

**Clifton Creek P.S
3684**

**2008 Annual Report to the
School Community**

CLIFTON CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL



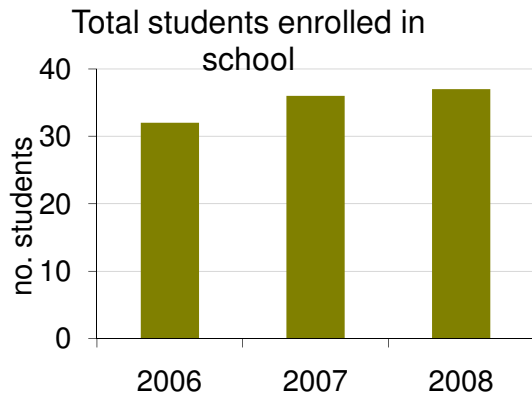
School Overview

Clifton Creek is a small rural school situated approximately 20 kilometres north of Bairnsdale. Our enrolment is stable and during 2008 we maintained an enrolment of 35 students. The vast majority of our students commute from the Bairnsdale, Bruthen and Mount Taylor areas. Most of the other students who reside within the school catchment utilised the Government bus run. Parents continue to hire a private bus to transport children from outside the local catchment. Organisation of the private bus run is managed by a small committee of parents.

Clifton Creek School prides itself on the unique culture and programs taught. During 2008 the children were grouped into P-2 being taught by Clare Edwards, 3-4 taught by Jenny Hearnnes and 5-6 taught by Jenny Hirs, our new graduate teacher. We also had 2 integration support staff working in the junior and middle classes. A strong emphasis was placed on literacy and numeracy and a commitment was made by all staff to continue their professional development using John Munro's Highly Reliable Literacy Strategies. We are part of the Mitchell River Cluster of schools and as a result, we participate in extra curricula activities providing the children with additional social, cultural and sporting opportunities. As part of the cluster in 2008 the children participated in Cluster Athletics, Cross Country, Young Leaders camp and the Grade 6 Graduation dinner.

The school's facilities consist of a library/staff/administration area, two modular classrooms, an environmental laboratory and hothouse with kitchen facilities, a mudbrick multi purpose room and a networked technology centre well resourced with iMACS and IBM computers. The grounds feature a rustic playground, a large climbing frame called 'the spida' a large grassed area, shady trees, an asphalted area, large chook/peacock, duck pavilion, secret garden, toddler playground, wicked vegetable garden beds and flower gardens. We are all very excited about the prospect of new facilities in 2009 under the Better Schools Today program. We will receive a new Admin Mod 5, a new toilet block and a classroom Mod. 5.

Student enrolments -

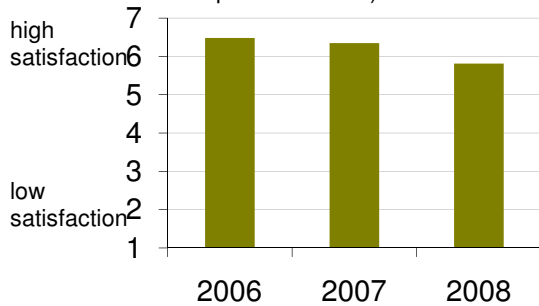


The graph indicates that the number of students enrolled at Clifton Creek has shown an upward trend.

- **Teacher Satisfaction** – The average score for teacher satisfaction (morale) at this school was above 90% on a scale from 0 to 100 where 100 is the best possible score.
- **Teacher Absence** – There were no significant teacher absences during 2008.
- **Teacher Retention** – Of the 4 teaching staff at June 2007, 4 or 100% 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 Resource Smart Schools program, John Munro, Protective Behaviours, Drug Education, Maths P.D with Sam Eccles, Beginning Teachers Workshop and GLIS training,
- **Teacher Qualifications** – All teachers at Clifton Creek Primary School are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.

