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Principal's foreword

Introduction

Welcome to our great school. Thangool State School provides a warm, supportive environment where all students are given the best opportunity to reach their potential. Students, staff, parents and wider community all come together to ensure a successful primary school experience. Our school has a proud history of achievements and is very much the hub of the Thangool community.

Thangool State School operates in a multi age classroom setting. This allows for teacher directed, self paced and individualised learning. The learning environment caters for early, lower, middle and upper school students.

Thangool State School strives to meet the needs of the students as they progress through their education. The curriculum reflects current education trends as well as incorporating local community values. Students at all ability levels are provided with individual support and attention. Each child is presented with an appropriate range of quality learning experiences that endeavour to develop and strengthen specific skills and abilities as well as meeting the needs of our students and society today. Our aim is to foster life long learning.

Visitors to our school always comment on the wonderful behaviour and attitude of our students, the dedication of all staff members, the involvement of the parents across all facets of schooling and the appearance of our school grounds. Our excellent facilities are currently being enhanced by the inclusion of a Library/Science block and a covered play area through the BER programme.

If you would like further information on enrolling your child at Thangool State School, please do not hesitate contacting me.

Liz Langford

Principal

Future outlook

We look forward to a prosperous future where our already strong learning outcomes are enhanced, our facilities are maintained and improved, and where our entire school community continues to further their learning journey.

School Profile

Thangool is a co-educational school offering Prep – 7. In 2009 our school has a total enrolment of 170 students.

Thangool State School is set in a rural environment, where primary industries have traditionally provided the chief form of income for families attending our school.

The school opened as a Provisional Railway Camp School in 1926, but was moved to its present location in 1927. During the fifties and sixties our school grew as result of the closures of a number of smaller schools in the area, and bus runs established to feed them to Thangool. Therefore, we service a significant area of the southern and south-western end of the Banana Shire and the Central Coast Educational District.

Thangool has developed a reputation for being a community school, where community support has been almost guaranteed. School-community links have been well-founded thanks to the vision of previous principals and school supporters.

The school is fortunate in having a staff of dedicated teachers, aides and administration, solid parental interest and backing, a body of quality students, and a community which concerns itself with providing a positive and supportive educational environment.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

At Thangool State School we aim to achieve the best educational outcomes for every student in our school and to develop them as independent knowledgeable people, who are responsible and motivated in society.

Extra curricula activities

We provide a rich and as varied a curriculum as possible.

All students are offered the opportunity to participate in sports programs.

Educational Excursions are organised for individual classes or sections of the school.

Year Sevens have an annual leadership camp, while Years Sixes and Sevens have a trip to Brisbane on the odd-numbered years.

Our school participates in the Callide Valley Show, Biloela Eisteddfod, local activities, and a variety of competitions run by educational and private organizations.

Private music lessons (piano & guitar) are conducted at the school during regular school hours.

A school dance and/or concert is organised for the end of each year.

Arts Council productions are offered throughout the year and these are performed at the Thangool Recreation Reserve.

From time to time, visiting artists, writers, poets, and performers spend time in our school and classrooms thus creating new experiences for our students.

Computers

The school has a fully equipped computer lab and each classroom has an average of four computers. ICTs are integrated across the curriculum areas.

Sport

Thangool State School actively encourages students to participate in sporting activities. An Intra-school athletics and swimming carnival is conducted each year between the 2 school sporting houses Kariboe and Kroombit. Our school also participates in cluster and district sports activities. Students are provided with the opportunity to attend sporting trials for a variety of sports that can eventually lead to cluster, district, regional & state representation.

Active After School Sports Program

The Active After-school Community (AASC) program is an exciting physical activity program for Australian primary school aged children. The program is delivered through safe, supervised environments of primary schools during the timeslot of 3.15pm to 4.15pm. The program provides increased opportunities for children to be physically active, improve motor skill development and provide opportunities for participation. Each term a new sport is on offer.

Signing Choir

Thangool State School has a signing choir. Children in Yr 5-7 are encouraged to join the choir. The signing choir performs at many school and community events.

Singing Choirs

The singing choir continues to be popular and enters the Biloela eisteddfod.

