

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

*Gratitude: Freely expressing thankfulness and appreciation to others and for the gifts of life. Virtues Project*

Term 3 at Esslemont College culminated in a vibrant and eventful week. Although we faced disappointment on Monday when we had to, once again, postpone our visit to Moran Age Care facility due to unforeseen illness, the children demonstrated remarkable empathy and adaptability in understanding the situation.

Tuesday brought a heartwarming opportunity for the entire school community to don our pajamas, raising both funds and awareness for children in care. In our classroom discussions, the children were able to deepen their empathy, discovering that not all children have the privilege of a home to return to each night, or the love of a devoted family. I was profoundly touched when one child later approached me, contributing 20 cents from his tuck shop money to augment his earlier donation. In total, we raised an impressive \$40. Kudos to the Esslemont College community for this outstanding effort.

On Wednesday afternoon, we were honored to host Senior Constable Ethan West from Castle Hill Police Station. The children were thoroughly engaged, absorbing every word of his informative session. Topics ranged from the invaluable role of the police in our lives (keeping us safe), identifying our 'trusted' individuals (parents, grandparents, teachers, and police), to staying vigilant about stranger danger - including online encounters. The children were particularly excited to glimpse the equipment he uses, with his firearm securely in its holster, alongside his pepper spray, baton, and handcuffs. Constable West has graciously promised to return next term to engage in a game of soccer with the children during lunchtime!

Today, we wrapped up the term with a delicious sausage sizzle, expertly prepared by the children themselves. It's truly heartening to see them expanding their culinary skills and building a diverse repertoire of dishes they can confidently whip up.



Pyjama Day, Preschool Visit and Police Officer Visit

Looking ahead, we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday, 10th October, rejuvenated and eager for another term of enriching learning experiences, hearty laughter, and an abundance of fun. Remember to come ready for our first ever school photos on day 2!

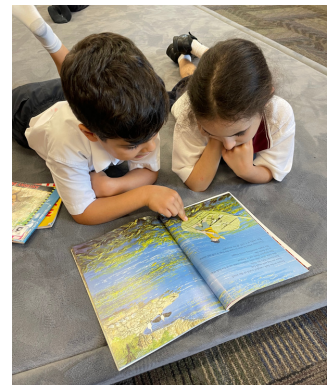
## What's on next week?

**School Photos** - Week 1 Term 4, Wednesday 11th October





# Classroom News



Making toys from the past in history, conducting a service project for our school and the environment, reading for enjoyment, creating flying insects and habitats in science, practising reading for our aged-care visit, using technology to learn more about time and cooperative games to practise half-past and o'clock time

## A message from our Teacher

Week 10 has been an eventful week and has required the students of Esslemont College to practice their virtues of resilience, creativity, thoughtfulness, service and detachment. Just to mention a few.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each student for their detachment and resilience when they did not get the chance to carry out their service project at the aged-care facility due to health concerns. I would also like to thank them for their willingness and enthusiasm to serve and save the environment by separating plastic from paper in order to recycle.

## What have we been learning?

In science this week the students created their own flying insect based on the external features they had learnt about throughout the term. They then created a habitat that included the food it would need to eat, other animals and predators.

In history the students created toys from the past, based on what they have learnt over the past few lessons. These included a cup and ball, as well as a spinner. The students thoroughly enjoyed this activity.

The students have been reading more for enjoyment this week, both fiction and non-fiction texts. This has led to a number of interesting discussions amongst students and developed a deeper love for reading.



Reading quality literature

Students have not just needed to draw on their virtues in their service or social interactions this week. They have also used their persistence, perseverance and determination to learn about time this week. Kindergarten have put in a great deal of effort to learn o'clock and half-past time on both analog and digital clocks, while Stage 1 have had a greater focus on quarter-past time. Year 2 have extended this learning into quarter-to and by the minute time. Although challenging, the students embraced the challenges to overcome their struggles and demonstrate a good understanding of time, as well as a keen desire to learn.

Thank you to all of the students, parents, volunteers and staff who made this another fantastic term at Esslemont College. It has been a wonderful term of learning, activities, creative explorations and service projects.

Have a safe and happy holiday! We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Tuesday the 10th of October.



Practising reading analog and digital clock faces to say whether they match or don't match

Practising reading o'clock time on digital and analog clocks

