



# REDDAM EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL LINDFIELD NEWSLETTER



REDDAM  
ELS

22ND SEPTEMBER 2017

## Simone's Message

By Mrs Simone Cooke, Principal

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of a busy, yet rewarding Term Three! As our school has grown over the past months, we have welcomed many new children to our Reddam family. As a result we have also expanded our teaching staff. I am pleased to announce that next week we have a new Early Childhood Teacher Ms Maddison Burnley joining us on Stage 1. Maddison holds a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Birth to 12 years) and has experience in both the Early Learning and Primary school settings. She is very excited to be working alongside the talented teachers here at Reddam.

Over the next couple of weeks we will also be transitioning a small number of children in our Stage 1 and 2 classes, who we have identified as being developmentally ready to move to the next class level. The core teachers will be making contact with the parents of these children over the upcoming week to explain how this transition will be taking place.

### VACATION PROGRAMME

Over the next two weeks our programme will shift into "Vacation" mode and we have lots of fun filled activities planned to give the children a break from their usual programmes and routines. The focus for our Vacation programme this Term is "Halloween Happenings!" Attached to this newsletter you will find a copy of our daily events. Please download a copy of this and check it daily as certain days such as our "Trick or Treat" Dress up day or our "Too cute to spook day" invites children to come dressed in fancy dress. During our Vacation period we enjoy a more relaxed programme. Our preschool children do not wear their school uniforms and our normal educational programme and specialist classes is replaced with a range of fun and exciting holiday activities.

### PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Please be aware that our school will be closed on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October for the long weekend.

### EARN AND LEARN

Thank you to all our families who have been so diligently participating in our Woolworths Earn and Learn. The program has now finished for this year. We are at the important stage of the program where we need to lodge all our sticker sheets. The more we collect, the more we redeem. If you have any loose stickers or sheets at home could you please return them to us by next week. Our children are very excited about the prospect of redeeming some lovely new educational resources.

This will be our final newsletter for two weeks until Term Four resumes. A huge thank you to all our teachers for their dedication and hard work this term. We thank all our families for your ongoing support and look forward to a "Spooktacular" Vacation Programme.

## Benefits Of Messy Play

Babies and children learn and develop through play, but especially through unstructured, exploratory play. Although playing a game or playing with toys can be educational and fun, messy play focuses on exploring and experimenting with different materials without any end goal such as to build or make something. This allows young children to make their own discoveries using their senses, curiosity and knowledge.

Messy play stimulates the senses. The tactile experience gained during messy play helps little ones experience a variety of textures. During messy play, babies and toddlers are developing eye hand coordination and fine motor skills. What looks like a mess on the surface is truly a learning experience for your child.

Goop is a wonderfully tactile substance both for touching and watching as it slides off little fingers. This week we explore goop with mini beasts- a 'stuck in the mud' experience. Adding unsweetened cocoa to the mixture, the goop looks exactly like real mud. The children have loads of fun trying to dig the creatures out of the goop- and getting very messy in the process.





# Stage 1





# Stage 1



## Stage 2

By Ms Leonie Pride

What a great term 3 it's has been in the Monet's. This term we have been busy with our new specialty classes of Playball and Drama which have been a great success among the children. Justin's music class, Dancing with Tess and learning new words in Mandarin has also been something special that the children look forward to each week. Thanks to all our beautiful specialist Teachers for making each week so exciting and interesting for our children.

Our provocation in Stage 2 of "Our Scientific Terrific Two's" has shown the children how to be interested in experiments letting them explore and discover through these science experiences while at the same time learning about different concepts. We have looked into the some concept such as Float/Sink - Hard /soft and we can now hear children walking around the class and playground being able to identify different objects saying the words hard or soft. A big thank you to the families that have contributed to bringing items in from home it's easier for the children to identify sometimes these different concepts and be more interested when what they are looking at is something from home of interest to them. It's also a great way for the families to be involved in our program.

This week we have had a busy week with our centre being assessed everyone did a great job and it went unnoticed in the classrooms that this was happening.

