

# Berry Springs School

## School Performance 2007

### Introduction

As a parent, you may want to know how our school performed during 2007. This summary will give you some information about the school's performance as well as give you the opportunity to 'drop us a line' about your views on how we are doing. You can find more detailed information about our school in the full annual report which is available on request and is also on the website [www.schools.nt.edu.au/berryspringsschool](http://www.schools.nt.edu.au/berryspringsschool). I hope that you will arrange to come and speak to myself or a staff member if there are issues you want to raise.

Sheila Delahay  
Principal

The statistics in this newsletter have been calculated in the same way for all government schools in the Northern Territory. They form part of the picture of activities at Berry Springs School.

### Our team

#### Staff attendance

There was an average attendance rate by all staff of 92% (admin as well as teaching staff). Outbreaks of flu affected staff as well as students.

#### Teacher qualifications

Our teachers held the following qualifications:  
Diploma or equivalent: 1 Degree: 16  
Postgraduate: 1

#### Expenditure and teacher participation in professional learning

Staff across the school participated in more than 132 professional learning sessions including: Occupational Health and Safety, Mandatory Reporting, Asthma Management, Moderation of Work Samples, First Steps Writing and Reading, Various Information Technology workshops, English as a Second Language, Early Years, Tribes, Safe Schools Framework, Middle Years, Adolescence and Autism Spectrum disorder, Schools Energy Blitz, MYOB, Accrual Accounting, and First Aid training.

Total expenditure on Professional learning was \$14331.27. The majority of the cost was for relief teachers some of which was reimbursed to the school by NTDEET.

### Our students

#### Student enrolment

Average enrolment for 2007 was 284 which was the highest yearly average enrolment ever. Enrolments were down in the Preschool not reaching over 21 until term 4. 16% of our enrolments were Indigenous.

#### Student attendance

The average attendance rate for all students, including preschool, over the course of the year was 89%.

#### Benchmark results (Multilevel Assessment Program)

Students at Berry Springs School performed well in comparison with students in the Palmerston and Rural Cluster, other urban schools and the system in the Multilevel Assessment Program. Focus needs to be on improving the number of students reaching benchmark and the number who are achieving well above benchmark. Year 3 writing is an area of concern. Results in writing could improve across all levels. Teachers analysed the results and have identified areas to target for improvement in each curriculum area.

#### Year 3

- 87% of students participating in the numeracy test achieved benchmark compared with 83% in the PARCS cluster and 83% in urban schools.
- 77% of students participating in the reading test achieved benchmark compared with 73% in the cluster and 77% in urban schools
- 68% of students participating in the writing test achieved benchmark compared with 68% in the cluster, and 79% in urban schools

#### Year 5

- 88% of students participating in the numeracy test achieved benchmark compared with 74% in the PARCS cluster and 87% in urban schools
- 92% of students participating in the reading test achieved benchmark compared with 74% in the cluster and 87% in urban schools.



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- 84% of year 5 students participating in the writing test achieved benchmark compared with 70% in the cluster and 81% in urban schools.

### Year 7

- 93% of students participating in the numeracy test achieved benchmark compared with 68% in the cluster and 82% in urban schools
- 89% participating in the reading test achieved benchmark compared with 65% in the cluster and 75% in urban schools
- 57% participating in the writing test achieved benchmark compared with 41% in the cluster and 56% in urban schools.

### Value added

Programs and initiatives that gave students support during the year included:

- Commonwealth funding focused on the development of literacy skills in the early years - employment of tutors and resources.
- Indigenous students were supported in literacy and numeracy through the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme and a homework centre.
- Authentic learning programs for middle years students included the Energy Blitz and a focus on using computer technology to enhance learning outcomes.
- Indonesian taught to years 6 and 7 students.
- The Early Entry to School trial was implemented in 2007 allowing children to commence Preschool and Transition earlier than previously.
- Students 'at risk' supported through special Education and ESL programs.
- Music programs enhanced through Instrumental tuition in guitar and brass, junior and senior choirs.

### Our school community

- The new Dress Code was implemented with compulsory school shirt.
- A to E reporting was fully implemented in semester 2, 2007.
- \$ for \$ Grant provided funds for upgrading the library, new chairs for classrooms, preschool play equipment upgraded and additional resources for classrooms.
- Active Communities After School Activities – ran 2 afternoons a week providing fun and fitness for participating students.

- Successful events included Twilight School, Twilight sports, Xmas Concert, Preschool Dinner Dance, Harmony Day activities, Literacy and Numeracy Week activities, discos, choir participation in the BEAT and the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.
- The school website was developed.
- Successful application for interactive whiteboards through the Commonwealth Investing in Our Schools Program.
- The major business for School Council in 2007 included: Outside School Hours Care, Canteen, Chaplaincy Program, 30 Birthday Celebrations and fundraising.
- The Fundraising committee, successfully raised \$12000 for the \$ for \$ grant.
- Parent Resource Group worked hard to make resources for the school.
- 2007 - final for year 7 students

## Your views are important

Please rate your response to the following questions using the scale below:

- 1 Very satisfied
- 2 Satisfied
- 3 Not sure
- 4 Dissatisfied
- 5 Very dissatisfied

How satisfied are you:

- ... with what your child is learning at school
- ... with the quality of teaching that your child receives
- ... with the encouragement that the school gives to your child
- ... that the school makes you feel welcome
- ... with student discipline in the school
- ... with the amount of information you receive about the progress of your child
- ... with the amount of information that you receive about the performance of the school


Your responses are confidential.