



REDDAM EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL LINDFIELD NEWSLETTER



REDDAM
— ELS —

8TH JUNE 2018

Petra's Message

By Mrs Petra Wright, Principal

Dear Parents

We hope that you and your children have had a wonderful week, despite the cold weather creeping in.

During my daily visits with the children it is wonderful to see them shaping their own curriculum. We have reflected on a quote this week and how this truly happens in our beautiful Early Learning School.

"The curriculum must wait at the door for an invitation from the children."

Invitation is such an important concept in Early Years education. We endeavour to allow the children to make choices about their curriculum, about their learning and about how they complete activities. The skills that the children need in their foundation years can be supported by any content, whether that is a fascination with a certain animal or a love of rainbows! Life is so busy but, watch a one to five year old for ten minutes engrossed in play, they are exploring scientific or mathematical concepts, practicing social and language interactions or making links between concepts and beginning to understand the world. Observation in the classroom is key and leads to an enriched, fulfilling and exciting curriculum and this is only allowed „through the door' by children

On Wednesday morning the ELS turned into a mini market. Stage 4 put their mathematical skills to the test. The children made their own money and then made some delicious treats with the help of stage 2 & 3 to sell to the children in the ELS. It was so beautiful to see how the children interacted with each other regardless of their age. When children do role-plays, they naturally become someone or something else. Role-play stimulates their imagination and enhances their social development, encourages friendship through cooperation, listening and turn taking. Therefore, role-play is a really vital activity for our children.

Please can I remind all parents to make sure the gate is closed properly after entering the ELS. Our children's safety is first and foremost.

Have a beautiful weekend with your precious children.

Stage 1: The Nest & Fledglings

By Miss Leonie Pride

This week we welcomed in Winter, it's time to rug up and keep warm. Please ensure your children are wearing the appropriate clothing to keep warm as our days are becoming colder.

It's been a week of Wonders this week...The Teachers have noticed more emerging language and verbal communication among a lot of the children. Throughout the class more and more chatter is being heard, clearer words are being said, singing of songs that we sing in morning circle are being repeated throughout the day without being prompted and Role playing is also started to really emerge.

Thank you to Madeleine for bringing in Rosemary from her garden this week for us to explore. She was so excited.

This week we continued with our Provocation 'Detective Sense' continuing on with the sense of smell. This week we added the different scents of fruits to our collection for the children to explore. Watching them interact with the different objects trying to smell them and seeing how they responded so positively to the activity and with such curiosity was exactly what we intended. It was lovely to see them identify the different fruits and observe new language emerging. As the Teachers would introduce the names of the different fruits some of the children would say their name clearly while others tried repeating the words being said.

You also could smell beautiful oils being burned in our diffusers. As the diffusers would light up the children were curious to watch as the light changing to different colours.

Next week we are looking at the 'Sense of Sight' with Vivid happening in Sydney this would be a perfect opportunity to take your children out and have a look at the lights. Some of our families have already gone to Chatswood to see the Vivid Lights and said it was great, The Zoo is also fabulous or if you can bare the crowds go into the city around the foreshore and explore the many interactive lights that the City of Sydney have put on.

Thanks everyone for a special week in Stage 1 it's lovely to see our children so happy and this is because they have a sense of belonging, they feel nurtured and loved as well as being able to express who they are individually.

I hope all our families enjoy their weekend.

Leonie, Rujuta, Ella and Grace



Stage 1 - „Sense of Smell’ Looking At Fruits



Stage 1 - Different Noses With Sense Of Smell



Stage 1 - Light Box with Different Senses



Stage 1 - „Exploring Our New Outdoors’



Stage 2: Chicks

By Ms Nimo Gill

Sensory Creations

This week stage 2 was inspired through their sensory capabilities as they were introduced to Ocean Goop sensory play. Allowing our children to be able to access the materials freely, We let them experiment with making Goop on their own with corn flour, vegetable dye and water. We had many different consistencies, some had too much water and some too much cornflour but the children were able to feel the difference and perfect their own goop. The goop had a unexpected marble effect, which made it look even more like the ocean. Our children used their own words to describe their experience of feeling the goop. Some of the words they used to describe their experience were slippery, funny, wow, running and blue.

