

National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2009 Project Report

Project title: Mathematics On Show
<p>Project description: This project has been developed to further enhance the school's numeracy plan which includes the Best Start Lighthouse project. The project has 4 components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Professional Learning:</u> Early Stage One staff from Ross Hill Public School and surrounding schools will be involved in a one hour professional learning activity and network meeting based on developing early arithmetic strategies and analysing data to inform teaching. Staff will plan, and develop, activities to support students learning in a combined Mathematics Showcase Day. 2. <u>Mathematics Showcase:</u> Students from Ross Hill, surrounding schools and pre-schools, and parents/carers will participate in a Mathematics Showcase Day to be held at Ross Hill Public School. Students will be actively involved in learning activities that showcase best practise in teaching early arithmetic strategies; and students will develop confidence and competence in using more sophisticated arithmetic strategies successfully. Parent Helpers and peer leaders from Stage 2 will be used as mentors and group leaders on the day. 3. <u>Workshop Session:</u> Parents of school students and pre-school students will have an opportunity to meet with the Ross Hill PS '<i>Count Me In Too</i>' facilitator on the Showcase Day for a workshop session on helping students develop early counting and number skills. Parents will be given a sample bag of maths activities to take home and play with their child. 4. <u>Data Analysis:</u> Early Stage One Staff at Ross Hill PS to evaluate students learning successes from the Showcase Day and review, and further develop, Maths Assessment tasks for Early Arithmetic strategies. Staff to analyse student achievement and map changes on Best Start continuum.
Person responsible for project: Mrs Debbie Baker
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<p>Number of students, teachers, parents, other community members directly involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 135 students, 12 teachers, 7 parents
<p>Intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish network links with other schools and pre-schools and share successful strategies for improving students learning in arithmetic in the early years • Develop student's confidence and competence in using early arithmetic strategies • Showcase to parents/carers some aspects of how Mathematics in Early Stage One is taught • Develop parents' understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of early number

strategies to support their child in the home environment.

- Pre-school students will become more familiar with the school setting and key personnel, and will experience success participating in numeracy activities.

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

- The Literacy & Numeracy week project was very successful. The Staff was actively involved in the Professional Learning workshop, and, with support from the Best Start consultant, were able to analyse student data and re-position students on the Best Start continuum. Staff were also supported in preparing and presenting activities for the Maths on Show day.
- The Showcase day was supported by preschool students from 3 local preschools and staff and students from a small school with apologies from 2 other local schools due to clashes of events. Students worked in small groups and rotated through a wide variety of learning activities that included hands-on materials, computers and SMART Boards. Parent helpers and Year 4 peer leaders supported the class teachers and assisted students with their learning. The day was voted a huge success and early stage one students demonstrated confidence and competence in using arithmetic strategies to solve problems.
- The Parent workshop provided an opportunity for parents to learn about the teaching of early number skills and counting. They were shown a PowerPoint presentation to begin with that gave an overview of Mathematics teaching and the how Maths looks in a Kindergarten classroom. 6 Parents (and 3 staff) attended, and parents were able to ask questions and talk with staff about counting and the teaching of number. Parents chose and took home a selection of maths activities to play with their child. They were also given Count Me In Too parent information brochures about Numeracy and counting.
- The Data analysis session by Ross Hill staff led to the development of 3 new Mathematics assessment work samples, and students' progress along the Numeracy continuum was explored.
- Students from other schools were positive in their response to the day, wanting to come back and talking about the new friends that they had made. There was also some great staff sharing of ideas and SMART Board resources that occurred incidentally.

Other information:

- Maths Day invitations
- Sample Assessment Task
- Photo page
- Peer Leader Certificates

Feedback about making grants available for such projects:

This is a wonderful opportunity for schools to receive support that would not otherwise be available. This Literacy & Numeracy Week grant allowed us to explore Numeracy learning for students and to plan and implement activities that were exciting and motivating. It also helped unite schools within our community and provided leadership opportunities for our Stage 2 students.