

## National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2009 Project Report

**Project title:** "What's In A Name?" - Literacy and Numeracy across the KLAs

**Project description:**

The purpose of the project was to engage all students in Year 8 with literacy and numeracy tasks across all the KLA's. The tasks were designed to focus on the theme "What's in a name?" Some of the activities planned include competitions, research projects and writing tasks:

English: Developed characters from texts, looked at the symbolism and wrote a profile of themselves using a variety of writing styles.

Mathematics: Used the resources produced by AAMT, where students collected and investigate data about their first names, exploring characteristics such as name length and letter usage. Students worked together to prepare posters to present to their peers.

Science: Researched the names of people associated with Electricity.

Food Technology: Research Project - students researched the names relating to famous recipes eg Pavlova.

Child Studies: students examined common children's names.

Textiles: students looked at fabric names and characteristics.

PE/Health: Competition - questions focused on the names of sports and the numeracy associated with them. Eg. How many people are in a netball team? Name a sport where people move backward to win?

TAS: Designed an A5 poster promoting how they contribute to the safe work practices at EHS.

Geography: Students wrote a literacy task on a transitional organisation. Examples of company names are Nike, Coca-Cola, Microsoft.

Inaugural Spelling Bee Competition - students participated in a spelling competition using the key words from each KLA. The final was held on the Friday in the school library.

These activities culminated with students presenting their work on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September in the library, as well as conducting the final of the spelling bee competition. Parents were invited to attend the events on the Friday, followed by a morning tea for winning students and their parents.

A whole school numeracy quiz was also conducted to coincide with the date (9/9/09) with the questions relating to the number 9 and across the KLAs.

**Person responsible for project:** Joanne Amos

**School, region, diocese:** Elderslie High School, South West Sydney Region

**Contact person's email:** [joanne.amos@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:joanne.amos@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Number of students, teachers, parents, other community members directly involved:**

- 180 Year 8 students
- Roll call teachers promoting the spelling bee
- All Year 8 teachers
- Parents of all Year 8 students

**Intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:**

- To encourage all students in Year 8 to recognise the links between KLAs using a thematic approach to teaching.
- To promote a whole school approach to addressing literacy and numeracy needs of students.
- To engage students and the community in the quest to develop literacy and numeracy initiatives at Elderslie High School.

**Evidence of achievement of intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:**

- Students engaged in literacy and numeracy in all KLAs across the school and feedback from students in English and Mathematics classes showed that students appreciated the relevance of literacy and numeracy.
- There was a positive response from students willing to register and participate in the Spelling Bee with the final comprising of 15 students from a range of classes.
- The whole school numeracy quiz was well received by both students and staff, with a large number of entries submitted and the prizes were drawn at a whole school assembly.
- Staff were keen to offer the work produced by their classes for display in the library and students and staff made positive comments about the work on display during the following week.

**Feedback about making grants available for such projects:**

The grant contributed significantly to making the activities over the week a success. With all of Year 8 participating, it allowed all KLAs access to resources and the funds available to offer prizes for the spelling bee, KLA competitions and numeracy quiz. This increased student participation and motivation to take part in the activities on offer. The days of casual relief were also vital to enable the planning and preparation of the event.

See materials below:



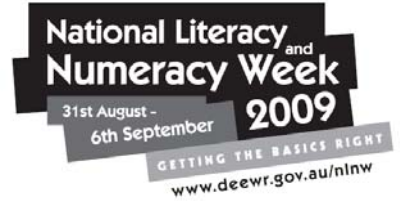
National Literacy and Numeracy Week Planning  
Term 3 Week 6

Activity	Name	Deadline
Spelling Bee Competition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5 words based on each KLA</li><li>• Names of 5 students to enter spelling bee</li><li>• Trophy for winners</li></ul>	Ally and Sonja	Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Aug Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug
KLA Based Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is the activity appropriate for display in the library?</li><li>• Equipment and resources required by each KLA</li></ul>	Sonja	
Letters to Parents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letter for all Yr 8 students (reply for morning tea)</li><li>• Letter for spelling bee entrants</li></ul>	Jo	Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Aug
Morning Tea for Parents and winning students	Natalie	Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept



An Australian Government Initiative

# NUMERACY QUIZ



NAME:.....

ROLL CLASS:.....

## QUESTION

## ANSWER

1. Which animal has nine lives?

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2. What is the name of the polygon with nine sides?

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3. What number squared equals nine?

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4. How do you spell NINE in French or German?

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5. What was the name of the ninth planet in the solar system?

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6. What band has the word "NINE" in its name?

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7. In the song "The twelve days of Christmas", what was the gift given on the ninth day?

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8. Name a sport which requires a maximum of nine players on the field?

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9. How do you know if a number is divisible by nine?

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*Place your entry in the box outside of the mathematics staffroom by 3pm on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. All correct entries go into a prize draw to be held during Wednesday's assembly.*