

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

*Training in morals and good conduct is far more important than book learning. A child that is cleanly, agreeable, of good character, well-behaved – even though he be ignorant – is preferable to a child that is rude, unwashed, ill-natured, and yet becoming deeply versed in all the science and arts. The reason for this is that the child who conducts himself well, even though he be ignorant, is of benefit to others, while an ill-natured, ill-behaved child is corrupted and harmful to others, even though he be learned. If, however, the child be trained to be both learned and good, the result is light upon light*

Bahá'í Writings

This week I was privileged to witness a difficult learning moment for one of our students. The student was given a gift which was something they neither liked nor wanted. The initial reaction was to say so very clearly and in the hearing of the individual giving the gift. The student put the gift on the bench and began to walk out of the room. However, courtesy (our virtue of the week) kicked in and the student realised that this was not a courteous way to behave. The student stopped, turned back and sincerely shared gratitude for the gift and apologies for their initial reaction. I could not have been prouder at that moment.



Learning is well underway at Esslemont College in Term 2



## What's on next week

### Virtue of the Week - Friendliness

Friendliness is being a friend, through good times and bad. You take an interest in other people and make them feel welcome. You share your belongings, your time and yourself. Friendliness is the best cure for loneliness.

*"Offer thy friendship, be worthy of trust. Be thou a balm to every sore, be thou a medicine for every ill. Bind thou the souls together."*

- Abdu'l-Baha, Selections from the Writings of Abdu'l-Baha, p. 26.

### Local Park Excursion - Wednesday 17 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.

**Homework** - Thursday - please bring your homework books.

**Cooking** - Friday - Tacos for lunch! (We will be in touch with an ingredients list). Thank you all!



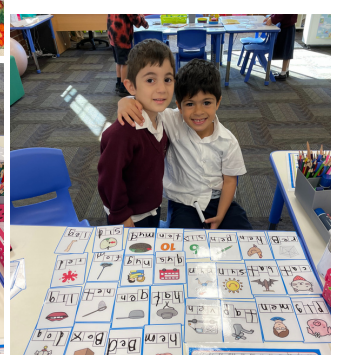
Learning new warm ups and ball games in sport.



Learning about place value in mathematics



# Classroom News



Preparations continue for our Mother's Day gifts, enjoying some free play outdoors and segmenting and blending phonemes to spell 3-4 letter words and exploring the character 'Three'.

## A message from our Teacher

An exciting week of learning and fun! I am especially proud of all of the students for their perseverance and determination with challenging tasks this week.

This week the students and I consulted and are excited to resume cooking classes. We are keen to make healthy lunches in line with our PDHPE curriculum each Friday. Next week we are making healthy tacos!

In mathematics the students have enjoyed furthering their knowledge of number. Kindergarten started to work with teen numbers and understanding the concept of place value. It was extremely exciting seeing them beginning to understand and have "ah-hah!" moments. Stage 1 were learning to trade using place value MAB blocks and understanding how to use this to efficiently take away and add three-digit numbers. Again, the excitement and desire to continue doing this after we had finished the lesson was very motivating for me as the educator. Well done to every student for their perseverance and zeal to learn.

## What have we been learning?

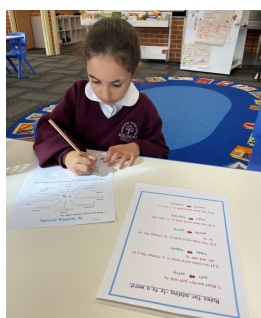
Excitingly our Kindergarten students have now learnt all of their single sounds and are moving on to digraphs and blends. This week we learnt the sounds /y/, /z/, /zz/, /qu/ (and Stage 1 learnt alternative spellings for the /er/ sound, including ir, ur, ear and or. Stage 1 also learnt more about the suffix -ly and the rules for adding it to words to create adverbs. The students have enjoyed describing characters using a range of adjectives and setting goals to make their writing more interesting.

We have continued learning 'God grant that the light of unity may envelop the whole Earth...' and the students love it so much that some of them choose to sing it independently as their morning prayer before singing it as a whole class. We also learnt a lot about what it means to be courteous this week and will keep on trying over the coming weeks to understand what this looks like in action.

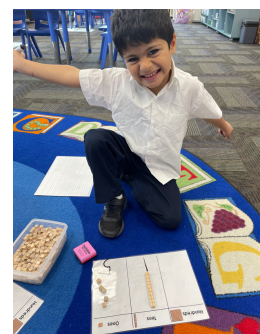
Seeing the students in Kindergarten learning to sound out words and write their own sentences has been a massive highlight of the last two weeks.



Learning about the suffix -ly and group games



Making number combinations with dominoes



Learning about place value in mathematics