



# REDDAM EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL LINDFIELD NEWSLETTER



REDDAM  
ELS

12TH AUGUST 2016

## Beryl's Message

By Beryl Cappello, Principal

As our school increases in numbers and new children start, we also begin to take on new staff. Finding the right staff is not an easy task. Good staffing is an investment into our future and the future of all our children.

At Reddam we take our recruitment process extremely seriously, so you can be assured that the staff we choose are trustworthy, respectful, and mindful of the needs of our families and children.

Our newest member this week is Tracey. We welcome Tracey to Reddam Lindfield and hope you will welcome her in to your hearts and the lives of your children.

With our recent growth, we have the opportunity this week to make changes to the classrooms. We have decided it is time to move! Yes, that's right move!

We have moved our children into their own age and stage appropriate classrooms.

It is so exciting, both for teachers and children, as they gain a deeper understanding of belonging in their own groups!

As the connections become stronger with both peers and teachers in their own groups, the combined understanding is incorporated into the planning for children's learning. Planning becomes more focused and children are far more likely to succeed and have a stronger sense of belonging.

Our newsletter has therefore now been separated into stages so you can view what children are doing in each classroom.

The groups for now are Stage 1 & 2 and Stage 3 & 4. For the moment the sign in desk will remain outside the office, however, we are looking at other ways to present the sign in desk and we will keep you informed.

# Stages 1 & 2

By Rochelle Cattell

What another fun-filled week we've had at Reddam ELS in Lindfield.

It's hard to believe that we are now into week 4 at Lindfield. The children are growing in their confidence in huge ways when participating in group times, showing willingness to communicate verbally and non-verbally in a variety of settings.

They are becoming more and more familiar with our hand washing routines before our meal times and after toileting/ nappy change and even with packing away our classroom when it is time to move onto another activity.

As our numbers are beginning to increase, we have also begun a transitioning routine with the children. The children are encouraged to form a long line, making a train with their arms on their friends shoulders and prompted to walk too and from our activities in the rooms each day. This has provided

opportunities for the children to work collaboratively with one another and as a team. They have appeared to really enjoy this new experience and we decided to instigate this daily as the number of trains that pass by our campus each day attracts a lot of attention.

Our children are continuing to express an interest in cooking and last week, they loved participating in an experience where they learnt how to make Indian Roti bread with Rujuita. Again, as they gathered as a group, the children worked together to add each of the ingredients before watching their educator roll out the dough and form a circle, as indentured by the children. They enjoyed eating this Roti bread for afternoon tea and had a blast.

Later this week, we envisage to make a sweet cake with the children. All of these experiences, their step by step processes and instructions will be placed into a large folder with photos viewable for all families.



# Stages 1 & 2 Continued

By Rochelle Cattell

Our weather seems to be providing enjoyment for the children and this last week, they have continued to be fascinated by its changes.

Every morning during group time, the educators have been using a number of different flash cards to explain to the children the different weather, what it looks like and what we experience each day. The children have been encouraged to look outside the windows in the classroom and identify whether it is cloudy, windy, rainy or sunny and they have done a fantastic job at recognising these patterns. We will continue to discuss with the children over the coming days why the weather changes, the reasons behind having to wear lots of jumpers and closed shoes at this time of the year, whilst also looking at the different types of leaves around the playground and why they are all change colours and textures.

Our environment at Lindfield is very natural and due to the vast bushland

surrounding our campus, we have had a number of animals visit our playground. The children have been blown away by the number of kookaburras they have spotted and this has stemmed into lots of conversation about where they live, what they eat and the noises they make.

As a result of this new interest, we have decided to incorporate Australian Animals into our learning and will focus on teaching the children about these animals and their natural habitats. Throughout our group times, we will instil a number of experiences to further the children's knowledge in this area, along with art and art experiences, when available. We encourage any families who have any resources at home on Australian animals and if their children are showing interest in these, to please bring them in as we would love to use them throughout our day. We're sure the children will love this too!

Thanks for another fantastic week!





# Stages 1 & 2

## Photo Gallery



# Stages 3 and 4

By Beryl Cappello

As the children explore their sense of belonging, feelings and connections with each other.

We encourage them to take part an experience that will help them to be mindful of nature and the world around them.

The fallen branches that lay on the ground were once a part of a living tree's in our school. We provide the children with the opportunity to give the fallen branches new life.

Through their imagination, their creativity, and their individuality, each child will have the opportunity to create their very own stick person.

Each stick person will have it's own journey, a story and a new beginning in our classroom.

Through these new beginnings these fallen branches will once again come to life.

The children will share their feelings and motions through their stick people. As we encourage them to be mindful of the nature around them.

This is the beginning of their journey together at Reddam Lindfield.

We hope this journey will foster a love of nature within our children.

While we assist them to explore and celebrate their own sense of self, uniqueness and belonging.





# Stages 3 and 4

By Beryl Cappello

Feelings, and the acknowledgement of our feelings is a key element to a healthy self – esteem.

Helping children to feel safe, secure and supported, encourages them to discover who they are and what they want to become.

Children have many feelings and each one is important.

Talking about our feelings teach us we are normal. It is ok to be sad, angry or scared at different times.

There are also many ways to express these feelings without hurting our self or others. When children learn it is ok to have these feelings they begin to understand them selves better and enjoy their world more.

In the last few weeks we have explored our feelings through, colour, words, expression and songs.

We will now continue this through language, literacy and nature.

*“ The way we see the world shapes the way we treat it, and we will only protect what we know and love.”*

- David Suzuki

You are most welcome to come and assist your child to start their journey by making a stick person together.



# Stages 3 & 4

## Photo Gallery