Parent Satisfaction -

Parents' satisfaction with this school
(average score on scale of 1 to 7, where 7 is best possible score)



Parent satisfaction at Clifton Creek has trended down, however it is still high and often well above the state mean.

Principal's Report

It is hard to imagine that another year has flown by already. 2008 certainly was a year to remember as we prepared for our new buildings. We continued to run our many varied exciting and engaging programs. We welcomed Clare Edwards to Clifton Creek for 12 months to work in the junior room. Her energy and enthusiasm certainly complimented all here at Clifton Creek. We were all very sad to see her go at the end of the year. During 2008 we developed a worm farm and monitored our waste practises. 2008 also saw the official opening of our outdoor performance area. We also participated in Joining the Chorus and even featured in the Sun newspaper. We continued with our many unique rituals here at the Creek such as our Elective program, Mates, Tuckshop, Friday Fang and Friday Wishes. We christened our Outdoor Performance area with our first school concert held on December 12th. Unfortunately the weather wasn't too kind to us; however families turned out in full force to support this annual event.

2008 saw the beginning of a program called Secret Boys' Business run by Michael Fontana. I can't tell you what it is about because it is a secret! We continued our focus on literacy and numeracy and purchased an online program called 'Mathletics'. We also attended many John Munro professional development sessions to 'up-skill' us on the Seven High Reliability Literacy Teaching Procedures. Teachers at Clifton Creek continue to ensure that these strategies are embedded in their day to day teaching practises. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the outgoing members of school council. Your support, input, direction and enthusiasm will certainly be missed. I would also like to thank all the dedicated staff working at Clifton Creek- there is no doubt that you are the backbone of this wonderful educational setting. As we head into 2009, I know it will be filled with many exciting challenges as we settle into our new buildings and the coming year ahead.

Carol Kennedy

Highlights of 2008

Friday Wishes
 CFA visit
 Composting
 Worm Farm
 Clean Up Aust. Day
 Ms. Eds
 Opening of stage
 Japanese
 Tuckshop
 Friday Fang
 Covenant Players
 Athletics
 Active After Schools
 Pets
 Camp Fire
 Band
 JTC
 Mini Fete
 Computers
 Story writing
 Garden beds
 Rotary

Reading Land
 Secret Boys' Business
 Community Play
 Vox Bandicoot
 Aust. Biggest Morning tea
 Sleepover
 Athletics
 Somers Camp
 Instrumental music
 Drumming
 Messy Mondays
 Mid week munchies
 Aggie, Milton, Bosco
 Earn and Learn
 Gippspell
 Football clinic
 Netball
 Electives
 Pet Day
 Grade 6 survivor Camp
 Concert
 Preparation for new buildings.

School Council President's Report

It is both with a sense of achievement and great sadness that I prepare my final School Council President's Report, as I make the enormous adjustment to being the parent of a secondary school student!

Our Clifton Creek Primary School Community is once again able to celebrate a successful academic year, meeting challenges, accommodating change and maintaining strong educational and community outcomes.

2008 saw many challenges and opportunities for our council, staff and students, predominantly related to our long-term infrastructure improvements. We take great pride in our incredible outdoor performance area, which both staff and students have already put to great use, including its own impressive opening ceremony. The 2008 end-of-year concert was a testament to the commitment of our staff, students and their families – as students performed on the stage, dozens of friends and family stood out in the cold and incessant rain, full of cheer and encouragement. Troopers all!!

Our new library is also in use, currently as a classroom, until our second building entitlement arrives. Our new 'Mod5' admin facilities and senior classroom are fabulous, enabling our Principal and Business Manager to finally both have spaces conducive to their needs, and the children love their bright spacious new classroom. A new toilet block, water tanks – the list goes on and there is more to come!

Our children have once again earned our pride and admiration in their resilience, acceptance of change, and positivity. This is an absolute credit to our dedicated teaching and support staff, who demonstrate every day that our children come first.

