



Ermington West Public School

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Week 5 Term 4

Friday 13 November 2020

Message from the Principal

Thank you

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the students, staff and parents/carers at Ermington West Public School for their warm welcome to the school and for their support over the first half of this term. I would personally like to thank Mrs Barbara Simic for her leadership of the school over these two years and her assistance with getting to know the school and community.

I am extremely proud to be the new Principal of your school and am looking forward to working closely with the school community in the coming weeks to continue the focus on quality education for all. The weeks have certainly flown by and during this time I have had the opportunity to meet with students, in the classroom and on the playground, and see the many wonderful educational programs that the school has to offer. In term 4, we are currently analysing school data and making plans for 2021. This is necessary so that we can make decisions about our strategic directions over the next four years. We will certainly be consulting with the community about our ideas for 2021 and beyond.

Thank you to our P&C who generously donated a cake, on behalf of the community, for our morning tea to celebrate, World Teacher's Day on Friday 30 October. It was great to see some of the messages of appreciation and thanks that the teachers received from students and parents on the day.

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation was able to go ahead and it was lovely to greet our 2021 Kindergarten students on Monday 2 November, as they attended their first day of the orientation program. There will be two more opportunities for the new kindy students to visit the school and engage in fun learning activities with their peers. We would like to say welcome to all the families who are new to the school and thank you to all the parents for their understanding about the changes that had to occur to the orientation program for it to comply with departmental guidelines around safety, hygiene and social distancing measures. We are looking forward to all of our new kindergarten students becoming part of the Ermington West school community next year.

NAIDOC

We will be celebrating NAIDOC week from 8-15 November. NAIDOC week is usually celebrated in early July however due to the COVID-19 pandemic this year celebrations are being held in November. The theme this year, is "Always Was, Always Will Be". The school has organised colouring/art competitions and teachers have been provided with excellent resources to use in classrooms to promote and recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society.

Term 4 Celebrations

This has certainly been an exciting beginning to term 4. We have already celebrated 'Book Week', which was certainly enjoyed by students and teachers, and had a "Mufti/Crazy Hair" day to raise money for the year 6 farewell. With COVID-19 restrictions in place we have had to make some alterations to the way that the school would normally organise assemblies and end of year celebrations such as: presentation day, the year 6 farewell/ graduation and other end of year events. Plans are in place to make sure that these events remain special and memorable for all of the students. We thank you for your understanding and will keep you informed of any changes to restrictions that may take place in the coming weeks. Please keep up to date with school activities and information via the School Stream app and the P&C Facebook page.

Karen Mack
Principal

Team Ariel and Team Sebastian

Book Week

In week 2, Ermington West Public School celebrated Book Week. This year's theme was Curious Creatures Wild Minds. Our students dressed up as some of their favourite book characters and shared their book with their peers.



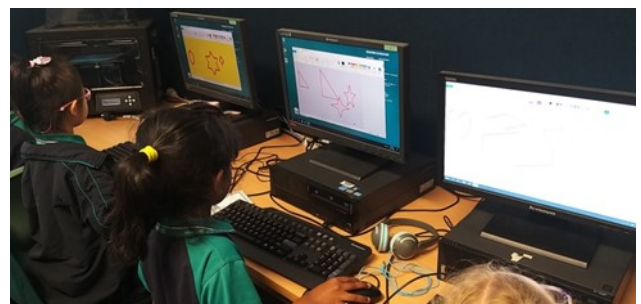
Music

In music, we have been exploring the sounds that different objects and instruments make when being played on in different ways.



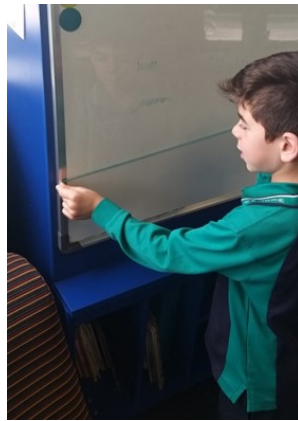
Computers

Students have been learning how to use the paint program to make cool designs for their sight words. They have also been working on logging into Reading Eggs independently.



Mathematics

Kindergarten has been learning about making groups and sharing objects between them. We have also been investigating different ways to measure length including comparing the different lengths and heights of objects and people.



Science

In science, students have been learning about materials and their properties. We have described various household items and discussed why they are made of that material. Kindergarten is working on designing a house for their Ooshies to withstand various weather conditions. Stay tuned to see how it goes!



Want to know what we're up to?

Find the activities that Kindergarten have participated in on our Twitter pages:

- @JessicabJackson #team_sebastian
- @iCheng79 #team_ariel

Also, check out your child's digital portfolio on Google Drive, photos are updated every 5 weeks!
Let us know if you're not sure how to access this.

