



# REDDAM EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL LINDFIELD NEWSLETTER



REDDAM  
ELS

21ST OCTOBER 2016

## Beryl's Message

By Beryl Cappello, Principal

Vacation Programme is over and it is back to normal. I wish to thank the staff for all the efforts they put into developing, planning, and implementing a fun filled first vacation care for Lindfield.

It was lovely for the children who enjoyed a social, fun and interactive program that encouraged them to collaborate with peers from all stages. The older children had the opportunity to be the leaders and the younger children learned from scaffolding with older peers.

It was nice to see from an adult point of view how much children really can learn from each other. When an older child is encouraged to assist a younger child their own learning is surprisingly enhanced, rather than limited by the adult.

When teaching a younger child the older children begin to gain greater understanding than they had before. They analyse and rearrange what they know before passing this information on to the other child.

They gain confidence in their own abilities and have a greater sense of responsibility and achievement in their own efforts.

Peer relations have a huge impact on children's development. Positive peers relationships leads to improved social skills and greater emotional development. Children learn to manage joint attention, regulate their own behaviour and have greater linguistic competence. Research has indicated that children teaching children provides important opportunities to experiment at a different levels.

Making friends is not always easy for every child. When children come to Reddam we give them the opportunity to establish themselves as members of our community. We encourage them to contribute to their own learning and to have a sense of commitment and responsibility to the wellbeing of themselves and others. Vacation care gives them chance to do this unhindered by time, routines or age. During vacation care the emphasis is on having time to be.

# Week One

We kicked off our first ever Vacation Program at Lindfield ELS with a bang!

Our three classrooms combined for the entirety of each day over this period, enabling the children to begin interacting with one another from a variety of different ages. The Vacation Program was a fantastic opportunity for the children as it allowed them to continue building these relationships with the children whilst also allowing the educators to get to know the children better in a more relaxed atmosphere.

## ART & CRAFT DAY

The children enjoyed participating in a number of craft activities, enhancing their thinking skills and enabling them to show us their creative side. Our children decorated their very own animal masks, collaging a number of different materials onto their pages with PVA glue. When dry, they excitedly wore these around the playground for the afternoon. We also participated in a group activity where the children were encouraged to paint a number of art canvases applying colour, buttons and crepe paper. They did a fantastic job and these are now beautifully displayed within our library corner in our outdoor playground. We also enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea at the park. What a great first day!

## SENSORY DAY

With our large trough, the children interacted with an array of items, some including rice and salt. With large spoons, lids and plastic glasses, the children kept themselves occupied for an extended period of time combining these materials together, whilst also pouring them to and from these utensils. Our pine cones also enabled the children to explore their touch sense, communicating with their educators about how it felt. The children also enjoyed participating in a colour mixing experience where they were each given a plastic zip-lock bag and asked to mix the primary colours together, hence creating a secondary colour. As the children engaged in this way, they giggled and laughed with one another, stating the slimy texture and excitement at the colours they had created.

## SPORTS DAY

The children arrived to school today with enthusiasm as they approached their playground filled with loads of sporting equipment. We had sports balls, soccer nets, cones, bean bags and much more! We enabled the children to enjoy a fair part of the morning engaging with these activities with their educators before we grouped together and participated in a number of team sports.





# Week One

## SPORTS DAY CONTINUED

First off - soccer! With assistance from the educators, the children were encouraged to kick a soccer ball slowly through some cones placed onto the ground before attempting to kick this into the soccer net when they reached the end of our playground. Their teamwork and sports skills came to life during this time and it was great seeing the children work together and participate in this activity both individually and with their peers.

We also had lots of fun playing a game of musical chairs. With music playing in the background, the children danced around the area with their educators as they spun, jumped and hopped around before racing to a seat when the music stopped. The children worked exceptionally well together during this time and it was great to see them helping one another out and encouraging their peers when they missed a seat.

## TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

Many of our children arrived at school today, hand in hand with their very own teddy bears from home. They were so excited to carry their teddy bears with them everywhere today! We read stories, completed puzzles, ate morning, lunch and afternoon tea together whilst also participating in our yoga experience with our teddies. Due to the wet weather today, we

gathered together in the afternoon and sitting in a large circle in the Stage 3 & 4 room, our children got up and shared with their friends their teddies. They were encouraged to speak about what their names were, where they came from and what they did with their teddy at home. Although some of our children were quite shy throughout this activity, many were enthusiastic and proud to show off their teddy bears. Unfortunately, we were unable to go on an excursion to the local park for afternoon tea with our little friends due to the rain. Instead, we enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea consisting of tiny teddies & fruit. We look forward to having a teddy bears picnic again soon!

