**National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2008**

**Project Report**

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<th>Project titles:</th>
<th>Books and Brains Day (K–6), Stage 5 literacy challenge (Years 9–10), Stage 4 Mathematics Fun Day (Years 7–8)</th>
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**Project description:**
Books and Brains Day involved a range of literacy and numeracy activities. The day began with a fashion parade in the hall. Students dressed as their favourite book character and then spoke about their character and why they choose to come dressed as that character.

After the fashion parade, there was special story time where teachers selected a book of their choice and read this to a group of students ranging from Kinder to Year 6. Students then moved from each teacher, listening to a range of stories. In the afternoon students were grouped with another class (e.g. Kinder and Year 6, Year 1 and Year 5) and completed the ‘Reach for the Stars’ Australia-wide maths challenge.

As well as the Books and Brains Day, teachers also held other literacy and numeracy activities throughout the week, for example:
- Spelling bees
- Maths games
- Story time
- Maths challenges

Stage 5 Literacy Challenge: Students competed in their house groups to complete a range of literacy activities which were specific to particular KLAs. This included a treasure hunt and a variety of pen and paper activity sheets.

Stage 4 Mathematics Fun Day: Students were grouped according to their mathematical ability so that each group consisted of a range of abilities. Students completed a treasure hunt, a maths relay activity which consisted of problem solving tasks, mathematical quizzes and a construction activity to build the 2008 Beijing Olympics Bird’s Nest Stadium out of straws.

**Person responsible for project:**
K-6 – Amanda McLeod (K-6 Curriculum Coordinator)
7-10 – Alana Goldman (7-10 Curriculum Coordinator)

**School, region, diocese:**
St Philomena’s Moree NSW, Armidale diocese

**Contact person’s email:**
Amanda McLeod – mcleod_amanda@hotmail.com
Alana Goldman – alanamg@bigpond.com

**Number of students, teachers, parents, other community members directly involved:**
- All Kinder to Year 6 students were involved as well as their teachers.
- All 7-10 students were involved as well as their teachers

**Intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:**
- Reading outcomes
- Talking and Listening outcomes
- Maths outcomes

**Evidence of achievement of intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:**
• Students involvement in Books and Brains Day
• Teacher observation
• Questioning during story time
• Discussions during ‘Reach for the Stars’ maths challenge
• Results of the ‘Reach for the Stars’ maths challenge
• Results from the Stage 5 Literacy Challenge
• Results from the Stage 4 Mathematics Fun Day

**Other information:**
• Please see attached posters which were advertised in the school newsletters leading up to National Literacy and Numeracy Week.

**Feedback about making grants available for such projects**
I believe that we have created a fun and exciting day for the students to enjoy. This is the second year we have held Books and Brains Day and the student’s reaction and participation towards this day is fabulous. It is wonderful that grants are made available for schools to boost literacy and numeracy supplies. I know that the home readers that we purchase will be well used and loved by the students. (Amanda McLeod)

This is the first year we have run the Stage 5 Literacy challenge which was well received by all Year 9 and 10 students. Their enthusiasm, participation and house spirit significantly suggest the need to continue this event on an annual basis. The Stage 4 Mathematics Fun Day has been run now for several years and continues to be successful for all students and teachers involved. The integrated Years 7 & 8 groups foster strong team work and leadership within the groups. (Alana Goldman)
Wednesday 3 September 2008

STAGE 5
LITERACY CHALLENGE

Year 9 and 10 students need to fine-tune their literacy and teamwork skills and be prepared to be challenged in completing a collection of subject-based literacy activities. This will be a house sports competition and will contribute towards the end of year overall house points tally. So bring along all your house spirit!

Thursday 4 September 2008

STAGE 4
MATHEMATICS FUN DAY

Year 7 and 8 students need to warm up their mathematics and teamwork skills in preparation for a fun filled day of Maths problem solving. Groups will compete for bragging rites and plenty of ‘sweet tooth’ treats as they race their competitors to complete a variety of Mathematical challenges from a Maths relay to a treasure hunt around the school and a design challenge where they will build the ‘Bird’s Nest’ stadium used in the 2008 Beijing Olympics and test its strength.