Personally, I would like to thank Carol Kennedy for her exceptional leadership and genuine care for our children and the school as a whole. Anne Eager is the best vice-president anyone could hope for – her support and no-nonsense approach have been invaluable. Our gratitude also goes to our in-house knowledge base, Robyn Hermans, who makes *all* of our jobs easier with her calm yet incredibly organised approach within the school, and as a driving force behind many of our Clifton Creek community events.

As sad as it is for me to be moving on, I have complete faith in our Principal, incoming President and council, staff and families, who will continue to work with passion and commitment to our unique rural school.

Gina Callander
President

Student Progress & Achievements

Student Learning

Students at Clifton Creek Primary School learn in an environment that caters for the individual needs of all students in its care. It continues to develop a 'Kids First' culture. Assessment of Prep to Year 2 identified areas of improvement for 2009. Of the small cohort of 6 preps, 4 failed to reach the expected benchmark of level 5 in reading. In years 1 and 2, 75% of students met the benchmark.

NAPLAN data for 2008 indicated our year 5 cohort was slightly below the state mean in numeracy, reading and writing. Our year 3 cohort was slightly below the state mean in writing and well above the state mean in reading and numeracy.

There is no doubt that programs such as our Mates program, Electives, Friday Fang, Friday Wishes and Tuckshop provide the students with hands on experience through a variety of learning experiences. In 2008 we welcomed Clare to the team and enjoyed her enthusiasm and warm friendly personality. 2008 saw us participate once again in Joining the Chorus which provided the students with the opportunity to participate in a State Schools Spectacular in Melbourne. The children will carry with them many unforgettable memories.

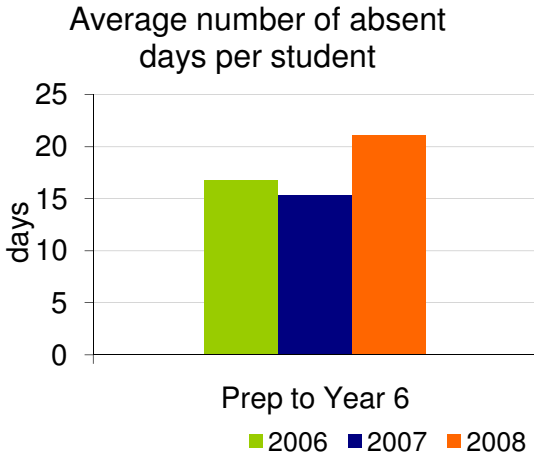
The teaching staff at Clifton Creek continues to amaze me with their creativity and love for learning- this is most infectious and as a result we have students who have a love of learning. Jenny Hirs completed her first year of teaching here at 'The Creek' in the senior classroom. I know she will hold these memories close to her heart in years to come. Jenny Hearnnes continued to amaze us with her incredible knowledge of the John Munro literacy strategies and her endless computer knowledge. We were lucky to have

Mellissa and Hollie working with students providing 1-1 assistance when needed. Whilst 2009 has seen increased enrolments, I am sure that Clifton Creek Primary School will continue to foster a culture that is inclusive, unique and has a 'Kids First' focus.

We continue to celebrate parental involvement at Clifton Creek Primary and take pride in the fact that 100% participation and commitment are the norm. Despite staffing changes again in 2008, parent opinion surveys continue to reflect a high level of satisfaction.

Student Engagement and Wellbeing

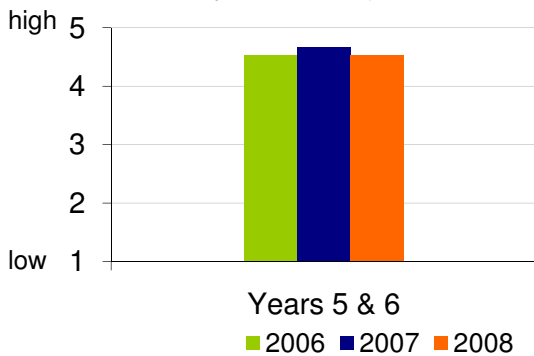
Average number of absent days per student –



It is evident that absences continue to be high. After discussions with families we hope to see absences trend down in the next 12 months. It may be noted however that some families choose to take their annual holidays during term one.

