

Esslemont College

Weekly Newsletter

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



Acknowledgement of Country

Esslemont College acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and emerging Traditional Custodians and Elders of the Dharug Nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

A message from the Principal

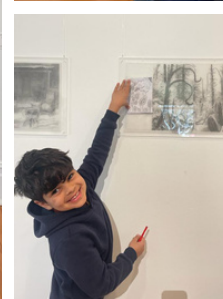
Children are even as a branch that is fresh and green; they will grow up in whatever way ye train them. Take the utmost care to give them high ideals and goals, so that once they come of age, they will cast their beams like brilliant candles on the world, and will not be defiled by lusts and passions in the way of animals, heedless and unaware, but instead will set their hearts on achieving everlasting honour and acquiring all the excellences of humankind - Baha'i Writings

Last week 2 Inspectors from the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA) visited our school and spent a number of hours reviewing our policies and procedures used to ensure our school is not only a safe and secure environment for our children but also offers strong educational programs in all Key Learning Areas based on the Australian National Curriculum, and the NSW syllabus. We are very happy to share that their recommendation to the Minister of Education will be that we receive full registration for years Kindergarten to Year 2 and initial registration for years 3-6.

We are therefore very excited to invite families who have children in Kindergarten to Year 6 to explore what Esslemont College has to offer. Please don't hesitate to contact us to make an appointment for a personal tour of our school and an opportunity to ask questions you might have of the Principal.



Our excursion to Penrith Regional Gallery: Jeannie Baker Exhibit



What's on next week

Holidays

It's holidays! We hope you have a wonderful break and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 18th of July.



★ HAPPY ★
HOLIDAYS

Week 1 Term 3

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.

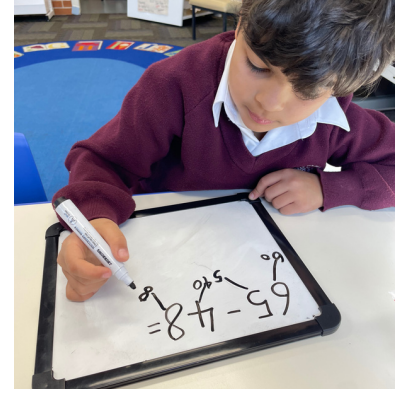


Creating our own books at the Jeannie Baker Exhibit



Problem solving using clay and hands-on materials

Classroom News



Many hands-on experiences learning about place value and number concepts, problem solving using riddles and clay, expanding methods of subtracting and exploring new parks.

A message from our Teacher

We have reached the final week of our first semester at Esslemont College and what a semester it has been! The children have made wonderful progress in many aspects of their learning and are looking forward to a well-deserved break.

This week the students explored the wonderful world of art through a Jeannie Baker exhibit at the Penrith Regional Gallery. They were in awe of the textures, artistic license and creativity that Jeannie Baker demonstrated in her artworks. They had the opportunity to create their very own books and stories inspired by the book *Desert Jungle*. It was a fantastic day and a wonderful experience for all of the students. I would like to also congratulate them on their responsible and respectful behaviour throughout the excursion.

What have we been learning?

Students have continued their phonics instruction and focus on descriptive writing this week. We have been learning about how great authors "show don't tell", by creating beautiful imagery in the mind of the reader.

Reading instruction has continued in one-on-one and small group sessions. This has allowed for highly differentiated instruction and opportunities for guided and scaffolded lessons that are targeted to the individual students.



Reading one-on-one with the teacher

Our weekly virtue of prayerfulness has been a very interesting exploration of what it means to make decisions in a thoughtful way and act according to what we know to be the right thing and not just easy. It has also been a great opportunity to practice meditating on the words we say during prayer and enjoy this time each morning.

In mathematics, students have been participating in hands-on experiences that reinforce concepts, such as grouping, to quickly recognise a certain number of objects. Outdoor spaces have also been utilised, with students appreciating that learning can happen in a variety of places, not just in a classroom or at a desk. They have used hands-on materials to estimate and count the number of objects in a collection. They have also supported one another in their learning by filming each other explain their reasoning and asking relevant questions to elicit important information.



Grouping items by tens to quickly subtract numbers



Outdoor number activities