at each year level was provided with more in-depth skill application.*

*A school chaplain was employed to support student wellbeing – he was able to support individual students, families and small groups. Targeted programs such as FRIENDS and KEAPS were conducted for specific students to support the development of social and emotional growth.*

*Focus for the Right on Track program were:*

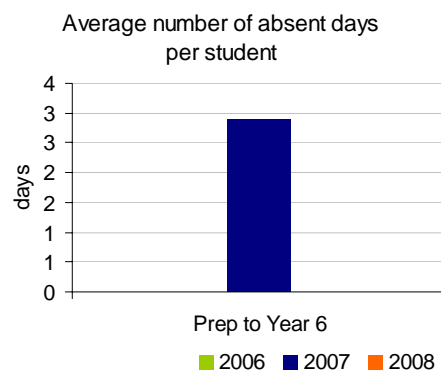
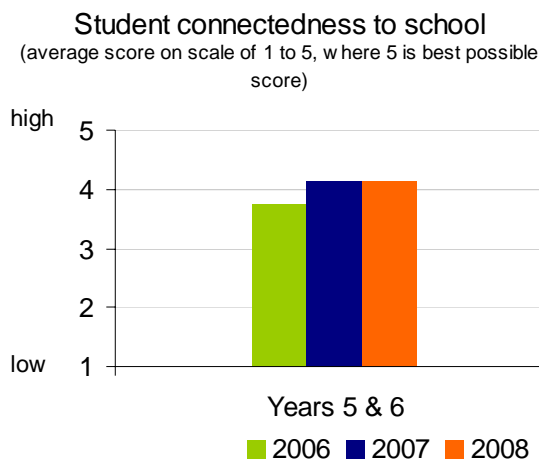
Term 1 focus – Start Right – setting of classroom expectations of behaviour, effort and attitude. An individual class booklet was set home to each family outlining the agreed values.

Term 2 focus – Keep Right –Getting Along “We’re Great Outdoors”

Term 3 focus – Keep Right –Confidence “Putting your Best Foot Forward”

Term 4 focus – Finish Right – Persistence “Stick to It”

Attendance data is consistent with the state average. The attendance program used at Wodonga PS does not transfer data to the School Level report. Attendance data can be obtained by contacting the school.



## Student Pathways and Transitions

The Wodonga Primary School strategic plan outlines the following goal:



Improve student transition K-7 with a particular focus on the large Mobility Transition cohort, Koori students, students with disabilities and impairments and Kinder to Prep, Years 2 to 3 and Years 6 to 7 cohorts.

At Wodonga Primary School, we work within the Wodonga Urban cluster to establish key strategies and procedures that support transition across all levels. In particular, we strive to ensure that pre-school to school transition and Year 6 – 7 transition is a smooth, positive experience for all students. The importance of building student confidence and skills in themselves in a range of settings supports the notion of a personalised pathway for every child.

Our pathway focus includes:

- Kinder to School
- Primary to Secondary School
- School to Special School
- School to the Community

Strategies to support each group include:

- Network and school plan to support transition – developed over 3 years.
- Cluster School Readiness parent information session
- Development of Cluster approach to enhance student pathways in government schools.
- Term 4 program of school familiarisation – involving all students who are enrolled for the following year at Wodonga Primary School
- Attendance meetings and tracking of student absences – this provides a early intervention strategy into students who are beginning to develop irregular attendance patterns.
- Koori Individual Learning Plans – developed for all Koori students and utilised by the Koori Educator to guide their support to individual students.
- Individual Learning Plans for students at risk – tracking of students who are deemed at risk in academic areas.
- Individual Learning Plans for students on the Disability and Impairment program – the development of strong goals and focus areas to guide all stakeholders in relation to Students with Disabilities.
- Strong Community links programs via Arts, Student Investigations, Slow Food program etc – these programs promote student engagement and purposeful learning.



## Future Directions

Wodonga PS will undergo a Whole School Review in 2009. This process will provide the school community with the opportunity to participate in discussion, reflection and review of the achievements of the school over the past 3 years and the opportunity to set new directions and foci for the upcoming years. The development of a new School Strategic Plan will guide our whole school directions and lead towards enhanced student learning. Therefore no future directions will be set down in this report however all stakeholders of Wodonga Primary school are encouraged to participate in the various school wide opportunities for consultation over the next 2 terms.

Please contact the school for further information.



## Financial Performance and Position

*The recommended word length for this section is approximately 400 words.*

*In this section, schools should reflect on their financial performance and how this supported their plans for improvement.*

Financial Performance – Operating Statement Summary for the year ending 31st December, 2008	
Revenue	2008 Actual
DE&T Grants	659307
Commonwealth Government Grants	52697
State Government Grants	0
Other	67713
Locally Raised Funds	632616
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>1412333</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Salaries and Allowances	342597
Bank Charges	2626
Consumables	85060
Books and Publications	
Communication Costs	26633
Furniture and Equipment	91650
Utilities	38842
Property Services	142106
Travel and Subsistence	4318
Motor Vehicle Expenses	0
Administration	8701
Health and Personal Development	2380
Professional Development	26536
Trading and Fundraising	100279
Support/Service	38324
Miscellaneous	118701
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>1028754</b>
<b>Net Operating Surplus/- Deficit</b>	<b>383579</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>28284</b> includes 9343 on library books and reference material
Please note that the above amounts do not include any credit revenue or expenditure allocated or spent by the school through its Student Resource Package	

Financial Position as at 31st December, 2008	
<b>Funds Available</b>	<b>2008 Actual</b>
High Yield Investment Account	498227.72
Official Account	12344.19
Other Bank Accounts - VTU	10994.05
<i>(insert)</i>	
<i>(insert)</i>	
<b>Total Funds Available</b>	
<b>Financial Commitments</b>	<b>2008 Actual</b>
School Operating Reserve	169986.99
Co-operative Bank Account	0
Assets or Equipment Replacement < 12 months	0
Revenue Received in Advance	10373.74
Building/Grounds including SMS < 12 months	189105.75
Region /Clusters Funds/School Based Programs < 12 months	86910.93
Provision Accounts < 12 months	0
Repayable to DEECD	0
Other Recurrent Expenditure (Accounts Payable)	65188.55
Assets or Equipment Replacement > 12 months	0
Building/Grounds including SMS > 12 months	0
Region /Clusters Funds/School Based Programs > 12 months	0
Provision Accounts > 12 months	0
Co-operative loan >12 months	0
Beneficiary/Memorial Accounts	0
<b>Total Financial Commitments</b>	<b>351578.97</b>

## School Contact Information

Address:	Brockley Street, Wodonga Vic 3690
Principal:	Pamela Thibou-Martin
School Council President:	Robert Groat
Telephone:	02 6024 2655
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Web site:	<a href="http://www.wodonga-ps.vic.edu.au">www.wodonga-ps.vic.edu.au</a>

This report contains summary data extracted from the School Level Report. If you would like to access the School Level Report, please contact (insert school contact details).