

Esslemont College

# Weekly Newsletter

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



## Acknowledgement of Country

Esslemont College acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and emerging Traditional Custodians and Elders of the Dharug Nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## A message from the Principal

Each week we focus on a virtue specific to our needs. This week we looked at forgiveness – overlooking mistakes and letting go of resentment. Sharing daily instances of practicing forgiveness was enlightening, and I'm very much looking forward to our exploration of flexibility next week to learn how this virtue can impact our daily lives.

Reflecting on this practice, I was reminded of the quotation in the Bahá'í Writings. *".... favour character and conduct above the sciences and arts. Good behaviour and high moral character must come first...."*

At Esslemont College, academic achievement and character development are intricately interwoven. We believe that nurturing a well-rounded individual goes hand in hand with fostering intellectual growth. Through a holistic approach to education, we recognize that academic success is not solely measured by test scores, but by the qualities of character, integrity, and social responsibility that a student embodies.

The threads of academic achievement and character development are woven together throughout our curriculum. We create a learning environment where students not only excel in subjects but also learn the importance of respect, empathy, and ethical conduct. We encourage them to be active participants in their communities, promoting a sense of civic duty and the spirit of giving back.

This integration is evident in the various opportunities we provide. From explicit teaching to hands-on activities, one-on-one guidance to cooperative group projects, excursions and incursions, every experience is designed to enrich both the mind and the heart. We believe that when students feel valued, respected, and supported, they are more inclined to take ownership of their education and strive for excellence.

At Esslemont College, we believe that the true measure of success lies not only in what our students achieve but in the kind of people they become, and we are dedicated to assisting our students to be not only intellectually adept but also morally upright, contributing positively to society.



Saying goodbye to our chicks and ducklings after 2 weeks with them

## What's on next week

**Virtue of the Week - Flexibility** is being open to change. You consider others' ideas and feelings and don't insist on your own way.

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

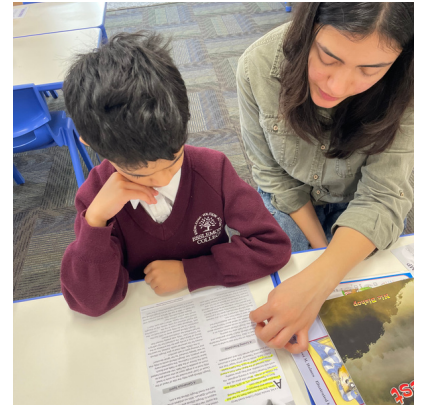
**Library** - Thursday - don't forget to bring your library bag and book to change!

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

**Cooking** - Friday - Meat Pies, please let us know if you can bring:

- 500g ground beef
- 1 onion
- 1 celery stalk
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 2 sheets of store-bought puff pastry
- 1 egg

# Classroom News



Collaborating on technology, creating 3D objects and discussing firm foundations, reading, 3D object hunts, phonics games and learning about the history of Amelia Collins

## A message from our Teacher

Over the weekend we had the incredibly exciting experience of becoming the class parents of our very own duckling. The students were overjoyed and eager to enter the classroom each morning this week to check on their little ducklings and chicks and make sure they were well cared for.

It has been rewarding to see how the students are able to practice the many virtues they have learnt this year when interacting with these dependent class pets. We were sad to say goodbye to them but look forward to opportunities to interact with other animals throughout the term.

## What have we been learning?

This week Kindergarten have been making some wonderful discoveries. They have been spotting their sight words and sounds, such as /oi/ and /oy/ in different places. A beautiful example was when one student was practising his lines for assembly and was able to read all of the sight words and sound out tricky words independently. Well done for your ongoing efforts Kindergarten!

Stage 1 have been deepening their knowledge of sentence structure - understanding that a sentence not only needs a capital letter, full stop and finger spaces, but also a subject, verb and object. They have also been working hard to learn the two phonemes for 'u', as well as consolidating other phonemes and digraphs.



Reading new books using interactive devices and building word banks

During maths this week the students thoroughly enjoyed creating their own 3D objects and going on an object hunt to identify where we might find real objects in our environment. They were able to identify their properties and characteristics, as well as sort them accordingly.

Our virtue of forgiveness has been a great virtue to focus on this week, as it allowed students the opportunity to understand that not only do they need to forgive others, but also themselves when they do something they are unhappy with. This is how we grow and develop. They also learnt that it is important to ask for forgiveness when we hurt someone else in order to build trust and friendships.

## What are we learning next week?

Content	Kindergarten	Stage 1
Phonics focus	ear like bear and air like hair	y like by and very y can be a consonant and a vowel.
Mathematics	Counting and partitioning	Partitioning three-digit numbers



3D Object hunt



Creating 3D Objects

# NATIONAL BOOK WEEK

19TH-26TH AUGUST 2023



## BOOK WEEK PARADE

**25 AUG 2023** | DRESS UP AS YOUR  
FAVOURITE CHARACTER FROM A BOOK



NATIONAL

# Pyjama Day

Wear your favourite pyjamas to school and donate to a good cause!

Support us in raising funds for disadvantaged children and to allow community mentors called "Pyjama Angels" to be recruited, screened, trained, and then matched with a child in care.



TUES  
19  
SEPT

School Fundraiser | Donate today



click here!

or

SCAN ME



KNOWLEDGE · VOLITION · ACTION  
  
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COLLEGE