We got creative on our craft table as we talked about the features a turtle has, by making our very own colourful crepe paper collage turtles, using paper plates. We inspired the children to create their very own sea turtle. Collage helps to refine the pincer grasp for the children as they pick up the flimsy thin crepe paper and being to able to use their fine motor skills in the glue application guides them in placing the paper with the glue spots. Ur children really enjoyed the collage experience of layering different colours side by side creating a beautiful piece of work.

This week's investigation led us to the Sea Turtle, Hermit Crab and Cuttlefish. To explore these creatures more we read about them in the books "Ocean Lullaby", "The Hermit Crab" and a very special book written by children at the Royal Medical Hospital of Melbourne "The Silver Sea". The children loved talking about the book illustrations as children themselves drew all the sea creatures, we were inspired by the book and did some of our own drawings of sea creatures after.

On our Light table we set up some underwater sensory bottles with different sea animals for the children to be able to explore and recognise, the children were mesmerised by the bottles. They explored their experience by shaking them, rolling them as they watch the creatures inside, seeing the oil and blue water mix with the white sand, getting a visual of the undersea world. For the following week we will be ending off our Ocean theme storytelling experience with a wonderful STEM experiment and transitioning into a recent bugs and insects fascination the children have, spotting a moth outside this week was very exciting and all the children were jumping and curious with glee.

Participating in Stage 4's Big Morning Tea, our children made some unicorn cupcakes to share, they picked four colours pink, green, yellow and purple for the batter They were very excited about Pipping the cream on to the cupcake and decorating it with some pink and blue sprinkles. They children really enjoyed the opportunity to connect with the bigger children and share some bake goodies in the process.

Have a lovely weekend !
Nimo, Tracey, Angel and Fern



Stage 2 – Ocean Goop



Stage 2 – Sea Animal Creation's



Stage 2 – Unicorn Cupcakes



Stage 2/3: Sparrows & Finches

By Ms Joselyn Bruzzano

Bird Feather Investigation

This week saw the children continue our bird investigation, focusing specifically on feathers. During circle time we looked at a range of different bird feathers, noticing the how light and delicate they are. This sparked an investigation into how much a feather weighs and if it would be heavier or lighter than other objects. The children soon collected a range of natural objects to compare to the feather and then estimated which item would be heaviest and lightest before testing our objects on the scales. Integrating early maths concepts into daily activities sets the foundation for future learning and increases confidence in STEM based activities.

The children seemed very curious about the weightlessness and intricacy of feathers and how feathers move in the wind, "If you blow on a feather it moves." Extending on this we decided to gather a range of feathers and created feather mobiles so that we could study how our feathers move in the breeze. Weaving feathers using yarn and fishing wire we then hung them from branches in our room and watched as they danced playfully in the breeze.

Taking a closer look at the dynamics of feathers, we noticed their interlocking structures, forming a smooth and flexible surface which allows for flight and omits water. We discovered that certain feathers are very vibrant in colour, attracting mates. The more brightly coloured the feathers, the more attractive the birds are to their mates!

Our art experiences revolved around feathers, painting using feathers as tools, the children noticed the marks left on the page by the feathers. We also used feathers to create open ended collages, focusing on the experience rather than the final product. Some of the children created sculptures inspired by birds using feathers, buttons and twigs collected from outdoors. Open ended art experiences offer the children freedom of expression and a venue to express their creativity.

Keeping with our bird and feathers theme, we ended the week with a cooking class, creating chocolate bird's nests. Melting chocolate, the children then mixed noodles in, we then divided the mixture between patty cakes, topping our creations with chocolate speckled eggs. The children really seemed to enjoy the afternoon's bird's nest treat. The challenge of cooking empowers children, encouraging them to take charge and achieve things for themselves.

