

National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2009 Project Report

Project title: A Hands-on Approach to Maths
<p>Project description: Workshops for students and parents that promote skill knowledge, problem solving and a fun approach to mathematics.</p> <p>Parental workshops were organised and run by school staff. Workshops were organised to meet an identified need within the community to update and up-skill parents on how to assist their children in mathematics. We ran two sessions, one for K-2 parents and one for 3-6 parents. There was equal parental attendance at both sessions with additional workshops to be organised as requested by parents.</p> <p>Students have been participating in Newman's Error Analysis lessons involving mathematical language and problem solving. As an addition to this they participated in hands-on activities that allowed for independent learning. The grant allowed all students to attend with the school meeting the additional costing out of allocated funding.</p>
Person responsible for project: Mellissa Page, Catherine Sullivan.
School, region, diocese: Ambarvale Public School, Campbelltown/South Western Sydney region
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<p>Number of students, teachers, parents, other community members directly involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 299 students, 14 teachers, 20 parents
<p>Intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater parental participation in class-based activities. • Greater parental confidence in assisting students. • Students gaining 'real world' experience in problem solving tasks. • Promoting mathematics within the community. <p>Curriculum based outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects, uses and applies appropriate problem solving strategies (pictures, objects, diagrams, language) when undertaking investigations. • Links mathematical ideas and makes connections with, and about generalisations about, existing knowledge and understandings.
<p>Evidence of achievement of intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students solving mathematical problems using reasoning and appropriate strategies. • Students actively engaged in tasks. • Students communicating problem solving strategies to peers and teachers using technical and mathematical language. • Parents keen to undertake additional workshops in mathematics. • Parents requesting information about new ways to assist students – technology, hands-on.
<p>Feedback about making grants available for such projects:</p> <p>This grant allowed all students to attend the problem solving activities and allowed teachers to integrate the learning achieved in the activities into the teaching program without the worry of students not being able to attend.</p> <p>Parents gave positive feedback on parent workshop and requested more to be organised for the future.</p>