

SA - Case Study

Murray Bridge Parent School Engagement Project

A Parental and Community Engagement (PaCE) Project

Objectives:

- ◆ Enhance parent literacy and cultural understanding
- ◆ Promote healthy living through cooking workshops
- ◆ Building confidence for stronger participation in and towards the child's

Contact:

Georgina Trevorrow
Coordinator

AUSPICE:
Rural City of Murray Bridge

Murray Bridge SA



Murray Bridge:

Murray Bridge is the fourth most populous city in South Australia after Adelaide, Mount Gambier and Whyalla. It is located 76 kilometres east-southeast of Adelaide

Project Description:

The Murray Bridge School Engagement Program is delivered across 9 schools in the Murray Lands region of South Australia. There are a number of different activities being carried out under the project at the various participating schools

"The program has proven to be a great way for parents to get into the school community and develop more confidence into the system"
- Coordinator

Duration:

January 2013

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June 2013

December 2013



Coffee Club and More

Approximately 20 Parents from the Murray Bridge North Primary School attended a barbeque which then led to a regular coffee program where the parents and school staff could interact on a personal level.

Book and Jewellery making

Parents from Meningie Area School and Murray Bridge South Primary School participated in the Book Making Project. The group produced children's books written in a combination of English and the Ngarrindjeri language. The same group of parents after completing the books then began meeting once a week to make jewellery together at the school. An Elder in the community commented saying that it was very hard getting parents into the school community but thanks to these projects they are now confident to come in.

Creating literacy and numeracy packs

The creation of the packs aimed to assist parents in learning how to feel confident in engaging with educational games and activities for children in the home. It has also assisted by increasing their understanding of the importance of school.

Cooking workshops

The cooking workshops at Mannum Community College aim to raise awareness of the education system and promote healthy living through hands on cooking workshops. A key partnership with SA Health's program "OPAL" has assisted in the healthy living aspect side of the program through joint funding and workshop support from their project officer.

"I have learnt through this project to cook healthy meals more my children. My knowledge of the school system is greater and I am now more confident to be involved"
- Parent