Mount Waverley Primary School

Mount Waverley has a strong commitment to continuous improvement and the pursuit of academic excellence. The school provides a differentiated curriculum that promotes individual learning and focuses on the development of independent learners. New facilities have created innovative and flexible learning spaces, providing a stimulating and supportive environment. This facilitates the extensive use of Information Technology and the Thinking Oriented Curriculum across all areas of the curriculum.

Mount Waverley encourages strong links between home and school and invites community participation at many levels. A strong School Council and Parent Group support all aspects of the school’s operation and provide the basis for a robust community partnership.

The school has 46 equivalent full time staff: The Principal, 2 Assistant Principals, 38 teachers and 9 Education Support staff.

Mount Waverley is a large school of 660 students and is considered to be a school of choice within the local and wider community and has clear targets to ensure that it remains at the cutting edge of curriculum design and program delivery.

### Student Learning

Mount Waverley Primary School is proud of its achievements in student learning. Student achievement data results are above the Victorian government schools median against all indicators and are similar to like schools.

Teacher assessments against the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) are the only area where the school ranks lower than similar schools. This result reflects high teacher expectations which will be addressed through further moderation activities, including use of common assessment tasks, rubrics and tracking of cohort group data.

The continued focus on developing the capacity of staff and students has resulted in pleasing results across all year levels. The school is currently developing a revised whole school approach to Spelling, Writing and Reading, which will support further improvement.

Information Technology is a high priority within the school and is integrated across the curriculum. Teacher professional learning in ICT is a priority. The school has been selected as an Ultranet Flagship School which will further extend staff skills.

### Student Engagement and Wellbeing

Mount Waverley students display a good attendance record which is similar to like schools and is higher than the median for Victorian government schools. The school has a number of programs in place to support students to attend school. A strong focus has been the area of student engagement, including the introduction of interactive whiteboards across the school, the creation of flexible learning areas and the introduction of Mathletics, Robotics and Animation programs. The school will continue to allocate resources to support student learning.

Student Attitudes to School data indicates that the school is performing at a similar level to like schools, with data sitting at slightly above the state median. The school has introduced initiatives, such as You Can Do It, a Values Program, ‘Circle Time’ and Years 3-6 Student Focus Groups to support improved student perceptions related to safety and teacher support.

An effective student leadership training program is in place, with opportunities provided for student leadership roles throughout the school.

### Student Pathways and Transitions

Mount Waverley has a strong program in place to support transition at various levels.

The Prep Transition Program includes a six month induction program for new Prep. A ‘Prep Buddy Program’ is also in place to support them in their first two years at school. This Buddy Program will be extended across all year levels in 2010.

Cumulative Student Portfolios provide valuable information to teachers and parents. The new student number initiative will further extend this process in 2010. Strategies are in place to support students moving through year levels, especially those with special needs or disabilities. Student progress is tracked across each level.

Year 6 students undertake a number of special programs and activities designed to build independence and confidence prior to entering secondary school. Year 6 students visit local colleges and secondary students visit our school to share information and experiences with our students. Information is also shared with colleges regarding student achievement data.

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at mtwaverleyps.vic.edu.au or view our 2008 Annual Report online at http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/SReg/