Have a wonderful weekend.

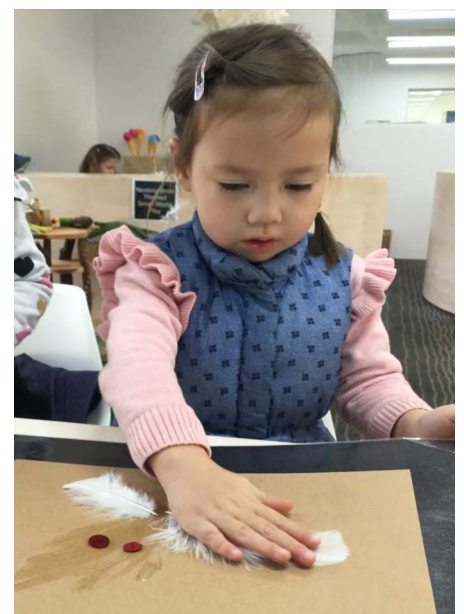
Joselyn, Natalie and Daryl



Stage 2/3 - Feather Mobiles



Stage 2/3 - Feather Art and bird sculptures



Stage 2/3 – “As Light As A Feather”



Stage 2/3 - Chocolate Birds Nests



Stage 2/3 - Milk STEM Science Experiment



Stage 2/3 - Ice Cream Shop



Stage 3 & 4: Kookaburras & Rosellas

By Mrs Carmen Jarratt

Australia

Australia is the beautiful country that we live in, the place we all call home; a place where we enjoy freedom and prosperity.

Australia is a great country with beautiful colours, interesting animals and unique languages; a country with people who likes helping other people.

This week the children in Stage Three and Four are learning about the Land and the people; e.g. Australia is a country, but it is also one of the seven continents.

Australia is well known for its unique animals, most of them marsupials, e.g. Kangaroos, and Koalas. In the class the children are also learning about Dingoes, Possums, and Wombats.

In order to learn about Australia the children are reading books about Australia. Some of the books that we would like to recommend are "Colours of Australia" by Lynn Ainsworth Olawsky and Australian ABC's : "A book about the people and places of Australia by Sarah Helman; "Koala Lou" by Mem Fox and "An Australian ABC of animals by Bronwyn Bancroft.

The Australian Anthem; the children are singing the Australian Anthem every morning, showing great respect for an Anthem that represents Australia.

During group time, the children participated in a discussion about what they could do to be active participants of the "Biggest Morning Tea" The response was amazing! The children came with the idea to prepare „special things/food' to sell it and donate the money to the Cancer Council.

A list of "things to do" was organised, and filled with the children's suggestions. A plan was set and everybody became on board.

The children "made" money to be used during the event, they decorated and cut out the notes and coins. Then decorated an apron they would use when "selling" their products and finally participated in cooking experiences of the products to be sold. This event made evident the Australian spirit of help and care about people in need.

Please keep up with the reading Challenge and remember to send the list of the book your child read.

Have a lovely long weekend
Carmen and Luan.



Stage 3 & 4 – Money Making



Stage 3 & 4 - Apron Decorating For The Fair



Stage 3 & 4 – Fundraising Event



Water

"Water is the driving force of all Nature. – Leonardo Da Vinci"

This week our yoga lesson continued with the topic of water. To reinforce children's learning I explained once again the importance of water in the environment.

As a warm up we started with "Diving with Sea Creatures" – I initiated by showing children pictures of sea animals which was followed by a yoga pose such as, "Ardha Pincha Mayurasana, in English the word is translated to Dolphin pose (fingers interlaced, forearms pressed onto the floor, hips elevated). Children were encouraged to sing along "All the dolphins are swimming in the water, bubble, bubble, splash".

