

4th highest performing majority

Indigenous Queensland School

### t Card Hope Vale School



List of majority Indigenous Queensland Schools provided by the FRC with attendance record

### Welcome



Cape York Academy's vision is for our schools to shift from being Fair to Good schools, and then to become Great schools. We started our improvement journey in 2010 in Coen and Aurukun with Direct Instruction, and 2011 in Hope Vale.

We have been making steady

progress across our schools in literacy and numeracy, with more students each year reaching their grade level. Excitingly, more of our students are reaching the top level of NAPLAN, and competing with mainstream children at the highest levels.

Coen Academy has the best results in literacy, numeracy and attendance of all Queensland schools with 60 percent or more Indigenous students, and do as well as many Queensland schools with few Indigenous students.

Hope Vale is number four, but it can and should also be number one.

The main reason Hope Vale is not at the top is because of poor attendance. Some students are doing exceptionally well and they have high attendance. We have to do much more to improve the attendance of all our students. If they are not at school every day then they are not learning as much as other students, and they won't get the same results.

I am very proud of our people, the mothers, fathers and other relations who love and nurture these children and send them off to school each day, happy and ready to take on a full day's learning.

I thank Principal Finn and Hayley and their great teaching team. They have shown how dedicated they are to our children by practising their craft and teaching every day with full belief in the potential of our children. The people that come and teach for us can't stay for a long time, as their families are down south. But if they stay for three years straight, they make a big difference. If they stay longer, then we are truly blessed.

We must provide more training and employment opportunities targeting talented local teachers and teacher aides. Investing in growing local educators is crucial if we are to get to Great.

I thank the organisations that directly support our schools like the National Institute for Direct Instruction, Queensland Music Festival and the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation. I spend a lot of time travelling around the country, and there are many people down south cheering for our students. As our children complete secondary school, these people can be there to welcome them into their workplaces and lives. We can also be there to welcome them back home and support them to contribute to the betterment of our people.

There is still much to do. We have to keep striving. We can't say we are a Good school until every single child is at grade level in literacy and numeracy. Every child who wants to play music should be able to do so from Kindergarten into secondary school. We want every child to be able to formally learn their languages and cultures. And every child needs to be succeeding in a high expectation, high quality boarding school.

That is when we will have truly succeeded. That is when we will be a Great school — when our children have the 'best of both worlds' and can choose fulfilling lives.

Noel Pearson Academy Chairman



Dear parents,

I am pleased to present to you, our 2016 Annual Report card and share some of our wonderful achievements in the areas of class, club, culture, community and childhood. This report lays out the end of year summative results. We have come a long way since 2011

and I am delighted to see that through the hard work of your children, the results are encouraging - we are improving! There is still plenty of work to be done and I believe that if we work together we can achieve anything

I encourage you to continue to be involved in your children's development. Prepare them for school, celebrate their successes and be a part of their learning journey.

Here's to a positive, productive 2017.

Finn Buckley Executive Principal

**Front Cover** - The graphs show the NAPLAN Mean Scale Score Reading, Numeracy results and average attendance for Terms 1-3 for Queensland Indigenous Schools. The dotted line shows the Queensland average. The schools are grouped by their Indigenous student percentage; those with the highest percentage are displayed furthest to the right. Hope Vale is competitive with schools with a similar Indigenous student percentage. Hope Vale achieved the fourth highest reading and third highest numeracy scores for schools with an Indigenous student percentage of ninety-nine or above.

## Childhood

#### Results

There has been a renewed effort by local leaders and the Kindergarten to collaborate on opportunities for their Kindergarten children who will be transitioning into school. The Kindergarten and school are run separately, but the local teams work well together.

Our goal is that students are prepared for formal schooling to the same level as mainstream children. When Hope Vale students start school without the literacy basics, they have to work much harder to catch up to the other students. Direct Instruction makes it much easier to catch up, but those students will always be behind the others. It is much better if the children learn the basics in Kindergarten so they can start school ready to go.

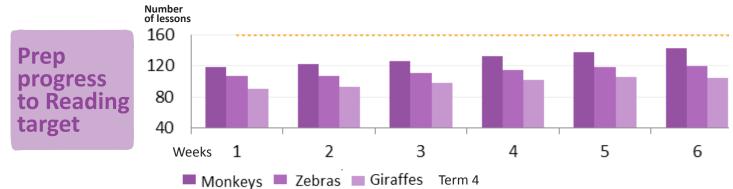
To address this, Cheryl Cannon has been working in the early childhood transition space to make sure our Prep students get the best start to their schooling. Part of this has been to start teaching the pre-Prep students Direct Instruction. Hope Vale pre-Prep students are up to lesson twenty-eight out of forty of the Language K programs, which means they will only have a few lessons to complete before they can start reading in their Prep year.

