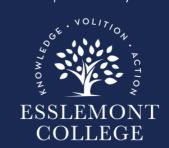
Esslemont College

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 Happy Ayyám-í-Há

Ayyám-í-Há is a multiple-day Bahá'í festival that is joyously celebrated in countries and territories all over the world. It typically falls around the end of February and beginning of March. Ayyám-í-Há, or the Intercalary Days, is a period dedicated to socializing, being hospitable, giving generously to the poor and needy, and preparing for the upcoming month of fasting. An Introduction to Ayyam-i-Ha | Baha'i Blog (bahaiblog.net)

We've been learning an Ayyám-í-Há song. When we first heard it, we thought it was too hard to learn but with determination and perseverance we did it. See how you go at home HAPPY AYYAM-I-HA - Andy Grammer

On Tuesday we drew an obstacle course in the playground which consisted of jump counting, walking the plank, frog jumps, spelling out our name, jumping jacks and spinning around the circles. It rained that night and washed it all away. Now we can create a new one!

Save the Date - Come and join us at our very first Open Day on Sunday 2 April from 2pm to 4pm. See page 3 for details.



Spinning around the circles









What's on next week.

Preparations for Ayyám-í-Há On Wednesday we will visit Kellyville PreSchool to share with the students some information about this special time of the year and a small gift. Our children have also prepared a scavenger hunt for the pre-schoolers which should be lots of fun.

Virtue of the week - Service

- I look for opportunities to be useful.
- I do thoughtful things for my family and friends.
- I don't wait to be asked when something needs doing.
- I use my gifts to make a difference in the world.

Swimming - Wednesday

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

Cooking classes - We are making...pancakes! Let us know if you are able to contribute any ingredients; for example, maple syrup, chopped fruit or a couple of eggs.

Classroom News







Decorating stones for our scavenger hunt with the preschool for Ayyám-í-Há

A message from our teacher

The count down to Ayyám-í-Há is on! We have been crossing off the days as we approach this joyful and festive time. Only 1 more day until we come together with our family and friends and practise generosity and thoughtfulness with even greater energy and effort.

The students have enjoyed decorating little stones with paint and messages of joy and love for the children at our local preschool. Combining their idea of playing games and gifting the students a present we have designed these rocks as a scavenger hunt for the younger children and look forward to seeing the joy this experience might bring.

What have we been learning?

This week the students in Kindergarten have added new phonemes (sounds) to their repetoire - including /i/ (as in ink) and /n/ (as in nest), bringing their taught phonics bank to 6 sounds in total. They have also greatly enjoyed continuing their phonics learning through reading eggs during morning literacy time.

Stage 1 have been focusing more on consolidating the phonemes they know and how to use them correctly in their

writing. For example, /ow/ (cow) goes at the end of a word unless it rhymes with down or owl and /ou/ (out) goes at the beginning and middle of words. They have also loved playing interactive sight words games and setting reading goals for themselves.



Generosity has been our virtue of the week and students have enjoyed dramatising this virtue in the morning and trying to better understand what it looks like to be generous in the lead up to Ayyám-í-Há.

Learning about and creating 3D objects in mathematics has been lots of fun this week. The students learnt a rap to try and remember the names of the objects and worked in pairs to created them using paper.



Creating 3D Objects using nets