## WATER PLAY

Water play day never ceases to disappoint and the children had an absolute blast interacting with our water today. Adding colour and bubbles to our water, the children didn't hesitate getting themselves wet and loved every minute of it! Our water reels and funnels were one of the most popular activities, along with our buckets and shape connectors. For those children not interested in engaging with the water, they had lots of fun building their cognitive thinking and fine motor skills as they interacted with a number of puzzles and threading activities.





# Week One: Photo Gallery





# Week One: Photo Gallery





# Week One: Photo Gallery





# Week Two

## SCIENCE DAY

The children participated in a variety of science experiments. The first experiment was with milk, food colouring and dishwashing liquid. The children were fascinated with the way the colours moved once the dishwashing liquid was added to the milk and food colouring. When more dishwashing liquid was added, the colours moved even more. The children watched as the colours mixed with each other.

In another experiment the children helped build a big volcano in the sandpit. Using bicarbonate of soda, food colouring and vinegar, the children watched as the volcano "erupted".

What great experiments!!

## BIKE DAY

We are really proud of the great sharing that occurred during bike day.

The children that were there happily shared their bike/scooter with the other children. One of their favourite places to ride was down the wooden walkway from the gate to the classrooms. It was a great slope for them to ride down!

## BAKING DAY

The children creatively iced and decorated arrow biscuits with a variety of sprinkles and lollies. They enjoyed eating their creation for afternoon tea.

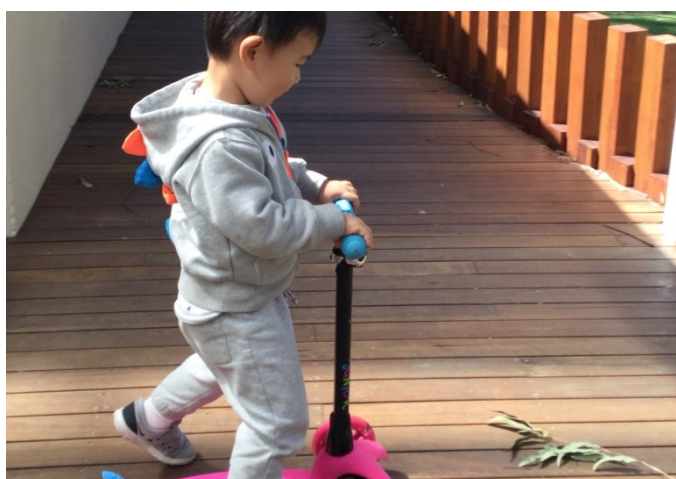
## CULTURAL DAY

Such a great day with children wearing clothes from their cultural backgrounds. Children were dressed in clothing from Mexico, South Africa, Canada, India, Australia, China, Hong Kong. The children were also able to taste some of the food eaten in these countries.





# Week Two: Photo Gallery





## Week Two: Photo Gallery





## Week Two: Photo Gallery





# Week Three

Wow what a great few weeks have had so lovely for us all to spend time with the whole centre.

Week 3 was super busy with lots that we had planned over this week.

## DRESS UP DAY

Dress Up Day was a busy day for us outside all the children where excited to see their friends that had dressed up. We had mainly super hero's in the centre today which then lead to a lot of gross motor play of running, chasing, and catching each other.

## GARDEN DAY

Thank you to all the parents that donated plants to our Garden Day. The children loved the hands on day of pottering in the garden and creating a new garden area for us to look after and watch grow. We planted a mixture of herbs, strawberry plants, mixed lettuce and Petunias. We are keen to watch them grow and cant wait to do a taste test.

## PYJAMA DAY/MOVIE DAY

It was a great day weather wise for Pjs and a movie. Everybody came in their pjs looking

like they just got out of bed. We had a wide variety of movies for the children to chose from and they chose Peppa Pig to start but they quickly choose a Nature Video which they thoroughly enjoyed. They loved eating their Pop Corn while watching the movie.

## CONSTRUCTION DAY

What a great day we had constructing and building. All the children where busy creating, building and making new things. Thank you to all the parents that bought in boxes big and small from home. We constructed with cardboard boxes, wooden blocks, foam blocks and bits and pieces that the children found around our garden. The younger children loved filling and emptying the foam pieces. It looked like it was snowing.

## PARTY DAY

Today it was fitting to have a party day as we were able to also celebrate George's Birthday. Happy Birthday George and thank you for sharing with us a special treat. During our party we celebrated all the wonderful things we did during vacation care. Thanks to everyone for a great vocation care.





# Week Three: Photo Gallery





# Week Three: Photo Gallery





## Week Three: Photo Gallery