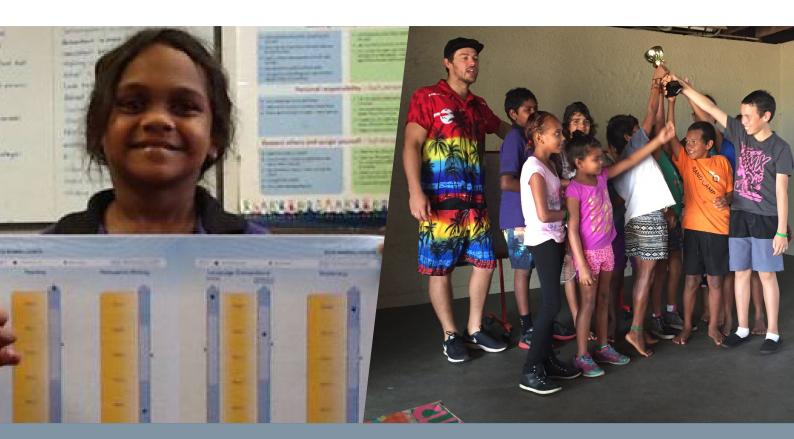
The Kindergarten students also visited the school to become familiar with the environment, rules and routines.

The Strong Families parenting program moved on to the school grounds and began working with parents on a needs basis to ensure students are school ready. Case managers worked with our Prep parents and families to ensure students developed strong attendance patterns.

#### **Improvement actions for 2017**

- Offer Direct Instruction to four year olds throughout the year to ensure they are ready for school.
- Provide the Kindergarten with a school readiness assessment so the teachers and parents of three and four year olds can identify where their children are at, and how to best support them to get ready.
- Offer a music program to Kindergarten students so they are participating in music from the early years.





### Class

#### Results

We have been making steady progress in literacy and numeracy, with more students again this year reaching their grade level. More of our students also reached the top national level of NAPLAN, so are competing with children in the mainstream at the highest levels.

These steady year-on-year increases will result in students achieving results comparable to the national average within a few years. You can help by asking your child's teacher to go over their NAPLAN report with you and discuss what areas they can improve on.

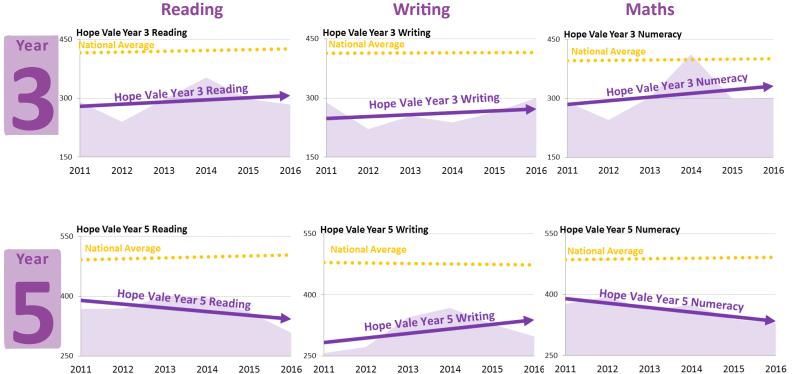
#### **Highlights from our 114 students**

- Two-thirds of Prep students are on target to complete the full program by the end of the year.
- There are improvements in average progress for both literacy and maths when compared to last year.
- In literacy, our students are now progressing almost twenty percent more than a full program per year.
- In maths, they have improved progress by twenty-three percent and are now just under a full program per year.

#### Transition to secondary school

Hope Vale has a total of fourteen students in Year 6 transitioning to Boarding school, three of these students have received scholarships through Cape York Leaders Program. They achieved this based on their academic results, attendance and preparedness for boardings school. The school team has been working with parents and Transition Support Services to assist with organising information to support Boarding school interviews and to ensure students have the required documentation for acceptance into high quality Boarding schools.The majority of grade six students are enrolled at schools across the state for 2017.





