



Congewai News

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Congewai Public School

- a proud member of the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools



Our children do love reading time!

Diary Dates:

Sunday 29th March - Harvest Festival

Thursday 2nd April - Hat Parade + morning tea 11am

School resumes term 2 - Student 21st April

Welcome to week 9.

It's amazing how quickly the weeks have flown past and we're now almost at holiday time.

We're excitedly preparing for Sunday's Harvest Festival all this week and as part of the preparations, many of our families came into school yesterday to do a smorgasbord of jobs and tasks to ensure all is ready for the Festival. Many, many thanks, for all of your hard work and for giving up your Sunday to our school.

We've had many parents working hard throughout the last few weeks, mowing, painting, cleaning and tidying, gardening, putting up signs and posters, handing out flyers and ensuring as many people as possible know our Festival is on and will be fabulous. This is the first time for some years our school has hosted a festival and we're all looking forward to it, particularly as there's so many wonderful and unique items sold by our many stall holders. For a listing of what's confirmed so far, please look inside our newsletter and keep checking our Face Book site for our Festival.

We had a very busy week last week, our children were immersed in learning and our year 3 students visited Ellalong Public School (many thanks for inviting us Ellalong) to listen to author, Deborah Abela. We will now have to add to our school library I'm told, as the

boys enjoyed not only the talk by Ms Abela, but the glimpses they got of her range of books.

As part of our school's involvement in the Early Action for Success program, staff have been undertaking training in Language Learning and Literacy (L3) and Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN). Our students have been immersed in activity based learning with a focus on intensive instruction through hands on learning tasks. This Tuesday, our school will play host to teachers from Kitchener and Millfield Public School's for a TEN learning session. During this session, our students will get to demonstrate their learning to the teachers attending. They're looking forward to showing off what they can do. As our staff are involved in training on this day, we welcome Ms Beneke to our school to work with our children.

We have found both the L3 and TEN programs to be highly successful and enjoyable for our children and they are progressing very well as a result of their participation in both programs. I've included more information regarding the TEN program within this newsletter and you might like to ask your child to show you some of the maths activities to play at home.

Until next week,

Donna Stackman

Speaking and Listening topic of the week is:- **“What makes you totally happy?”**

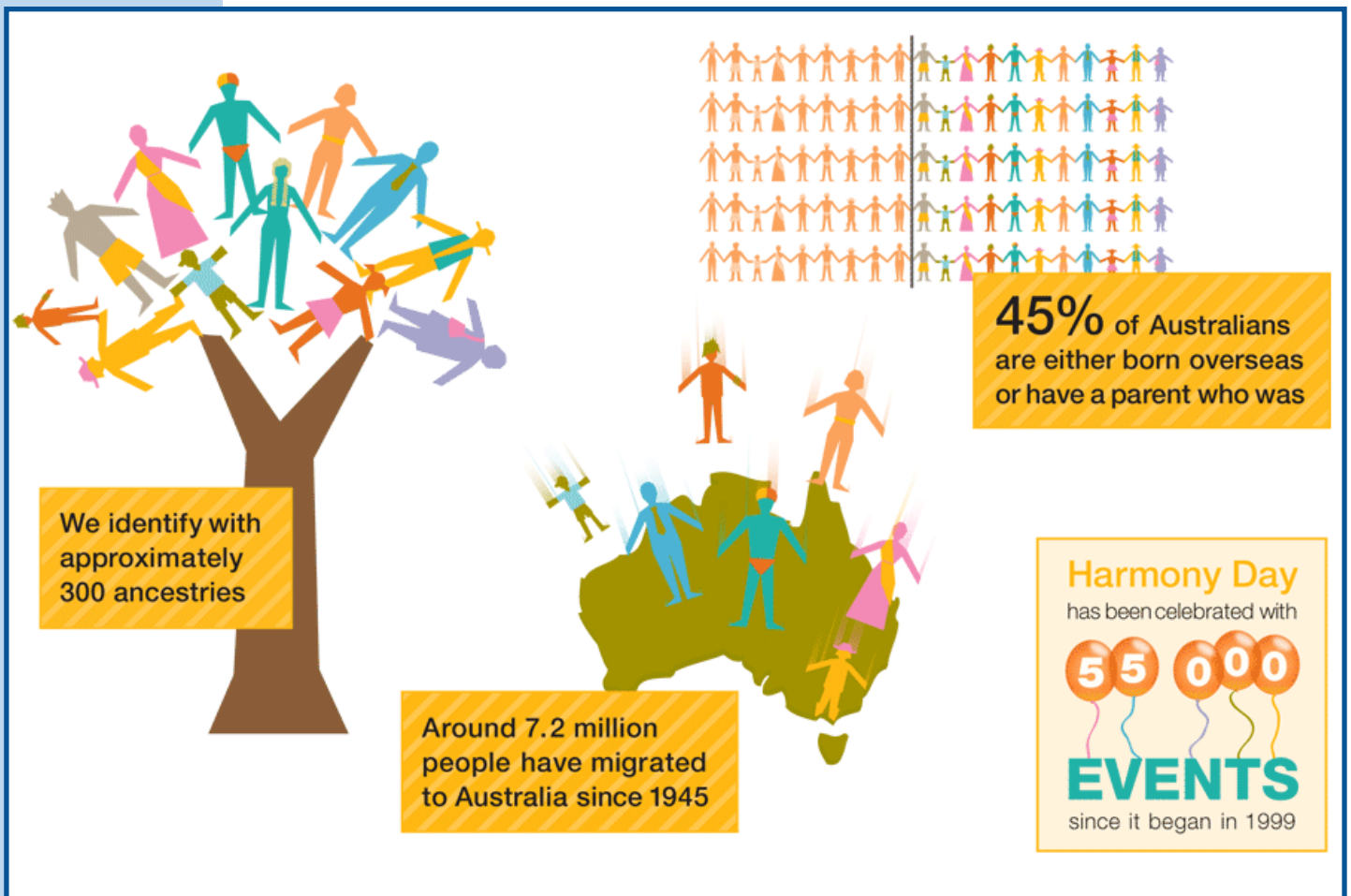
This was discussed in class today through the beginning of a story, designed to encourage students to think. Our children had to complete the story after some thinking time. As a follow up the children have this week's topic to discuss with their classmates.

