



REDDAM EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL LINDFIELD NEWSLETTER



REDDAM

ELS

21ST JULY 2017

Debbie's Message

By Debbie Zerbst, Principal

Welcome to term Three. We are welcoming new children and families and are delighted they are joining us. We are very proud of how much we have grown.

Our next step will be to reflect on our first year and continue to improve our practice. During the next two weeks in July the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority will assess us. They will let us know a week before they visit. It is always such a useful process and we look forward to receiving some ACEQA feedback. ACEQA supports the early childhood education and care sector to improve quality outcomes for children. Please feel free to look at our Quality Improvement plans that we will submit to them during their visit. The QIP will be placed in the parent Zone. Please take the time to see what we have achieved so far.

This term we will have the following enrichment classes;

- Dance
- Mandarin
- Drama
- Play ball
- Music

We will inform you which days the classes will be held.

REMINDERS about some of our SCHOOL POLICIES:

NO HAT NO PLAY

While children are playing outdoors, it is mandatory that they wear their hats. If they do not have their school hats, they will only be able to play undercover (the deck area) which can restrict their involvement in activities. Please ensure your children bring their Reddam hat to school everyday.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Children ages 1-2: All children are required to have a Reddam bag and a Reddam hat. Our lockers are only big enough to fit the Reddam bags .

Children ages 3-5: All children are required to wear the school uniform (t-shirt and shorts/pants or the dress), a Reddam hat and a Reddam bag. Orders can be made through the Uniform Shop on 9300 8200.

NUT FREE ZONE AND ALLERGIES

Our school is a nut-free and egg-free zone. For the safety of all our children, please do not bring any food items from home, even items you may consider 'safe', such as toast, as many of our children have severe allergies to a variety of food.

Debbie's Message Continued

By Ms Debbie Zerbst

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Our school photographs will be occurring on Wednesday 9th August 2017. If your child does not attend on this day, you are welcome to bring them in specifically for the photo. If you wish to do this, please advise your class teacher who will add your child's name to the list.

We will be sending you a photo order form. Please complete the form and submit the payment by Monday 28th August 2017. Photographs can be collected from the school from the 13 September 2017. There are 4 packages available:

Package \$55: 1 x individual, 4 x wallet, 1 x group

Individual 8x12: \$30

Sibling 8x12: \$30

Group 8x12: \$30

Examples of the photographs will be on display in Debbie's office. Please come and have a look. They are beautiful.

EARN AND LEARN - 26th July to 19th September 2017

Our school will be participating in the Woolworths Earn and learn program. If any of you shop at Woolies, please try and keep your coupons and bring them to school. Our school could earn some wonderful resources!



Our Red Earth

By Miss Lauren Separovich

What is Australia?

The children maybe be too young to understand where they come from but being part of this country greatly links into a child's sense of belonging in the world. We decided to explore the Australian flag.

What does our flag symbolise ?

It is a design of striking stars and crosses. Our flag represents all Australian citizens equally, whatever their background, race, colour, religion or age. Our flag is a reminder of the contributions of past and current generations to the nation and of the inheritance that will be passed to future generations.

As a group we observed a an image of the flag and the children were encouraged to paint their own interpretation using the appropriate colours red white and blue. We then observed some images of Sydney's largest icons- including the Sydney harbour bridge and the opera house.



Our Red Earth



Exploring the Land Near Us

By Miss Jessica Whitbourn

Today we talked with the children about the land and environments around us.

What did our Monet's already know about the country that they lived in?

I asked them, "Do you know what country we live in?"

Vivienne said "At Reddam!"

Good thinking Vivienne – that's where we are now, but in what city is Reddam?

"Sydney" cried out Sid, and he was right!

Then I asked "Do any of you know which country Sydney is in?" and Sid helped us again by saying "Australia".

We talked about Australia being a HUGE country with lots of little cities and towns that are full of houses, just like your own house. So, just how big is this place?

We looked at pictures of the coast, of the desert and of the bush and thought about what animals might live there – Kangaroos, Wombats, Platypus, Whales, Penguins...and the list goes on!

During the week we used storybooks and images of different places in Australia to expand their experiences and understandings of our country. We also went for some bushwalks in our own backyard, to find twigs, cicada cases, interesting leaves and to investigate the bark on the trees.



Exploring the Land



Kitchen Garden - Planting

By Miss Joselyn

TBC



Land and Animal Links

By Miss Lauren Separovich

Did you know Australia is one of the largest countries in the world and the only country that spans an entire continent?

Because Australia is so isolated, animals and plants live here which are found nowhere else on the planet. During group time we discussed with the children the many unique animals we may find in our country- the kangaroo, koala, emu, kookaburra, wombat and so on. Using clay, the children were encouraged to create their own Australian animals, using the ones discussed as a platform for inspiration.

Using sticks, Zoe and Abi poke their clay all over and explain to their teacher they have created "echidna". The sticks in this case represent the animals spikes. The children enjoyed the texture of the natural clay, being very soft it makes it very easy to mould.



