

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

Ridvan is known as the "Most Great Festival" or the "King of Festivals." It lasts for 12 days and commemorates the anniversary of the garden sojourn where Baha'u'llah declared his mission outside Baghdad. It provides the occasion for the holiest and happiest days of the Baha'i year.

On the 12th Day of Ridvan, Esslemont College celebrated with an excursion to the Baha'i House of Worship in Ingleside. We arrived about 10am with time to have something to eat before heading into the Temple to practise reading at the microphone. Our two younger students asked if they could sing a prayer, and their voices filled the space with much beauty. The service started at 11 and, although nervous, our two older students read their quotations with excellence and confidence. Many people came up to them after the service to congratulate them. Following a relaxed break to eat and chat we then went with Miss Bita who showed us how to effectively remove weeds from the gravel path around the Temple. This service was completed with joy and purposefulness. To finish off our day we spent some time at a local playground before the long drive back to school. I was very proud of our students who demonstrated many virtues throughout the day including reverence, joyfulness, responsibility, enthusiasm, service and respect.



Visiting the Baha'i House of Worship:
Worship, Serve and Play



Arrived safely to the Baha'i House of
Worship



Service project: Weeding
and cleaning the grounds

What's on next week

Virtue of the Week - Courtesy

Courtesy is being polite and having good manners. When you speak and act courteously, you give others a feeling of being valued and respected. Greet people pleasantly. Bring courtesy home. Your family needs it most of all. Courtesy helps life to go smoothly.

"We, verily, have chosen courtesy, and made it the true mark of such as are nigh unto Him. Courtesy is, in truth, a raiment which fitteth all men, whether young or old."

- The Proclamation of Baha'u'llah, p. 20.

Swimming - Wednesday 10 May

Library - Thursday - don't forget to bring your library bag and book to change!

Sport - Thursday - please wear your sports uniform, bring your drink bottles and don't forget your hats.

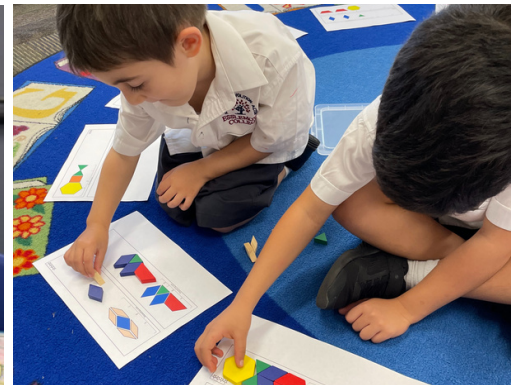
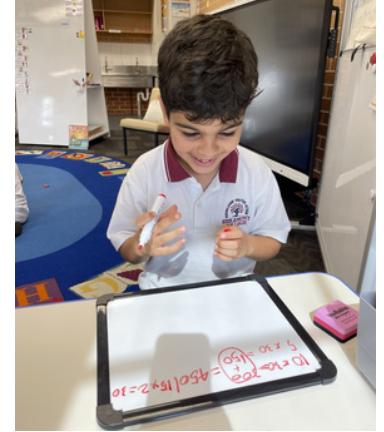
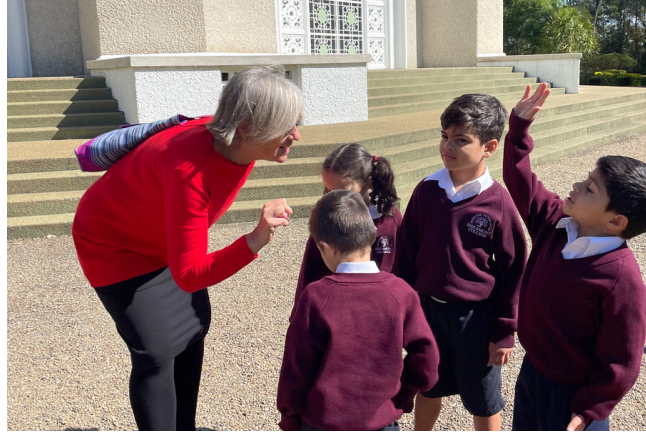


Exploring the space inside the Temple



Weeding the grounds

Classroom News



Visit to the Baha'i House of Worship, paintings inspired by the writings of Baha'u'llah, stretching out words with 'stretchy snake' and fun with numbers and patterns!

A message from our Teacher

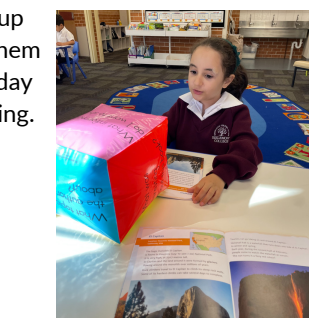
Week 2 of Term 2 seems to have flown by. It has been such a wonderful week, filled with celebrations and service. It was very exciting to surprise the students at the Baha'i House of Worship on Tuesday for the 12th Day of Ridvan Service.

Watching the students practise our virtue of the week: confidence (courage) when praying at the Temple was an absolute honour. They were so very respectful and demonstrated the values we try to uphold every day at Esslemont College. Well done for your amazing effort rehearsing your prayers Raadeen and Lana!

What have we been learning?

Students have been learning new sounds this week through games and repetitive activities (Kindergarten: /j/, /v/, /w/, /x/ and Stage 1: oi and oy). We have also touched on the concept of character in English and will be focussing on writing descriptions in English this term.

It has been wonderful catching up with the students and hearing them recount their weekend and holiday activities both orally and in writing.



Literacy activities: CVC writing and comprehension cube

The students have been consolidating their knowledge of patterns and learning more about aspects of time this week. Kindergarten have focused on the language of everyday time (e.g. today, tomorrow, yesterday), as well as learning the days of the week in order. 'The days of the week song' has helped us consolidate this and they are now confident reciting them without the music. Stage 1 practised reciting the months of the year in order. They then learnt a special rhyme to help them remember how many days fall in each month. Once again, a song (30 days has September) was utilised to support them with this learning, and they have already built confidence singing it independently.

The students thoroughly enjoyed learning two new prayers this week, one being 'Say God sufficeth...' and the other 'God grant that the light of unity may envelop the whole Earth...'. Please encourage them to practise these for you at home this weekend.



Ordering events based on their duration



Kindergarten learning about patterns