



Ermington West Public School

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Week 5 Term 2

Friday 29 May 2020



Welcome Back

Welcome back to Team EWPS. We have missed having the students at school and are looking forward to continuing your child's learning journey. We thank the community for their support during online learning at home. The staff is very proud of the work that the students produced while working at home under the guidance of their parents. I also would like to acknowledge the creativeness and dedication of the staff for producing work for online learning in such a short space of time.

Reports

Reports will go home on Thursday 2 July. The reports will be modified so that you will receive feedback and feed forward about English and mathematics. Each of the other Key Learning Areas will have a statement of the topic/s covered throughout Semester One. Prior to your child receiving their report class teachers will organise a student, parent and teacher conference about your child's learning this Semester. In this current climate, unless guidelines change, these interviews will be conducted remotely via phone conferences or Zoom meetings. More information to follow about these interviews.

Works around the School

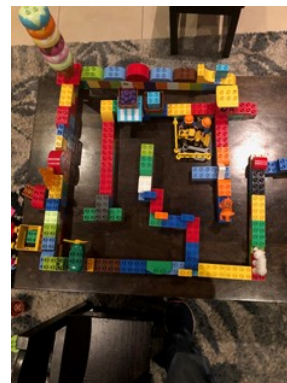
There has been a lot of work carried out around the school over the last few weeks. The works include the softfall under the COLA, fencing under the COLA, fencing of the cricket nets, resurfacing the softfall under the playground equipment near the cricket nets and the toilets and wet areas in the Kindergarten room. Work is due to start on the new softfall where the basketball court is located. This work should be completed in about 3 weeks.



Team Ariel and Team Sebastian

Home Learning

Over the past few weeks, Kindergarten have been completing work at home via “Showbie”. They have completed a variety of KLA areas such as English, mathematics, PDHPE and science. Students did a wonderful job adjusting to these strange times and demonstrated resilience and perseverance. In English, Kindergarten focused on building their sound knowledge, letter recognition and formation and early writing skills. In mathematics, we focused on the topics of whole numbers, patterns and mass. In PDHPE, students completed a range of activities looking at emotions, family structures and developing their gross motor skills. In science, they engaged with a variety of activities including making a maze and a ramp to identify push and pull forces, they also started to learn all about Earth and Space focusing on day and night and the seasons. We have held weekly zoom meetings to keep in contact and check in on our students and their wellbeing. We would like to thank all the parents and carers for all their hard work in assisting their children and teachers to continue the learning.



Reconciliation Week

This week Kindergarten have been learning about the meaning behind Reconciliation Week and its importance. We completed activities including learning about Dreamtime Stories, engaging in yarns and finding materials outdoors to create an artwork.



Maths

This term, Kindergarten have been learning all about addition and capacity. In addition, students have been completing hands on activities where they have been rolling the dice and adding objects together. In capacity, we have been learning all about the terms full, half full and empty to describe the amount of liquid in a container. Students have also participated in a number talk, where they share ideas and strategies to form and recognise numbers.



Literacy

Students have been interacting with quality texts where they will listen and respond to a story. They have also begun to form sentences based on shared experiences with their peers. Kindergarten have been working hard during our literacy centres where they are further refining and developing their fine motor skills, speaking and listening skills and their phonemic awareness.

PDHPE

In personal health and development, students have started exploring the question of “How we grow?”. In this, they will look at physical changes (i.e. getting taller) and identifying external body parts and name their functions. In physical education, students are refining their gross motor skills of running, hopping, catching and throwing. They have also begun to work on learning different dances, for example the chicken dance.



Team Elsa, Team Sven and Team Olaf

Welcome back Team Frozen! We missed you! We just wanted to congratulate you for an incredible online experience. It was a new journey for the teachers, students and parents/carers, but we were all in it together. We want to commend the students and their families for all the learning that you achieved online. We understand that this wouldn't have been an easy task, but everyone did a fantastic job. Congratulations.

It has been an unusual start to the term but we are glad to be at school. Being back has allowed us to be learning collaboratively with our friends and teachers. Additionally, we have moved into our new block/classrooms. There is plenty of space for us to learn.