Land and Animal Links



Corroboree: Rain Sticks

By Ms Joselyn Bruzzano

For thousands of years the Guringai people lived in the area from Newcastle to Sydney, predominantly along the foreshores of the harbour. They fished in local waters, hunted and harvested from the local bushland. The Guringai people developed a rich and complex culture of distinctive languages, customs, spirituality and laws, the heart of which was their connection to the land.

Inspired by the Guringai people, we created rain sticks. The children used a range of materials such as repurposed cardboard rolls and glue to make the rain sticks, they then placed a mixture of small stones, sticks, seeds and beans into the rain sticks. After this it was time to decorate their creations. The children selected from a range of coloured paints to paint the cardboard rolls. When dry, the children tested their rain sticks by shaking and tapping them.



Corroborree



Indigenous Story Stones

During NAIDOC week the children explored a range of Indigenous story stones, they learned about the different symbols on the stones and their meanings. Story stones were used in the Indigenous culture to tell stories, passing stories on from generation to generation. Aboriginal art symbols are used on all forms of Aboriginal art to help tell stories. In the outdoor environment, the children collected sticks and stones and, inspired by our Indigenous story stones, the children decorated their very own stones using brown, black and white paint. They used sticks of varying diameter dipped into the coloured paint to form paint marks on the stones. Some of the children used their fingers and hands dipped into paint to paint their stones and other children used fine brushes to decorate their amazing stones.



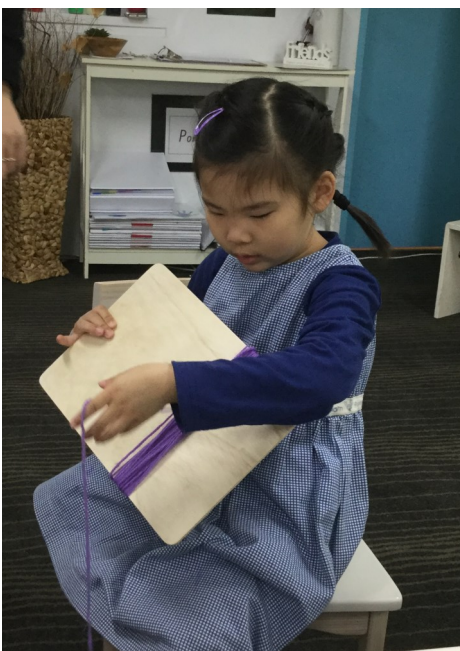
Story Stones



Yarn Dolls

As we have been learning more about the Aboriginal people of our land during NAIDOC week, we decided to make yarn dolls with the children.

Using coloured wool, the children wound it around a wooden board, creating their own yarn doll. It was wonderful seeing them play with their yarn dolls in the block corner, building houses for their new dolls.



Craft Day



Kitchen Garden with Athe

By Miss Lauren Separovich

The babies were particularly interested in Athe's kitchen garden on Wednesdays.

The children loved getting involved with the preparation of chopping up fruit and vegetables, and especially getting to taste it in the end.

On Wednesday the 5th Athe brought in some avocados to create our own guacamole dip. We started off the process by scooping all the avocado out of the seed and mashing it up with a spoon to make it a smooth texture. We then added some lime juice which we squeezed into the mixture and a little sprinkle of salt. Voila!

The children absolutely loved the taste and texture of the bright green dip, and were begging for more. Athe's hands on approach with the children gave them more interest in trying new fruit and veg, as we all know can be hard with our little ones.



Kitchen Garden with Athe



Nature Art Exploration

By Miss

TBC



Beanie Party

By Miss Pauline Nitzsche

The Alice Springs Beanie Festival is a community based event that began in 1997 with a 'beanie party'.

During vacation Care the children enjoyed wearing their favourite beanie for our picnic in the park. They had fun playing on the swings and slide in the park!



Beanie Party



Music, song, ceremony, performance and dance was and still is a very important part of Aboriginal life and customs. In fact, ceremonial performances are at the very core of cultural life. Senior artist and elder David Mowaljarlai OAM (1928–1997) once stated 'song was the first idea, the principle of sharing which underlies our system'. Each song, like each design or painting is part of a moment in a larger story. Songs make up a song series or a 'songline' which is a map of the country based on the travels of the Dreaming ancestors.

In early childhood centres across Australia, educators share traditional and modern music and dances with the children. At Reddam, we invited our children to listen to traditional artists, such as Geoffery Gurrumul Yunipingu, throughout the day. At group time the Monet children, and children in the other classes have been learning more modern songs by Aboriginal artists, such as the Wombat Wobble. It's quickly becoming a music and movement group time must! You can find the song on YouTube, just search Wombat Wobble – it's super easy and fun and I suspect your child or children will be very excited to teach you the dance!



