

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

*I want you to be happy, to laugh, smile and rejoice in order that others may be made happy by you. Baha'i Writings*

On Wednesday we celebrated two remarkable milestones - 100 days of school for our Kindergarten children and 100 days of Esslemont College! Our students and staff embraced the "100" theme wholeheartedly, stepping back in time to become spirited centenarians. The transformation was nothing short of magical, with vintage ties, hilariously stuck-on moustaches, and walking aids ingeniously crafted from PVC piping. Not to mention the marvelous greying hair techniques that truly added to the authenticity! Thank you to our families for all the effort you made!

Term 2 is gearing up to be a busy one. Details will be shared at a later date, however, here are some dates for your diary:

**Weeks 3 & 4:** As part of Education Week, we have arranged for "Hatching Chicks" to come. (don't tell the children as it's a surprise for Monday).

**Week 5:** Science Week. As well as a focus on all things science, we will welcome children from Bright Start Academy for a morning of activities.

**Week 6:** Book Week

**Week 7:** Excursion to Sydney Zoo

**Week 8:** Grandparents Day at school

**Week 10:** National Pyjama Day - a service project to raise funds to support children living in foster care.

<https://fundraise.thepyjamafoundation.com/>



Dance, cooking, learning through technology and celebrating 100 Days



## What's on next week

**Education Week** - We are looking forward to celebrating our learning and meeting our new class pets!

**Virtue of the Week - Gentleness** is moving wisely, touching softly, holding carefully, speaking quietly and thinking kindly. When you feel angry or hurt, you use self-control. Instead of harming someone, talk things out peacefully.

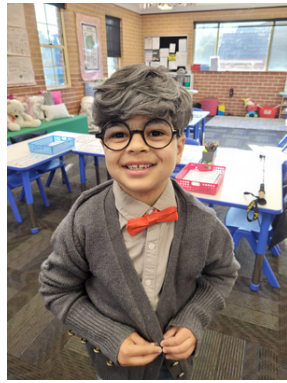
**Sport** - Wednesday - please wear your sports uniform, bring your drink bottles and don't forget your hats.

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

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

**Cooking** - Friday - Lamingtons. If you are able to supply 1 cup butter, 4 large eggs, 1/2 cup milk.

# Classroom News



Collaboration, learning our sight words, celebrating 100 Days of School, learning bhangra folk dance, exploring new applications and technology, and serving the community.

## A message from our Teacher

The students have had a joy-filled week with our celebration of 100 Days of School, dance learning about Bhangra style of dancing and look forward to learning about the dances of different cultures each week.

We have been focusing more closely on the virtue of thankfulness this week, considering the many things at school, home and in our lives more broadly that we are thankful for. This has been done quite intentionally in order to ensure that the students are always trying to see the world in a positive light and remember that they often have many things to be grateful for, rather than complain about.

Creativity, as our virtue of the week, has been explored across many disciplines, including creativity in our writing, in our designs using 2D shapes, dance, drawings and artworks.

In mathematics, we have been focusing on 2D shapes. With Kindergarten focusing on naming, identifying their properties and manipulating them both with hands on materials and using digital applications. Stage 1 has also expanded their knowledge of a variety of shapes and focused on concepts such as how a shape does not change even when it's size or orientation changes (flips, slides and turns). They have also learnt about symmetry and explored this concept through art and painting.

## What are we learning next week?

Content	Kindergarten	Stage 1
Phonics focus	ow for cow and ow for snow	er as a suffix (comparative)
Mathematics	Patterns / Division	Division

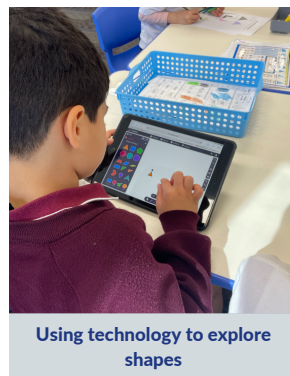
## What have we been learning?

Students have continued their phonics instruction, with Stage 1 focusing on the digraph 'ea' and learning about the different phonemes this digraph can represent. For example, /ea/ for leaf or /ea/ for head. The students have also focused on understanding the structure of information reports as well as reading procedures.

Early Stage 1 have learnt the /or/ and /ur/ digraphs. They have also been trying to memorise all of their sight words before learning new ones. Both stages have also learnt more about common nouns and proper nouns in grammar.

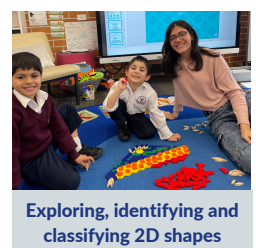
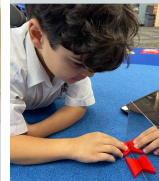


Sorting words into their corresponding sounds collaboratively.



Using technology to explore shapes

Learning about transformations of shapes using mirrors



Exploring, identifying and classifying 2D shapes