Team Elsa, Team Sven and Team Olaf

Team 4

Team Frozen have finally reached midway of Term 4 and our school year is almost coming to an end. It has been a busy start to the term. Team Sven had Miss Maugeri teaching us for the past 6 weeks and we wish her the best in her teaching career. But we still have five more weeks of fun activities, so let's do this Team Frozen!

Reminders

Please remember that we:

- Swap readers on **Monday** and **Thursday**
- Please pack extra fruit for Team Olaf
- Continue reading every day for at least 5-10 minutes. Think about:
 - Who are the main characters?
 - What is the problem?
 - How did the problem get solved?
 - Come up with your own questions
- Practise the addition and subtraction strategies we have revised.
Hint: split and jump strategy

Book Week

This year's book week theme was 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'. Team Frozen had a great time dressing up and bringing the characters from our favourite story to life. We paraded our costumes in front of Team EWPS and here are some photos.



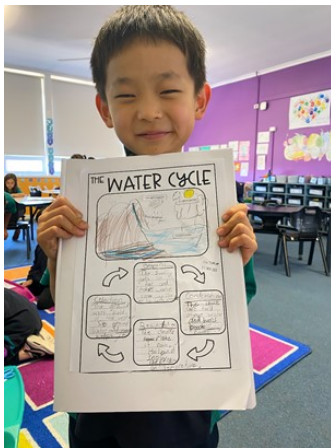
Kids Curriculum

In week 4, infants have commenced Kids Curriculum. The electives running this term for Stage 1 are Australian Animals, Screen Printing, Drama, Bootcamp and Minecraft. Australian Animals and Minecraft will be facilitated by some of our Stage 3 leaders.

In Screen Printing, students are working on making a design with paper to print on to some canvas library bags. This week we learnt all about what screen printing is and how to use the silk screen and squeegee.

Science

This term we have been learning about the Water Cycle in Science. Team Frozen wrote about each step of the cycle including evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection then drew a diagram.



Writing

This term, Team Frozen are writing responses to texts for different purposes including persuasive, informative and imaginative writing. This week, Team Elsa read the story "Bat vs Poss" and used possum and bat fact files to find information and write a report. Team Elsa also used their imaginations to change the ending of the story to something else as well as writing "Bat vs Poss: The sequel". They did a fantastic job!

Want to know what we're up to?

Please checkout our Twitter pages to see the latest photos of the different learning experiences and activities we have participated in this term:

@isabellabritten #Team_Olaf

@deborahWe1 #teamsven

@MontanaTebbutt #Team_Elsa

Also, check out your child's digital portfolio on Google Drive, photos are updated every 5 weeks!

Let us know if you're not sure how to access this.

Team Hulk and Team Thor

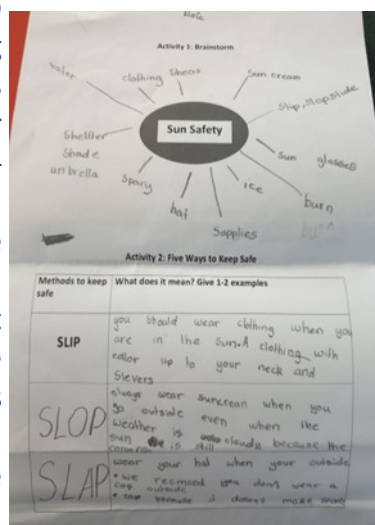
Kids Curriculum Stage 2

Kids Curriculum has kicked off again this term to a great reception from our students. Our Stage 2 students have a variety of new and exciting electives to take part in as well as the return of some old favourites. We are fortunate this term for the return of our choreographer Hernan, who, along with Miss Higgins are continuing to develop the dance skills with our Stage 2 students. Our students have created artworks and art pieces in sewing and art attack classes and continue to push themselves to learn new skills during their Duolingo language classes. We are extremely proud to also see members of Team Thor and Team Hulk step into a teaching role as they lead a bootcamp class with the support of Mrs Hutchens.



Health & Safety

In PDHPE this term Stage 2 has been examining the topic of safety. With summer just around the corner and our summer holidays only a few weeks away we have been investigating the different elements of risk and safety around the risks that we will be exposed to. Our students have studied sun safety and how to make sensible decisions during outdoor activities and play. This included looking into the cancer council and the recommendations passed on by experts. Team Thor and Team Hulk have also begun unpacking road safety and determining what safe behaviours look like while also learning about the various risks involved with the road and the processes that are in place to keep us all safe.



Time to Dance

Term 4 marks an exciting time for our Stage 2 students. A time of challenge, excitement and most importantly a time to dance. In creative and performing arts this term our teams will be the learners, teammates and instructors for their peers as they collaboratively develop their dance skills. Throughout the term our students link the different sports and movements skills they know and love with the movements performed in a dance. Putting these together, we then work with our peers to create a dance sequence and perform it in a friendly but competitive environment. That's right, a dance off. It has been extremely pleasing to see everyone get involved and we are excited to see the end results of these performances this term.

