

From Our Staff Learning Day (Tuesday 14th August)

One of the big areas explored during our staff learning day was around the '4 Cs' - *Clarifying, Consulting, Collaborating and Coaching*; four methods of support that encourage us, as teachers, to delve deeper into our own teaching practices and that of our colleagues, in order to broaden our own understandings.

The ability to ask and answer *clarifying questions* stood out as an area we particularly wanted to introduce and embed in our daily practices, back in our Year 2 classrooms. We consistently model different types of questions, provide question prompts and give opportunities for students to ask and answer questions, to and of each other. *Clarifying questions* allows us to think deeper, explain our thoughts, express our personal opinions, ideas and feelings while providing better clarity around our interpretations and understandings. *Clarifying questions sound like,*

'What makes you say that?'

'Can you tell us a little more about...'

'What have you tried so far?'

'What's been working well?'

Some Literacy prompts sound like,

'What message is the author trying to give us and how do you know?'

'How are you alike or different to the main character?'

Some Maths prompts sound like,

'Can you explain your answer?'

'What makes you so sure?'

'What strategy did you use? Is there another way?'

Thankyou

Colleen, Mat and Rosanna

Maths

Our Maths Big Idea:

Shapes and *numbers repeat themselves* and can be found in different *mathematical situations*.

We are working towards a deeper understanding of patterns, types of patterns and where we can find patterns in the real world.

We are exploring number patterns (whole number and fractions), and where we might find them and use them, including, on a ruler or tape measure, on a clock and even in music.

Writing

Genre: *Persuasive Text*

Presenting a point of view and providing reasons or arguments in support of that point of view.

Based on the short listed picture story book, 'Gary', students will be choosing a favorite place that they have visited and write a postcard convincing the reader to agree with their points of view.

Reading

Comprehension Focus:

Main Idea

Locating and identifying the main ideas and the supporting details in a fiction and non fiction text. Students work at finding explicitly stated ideas and facts in a sentence, paragraph and/or piece of text.

Shark Tank at APS

Problem: 'What if the 'Dome' was to go?'



The students are currently working in small groups to plan, design, draw and make a simple design for a playground. They are using their understanding of simple machines and forces, such as push, pull and roll to design a playground for APS.

These designs will be presented to the 3 'sharks', Colleen, Mat and Rosanna.

Things we need...

- *boxes and containers (no bigger than a shoe box)
- *cardboard rolls (not toilet paper rolls)
- *plastic bottles (2L or 1.25L or 1.5L)
- *yogurt/ice cream containers
- *egg cartons



Digital Technology

We are currently exploring a program called 'Audacity'. It is a program that allows us to record voices and sounds. The students are working in small groups and recording simple radio plays. They are enjoying adding some fun sound effects too, such as bells, footsteps, knocking, music, singing and lots more!