We would like to welcome **Miss Nicol** as a **Prac. Teacher** in Team Elsa this term.



Reminders

Please remember that we:

- swap readers on **Monday and Thursday**.
- Continue reading every day for at least 5-10 minutes. It is important to ask questions about the text. Literal: who are the main characters? What is the problem? Furthermore, asking inferential questions is important too. These questions are higher order thinking questions that allow the student to think beyond the text e.g. what was the character's motivation to...

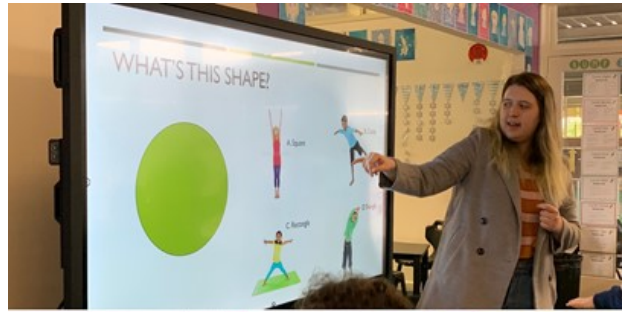


To practise mathematics at home, you can:

- Practise skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s. See how far you can count up to.
- Do Number of the day. Pick a number and write some facts down. Is it an odd or even number? Look at the place value of the number. Write some number sentences. What is 10 numbers before and after the number?

2D Shapes

This Term in mathematics, we have been learning about 2D shapes. We have been discussing the properties of the shape including; counting the number of sides, vertices and we examined the lines that make up the shape. There are vertical, horizontal, diagonal lines and parallel lines.



English

In English, this Term's focus is informative texts. This has involved discussing the author's intention and why and how certain text types are written. So far we have covered recounts, procedures and explanation texts. During the last two weeks, we have been learning about the life cycle of a variety of animals. For all tasks, we refer to 'success criteria', these involve listing features in writing that will ensure the students are successful. One of the main success criteria that we use in writing are time connectives (e.g. next, now, then). These assist with sequencing our writing for each stage of the life cycle. So far, we have learnt about the life cycle of a frog, chicken, butterfly and a koala. Did you know that baby koalas are called joeys? When they are born, they are the size of a jellybean.



Team Hulk and Team Thor

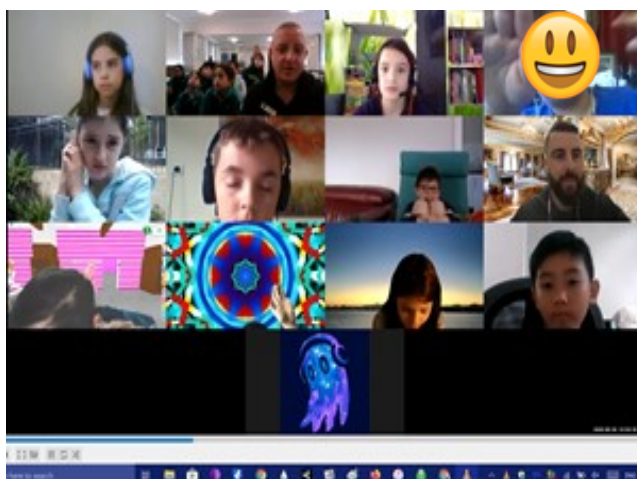
Welcome Back

The absolutely amazing efforts and focus demonstrated by students from Team Hulk and Team Thor during our online learning sessions were truly remarkable. In such a very short amount of time, Stage 2 students were able to rapidly learn a wide range of website navigation techniques and communication methods, all from a distance with the help and support of Mr Davies and Mr Bailey online. We would also like to acknowledge the efforts of parents and carers during this time to not only support your child's learning, but also for the regular and productive communication that was developed between our learning community during that time. We have indeed helped your children, our students, continue their learning and development as if they had been learning at school the whole time.

We would like to welcome **Miss Maugeri as a Prac. Teacher** in Team Thor this term.