Science—Earth & It's Place in Space

Each week Stage 2 students have been working on their 'Astro Research Projects'. This is an online, collaborative learning environment where students research one of the different planets in our solar system. The students engage in levelled tasks according to their choice each week and experience a range of multimodal texts which include video, audio and typed information. As a group, each team presents their findings onto a Google Doc and reflects on the week's learning. This week, we learnt about the Earth, Sun and Moon. As this was a 'content heavy' week, we will be continuing our collaborative research into Week 5 as well. The benefit of this style of learning is that the tasks are differentiated for students as they have choice in how they learn and to what depth they investigate. By working in groups, students are able to help each other research and present findings with the correct references to websites they have visited. You can see the platforms Google Slides and Google Docs below.

NAIDOC Minecraft & Augmented Reality Competition



The Challenge is an initiative of Indigital and the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, Indigenous Digital Excellence (IDX) and is supported by the Telstra Foundation and Microsoft Australia. The Challenge is anchored on Australia's National NAIDOC celebration – the largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander celebration and brand behind the Aboriginal flag. This year's NAIDOC Theme is 'Always Was, Always Will Be'.

Challengers from 25 schools, one of which is Ermington West Public School, have been invited to create augmented reality characters and Minecraft worlds, exploring the question: 'How might we build sustainable schools, cities, towns or communities in 2030 using Indigenous science, technology, engineering, arts and maths?'. Our Stage 2 students have been working hard to complete this project, with our end goal to be reached by 13 November 2020.



Team Coyote and Team Road Runner

Kids Curriculum

Students in Stage 3 have been involved in a range of Kids Curriculum lessons which has helped them build on life skills, express their creativity and explore the world of digital technologies. The students are thoroughly enjoying the electives held every Wednesday. Here is some insight into the electives that Stage 3 has been participating in:

STEM

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. In this elective, the year 6 students are provided with hands-on and minds-on lessons related to mini projects. This week in STEM, students were involved in a challenge where they had to create a tower. The students worked in small groups to plan their tower before creating it with paper and masking tape. Each group was judged according to creativity, sturdiness and the height of their tower. The students had lots of fun as they were creating the towers. Afterwards, they critically evaluated what worked well and how they would improve their towers.



Interior Design

The Interior Design elective is run by our amazing Hannah Sstrom and supervised by Miss Kim. In this elective, the students took on the role of an Interior Designer as they planned and designed a potential bedroom space. Students had to consider the size of the room, the layout of the furniture and the colour scheme for their room. After the lesson, the students were able to share their designs and talk about the purpose of the space.



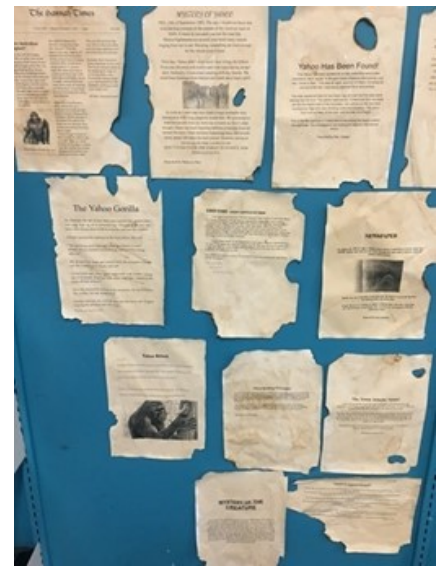
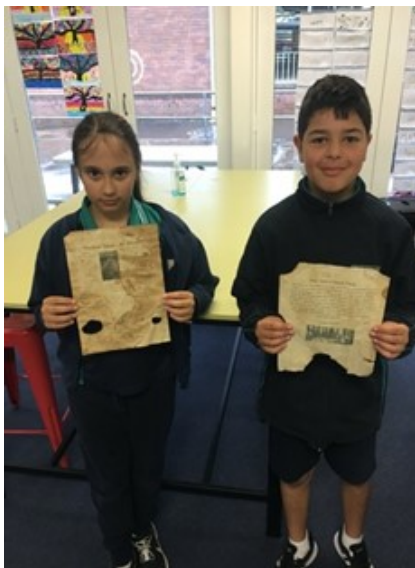
Science Gurus

Hunter and Dylan lead the elective entitled Science Gurus. This elective is all about conducting a range of scientific experiments. Students explain their reasoning about what happens during these experiments. The array of hands-on activities has engaged students and made for beneficial learning experiences.



