

MEET THE TEACHER

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STEPHANIE BREUMELHOF

Age: 25

School: Elizabeth Park Primary School

Current roles: Reception classroom teacher; site reading support teacher, site work health and safety representative

What do you do at the school?

My role is a Reception classroom teacher from Tuesday to Friday. In my reading support teacher role I work with students identified as being below year level in reading, to support them with developing their phonological awareness skills. The role also requires co-ordinating peer reading with students from Year 6/7 classes, providing support to families and supporting staff at the school.

What have you initiated involving oral language?

Together with the principal, a whole school oral language focus was planned on developing students' vocabulary. This process involved staff identifying key words students required to understand a topic and a text, before staff explicitly teach these words to students. A teaching procedure was developed to assist staff in selecting a variety of words to teach using a variety of ways.

How do you encourage parents to help their child with reading?

This is done by writing fortnightly newsletters on a specific phonological awareness skill, e.g. syllables. The articles provided relevant and practical activities to assist parents.



HAPPY: Reception students Jonathon (back) and Kyle with Stephanie Breumelhof.

Which teacher did you work with on the early years junior primary literacy curriculum?

I worked with Kylie Paul, our school literacy co-ordinator, to develop a consistent teaching sequence from Reception to Year 2. We both had noticed that while our school had really great programs, there was a variety of ways the skills were being taught, so we developed a literacy program which outlined what each year level needed to focus on in literacy.

What part of the role do you enjoy the most?

I really love teaching Reception students as they are always so eager to come to school. In my reading support teacher role I enjoy working with students who find reading more difficult, and this has given me the opportunity to form relationships with students across the entire school.

Do you want to be a principal?

I hope in the future that I will be able to be part of our school's leadership team so that I can give back the support to staff that I have been given.