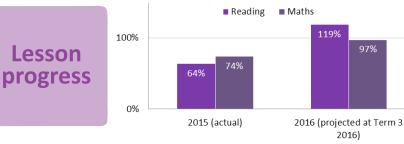
#### **Improvement actions for 2017**

- We will introduce the Upper Years Program which includes the secondary school readiness and a program for our advancing scholars so they can soar further.
- Resources targeted to support the sixty-seven students who are not yet at grade level in reading and the seventy students below grade level in maths.

"Clifford's results are a reflection of him having a great teacher this year."

Kelly Ambrym mother of Clifford, who was one of our top performing students this year.

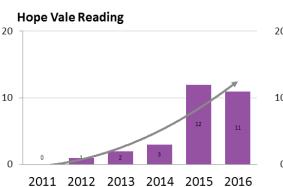
"Maths is my favourite subject in class as I really like doing equations and problem solving. Times tables are also fun as I get better at them."Zayryn Rosendale, Year 6 School Captain.



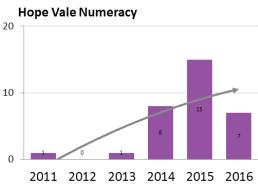
Number of

students at grade level

Hope Vale average DI progress per year









119%

97%

2016)

# Club

#### Results

This year we completed lessons in music, science and physical education. Students are continually working on a key artistic, educational or sporting passion.

#### **Music highlights**

Our instrumental music program is very successful with up to a third of our students from across our Academy now playing an instrument and reading sheet music. Sixty-one students (twentyfive students from Hope Vale), participated in the annual two week Academy Band Camp, along with the Queensland Music Festival (QMF), teachers and parents in Gordonvale.

Direct Instruction sessions were held each morning and band rehearsals were led by QMF each afternoon. QMF mentors and musicians from the Aboriginal Centre for Performing Arts held daily music sessions so students could practise as a group and also learn to play two new songs.

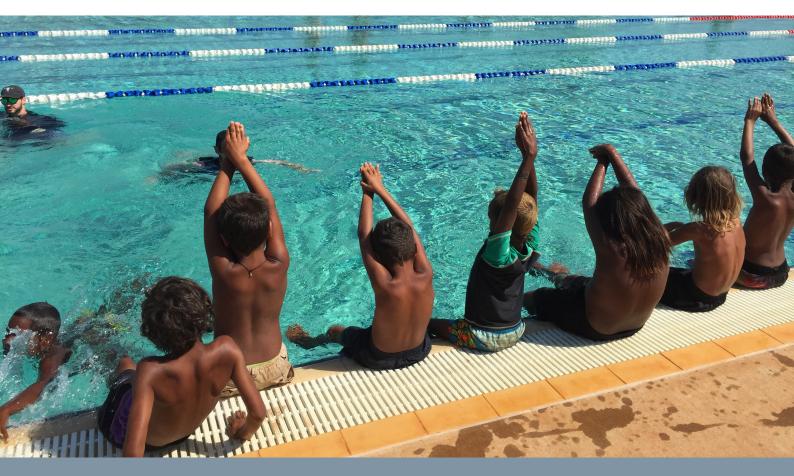
- Sixty-nine percent of our students achieved a B or better in instrumental music.
- Eighty-eight percent of students completed more than forty exercises on their instrument.
- Four students completed more than 132 exercises on their instrument.
- Two instrumental performances at Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) and the Cairns Show. Students played an encore as part of the CIAF closing ceremony.

#### Sports highlights

- All students participated in our athletics carnival which had a high level of parent and community involvement.
- All students participated in our one week NRL workshop.
- Students participated in our annual cross country and Colour Run, with over fifty family and community members cheering on their children.
- Students had a whole day of golf at our golf clinic.
- Year 4–6 students participated in the swimming carnival, which was hugely enjoyable, and students gained socially by interacting with students from Coen school.

"Sports in the afternoon is always fun, I really like running and playing games. On Monday I have band practice which I enjoy. This term we have been doing drama activities as well. I am really looking forward to going to boarding school to meet new friends, I know I might get home sick sometimes."

Allwa Walker, Year 6 Sports House Captain.



#### **Improvement actions for 2017**

- Introduce Choir for group singing and performance.
- Hold many more opportunities for the band to perform at all school and community events.
- Establish a music 'master class' for upper primary students to travel to Brisbane for musical learning and performances.
- Ensure every Year 6 student in the band can continue their music in a supportive secondary school.
- Ensure that secondary students can practise and perform with the band when they are home from school.



