

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

Nature reflects the qualities and attributes of God and should, therefore, be greatly respected and cherished.

For a teacher there can be no greater joy or sense of gratitude than seeing their students use their learning from the classroom in real life situations, especially when it is unprompted!

This term in geography the children have been learning about the importance of respecting and looking after 'Country' or our special places.

During our Holy Day activities on Monday the children, were playing in the leaves which had fallen in our playground over the weekend. They were having so much fun as I used to blower to pile up the leaves.

Unprompted they then began to bag the leaves and actually assisted in filling to the top the green bin plus another plastic bag. Service with a smile!

On Wednesday we visited Wrights Road Reserve. Although this park is well maintained by the Council there was some rubbish lying around. After reading the sign "Do Not Litter" one of our students asked if we could pick up the rubbish to show that we care for our environment like we talked about in class. Such a perfect example of how we should respect and look after Country. The gloves came out of the first aid kit, and everyone spent their last 5 minutes or so of play time cleaning up.

In schools I have previously taught in, picking up rubbish in the playground has often been used as a punishment for inappropriate behaviour. At Esslemont College it is a service that everyone participates in joyfully and willingly, and for that I am truly thankful.



Our Excursion to Wrights Road Reserve



Being of service and helping clear autumn leaves



Learning about different genres of music



Exploring vibrations in music through string

What's on next week

Virtue of the Week - Humility

Humility is being modest, humble and unpretentious. We consider others' views and needs as important as our own. We willingly serve others and accept help when we need it. When we cause hurt we have the humility to admit it and make amends. Humility reminds us to be thankful for our success rather than boastful.

*"Humility exalteth man to the heaven of glory and power."
Bahá'u'lláh, Epistle to the Son of the Wolf, p. 29*

Local Park Excursion - Wednesday 6th June

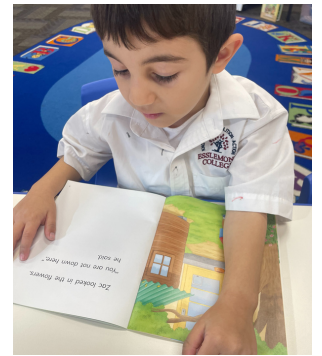
Library - Thursday - don't forget to bring your library bag

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



Artworks inspired by a quote from Baha'u'llah 'I am the guiding light that illumineth the way', exploring a new playground, measuring the area of books and recording our responses on SeeSaw, reading daily and practising our sight words and sounds in context

A message from our Teacher

This week we commemorated the Ascension of Baha'u'llah and read stories of His life. They showed great interest in the events of His life and seemed entranced when hearing of His innate knowledge, imprisonment in the Black Pit and passing at the Mansion of Bahji.

Our virtue of thankfulness has been a very interesting virtue to explore this week. On Thursday morning the children all shared what they were thankful for. The conversation from the beginning of the week about being thankful for gifts people give us, was shifting into thankfulness for our homes, food, families and God guiding us by the end of the week. Needless to say, I was extremely thankful for each little soul sitting in front of me and the nobility and purity they demonstrated in that moment.

What have we been learning?

Phonics continues to be a focus for all students. Kindergarten have been learning the end blend /ng/, while Stage 1 focus on the long /o/ sound. Our descriptive writing has been enhanced by comparative



Revising our sounds using interactive technology and reading to achieve our goals

descriptions of characters from the text we have been studying. The students have been focusing on using the conjunctions 'and', 'but' and 'because' in order to effectively compare characters. Something I was personally thankful for, was seeing all of the students complete their writing task without sharing their hesitations or discontent about doing so. Writing has been a challenging task for many this year, however, with encouragement and perseverance they completed the task independently and with joy.

Mathematics has involved looking at the surface area of different objects and explaining how we know one area is larger or smaller than another. We have focused on superimposing objects and seeing whether the object underneath is visible, as well as covering the surface with a uniform informal unit (such as unifix cubes) and comparing the number of units taken to fill the area of two surfaces.



Comparing the surface area of two objects.



Using unifix cubes to measure the area of a book.