Library: This Friday will be our last library lesson for the term. We'd like to encourage our families to borrow books for the holidays as the more our kids read, the better their skills.

Change in routine: This week I will be attending meetings with other principals on Monday after recess, L3 training on Wednesday after recess and a Principal's meeting on Friday all day. Mr Cagney, Miss Naysmith and Mrs Dunstan will continue the students learning as always, in my absence. As you were notified in last week's newsletter, our school staff will be joined for a full day of training at our school, in mathematics. Ms Beneke will be joining our staff for the day, as the children's class teacher, assisted by Mrs Dunstan.

Harmony Day: Saturday, 21st March, was Harmony Day. As this occurred during the weekend, our student took part in learning activities based on what Harmony Day meant and its meaning. We made particular reference to how this looks in our school and how we can use the principals of Harmony Day to enhance our everyday interactions in school.

~ Mrs Stackman



Next Monday will be our last assembly of the term. We would like to invite all families and community members to our assembly next Monday, 30th March, at 2:30pm.



Hat Parade

Wear your best home made hat for our Hat Parade. Family members too. What theme will you have?

Thursday 2nd April at 11am

Families are invited to join us for morning tea.

Bring a plate of yummies to share.



Just a taste of the variety of stalls visiting our Festival...

The Dungog Artist's group	Olives and marinades	jewellery
Aboriginal art	Towels & linens	hanging pots
Iron work, signage, decorative homewares	Pillow rolls	Beautiful soaps
Jams and chutneys	Plants + garden ornaments	Girls headbands with a difference
Timber photo frames	Handcrafted dolls, toys, mermaid tails, playroom accessories, etc	Doggie Fashions
Art work	Fiery liqueur from KissOFire	Avon Breast Cancer products
Beautiful hand made ceramic cake stands	Unique clothing stalls for adults and children	Coffee Van
Sno Cones and fairy floss	Lemon myrtle skincare	Tarot reader
Aboriginal Art	Dungog Artists Group	Second hand book stall
Organic meats, small goods, cheese and jersey cow milk	Horse products	BBQ with steak and sausage sangers + cold drinks
Olive oil products	Scented candles and accessories	Congewai merchandise
Face painting & Lolly bags	Handmade wooden photo frames	Jumping Castle
Organic beauty products and face-creams	Honey	Buskers
	Vintage products	And lots more
	Fresh made sourdough bread	



Targeting Early Numeracy

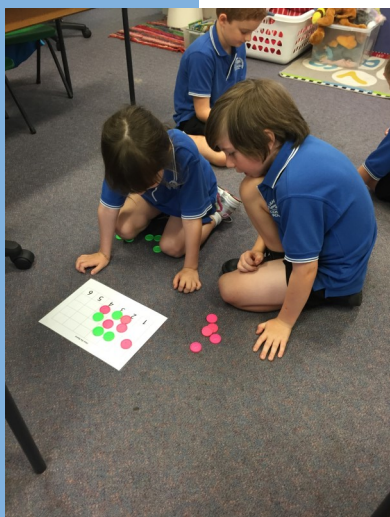
Our Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 classes have been actively involved in the Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) program during their maths lessons. This program was originally designed as an early intervention program to address problems with early numeracy difficulties. Due to its success, we have implemented it to all children in our classes to assist in extending them in their ability level.

Our Early Action for Success Instructional Leader Mrs Vogt has been working closely with our staff in the classrooms to help instigate this program effectively as part of their professional learning.

Students focus on identifying numbers, counting, skip counting forwards and backwards and addition and subtraction mental strategies. They use created activities and technology programs to heighten skills and quick recall. This also promotes deep understanding of numeracy concepts.

The program motivates and encourages children to engage in mathematics by beginning all lessons with a short and explicit game that aims to develop a specific skill.

Our students enjoy the activities so much that we dedicate an entire maths session to this, one day per week, as well as our daily shorts.



Making a Lava Lamp

Ingredients:

Food Dye
Aspros
Vegetable Oil
Water

What we did:

1. We put food dye into the water.
2. We put water in a big jar and then we put in some vegetable oil.
3. The water was in the bottom and the vegetable oil was at the top.
4. Then we put Aspros in and there was some bubbles and then we put food dye in and more Aspros in and it was crazy.

Continuing
our
investigations
into reactions