Results	Α	В	С	D	Ε
Prep Vear 22 Year 3	Health and Phy <b>21%</b> Science	ysical Education	<b>48%</b>	3%	0%
	<b>11%</b> Music	28%	33%	28%	0%
		<b>34%</b> ysical Education		22%	0%
	19% Science	43%	19%	10%	0%
6	Music				
2 Year	Music 6% Health and Phy 19% Science 39%	<b>34%</b> ysical Education	<b>38%</b>	22%	0%



### Culture

#### Results

Teachers focused on higher order skills and project activities following our four themes throughout the year of History and Identity, Homelands, Art, Materials and Technology and Performance.

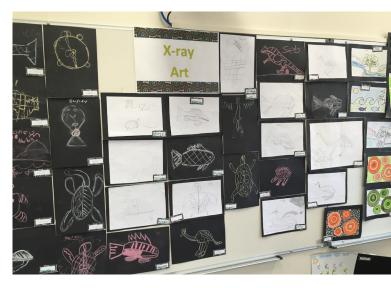
#### Highlights

We held our annual Art Exhibition of student's work with over 100 parents and families visiting, which is an impressive turn out and shows how committed Coen families are to their children's education.

- Our Term 3 Art Exhibition had displays of all students' work and had many parents and families visit the school to look at the students' art.
- We have a newly renovated language room and resources are strengthening the Traditional Language program.
- Our culture day was extremely successful with strong community partnership and involvement.
- We enjoy strong ongoing partnerships with community organisations including the Arts and Culture Centre.

#### Improvement actions for 2017

- Local co-teaching will commence in culture and language classes.
- Our school team will become more immersed in local language and cultures, to nurse greater culture presence in the school.



Results	Α	В	С	D	Ε
Prep Vear 2	11%	Visual Art, Dan <b>31%</b>	ice and Drama	17%	0%
	<b>3%</b>	l Geography <b>28%</b>	43%	25%	3%
Year <b>3</b> to <b>6</b>	The Arts - <b>33%</b>	Visual Art, Dar <b>42%</b>	nce and Drama	2%	0%
	History and <b>19%</b>	d Geography <b>17%</b>	22%	16%	25%



## Community



#### Results

Our school has strong engagement with families including daily contact with parents of our students.

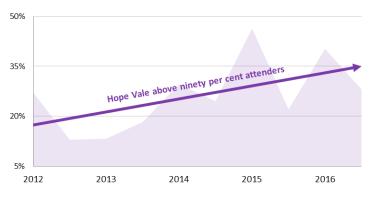
#### Attendance

Hope Vale attendance has improved on other years. However it is still well below a number of schools and needs to get much higher if we want to ensure our students do not fall behind.

We have to do much more to improve attendance at our school. Our teaching team can do more to support this but we also need the families to do much more to lift attendance.

If we continue to improve attendance, we can guarantee that all of our students can successfully transition into high quality secondary schools, and graduate from them.

#### Percentage of students achieving above ninety percent attendance



### Highlight family engagement strategies and events

- Our teachers have lifted their parent and community contacts on the past years.
- The Wellbeing Centre held a number of sessions with the Year 5 and 6 girls to talk about health and hygiene.

A number of successful community engagement events have been held such as:

• Classroom and school open days.

- Bingo nights.
- Fun Fridays.
- School discos.

#### **Improvement actions for 2017**

- Set up the Community School Improvement Partnership to empower families to work with the school to improve education outcomes.
- Develop a targeted strategy for those students who continue to have patchy attendance.
- Ensure every child has their Student Education Trust and that its being used to purchase the musical instrument for children who are in the band.
- Ensure every Year 6 student transitions into high quality, high expectation secondary school with a scholarship.

### How you can continue to support your children's education

Parents have done great work this year to support their children. But we can do more. This is a short checklist of things you can be doing with your child to help them succeed at school.

- Have conversations with your children about the value of a good education.
- Ensure your children attend the full school day, every school day.
- Have regular meetings with your child's teacher and talk to them about your child's progress.
- Encourage reading and maths at home, like adding up with them on the price of groceries at the shops or reading signs with them.
- Purchase learning materials with their Student Education Trust.
- Regularly visit your child's classroom, sit with your child and observe their work.
- Support and reinforce positive behaviour at school and at home.



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