Digital Skills

Team Hulk and Thor demonstrated their development of digital skills when accessing and communicating online each day, via the live video conferencing application Zoom. This tool, implemented in the beginning of our remote learning was completely new to all students and the efficient, regular and above all safe use of our Zoom team meetings each morning and afternoon, was a crucial part of the success of Team Hulk and Thor students in continuing their learning. All students who were able to attend the daily sessions with Mr Davies and Mr Bailey thoroughly enjoyed the ability to ask questions about their learning in the morning and reflect on their own and their peers learning each afternoon. It was equally as impressive how quickly the students learnt how to change their video backgrounds too, as we were all interested in Mr Bailey's palace video background the students (and Mr Davies too!) quickly wanted one of their own.



Writing

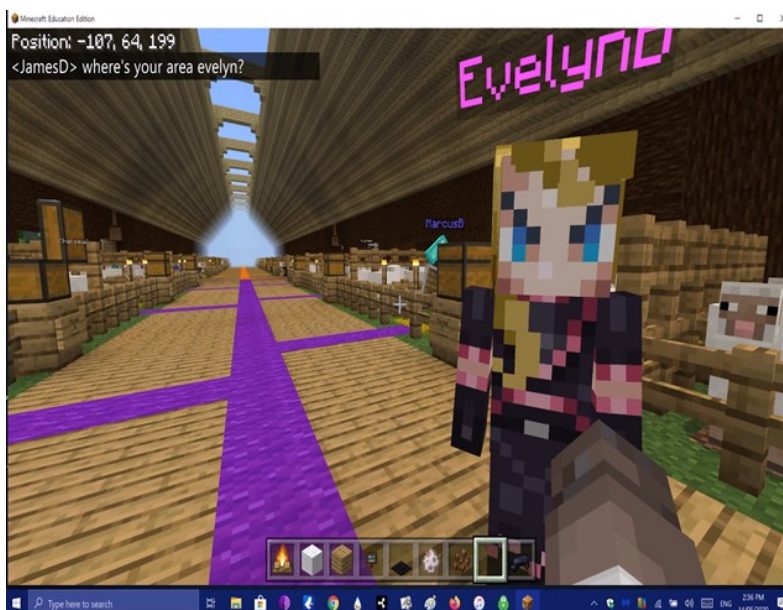
Our keen writers have explored the process of reading and creating informative texts through our informative writing lessons this term. Students have tackled the various features that make up informative writing and created everything from procedures and recipes, to book reports, news articles and much more. Our Team Thor and Hulk members have worked on identifying and separating facts and opinions and applying their facts to create rich pieces of informative writing. We are excited to see them continue to grow in their writing and look forward to being informed on all the things they are passionate about.

Maths

This term for mathematics we have begun focussing on data through our online lessons and in our face to face learning. Team Thor and Team Hulk students have worked hard and completed activities such as surveying their peers and classmates to form data and apply this to creating graphs and displays. Our team members have also dived into the world of chance and probability, learning how to determine the chance of success in various activities such as rolling a dice and picking the correct card. They have shown determination and resilience in understanding new mathematical concepts which will assist them throughout their lives.

Minecraft Education Edition

One of our notable events and successful learning experiences occurred when the majority of students from Team Hulk and Thor were able to participate online in a lesson entirely taught and completed in the virtual learning environment—Minecraft Education Edition. The unique lesson was taught using a game-based learning approach and focused on chance and probability as part of mathematics learning for the students. Students examined the chance outcome of various events and interacted with their peers. This game-based approach to learning, planned and designed by Mr Davies and Mr Bailey, makes Team Hulk and Team Thor student's one of the first cohorts of primary-aged learners to participate in this type of online learning. This digital tool required students to collaborate, coordinate, follow instructions and be problem solvers all while within the game world.



Team Coyote and Team Road Runner

Welcome Back Stage 3!

It has been a wonderful week to see the students smoothly settling back to face to face teaching.

Online Home Learning

The students have been doing an amazing job completing home learning tasks set on Google Classroom. They all need to be commended on their efforts and how they have adapted to a new learning environment during the transition.

A big thank you to parents for supporting your child/ren in their learning at home and being patient with any technological issues along the way. Thank you for the encouragement and support you have given the EWPS staff during this unexpected time.

