

ELC News

OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

I am excited to inform you that shortly the ELC will be making some improvements to the playground and our outdoor learning spaces. As you may be aware as a part of the Service Quality Improvement Plan we have been looking at the outdoor learning spaces. In consultation with your children and some families we have now engaged a contractor.

Improvements include: Fort renovation by connecting the two forts and adding new entrance steps, build and install some more planter boxes for the children to explore caring for the environment and learn about growing fruits, vegetables and plants. We will have around 20 new plants planted on the back retaining wall to enhance the natural environment and our sustainable practices and learning.

New tee-pee installed, additional outdoor shed, new seat for the swing area, upgrading the mud piles for turf and adding rocks to the dry creek bed.

While we are yet to receive a start date for the works, the works will be conducted whilst the service is operating so this requires the service to apply to the Department of Education for a playground waiver. What this means for your children is that during the construction period, part of the playground will be fenced off for safety. We will operate an indoor/outdoor program during this time and access the College Oval when the big kids are in class to allow for the children to use their large muscles.

As the time gets closer I will share with you dates and the importance of supervision when arriving and leaving the service and patience with carparking during this time.

We are excited about the new learning experiences and opportunities these improvements will mean for the children.



WALK WITH US!

Thank you for all the families that donated clothing or purchased clothing from our 2nd hand stall. We raised \$80.00 this year to date. I will be purchasing some take-away containers so we can make up take away dinners

from left overs on Monday night. We also had a family donate a large bag of dog food that I delivered this week. The children have really connected to their Monday cooking for others in need. I love this part of our Community connection. If you have any hotel shampoo, conditioner and body wash or soap in your draws please bring this in as this is currently what we are collecting.

MOTHER'S DAY

Thank you to all the families that joined us for our Mother's Day High Tea celebration, a great afternoon of fun and laughter.



The College Fete was a great success thank you for your time, donations and attendance, lots of fun was had.



The end of the financial year is coming fast, please continue to keep an eye on your account and check your Child Care Subsidy. Some families will be coming close to the financial cap. Please ensure that fees are paid weekly or fortnightly.

SCHOOLS MICRO-GRANT:

The ELC has been fortunate to receive \$700 from the Healing Foundation to support our Reconciliation Action Plan and move towards Stronger connection with the Aboriginal Community and People. The centre will be able to purchase some great resources to enhance our learning. We are also conducting, with Uncle Allan, a Smoking Ceremony on Monday, 27 May as part of this grant and to acknowledge the Stolen Generation. I look forward to sharing photos with you all soon.

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

On Wednesday, 22 May we had Mr Darrin Schumacher visit and read the story for the year, Alpacas with Maracas, this was a fun time and special experience.



Until next time.

Bronwyn Waters
ELC Director

Junior Kindy

Term 2 is certainly in full swing and what a successful afternoon, we shared with all our special mums to celebrate Mother's Day. We thank you for joining us and making a memorable get together for all.

Junior Kindy will now be attending library on a Thursday. We continue to provide opportunities for children to connect with the school community. We have been spending more time developing new goals for the children as we have focused on small group learning experiences. We have been working in small groups to allow more focus on the children's skills and to support the opportunity for everyone to share their ideas and encourage a collaborative effort. Often this is a chance to implement teacher initiated learning, through sharing ideas, drawing, song and games.

Our outside environment has been a chance to get the



children building on their strengths with balance, coordination and using games to build resilience and social skills. Having this flexibility in the outdoor environment promotes imagination as the children source their own materials, extending on ideas, working with others and moving through a range of decision making with others to develop and play out their ideas.



A focus that the children continue to direct their play, includes role playing in the kitchen, cooking and dress ups. This type of play helps the children to make sense of their world and supports emotional development. It assists in understanding the many roles and interpreting empathy while exploring patience with making decisions. The children also work on making decisions on costume elements, characters and acting out scenarios. Vocabulary building is increased as they expand on words, phrases, stories they have heard and new words in conversation. Other benefits include memory of what they have heard or seen, recalling a story before acting it out and imitating role models in their lives.

This has continued to support the children's strong interest in cooking. Our cooking for the "Walk with us," organisation has connected well with Junior Kindy sharing enthusiasm in participating with the preparation, while developing an understanding about health nutrition and the needs of supporting people within our community. We invite you to share some of your family's recipes and your time with us, in a cooking experience with the class.

Every Friday, Sensei Sharon has been working with the children on practicing their greetings and learning names in Japanese for different body parts. The children have increased their recall and are developing their knowledge, showing a strength in identifying numbers, symbols, and print that represent these.



As we are approaching winter please include labelled clothing in your child's bag, including a jumper, change of clothes, possibly a spare pair of socks too. We have our lost property on top of the bag lockers, please check regularly to collect lost items and we will do our best to return your child's missing belongings.

Thankyou, Junior Kindy Team

Miss Stephanie, Miss Jana, Miss Stacey and Miss Ellie

Pre Prep 1

What an exciting month we have had exploring the wonders of nature in our kindy environment. Pre Prep 1 have been busy observing the life cycle of the Australian Crow butterfly in an enclosure in our room. It has been so wonderful to see each stage of the life cycle and the excitement and anticipation from the children as they look in the enclosure each day to see the changes. As a class, we have been making predictions, drawing observations and recording our findings about each stage: egg, caterpillar, chrysalis and butterfly.

