

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

*Joy gives us wings! In times of joy our strength is more vital, our intellect keener, and our understanding less clouded. We seem better able to cope with the world and to find our sphere of usefulness.*

Bahá'í Writings

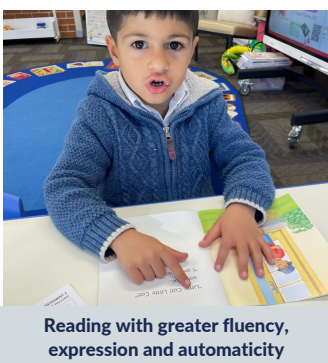
Each morning at Esslemont College the students greet the teachers with a good morning and a handshake. This is a useful time to check in with the children and they are asked questions such as how they are or what emotion or virtue they might be feeling at the time.

On Tuesday morning, I witnessed one of our children answer to Miss Shauna that they were feeling joyful. The child then asked Miss Shauna how she was feeling. In the conversation which followed the student shared how he remembered from last term that they had talked about responding to the adult with an answer, and then perhaps asking the adult how they are doing. It was mentioned at the time that this can bring great joy to the adult. Our student said he wanted to give Miss Shauna joy!

And he certainly did!



Our Excursion to Fairway Drive Park



Reading with greater fluency, expression and automaticity



Practising our digraphs through fun literacy games



Practising addition and subtraction with fruit - delicious!



Making sushi on Friday afternoon

## What's on next week

**Holy Day** - Monday 29 May (Ascension of Baha'u'llah)

### Virtue of the Week - Thankfulness

Thankfulness is being grateful for what we have. It is an attitude of gratitude for learning, loving and being. Appreciate the little things that happen around you and within you every day. Think positively. Thankfulness brings contentment.

*"A thankful person is thankful under all circumstances. A complaining soul complains even in paradise."* **Baha'u'llah**

**Local Park Excursion** - Wednesday 31 May

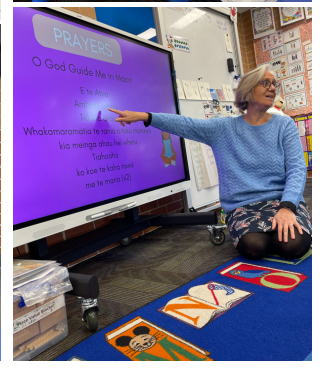
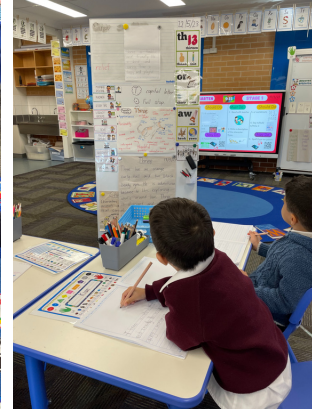
**Library** - Thursday - don't forget to bring your library bag

**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 - Couscous Salad (we will send ingredients needed next week)

# Classroom News



Celebrating the Declaration of The Bab Holy Day with our own gate artworks, learning number bonds to 10 and 20, writing descriptions using word walls, exploring our playground and finding a praying mantis, learning about making different colours in Science and learning the prayer 'O God Guide Me' in Maori

## A message from our Teacher

It is very hard to believe that we are halfway through Term 2 already. The students have formed close bonds of friendship and are often reminding each other of virtues we have practised over the year and revising many prayers they have committed to memory.

We very much enjoyed celebrating The Declaration of The Bab Holy Day on Wednesday - with craft to reinforce the concept of The Bab meaning The Gate, as well as a fun trip to Fairway Drive Reserve. The students were all very keen to try and find opportunities to be of service and took bags and gloves to clean up the park if they found any rubbish.

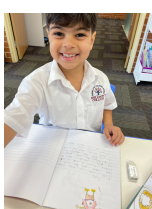
## What have we been learning?

The students have focused on new phonemes this week. Kindergarten have been learning the voiced and unvoiced versions of the /th/ sound, while Stage 1 have been learning different ways of forming the /or/ sound.

Our descriptive writing has steadily improved with practice and guided writing sessions. Seeing student enthusiasm and confidence in writing improve has been very exciting.



Writing descriptions, revising sound and using Reading Eggs during literacy groups.



During our craft activity on Wednesday I overheard one of the students expressing excitement when he found a flower that he had wanted, but initially couldn't find. When he noticed another child look at it and seem sad that they didn't have a similar one, he walked over and handed it to her. This moment was a very special moment. I thanked him for his kindness and reinforced my joy at witnessing this sacrifice by asking him to place a kindness stick in our virtues jar. It is wonderful to see the students practising virtues without being prompted.

Mathematics was an exciting and challenging experience this week. The Kindergarten students began learning more about their "friends of 10" (two numbers that add to make 10). While the Stage 1 students began learning more about inverse operations. This knowledge will continue to be consolidated in coming weeks and terms.



Learning our number bonds to 10 - "friends of 10"



Open-ended addition and subtraction problem solving