Project Club

Thangool State School has a very active Project Club that consists of Yr 5/6/7 students. The Project Club meets once a month to discuss issues so as to help the staff and community make informed decisions. The Project Club also conduct a Project Club day where students bring in home grown produce, art, cooking, construction etc to be judged and then auctioned off to help fundraise money for the Project Club to purchase equipment for the school.

Camps

Each year our Yr 7 students participate in a Leadership Camp at the beginning of Term 1. The aim of the camp is to foster leadership skills that will help our Yr 7 students as they positively lead the student body through the school year. The camp also allows students the opportunity to demonstrate their qualities that may allow them to become a school or sports captain. The Yr 6 & Yr 7 students also have the opportunity to participate in a camp to Brisbane every second year. This camp is very popular with the students and highly valued by parents.

Social Climate/Pastoral Care Program

In 2008 a new school chaplain was appointed who visits on a Wednesday. Each Thursday for 30

Our school at a glance

minutes, religion lessons are conducted for all students. These lessons complement our Supportive School Environment Policy. As we are a relatively small school, staff know all of the children at a personal level and positive relationships are a feature of the school.

Involving parents in their child's education.

Thangool State School has a very active Parents and Citizen's Association, which meets on the third Wednesday afternoon of the month, at the school. They ensure our school is very well resourced, being involved in the budget design for the school as well as fundraising through its own activities, the school P&C allows all parents / caregivers the opportunity to become actively involved in their child's education.

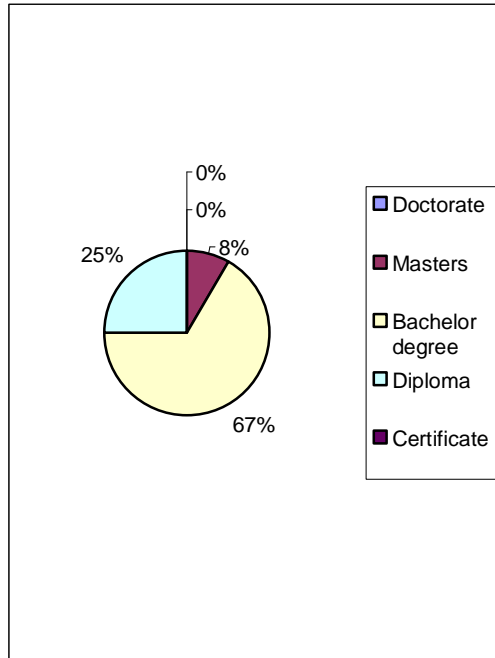
All parents/caregivers may become members of our P & C and are encouraged to do so. All positions become vacant at the P&C Annual General Meeting.

You can email the P&C by using this address: pandc@thangoolss.eq.edu.au

Thangool State School actively encourages parental involvement across all facets of school life. Classes enjoy parent helpers who assist with reading, writing, art, sporting and extracurricular activities. It is this parent involvement that makes our school the wonderful place that it is.

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of Attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	1
Bachelor degree	8
Diploma	3
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 were \$7900.
- The major professional development initiatives were as follows:
 - Gifted and Talented
 - ASD, Education Adjustment Plans
 - Early Years Action Plan
 - ICT Pedagogical Licence and ICT certificate
 - Keys into Literacy Training
 - Science Connections
- Continued refinement of the Responsible Behaviour Plan.
- The involvement of teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 89%.

Our staff profile

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96 % in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 100% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.



Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 94 %.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	357	457	540
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 84 %	82 %	100%
Writing	Average score for the school	403	477	541
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 100 %	93 %	91%
Spelling	Average score for the school	355	457	552
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89 %	75 %	95 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	381	464	550
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 95%	93 %	95 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	338	448	546
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89 %	89%	100 %

2008 School Annual Report



Queensland
Government

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	89 %
Writing	94 %
Number	94 %

Other Key Outcomes

Value added
The Year 7 cohort was above the state average in all areas and above the Australian average in four out of five areas.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school
<p>90% of students were satisfied that they are getting a good education a Thangool SS.</p> <p>80% of parents and caregivers were satisfied that they are getting a good education a Thangool SS.</p> <p>87% of parents and caregivers were satisfied that Thangool SS is a good school.</p>

