

Priority Area: Numeracy

Throughout 2007, the Numeracy programme has continued to be an active part of the school curriculum. Classroom support by Mrs Crook (AEST) has been available to the teachers in Years 4, 5 and 7 using the collaborative approach which is encouraged in the *First Steps Maths* (FSM) materials.

Acquisition of appropriate resources to help enhance the curriculum has continued throughout the year. One of the main areas has been to develop *Numeracy Pencil Cases*, with activities and materials suitable for each year level in the Number Strand. Another main purchase was a complete set of the *Action Numeracy Readers*. These books are based on different Mathematical concepts. Other items acquired included pentominoes, class tangram sets, 3D objects and polyhedrons in the Space Strand, with more kitchen scales, mass weights and compasses for the Measurement Strand.

In Term 3 a successful chart/game making night was held for the teachers to help increase professional knowledge and use of the FSM materials and to develop resources for use in classrooms. During Literacy-Numeracy week, a class competition was developed and all classes were encouraged to design a proposal for a class party. Winning classes were selected and then allowed to have their party.

This year, all teachers were required to complete the *Numeracy Net* at the end of Terms 1 and 3. The results enabled all teachers to plan effectively for the following term. The Department endorsed *Numeracy Net* was modified and placed on the school computer network in order to help all class teachers in their plan-teach-evaluate cycle. The results shown above indicate that all teachers have found development across all year levels with substantial progress between Term 1 and Term 3. Most teachers felt that their use of the *Numeracy Net* in conjunction with the FSM resources have enabled them to successfully move their students through the outcomes stated in the Department's K – 7 Syllabus.

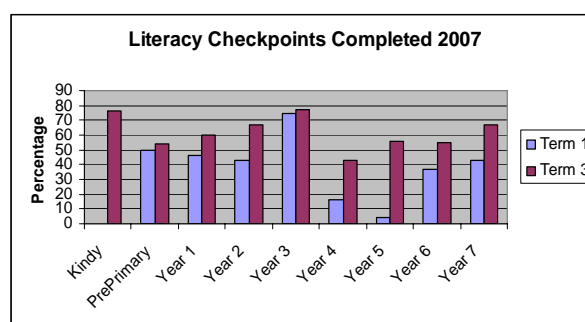
In 2008 the focus will be the Number Strand with a strong emphasis being placed on the training of new staff members in the use of the FSM materials.

Priority Area: Literacy

2007 was a time for of consolidating, reflecting and analysing what has worked in the past, what is needed and what would make lasting improvements in Literacy. With the Writing Strand as a whole school priority area, all staff were involved in *First Steps in Writing* professional learning, and a further 6 teachers completed *First Steps in Reading* also.

Collaborative Groups were all involved in moderating students' writing samples and analysing the English aspect of the DET Syllabus. Some groups produced checklists using *First Steps Maps of Development*. All teachers completed the *Literacy Net*. The value-adding that occurred can be seen in the following table.

In Term 1, the GIR Literacy Specialist Mrs Neagle, and



Junior Support Teacher Miss Langley, worked intensively with Year 2 and 3 students who didn't know all their alphabetic sounds/letters. This resulted in a 90% success rate.

The Year 1 teachers and GIR Literacy Specialist developed an in-class and homework phonological awareness program. This has resulted in only 7 students (compared to 32 in 2007) who will need intensive work at the beginning of 2008 on their sounds. This work was successful by the great effort put in by Education Assistant, Mrs Harring.

A database of Spelling and Reading Ages commenced in 2007, using *Waddington Diagnostic Tests*, starting with Years 1 and 2. This will be built upon over the next few years to monitor improvements.

In preparation of 2008, an English Overview has been collaboratively formed. This includes a Phonological Plan, Assessment Tools and a Literacy CD. It has been developed to provide a resource to support teachers in teaching literacy and also provides direction and information sources. It will be built upon in 2008. Concerns regarding the monitoring of students who are ESL or ESD will be considered with strategies such as *ESL/ESD Progress Maps* in 2008.