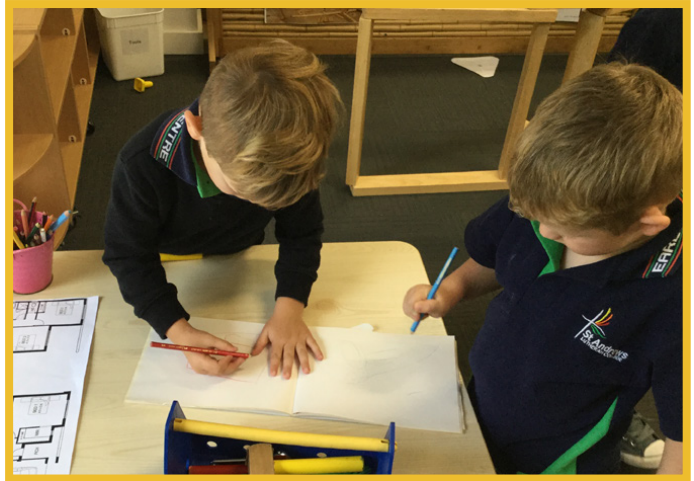




This experience has also been a great provocation to begin our new unit of inquiry, Sharing the Planet. This term our central idea is; our land is shared with many living things.

The children have been sharing their ideas and knowledge around living things and exploring what living things need to survive. This topic has also created some interest around animals and their habitats. We have started exploring what types of animals live in different environments, including our kindy garden where we had found some interesting spiders in their webs.

Our block corner has turned into a construction site this month and the children have become master builders. They have been enjoying designing and creating houses, walls, airports and even a zoo. Through this play, there has been many opportunities for the children to use mathematical language, problem solving skills and team work. The children have been enjoying using a tape measure for measuring and screwing together nuts and bolts.



We all enjoyed celebrating Mother's Day at Kindy with our lovely Mother's Day afternoon tea. The children enjoyed cooking jam drop biscuits and making cards and gifts for their very special mums. It was so wonderful to see so many families make it to the afternoon. Thank you for taking the time to join us.



Just a reminder that as the weather is getting cooler, please send your child with shoes and a jumper each day. We will also start to visit the bush area behind kindy and children will need long pants and closed in shoes. Please pack a pair of long pants in your child's bag and if possible send them in enclosed shoes or send some along to kindy in their bag. This way they will not miss out on any of our adventures. Thank you.

Miss Estela and Miss Renee

Pre Prep 2

What a great month we have had! It has been a very busy month in Pre Prep 2 with lots of inquiry-based learning and adventures taking place. This month we have had the opportunity to delve deeper into our unit of inquiry: Sharing

the Planet. The children have begun to develop a good understanding of some of the concepts and attributes within the inquiry, and are using this language throughout the day. We have enjoyed exploring the ways we can help protect our environment and what we can do to help the animals, plants and people survive in these environments. Over the next few weeks, we will begin to talk more about the process of recycling and habitats.

We had a great turn out for the Mother's Day afternoon tea. This was a lovely way for the children to show the special people in their lives how much they care about them by pampering and treating them with an afternoon of fun filled activities and delicious food. We hope you all had a special day with your families and children.



As we approach the half way mark, we are continuing to prepare your child for their transition to prep next year. In the pre prep year, it is an important time for your child to learn more about themselves and develop a sense of belonging. Through their experiences, children learn to build meaningful connections with their friends and the environment.

We do this through:

- Planning appropriate experiences supported by the Early Years Learning Framework and QKLG
- Implementing meaningful play based experiences
- Providing children opportunities to plan and participate
- Incorporating pre literacy and numeracy through children's interests and play
- Supporting the Christian values through daily devotions,

and prayers during meal times

- PYP inquiry based approach to children's interests and learning

Over the next month, Teresa will be completing mid-year reports and preparing for parent teacher interviews. This informal meeting should inform you as to where your child is at and possibly give you some suggestions/ideas to help with your child's transition to prep.

Every Friday Sensei Sharon has taken the children on an adventure around Japan. We have looked at famous landmarks such as Mt Fuji and Kinkaku-ji (a Buddhist temple) as well as the famous ice monkeys and the Cherry Blossom trees. The children have enjoyed learning new songs about the weather and having a go at making monkeys using the traditional technique of origami.

Reminders

- Please bring a piece of fruit to share everyday
- Jumper (clearly named)
- Spare clothes
- Please ensure you only send one comfort item along for rest time
- Library day this term is Thursday (please ensure your child has closed in shoes for this day)

Miss Teresa and Miss Mardi



MAY
27

Aged care visit ELC

29

Uncle Allan

JUNE
1

International Children's Day
Honouring children globally.

3

Mabo Day- Commemorates the courageous efforts of Eddie Koiki Mabo to overturn the fiction of terra nullius, land belonging to no-one (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island)

5

World Environment Day

24 – 28

Parent Teacher Pre Prep Interviews all week

Help our fundraising cause!

Support us and treat yourself!



Discover the best of your city with Entertainment.



Still only
\$60 Every sale
contributes
to our cause

Enjoy thousands of offers for everything you love to do

2-for-1 offers, special rates and up to 50% off on activities, dining, shopping, travel and leisure.

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HELP OUR SCHOOL WIN A COMMUNITY GARDEN!



Our school is competing in the
Colgate Community Garden Challenge!

The schools that collect the most
oral care waste and online votes can
win a recycled community garden set!

Vote for us online and track our
school's ranking at :

Terracycle.com.au/colgategardenvoting

We collect any brand of used:



To find out more about the Colgate Community Garden Challenge and for full terms and conditions, visit www.terracycle.com.au/colgategarden. If you have any further questions, call TerraCycle on 1800 983 324

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