

Principal – Lisa Vandenbosch

Perseverance Primary School has a happy and caring environment where great efforts are made to develop a feeling of belonging and pride in our school.

The Perseverance Primary School, located on Centreway Rd, French Island which is in Westernport Bay, South East of Melbourne is the last of four primary schools established on French Island in the late 19th century. Perseverance Primary School was first established on French Island in 1896 and moved to its present site in 1984.

Due to the isolation of the school in regards to mainland schools the school has been able to remain open with limited enrolments. Therefore our school has the best student/teacher ratio than any other school in Australia.

During 1997 Perseverance Primary School was annexed to be administered by Crib Point Primary School. This is truly a unique arrangement where a school is separated from its annex campus by a 15 minute ferry trip. This hub annexe arrangement means that all of the administration of the school is handled by the hub school which is Crib Point Primary School. As an annexe school it receives all of the benefits administratively of a larger school and still retains the viability and autonomy of a small school.

Perseverance Primary School has its own school council which is made up of all parents of the school. Unlike mainland schools this school council meets during the day to enable the Principal to travel from Crib Point Primary School to the island via ferry. The school council is very active and have completed many facility projects to enhance the learning environment for the children.

A bike track/walking track, was built in the school paddock at the rear of the school during 2006. The track will form part of a wetlands area that will be revegetated with plants indigenous to the island. This will be with the assistance of Landcare and Parks Victoria, who have already planted native gardens with the students in the school grounds. The children tend chickens that live in a chook shed at the school. Eggs are collected daily and sold to the community. Funds received from the sale of the eggs go back to the school.

The school is well equipped with ICT infrastructure including more than one computer per child, digital cameras and fibre optic cabling to enhance high speed internet access for all students.

The influence and support of the community is significant and is an aspect of the school that is valued most highly. Parents are actively encouraged to become involved and assist in various ways including assisting with sports programs, cooking classes or general school activities.

Lisa Vandenbosch
PRINCIPAL