A very big Happy Birthday to Teacher Tracy this week we all surprised her with a beautiful gift, a delicious cake and best of all everybody singing to her and giving her 5 big cheers as this is the age the children all decided she was.

We hope that everyone that is going away has a safe and relaxing holiday. We have a fantastic holiday program over the next two weeks with the theme of "Halloween" so we look forward to sharing this with you.

Jess will be away next Monday on Holidays and Leonie away Wednesday, Thursday and a Friday.

Thanks again for great end of term everyone. Xx

Jess, Leonie, Tracey, Fern and Lucia





## Stage 2





## Stage 2





## Stage 2/3

By Ms Joselyn Bruzzano

To kick off the week we took a stroll to our local park for a journey of discovery. We explored our surroundings and located some insects and minibeasts. We investigated ants climbing a tree, we followed their path to see where they were off to. We then found a small spider in the bushes, this prompted a group discussion regarding safety around insects and minibeasts. We talked about what we should do if we spot a spider, some of the children thought the best solution was to call a parent or Teacher.

Whilst at the park we collected natural objects. We found bark, stones, flowers and lots of leaves to take back to our classroom to use. We used some of the natural objects in craft projects, we also classified, sorted and counted some of the natural resources.

With all our insect and minibeast findings in the park, this has taken our focus this week. We took a close look at caterpillars and spiders during our group time discussions. Creating spiders using paint and cardboard rolls seemed a very popular experience and making our own caterpillars from pompoms and glue was another interesting experience.

With the weather warming up and spring blossoming we decided we needed to cool down. To do this we made ice blocks using water and green cordial. Jelly making was another way we kept cool, we made green jelly and placed red frogs into the jelly to set. In our front yard, we created an ice pond using a bucket, lots of ice and blue glitter of course. We then used scoops to scoop out the ice cubes. Through the course of the day we watched as the ice melted to create a glittery, shimmery pond. Some of the children imagined that magical insects and minibeasts might live in the glittery pond.





## Stage 2/3





## Stage 2/3





## Stage 2/3





# Stage 3 &4

By Ms Pauline Nitzsche

It's been a very busy term in the Pablo/Picasso Room with our room welcoming more friends to our Reddam family. We hope our new families have many happy years at Reddam.

The children have shown great interest in our provocation "Once upon a time" this term. Using stick puppets, shadow puppets and hand puppets has helped them create their own stories. They are developing a love for books and reading and often ask for stories to be read to them.

We have tried to instill more sustainable practises during the term. The children collected bottle tops to thread and hang in our front garden. A great pre maths activity as they looked at the different size and colour of lids and well as counting the different ones. Some children made patterns with the lids. We made a few mobiles to hang in our room - one with old jewellery that we were given, and one with coloured flattened bottle tops. All these activities further developed their fine motor skills as they threaded and connected the different items.

During the week, Anna and Eleanor brought some beautiful flowers for our room. After discussing the different types of flowers with the children, they were given the opportunity to make their own flower arrangements in vases.

Some of our children starting Kindy next year have been attending orientation days at their new schools. They are starting to get very excited for "Big School" and have been sharing their experiences of their new schools.

Our vacation program starts next week. To those families going away on holiday, travel safely and have a great time! We look forward to another great term after vacation program.

Pauline, Joe and Angel





## Stage 3 & 4





## Stage 3 & 4





## Stage 3 & 4





Hello everyone!

We've come to the end of another term and it's amazing to see how much the children have done over the last 10 weeks!

## Stage 1 & 2:

The little ones are now very familiar with the **routines** of our class. Once it's Music time, they sit in a circle and start patting to the beat... at the moment it's still **their own internal beat** as **matching the beat of the group is still a challenge at this age**. Notice how your child taps a toy on the ground at home during the holidays!

With the Mexican song, we explore the development of the vestibular system of our children this week as we bounce, jump, turn and stop. "The **vestibular system**, in most mammals, is the sensory system that provides the leading contribution to **the sense of balance** and **spatial orientation** for the purpose of **coordinating movement with balance**." (from [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vestibular\\_system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vestibular_system))

This term, we explored things in the sky; birds, clouds, rain (water from the sky), the sun and leaves (falling from the sky). I hope your child has enjoyed these lessons and we all look forward to more musical fun after our holidays!

