LITERACY

At Cadell Primary School we have a whole school focus on Literacy in 2011, particularly in non-fiction writing using effective oral communication. To help organise ideas (refer to the 2011 Site Improvement Plan)

Staff analyse NAPLaN results and site data to narrow our focus to three areas of the NAPLaN Writing rubric. In 2011 we are focusing on Sentence Structure, Punctuation and Spelling. Students are identified for support in groups or individually with an SSO.

During the year three samples of unassisted non-fiction writing (persuasive text) are marked and graded according to the three main areas on the NAPLaN rubric to track each student’s progress and inform teaching strategies. Reporting to parents/caregivers through the ‘Homeshare Folder’, reports and interviews use these samples and related data to support comments and assessments.

Methods used for teaching non-fiction writing include ‘Four Square Writing’, ‘Interactive Writing’, Guided Writing, Shared Writing and Daily Writing. Emphasis is placed on ‘author’ and ‘secretary’ roles.

Some of the key elements of our approach to Literacy are:

- Ensuring the ‘Big Six’ are used and evident in our school. (Phonics, Phonemic Awareness, Fluency, Vocabulary, Comprehension and Early Years Experiences and Oral Language)
- Classroom organisation and methodologies
- Focus on non-fiction writing
- Assessment of and for learning
- Posters on display to support students with different genre
- Extensive Training and Development based on latest research. Principal involved in Principals as Literacy Leaders (PALL)
- Opportunities for staff to moderate samples of work with other teachers within the Riverland West Small schools Network (RWSSN)
- Team teaching
- Walkthroughs and observations
- Extensive use of ICT resources
- Involvement of parents/caregivers through shared reading