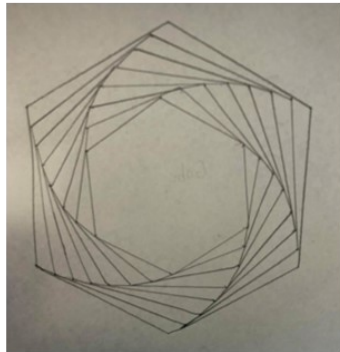
Student Column—School is Back

A few students from Team Road Runner and Team Coyote wanted to share their thoughts and feelings about online learning and their transition back into full time school. Here is what stage 3 wrote:

<p><i>I was very angry when I first went to school. I thought it would be boring and the teachers would be grumpy. I couldn't have been more wrong. The teachers were very cheerful, kind and patient. The teachers made the day the best and I went home happy and cheerful.</i></p> <p>by Barnabas Ha</p>	<p><i>Being back at school feels great! Face to face learning is much more fun. Playing games and having that competitive feeling enhances my learning. Talking and laughing with my friends is amazing. That feeling of being self-conscious and being nervous around people that has stuck with me for the past 2 months has faded.</i></p> <p><i>Everything feels normal!</i></p> <p>by Dylan Kan</p>
<p><i>Are you happy to be at school? Because I am. Ok, the first 2 days have been hard but it gets easier with our teachers here to help us. On the first day back I felt lazy and dull but as the days go by it gets faster and faster. Over the break, I kind of missed coming to school to learn and see my friends. I have been a bit lonely because my best friend Aleia, hasn't been coming. While she has been away I have been making new friends. I just want to say thank you to Miss Kim and Mr Englefield, Mrs Simic and all the other teachers and staff for being here almost every day in quarantine.</i></p> <p>by Shakira Cooke</p>	<p><i>Just another boring day with none of my friends at school. Being the only stage 3 kid in stage 2 at school. It was just boring. You have nothing to talk about. You have no one to play with except for the little ones. It was not fun, believe me. We played games AND IT WASN'T ACHALLENGE I kept on winning then Anthony came and my veins filled up with excitement. Finally someone from stage 3, I've been with stage 2 for over a month. Then the next day I wasn't happy to go to school until I saw my friends and in my head I said "relief" and now school is back to normal.</i></p> <p>by Jacob Ramlawie</p>

Optical Illusion Art

Students used mathematical concepts of measurement to create a 3D shape that created an optical illusion. They chose a 2D shape and repeated it by drawing it smaller and smaller each time. They created an illusion of a spiral and used shading / colouring techniques to enhance the illusion.



Science with Flying Colours

In science this week, the students explored colours and capillary action through a hands-on experiment called Rainbow water walking. It demonstrates how coloured water can travel through paper towels. They created a procedure on how to conduct the experiment and wrote down the results that they observed.



Visual Arts

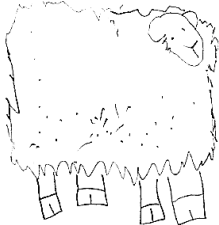


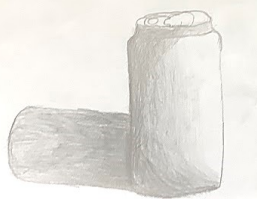
I would like to commend all Ermington West students who have worked so hard from home this term to produce amazing artworks!

In visual arts this term, **Kindergarten** students have been learning to add more detail to their drawings of various animals. Students have also created artworks using found natural objects such as leaves and flowers and artworks using geometric shapes.

Stage 1 students have learnt to draw landscapes and to make both symmetrical artworks and self-portraits. In addition, Stage 1 students have used digital technology to design patterned flowerpots and wild weather artworks.

Stage 2 students learnt about the famous artist, Matisse, and created a vase of flowers using Matisse's colourful style. Students also made black and white symmetrical artworks, colourful drawings of beetles and line designs. Stage 2 read about kaleidoscopes and produced their own digital kaleidoscope patterns. They also used digital applications to construct abstract, linear compositions.

Stage 3 students have completed several drawing activities. These have included pencil and pen observation drawings of household and natural objects and designing their own Zentangles. Stage 3 have also enjoyed experimenting with a range of digital applications to produce abstract artworks.

