

Mont Albert Primary School

SCHOOL PROFILE

2003

Vision

Mont Albert Primary School strives to provide an effective and engaging learning community, which promotes individual excellence and develops social competencies. We aim to foster life long learning, through child centred, meaningful and challenging activities, within a safe and caring learning environment, which prepares students to become part of the larger community.

Values

The School's philosophy and policies reflect the values of pride, optimism, responsibility, respect and integrity.

For our School community this means:

- All children have the ability and right to learn, enhanced in an atmosphere, which is positive, caring, stimulating and secure.
- Children are encouraged to achieve their personal best through a broad, challenging educational program.
- The School is a learning community, which fosters a shared partnership between children, staff, parents and the wider community.
- In a cooperative, non-threatening environment based on mutual respect, students can take responsibility for their own learning and behaviour.
- The development of core skills in literacy and numeracy is a high educational priority.
- The development of self-esteem, social skills and life skills such as communication, independence, problem solving, a sense of inquiry and creativity are fundamental for success.
- Successes and efforts are acknowledged and celebrated.
- Children are supported to develop strategies to cope with difficulties.

Context

Mont Albert Primary School, established in 1917, is proud of its fine tradition of scholarship. From 1919 until the early 1960's it served as a central school drawing pupils from a wide area.

The enrolment zone is situated in a pleasant residential area of Mont Albert. The present enrolment of approximately 590 students is accommodated in 25 classrooms, with the additional facilities of a well-equipped library, art room, performing arts centre, computer centre, canteen and hall. The buildings and grounds are attractive and well maintained.

The school has a distinctive ethos, which is supportive, friendly and caring. Cooperative and democratic decision-making and concern for others are emphasised both inside and outside the classroom and are valued by the whole school community.

We offer a broad, general curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Studies of Society and the Environment, Languages other than English (LOTE-Italian) Arts, Health and Physical Education. Mont Albert Primary School also offers an extensive and comprehensive Information and Learning Technology Program across all CSF Levels. We place particular emphasis on developing Literacy and Numeracy skills. Teachers in Reading Recovery, Art/Craft, Music, Drama, Physical Education, Library and the Italian language, support a comprehensive range of specialists' activities. Programs operate for gifted and talented students and students requiring support.

The school recognises that children have different learning styles, talents and interests and provides additional enrichment programs, which include:

Swimming, Bike Education, Inter-School Sports, House and Vice-Captain system, Tournament of the Minds, Sports Clinics, Recorder, Choir, School Orchestra and Band, Musical Productions, Junior School Council, Life Education Prep-Year 4 and 'Understanding Sexuality' Years 5&6, Police in Schools, Years 3-6 Camping Program, a Curriculum focused Excursion/Incursion Program, Special Activity Days, Buddy System, Religious Education and lunchtime activities such as Chess and Scrabble.

An out of school program 'Fun Care' is conducted in the School Hall. This program caters for the needs of children before and after school, on pupil free days and in holiday programs. The Program provides excellent supervision and stimulating activities.

As part of Mont Albert Primary School's current welfare program, the staff welfare coordinator and teachers are responsible for liaising with parents, other staff and students in relation to the student code of conduct. All students are regularly reminded of the school's code of conduct expectations. The Caring School Program is an integral part of everyday school life and fosters friendly behaviours.

Teachers from each CSF level plan together in teams weekly and each term. Detailed and accurate assessment and evaluation records are maintained and these are regularly communicated to parents and children. Students' skills are further enhanced through involvement in shared activities with other school communities, such as camps, sports and cultural experiences.

The school community recognises the dedication and professionalism of the staff, which has a strong commitment to on-going professional development. It also places great emphasis on the home-school partnership and values the high level of parent participation in school programs and decision-making bodies. Some examples of these are: Canteen and Uniform Sales, Excursions, Sports, Working Bees, School Banking, Parents' Club and School Council, Perceptual Motor Program PMP, Classroom Support, Fundraising events and Educational Forums. In summary Mont Albert Primary School believes children learn when:

- They are actively involved in their learning.
- There is clear demonstration.
- The learning fulfils their own needs, purpose and interests.
- They take responsibility for their own learning.
- They receive positive responses to their attempts.
- They have a positive self-image.