

Esslemont College

Weekly Newsletter

"Let your vision be world embracing" - Bahá'í Writings



Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledges the Bediagal people of the Eora Nation on whose land we work, and Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

A message from the Principal

What a joy it is to be writing a message to you in our very first weekly newsletter.

This week we have been learning to sing the prayer "Strive that your actions day by day may be beautiful prayers". Not only are the children singing this prayer with enthusiasm and joy around the school, but they have also taken to heart these words and are striving to be the best they can be in all things. It is heartwarming to watch them work together and help each other to do this.

Next Thursday from 3:30 to 4:00pm there will be a meet the teacher gathering in the classroom. Please let us know if you are unable to make this time and we can arrange another time. A formal parent / teacher interview will be offered towards the end of the term to share information about your child's progress.

The children have been baking today - learning how to follow a procedure and practicing their measuring skills. As we speak, the delicious smell of chocolate chip cookies is wafting throughout the school. Yum!



Learning how to whisk! Not as easy as it looks. We loved the way the batter changed colour the more we whisked :



Eating together provides opportunities for conversations and consultations. This week the children consulted, without being asked, on when the Tuck Shop should be open. They quickly came to a decision that if we opened on Wednesday and Friday that would be enough. It was a bounty to watch this impromptu process as they all listened to each other and came to a unified agreement. A discussion on what Bahá'í Consultation is followed.

What's on next week.

- We will be learning to sing this prayer:
O Thou kind Lord! These lovely children are the handiwork of the fingers of Thy might and the wondrous signs of Thy greatness. O God! Protect these children, graciously assist them to be educated and enable them to render service to the world of humanity.
- Cooking class - more news to follow
- Religious studies classes - starting to think about Ayyám'i'Há
- And much, much, more deliciousness.....



Classroom News



Love seeing the children so busy and focused

A message from our teacher

Our lovely students have greatly enjoyed starting school and learning more about their classmates, teachers and principal. We have shared many prayers, thoughtful consultations and joyful moments of laughter and fun in our first week at Esslemont College.

The students have made some wonderful suggestions that have been considered and implemented, as well as many suggestions that are in the works.

What have we been learning?

The students have been learning many things in their first week, along with their teacher. It has been an exciting challenge to differentiate for every student and ensure they are being extended and supported at the perfect level for them.

In English, all students have been assessed using ESTA-L and other basic phonics and reading assessments. The results of these assessments will be shared with parents in the coming week.

Kindergarten has been practising their phonological awareness and phonics - working with syllables, sounds in words, rhyme and also beginning their phonics learning with the letter S. Stage 1 have been learning about common nouns, proper nouns and articles. They have also been benchmarked at their current reading levels and touched on recount writing.

In mathematics, Kindergarten have been learning about numbers that come before and after, the sequence of numbers to 12, forming numbers correctly to 6 and counting objects efficiently. Stage 1 have been learning about place value and the concept of a digit within a number. They have touched on expanded notation and understanding 3- and 4-digit numbers.

The students have all thoroughly enjoyed adding our respect and kindness sticks to our virtues jar when they have spotted these virtues in their friends, or someone has noticed them demonstrating these important virtues.



Having a strong understanding of place value is key to succeeding in math's

Daily Schedule

Staff members will meet at 7:55am for prayers and check in.

Teachers are available to receive the children in their classroom from 8:10am. Please note there will be no supervision for children available before this time, unless previously arranged.

The formal school day will commence at 8:30 and children will be dismissed following the school bell at 3:10pm

Classes start 8:30am 10:30am *
Eating time (supervised) 10:30am 10:40am
Break 10:40am 11:10am
Classes continue 11:10am 1:00pm
Eating Time (supervised) 1:00pm 1:10pm
Break 1:10pm 1:40pm
Classes continue 1:40pm 3:10pm
Dismissal 3:10pm

*including crunch n sip

Have a lovely relaxing and restful weekend