Writing

This term in writing, students have been learning about textual concepts such as point of view, context and perspective. Throughout the term, the students have been responding to picture books and completing a variety of tasks about the book. One book the students have read is "Yowie Creek- An Australian Mystery". As a response to text, the classes created their own newspaper reports and wanted posters about the Yowie. In



order to replicate the time period of the Yowie the students had the opportunity to spread coffee over their published pieces of work to show the effects of time on the paper.

Year 6 Fundraiser

In the past week Year 5 and Year 6 students have been running a guessing competition in order to raise funds for the Year 6 farewell. The students have been demonstrating great leadership skills by taking time out of their own recess and lunch times to record the guesses, from all the excited students. It has been great to see all the 5/6 students trying to use their own strategies and methods to try and guess the amount of lollies as well.



Visual Arts

In Visual Arts, Kindergarten and Year 1 students have been learning about succulents and have created some colourful cactus artworks. Year 2 students have completed their fabulous glittery flamingos. Pictured below are some dandelion dot artworks from the K-2 Art and Craft Elective from Term 3. All students across the school are now busy creating their air-dry clay masterpieces! Photos to follow.

K-2 Art Elective



K-1



Year 2

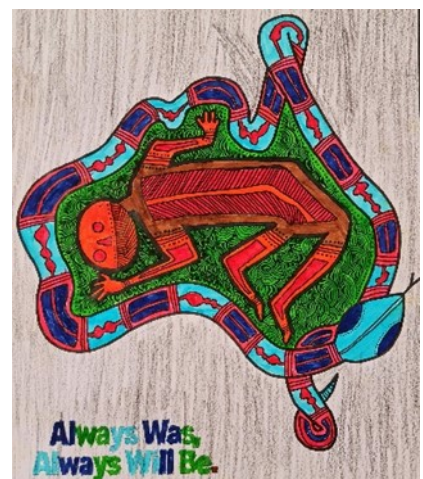


Year 3-4



To celebrate NAIDOC week students from Kindergarten to Year 6 entered a colouring competition. The winning entries – one from Infants and one from Primary

Congratulations
Michael (Year 2—left) and
Anthony (Year 5—Right)



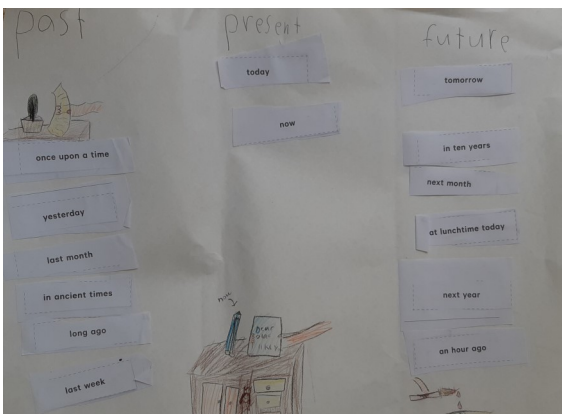
History

Early stage 1 and Stage 1 students are learning about special objects, and exploring objects from the past. Students are engaging in ideas about the history of objects and what they can tell us about the past. The students are discussing key inquiry questions about where things have come from and what is its history.

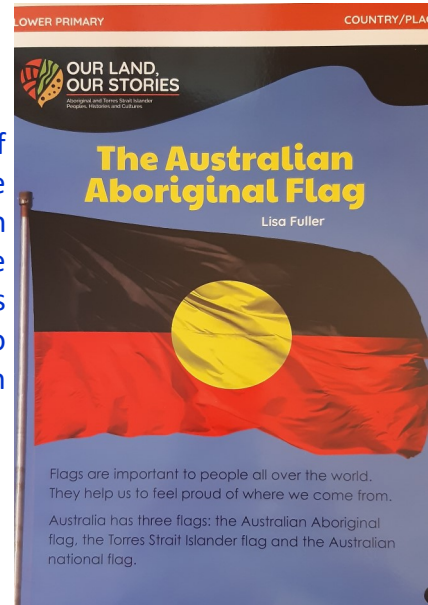
Stage 2 students are learning about community celebrations and commemorations surrounding NAIDOC week. Students have developed their own idea for a festival celebration including the culture in their local community and creating a poster.



The students are engaging in questioning why community celebrations and commemorations are important in Australia.



Stage 3 students are learning about the significance of colonisation in Australia on the Aboriginal people and the environment. Students explore these concepts in commemoration of NAIDOC week and inquire about the differing perspectives of the early settlers and the indigenous people. Students are using historical inquiry questions to research and gather information on this pinnacle time in Australia's history.



How did introduced animals affect native animals?

The animals introduced to Australia started taking all of the native animals food. Animals like feral rabbits also started taking burrows and holes from native animals like bandicoots and bilbies. These conditions made it harder for some native animals to survive.



Bandicoot

NAIDOC Artwork

Students in years 3-6 worked together with Ms Hunter to create this beautiful artwork to recognise NAIDOC Week 2020.