KINDERGARTEN	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3
			
Woolly sheep	Digital Flowerpots	Kaleidoscope pattern	Household object – shading techniques

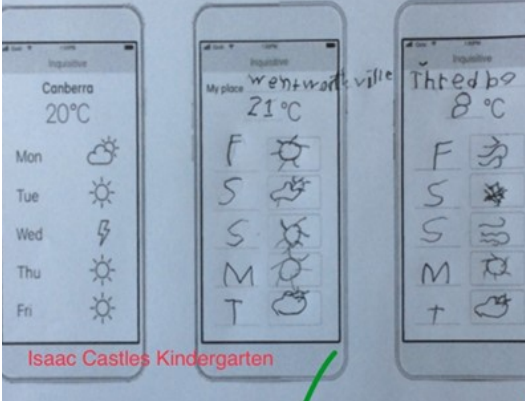
Geography

What an interesting year we have had so far. The students of Ermington West Public School have done an amazing job as we found ourselves learning remotely. The students of Kindergarten learned about looking after special places and how to use maps to find familiar places. Year One students learned to describe the weather, seasons and weather patterns in different places. Students in Year 2 learned about some Australian places and described Australia's location in the world.

Students in Year 3 learned about Australia's neighbouring countries and explored the climate zones of Australia and the world. Year 4 students explored the natural characteristics of Australia and some other places in the world. Stage 3 students studied the continent of Asia and examined some of the different cultures of the world, including different indigenous groups.

 glass jar	 broken pencil	 plastic bag
Use it to store things in.	Use the half that's working	Re use it for shopping
 plastic container	 scrap paper	 holey socks
Re use it to store food.	Use it for notes.	Sew up the holes.

Use an app to find the weather information for your place and another place. Write the first letter for each day and draw the weather on the phones.



Isaac Castles Kindergarten

Maxene Santos - Year 4

2. These Australian animals are considered endangered, which means that there are not many of them left in the world.



Choose one of these animals. Find some information about it in a book or website and fill in the information fact file below:

Name of animal: Turtle	
What type of animal is it? Turtles are reptiles.	Where does it live? Every continent but Antarctica, foraging for food then returning back to it's home.
What does it eat? Adult Sea Turtles are referred to as herbivores (only eat vegetation) but as they were hatchlings they were omnivores (both plant and animal).	What likes to eat it? Tiger sharks usually eat Sea Turtles. Killer whales are known to eat on Leatherback turtles. Fishes, dogs, seabirds and other predators prey on eggs and hatchlings.
Why does the world need it? Turtles have maintained the world's ocean for more than 100 million years. If turtles were to go extinct sea grass would eventually die and that would affect marine life and human life as well.	Why is it in danger? They are in danger because they are killed for their eggs, meat, skin and shells. Sea Turtles also suffer from poaching and habitat destruction.

Aryanna Kefalianos - Stage 3

Write down some of the similarities and differences between the breakfasts around the world.

Similarities	Differences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are all very unique and different foods. • No matter how big or small it is still eaten for breakfast. • It's all food! • They are very interesting to learn about too! • You don't have to like your cultures brekky, you have whatever suits you best. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some eat LOADS for breakfast while others eat light things like us, with vegemite on toast. • Some cultures eat more sweet things like croissants while others like savoury food for breakfast. • Some culture turn sweet things savoury, like a savoury doughnut for brekky, while others keep it the same.

Mathematics

This year one of our focus areas is mathematics. Mrs Hutchens will be leading mathematics this year and as a part of the program we are introducing Number Talks as a part of the mathematics lesson.

Number Talks

What are Number Talks and why are they important?

- Number talks offer a daily, short, structured way for students to talk about mathematics with their peers and develop number sense.
- Number talks allow students to build confidence in their mathematical abilities and show them that they can do it - they are mathematical thinkers!
- Number talks assist teachers in understanding where their students are mathematically and highlights ways that teachers can further develop their students skills and fix any misconceptions students may have.
- Developing number sense in young children is important. Number sense is the ability to understand numbers and quantities, use numbers flexibly, and perform calculations mentally.

