

Esslemont College

Weekly Newsletter

"Let your vision be world embracing" - Bahá'í Writings



Acknowledgement of Country

Acknowledges the Bediagal people of the Eora Nation on whose land we work, and Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

A message from the Principal

Witness the wondrous evidences of God's handiwork, and reflect upon its range and character. Bahá'í Writings

We had our first of a series of excursions visiting local parks and playgrounds in our local area this week. These excursions link to our Geography unit about Special Places as well as our PDH unit focused on how we can keep ourselves safe in different environments. Today's park, Guardian Avenue Reserve, offered an opportunity for service (picking up rubbish at the entrance to the park), playing on the equipment and observing the natural environment on a bushwalk. Miss Shauna and I were very pleased to see the children acting with responsibility, joy and wonder and we are all looking forward to visiting a park in Cherrybrook next week.

Welcome Micah and family to Esslemont College. Micah has shown great courage and confidence from day 1 - we all know how difficult it is to walk into a new environment, with new faces and new ways of doing things and Micah has ended his first week demonstrating his flexibility and resilience. Well done Micah!

We have an Information Evening on Thursday 25 May. Details can be found on page 3 of this newsletter. We are very excited to be offering enrolments in Kindergarten to year 6 in 2024 (Pending Ministerial approval) All are welcome to the information evening so please share the flier with any interested friends.



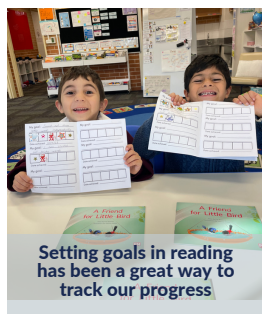
Another successful service project: Cleaning up rubbish at Guardian Avenue Reserve



Collecting data about the colour of cars passing our school



Utilising technology to reinforce concepts in maths



Setting goals in reading has been a great way to track our progress

What's on next week

Virtue of the Week - Joyfulness

Joyfulness is an inner sense of peace and happiness. You appreciate the gifts each day brings. Without joyfulness, when the fun stops, our happiness stops. Joy can carry us through the hard times even when we are feeling very sad. Joy gives us wings.

"Joy gives us wings! In times of joy our strength is more vital, our intellect keener, and our understanding less clouded. We seem better able to cope with the world and to find our sphere of usefulness" **Abdu'l-Baha**, Paris Talks, p. 109

Local Park Excursion - Wednesday 24 May

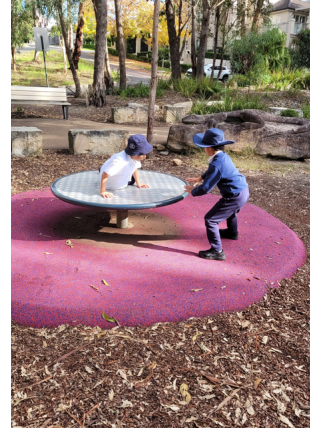
Library - Thursday - don't forget to bring your library bag and book to change!

Sport - Thursday - please wear your sports uniform, bring your drink bottles and don't forget your hats.

Homework - Thursday - please bring your homework books.

Cooking - Friday - Sushi (if you have a sushi roller please let Shauna know). We will be in touch about ingredients next week.

Classroom News



Welcoming our new student Micah, collecting data, building words with taught digraphs, exploring new playgrounds and local habitats, learning about Country and Place in Geography and creatively portraying these concepts through visual artworks

A message from our Teacher

Welcome to Micah, our newest member of Esslemont College. The students were extremely excited to welcome a new child to our school and have been focusing on demonstrating the virtue of friendliness all week in order to ensure he felt comfortable, safe and as happy to come to school as they are.

We enjoyed the opportunity to play at Guardian Avenue Reserve, being of service and learning more about playground safety for our first 'parks excursion' this term.

On Wednesday, I overheard one of the students saying "one, two, three, maths!" Only to then find out that he was asking all of the students to repeat which subject they enjoyed the most that day on the count of three. This was a heart-warming and confirming thing to overhear. We have been doing a lot of fun, hands-on experiences in mathematics while learning about collecting and displaying data. A highlight for me personally was watching the students frantically, but joyfully tallying the number of cars of a particular colour driving past the school.

What have we been learning?

Kindergarten have been improving their ability to isolate the sounds in words and hear whether a sound is at the beginning, middle or end of a word. They have learnt the digraphs 'sh' and 'ch', as well as a number of new sight words. Stage 1 has been working very hard and has been challenged to learn four different variations of forming the long /oo/ sound.

They have also been improving their comprehension skills by looking up complex vocabulary as they read information texts, as well as discussing meaning and questioning one another.

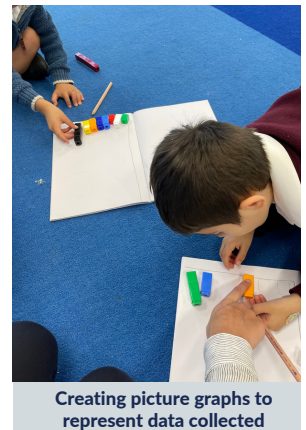


Practising our new sight words and creating words using our focus phonemes

In order to ensure the students are retaining the prayers they have memorised thus far we have decided to return to previously taught prayers and practise them in order that all students have a better chance of committing them to their long-term memory.



Tallying data and creating data displays on bar graphs



Creating picture graphs to represent data collected





INVITATION TO INFORMATION EVENING

We are delighted to invite you to Esslemont College's Autumn information evening.
Esslemont College is open to enrolments in Kindergarten to Year 6* for 2024.

Thursday 25 May 2023
Time | 6:00 - 6:45pm
Venue: Esslemont College, 13 President Road, Kellyville
RSVP by **Monday 22nd May 2023**
info@esslemont.nsw.edu.au

Opportunity to meet and engage with our educators, hear about our approach to education, ask questions, take part in a tour of the school, explore scholarship programs on offer, meet others within your cohort, and more.

*Pending Ministerial approval