## Stage 3:

Our stage 3 children learned to **control** the bordun (D, A bass notes) much better this week. They played with **a lower volume** and **more accurately on the beat**. The singing was also more confident (not shouting). These children are on the right track to becoming skilful little musicians!

We revisited our rhyme about the little fish and big fish. In addition, we learned a song on the same theme. Justin also introduced a new musical instrument to the children... **the ocarina**. The ocarina is classified as aerophone (wind instrument) in the study of Ethnomusicology. Many countries including South America, China, Korea, England all have claims of the origins of this instrument. For our children, they were simply thrilled at this amazing musical instrument **which looks like a seashell or a fruit** and yet is able to play the melody of the song about the little fish and big fish. I look forward to see and hear how these little musicians will grow in the next term!

## Stage 4:

Our stage 4 children listen to recordings of different modes of transportation and finally got into a space shuttle, then a horse, and finally onto a train. Then with the xylophones, they played the familiar song by now, "Train is a coming". All the children knew the song so well now, they were singing beautifully.

Next we got out some bells and we pranced around with the song bell horses. Children took turns to play the bordun while some played on the bells and of course everyone sang. This little ensemble was amazing! Finally, we revisited "Star Light" just so they remember the high note and the lower note. We look forward to watch how these young musicians blossom in their musicianship skills in the next term. Enjoy your holidays!



# Music





## Stage 1

### Objectives:

The children will participate in a teacher lead adventure using props and music involving dinosaurs, animals and a safari hunt

### Skills learnt this week:

Using the props to create shapes and patterns  
Moving their body to the rhythm of the music  
Call and respond  
Following direction  
Balancing  
Listening and responding to the teacher

### Activities include:

Used pom poms to walk like a dinosaur  
Went on an African safari  
Listening to sounds of African animals  
Creating their own sound to go with an action  
Teacher led improvisation

## Stage 2

### Objectives:

To children will use their imaginations to go through the magical wardrobe, discovering a fantasy world behind it. They will each take on the role of being a fantasy character and develop a whole group improvisation.

### Skills learnt this week:

Improvisation and creativity  
Taking on the role of a fantasy character through a group improvisation  
Working Together  
Portraying facial expressions and body gestures

### Activities include:

Using their imagination to go through a Magical Wardrobe (like Narnia)  
Discussed what a wardrobe is and usually has inside and what the wardrobe looks like  
Teacher in Role as a Witch from fantasy world. The children gave the witch character a name then the children thought of their own fantasy names  
The children go on an adventure with the witch. They travel on their broom to the first destination to get home "Rise rise, right up high, just as high as a butterfly". The aim is to get something from each place they visit so they can go back home. A pearl from the sea; Breath of a dragon; hair of a unicorn, sugar drop from the fairy and a golden egg from the giant

## Stage 3 & 4

### Objectives:

The children will become spies and work together to find the secret item, trying to solve the clues along the way.

### Skills learnt this week:

Creating a character  
Working as a team  
Call and respond  
Using their senses  
Following direction  
Listening and responding to the teacher

### Activities include:

Each child chose their spy name then discussed what a spy is and what their mission was  
Used props and costumes to disguise themselves  
TIR as secret Agent Red Snake guiding the children on a mission  
Using magnifying glasses the children had to try and find any clues that would lead to the Secret item.  
Music accompanied this to add to the drama  
The children worked together to do the obstacle course. First was the bubble wrap they had to walk over without popping, describing in one word what it felt like, second was to crawl under and step over the lasers (string attached to furniture in the room) and finally a message that was written with invisible ink (baking powder and water) that they had to uncover using magical paint (food colouring and water).



# Drama





# Playball

During Playball, Hayley put glue on our hands and we caught our friends no stuck to them. We used a safe ball on a string to explore ball safety. We played the pancake game, this help to develop our balance. We used a soft bean bag and a racket. We balanced our bean bag pancakes using two hands then one hand, we then tried to hit our pancakes into the sky. Lastly we balanced our pancake beanbag on our heads.





# Playball