Drama & Music



Craft - Stencil Rock Art

By Ms Joselyn Bruzzano

Stencil art is the style of art found in many caves along the coastline of Australia. It is often seen as hand prints, animal tracks, boomerangs or spears printed directly onto cave walls. This form of art is created by using ground ochre, charcoal, clay, feathers, fats and other organic materials. The traditional materials were applied in many ways, blowing fine spray from the mouth to form silhouettes or brushing the pigment using fine sticks or hair. Stencil images are some of the oldest painted images from Australia.

Inspired by this form of art the children used their hands to create silhouette images. Firstly we diluted selected brown and black paint with water, we then used water spray bottles to spray a fine mist of the diluted paint onto the children's hands. Once their hands were taken off the page, the children noticed the silhouette left by their hands.



Kitchen Garden: Planting

By Miss Jessica Whitbourn

Each Wednesday throughout the holidays Athe came to teach the children about growing food and plants, including tasting some different fruits and vegetables and making tatziki and guacamole. Today Athe invited the children to sow their own flower seeds. She gave them each a miniature pot with their own nametag – great for recognising their names! Athe had brought along some little inserts that fit into the pots, where the seeds could be sown straight into the fibrous lining, with just a little bit of soil. Athe talked with the children about how the seeds would need water and sunlight to grow. We can't wait to watch their development from seed to flower. Please come and have a look with your child, they are located in our courtyard just off the Monet's room. There is also lettuce, parsley and some succulents growing here too.

Participating in gardening activities helps children to learn about how food grows on plants and how it can be combined with other foods, such as yoghurt, to create delicious things to eat.



Kitchen Garden: Planting



Kitchen Garden: Planting



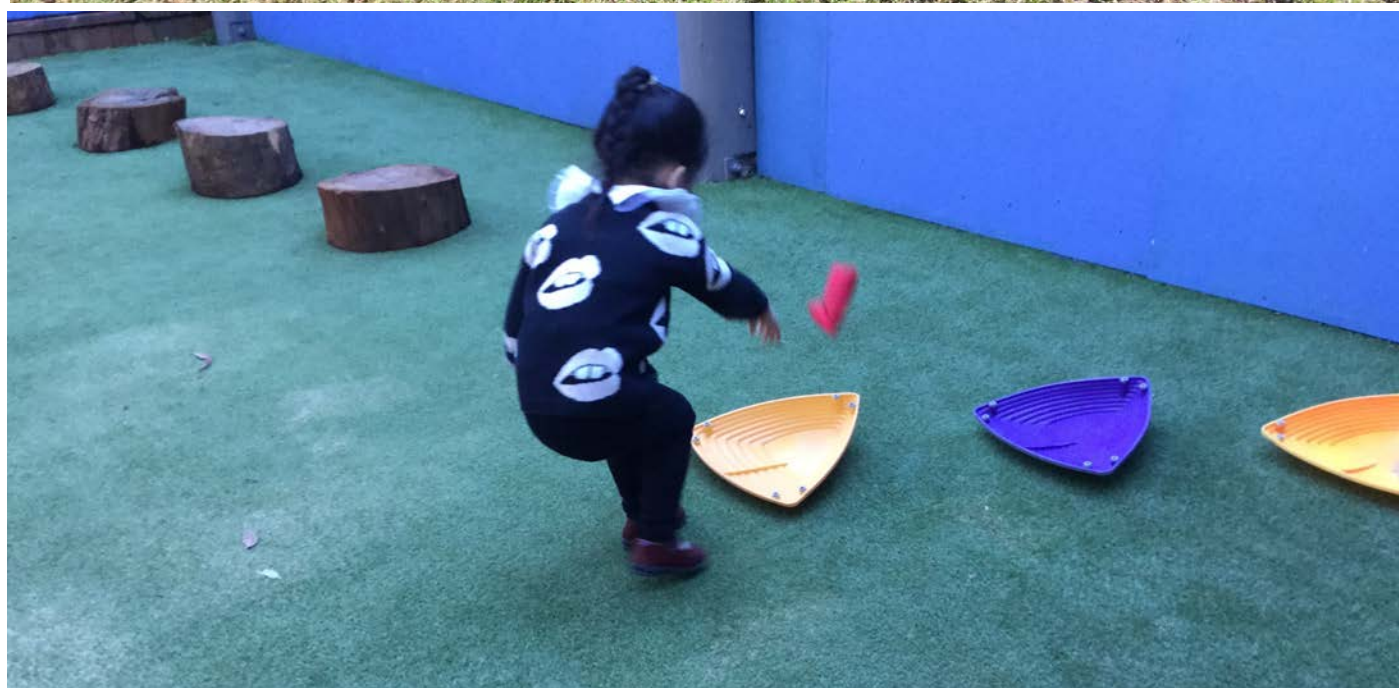
Kitchen Garden: Planting



Indigenous Sport Day

By Miss

TBC



Crazy Hair Day

By Miss

TBC

