

Esslemont College

Weekly Newsletter

"Let your vision be world embracing" - Baháí 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

"Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Education can, alone, cause it to reveal its treasures, and enable mankind to benefit therefrom.."

There are many opportunities each day for us to mine those gems, and to reveal the hidden treasures. Miss Shauna and I are so very proud of how the children are not only encouraging each other to use the virtues we are practising but are more and more acknowledging the virtues they see being used in others and celebrating the achievements of each other.

With Ayyám-í-Há coming up we are learning more about how we can be of service to our classmates, our teachers and the wider community. We look forward to hearing from them how they are practicing service at home with their family.

We are very happy to welcome Miss Gaby to our team. She is helping out with administrative tasks as well as spending time with the children in the playground and helping Miss Shauna with swimming and cooking. Miss Gaby brings with her joy, enthusiasm and helpfulness, and we are most grateful to have her with us. Thank you Miss Gaby!



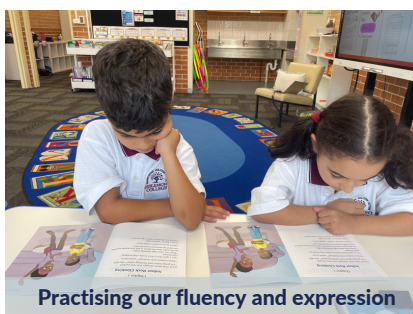
On our way to our first excursion.



Some quiet time in the library



Throwing and hitting in Sport



Practising our fluency and expression



Reading together

What's on next week.

Preparations for Ayyám-í-Há continue and Miss Shauna has mentioned below some of the planned activities.

Virtue of the week - Generosity

Generosity is giving and sharing. You share freely, not with the idea of receiving something in return. You find ways to give others happiness and give just for the joy of giving. Generosity is one of the best ways to show love and friendship.

Swimming has become a highlight to look forward to for the next nine weeks after just one experience. Don't forget swimmers and floaties (if needed) next Wednesday.

Cooking classes - we are making raspberry brownies! If you have anything at home that you'd like to contribute, like raspberries, butter or cocoa please have the children bring them in on Thursday.

Classroom News



Our first session at Waves Fitness and Aquatic Center was a great experience.

A message from our teacher

In the lead up to Ayyám-í-Há the students have excitedly been planning for our first service project. To visit the local pre-school and interact with the children. The students were so keen to think of wonderful ways to be of service and bring joy to the children that they were willing to stay in during their lunch to continue brainstorming and had to be convinced this was unnecessary and we could come back to it soon. I would like to congratulate the children on their ongoing efforts to think of others before themselves.

Our first week of swimming was also an absolute joy! The students all had so much fun playing water games.

Helpfulness has been our virtue of the week and students have been finding many ways to be of service to their teachers and peers.

In mathematics, all students thoroughly enjoyed our addition scavenger hunt - scouring the room for problems and excitedly skipping back to their whiteboard to solve them.

Kindergarten have confidently begun adding numbers using hands-on materials and counters. They have loved the opportunity to practise the skill of adding and expressed their joy when mathematics is mentioned when going through the daily timetable.

What have we been learning?

This week the students in Kindergarten have been excitedly learning the new sounds /t/ and /p/, bringing their phonics bank to 4 sounds in total. This has allowed them to start segmenting three letter words and reading basic sentences using their 8 sight words. They have loved the opportunity to "jump out" the sounds in words using hula hoops.

Stage 1 have similarly broadened their knowledge of sounds, learning 4 ways that the /j/ sound is made and the rules to accompany them (j, g, ge, dge).

All of the students were very excited about our brand-new iPads that arrived and were used to continue their reading journey in a fun and interactive way during independent literacy group activities.



Stage 1 are always keen for mathematics and the opportunity to be challenged. In Year 1, we have been focusing on using place value and MAB blocks to add two-digit numbers efficiently.

In Year 2, our focus has been on using the bridging to 10 and the split strategy to understand efficient ways to add more complex three-digit addition word problems.