Next we continued on the water cycle exercise. The rain. Evaporation processes, the sun absorbs water from the lake: Children goes down on a squat with hands onto the mat. Condensation: Children stand up slowly with arms extended above the head, in a circular shape to represent the water cloud. As the wind starts moving the clouds, children move their bodies from side to side. The thunder comes BOOMM. Rain Drops: Children low their arms all the way down and tap their hands onto the floor to represent the falling rain. Next, to support children's social skills I asked them to hold hands in a big circle then we all together became one big cloud. After we hear the thunder we tap our feet to represent the big storm.

Followed by children's request we continued on the Surfing adventure. Followed by the awesome soundtrack from the 60's "Bustin' Surfboards by The Tornados, (available on Spotify) children perform a series of yoga postures such as, Cobra pose (paddling waves), Warrior II (Dropping down wave) and Downward facing dog (Puppy Surfer).

To conclude as relaxation I played sounds of calm waves and the children were asked to lay down on their backs on a star fish pose (wide arms and legs) and to close their eyes. Then I guided them on a meditation where they were free to imagine they were star fishes floating on the water with their favourite colour dolphin.

Namaste

Tati Fernandes



Yoga



Playball

By Miss Lauren Guttman

Hi everyone,

We warmed up today with **"funny runs"** – Lauren placed cones on one side of the court and we stood on the opposite side. We did "funny runs" to the cones....".run around the cone with hands on our knees; hop on one foot; gallop; skip" and the list goes on....

Lauren then placed the cones in a straight line and we **zig-zagged** the cones; going in and out, in and out – wonderful activity for **crossing the midline**.

We played the "shadow game". We were all Lauren's "shadows" and we copied everything she did – she was certainly doing some crazy actions!

BASKETBALL

Lauren gave us all a big basketball and we practiced throwing the ball as high as we could up to the sky.

We did **"bunny ears" pushing** up to the sky. We all showed Lauren our crazy little bunny ears on our head; put our ball on our bunny ears and PUSHED up to the sky. Lauren held up a hoop and we tried to **PUSH** the ball with all our strength into the hoop.

We practiced doing **chest passes**. Ball on our chest, chicken arms.... and **PUSH** in front of us! Lauren lined us up and we had the opportunity to chest pass to her, and then catch the ball.

You are not going to believe this.....Lauren strapped a basketball hoop to her back and ran around the court. We ran after Lauren trying to throw foam balls into this crazy basketball hoop. We were laughing and laughing.

Lauren threw all the foam balls out of the basketball hoop – they look like red and green apples and we went "apple collecting". Some of us are already showing signs of sportsmanship and shared our apples with our friends who didn't manage to collect their own. Well done!
What a fun lesson.

Thanks champs,

Lauren



It is always amazing to see the children show their potential abilities and creativities. During the Mandarin culture lesson, I was amazed to see so many creative and beautiful art work made by the children. Last week, we had a Chinese paper cutting lesson in the preschool. According to my original plan, if the children could fold the paper in the proper way and could cut paper into different pieces, it was great. However, after I showed the children how to cut and encouraged them to cut some of the children held scissors wo well and could control their finger muscles quite flexibly. When they unfolded their cutting, I found that their cutting was wonderful Therefore, I changed my mind and added an extra activity of the lesson. I helped the children paste their cutting on a piece of paper. Meanwhile, I guided them to decorate the cutting. Most of the children finished their cutting and felt satisfied with their own work. Some children did further step of their cutting by decorating. The lesson shows that children have marvelous potential abilities and creativities. Our targets are to help them access those powers and strengthen them.

This week, we returned to our normal language learning. First of all, we reviewed the routine questions. After 4 weeks of practice, many of the children in stage 3 also could answer their ages in Chinese. As for stage 4, they could answer 4 routine questions. Afterwards, it is was good for the children to listen to music and jump with the rhythm. Meanwhile, we reviewed the lyrics of three little rabbits. The children love this song and some of them can sing the whole song. As for the books, we will continue to read the animal book of Amazon.

As for the specific language, the children will learn how to say "monkey" and "snake" in Chinese. Afterwards, we will make a snake or colour a monkey. As for children from Chinese background, we will read a new book, named "The big head son and his small head dad".



Music

