Dear Principal

This kit has been prepared to support schools to celebrate National Literacy and Numeracy Week. National Literacy and Numeracy Week is a government funded initiative. During this week, the learning and teaching of numeracy and literacy are celebrated in both government and non-government schools.

In New South Wales, National Literacy and Numeracy Week will:

- raise community awareness of the importance of literacy and numeracy skills
- promote successful practices in literacy and numeracy teaching
- acknowledge publicly the achievements of schools whose literacy and/or numeracy programs have raised the performance of their students
- affirm the importance of the role of parents and caregivers in supporting students’ literacy and numeracy learning.

National Literacy and Numeracy Week will be celebrated in New South Wales in the week commencing 29 August 2005. The week will provide an opportunity for school communities to focus attention on the literacy and numeracy achievements of their schools and demonstrate their commitment to quality learning outcomes for all students.

One component of National Literacy and Numeracy Week will centre around local celebrations. This kit has been prepared to support schools in this process.

It contains three kinds of materials:

- general items
- ideas for student-centred activities and materials for students to use
- materials to support community-based activities.

During National Literacy and Numeracy Week, New South Wales awards for Literacy and Numeracy will be presented to successful schools by the NSW Minister for Education and Training, Hon Carmel Tebbutt.

Additional information about National Literacy and Numeracy Week, can be obtained from Bernard Pryor, Curriculum K–12 Directorate, NSW Department of Education and Training, on telephone (02) 9886 7619.

Robert Randall
Chairperson, NSW National Literacy and Numeracy Week Steering Committee, 2005.