Students' school connectedness –

Student connectedness to school
(average score on scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is best possible score)



Student Pathways and Transitions

During 2008, pre-prep students and their families were welcomed to the school through an extensive orientation program during term 4. Our year 6 students attended orientation and transition programs at the local Secondary College. They also participated in Cluster activities such as the Young Leaders conference in Melbourne and the grade 6 graduation dinner. Bairnsdale Secondary College offered a PEP program which was accessed by one of our year 6 students.

Future Directions

- Clifton Creek and its staff continue to maintain a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy within the school. In Maths-we would like to develop an attitude of “We are all capable Mathematicians.”
- Continue to target spelling in 2009 and provide professional development for staff to increase teacher capacity.
- The large influx of students for 2009 has highlighted the need to empower the students to ‘live’ the message to maintain the unique ‘one in all in’ culture of our school.
- Targeted individualized programs will be a priority in 2009.
- Continue to provide unique learning opportunities for the students at our school.
- Continue to foster parental involvement through programs such as The Environmental Club and Electives.

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 Performance –	
Operating Statement Summary for the year ending 31st December, 2008	
Revenue	2008 Actual
DE&T Grants	56,452
Commonwealth Government Grants	14,286
State Government Grants	402,100
Other	25,359
Locally Raised Funds	18,744
Total Operating Revenue	521,078
Expenditure	
Salaries and Allowances	20,401
Bank Charges	0
Consumables	9,218
Books and Publications	1,143
Communication Costs	3,208
Furniture and Equipment	6,701
Utilities	4,021
Property Services	106,804
Travel and Subsistence	0
Motor Vehicle Expenses	0
Administration	3,231
Health and Personal Development	3,913
Professional Development	2,353
Trading and Fundraising	16,835
Support/Service	6,251
Miscellaneous	9,245
Total Operating Expenditure	193,323
Net Operating Surplus	327,755
Capital Expenditure	4,965

Financial Position as at 31st December, 2008	
Funds Available	2008 Actual
High Yield Investment Account	66,364.42
Official Account	570.19
Other Bank Accounts MECU	433,741.60
Total Funds Available	500,676.21
Financial Commitments	2008 Actual
School Operating Reserve	15,713.20
Assets or Equipment Replacement < 12 months	4,694.01
Building/Grounds including SMS < 12 months	429,790.00
Region /Clusters Funds/School Based Programs < 12 months	352.00
Repayable to DEECD	19,121.00
Other Recurrent Expenditure (Accounts Payable)	4,006.00
Provision Accounts > 12 months	27,000.00
Total Financial Commitments	500,676.21

Financial Performance and Position

The net operating funds at the end of 2008 were in surplus, reflecting the bulk of the Better Schools Today money as yet unspent. By June 2009 we expect that the full \$400,000 granted to CCPS will be spent on the new mod 5 admin/classroom, the new mod 5 double classroom and the new toilet block. The greatly improved facilities are a much anticipated boost to the infrastructure at CCPS, along with the IOSP performance stage and library.

Extra funds from the surplus SRP budget were also transferred to the school's High Yield Account during 2008. Unfortunately this created an unexpected shortfall in our staffing and the deficit of \$19,121 will be repaid to the DEECD in 2009.

The Commonwealth funding for Investing in Our school programme received in 2006 was finally acquitted in November 2008 with final commitments for the library confirmed and to be completed over the January 2009 period.

School Contact Information

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This report contains summary data extracted from the School Level Report.

If you would like to access the School Level Report, please contact Carol Kennedy. Ph 51 579251