



Ermington West Public School

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Week 5 Term 3

Friday 21 August 2020

Message from the Principal (Rel.)

We've had a busy and learning focused start to term 3. Thank you to the school community for their support and understanding as guidelines continue to change in the current environment.

Assembly - Thursday 13 August 2020

Congratulations to the students who received awards. It was wonderful to be able to recognise all the students at EWPS for their hard work this year even if they didn't receive an award. The event was livestreamed on the P&C Facebook page. Our next virtual assembly will be held on Thursday 10 September 2020.

Students and staff with flu like symptoms

As of the 17 August 2020 students and staff who are absent or sent home from school with flu like symptoms need to be tested. Students and staff must not return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptoms free. The school must sight the negative COVID-19 test result prior to allowing students and staff to return to school. Usually the results will be sent to you via text. Please take a screen shot of the negative result and forward the image to the school via email. Students **MUST NOT** come to school if they are unwell even with very mild symptoms. We thank you for your support in this matter to keep our community safe.

Message from Director of Educational Leadership

Congratulations

I would like to congratulate **Karen Mack** for her successful merit appointment to the position of **principal at Ermington West Public School** and thank Barbara Simic for the wonderful leadership she has provided the school in recent times, especially the care and empathy she has displayed for students, staff and the community during the ever changing COVID-19 pandemic. Barbara has ensured the school continued to move forward over the last 2 years.

Karen comes to us with a strong understanding of leadership, pedagogy and innovation from her position of Deputy Principal at Bonnyrigg Heights PS with a real strength in the use of data and evidence to drive improved outcomes for all students. I know you will join me in welcoming Karen to the Ermington West community and look forward to her driving the continual improvement we all want for our students and teachers. Karen will join us from the beginning of Term Four this year.

David Leydon

Team Ariel and Team Sebastian

Mathematics

In class, we have been exploring the concepts of time, position and length. The students have been learning all about making a time on the clock, learning the days of the week and all about day and night. In position, we explored different terms to describe where an object is compared to another. In length, students measured how long different objects are using their hands and feet and they have learnt how to compare heights of other students including who is shorter and taller.



News

In Kindergarten, we have had two new friends join us. Their names are Tessa Turtle and Neal Narwhale. On Fridays, a student gets the opportunity to take either Neal or Tessa home for weekend and to spend time with them. On Tuesday, the students share what they got up to with our new friends.



Science

In science, we have been learning about living and nonliving things. Kindergarten have been looking at how to identify living things and sorting them into animals, insects and plants. Kindergarten have participated in investigations where they sort random animals into their classification groups.

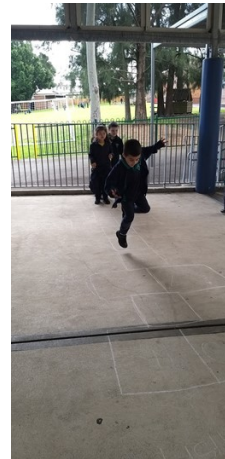
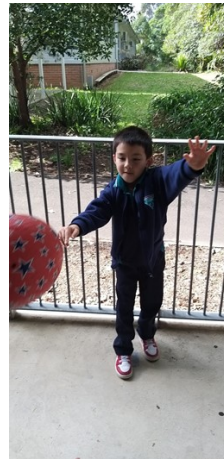


Education Week

During week 3, we celebrated Education Week. This year's theme was *Learning Together*. As a class we discussed what this means to our class, learnt about Aboriginal dreamtime stories, watched the NSW film festival and created a class artwork representing the theme *Learning Together*.

PDHPE

In health, we have been learning all about the different emotions and how our body reacts to them. Kindergarten have also been using the knowledge of these feelings and body reactions to tell if they are feeling safe or unsafe. In sport, we have been practicing our gross motor skills in our obstacle course where they also focused on their coordination and communication skills.



Electives

This term, Kindergarten have been introduced to Kid's Curriculum where they have chosen different topics to learn about. This term, we have offered Korean, Well-being, Smart Banking, Arts and Craft, Clay Sculptures and Science as electives for Kid's Curriculum. They will be attending these electives every Wednesday for the rest of the term.



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

Student highlight of Term 3

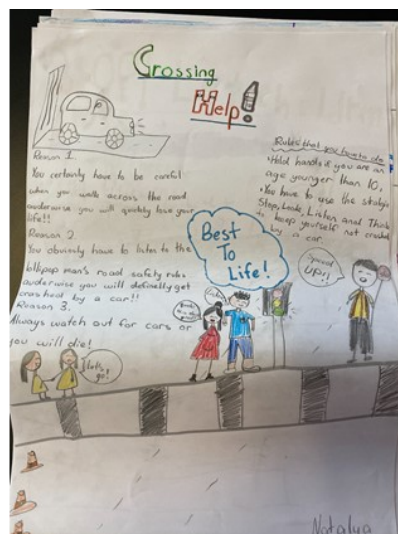
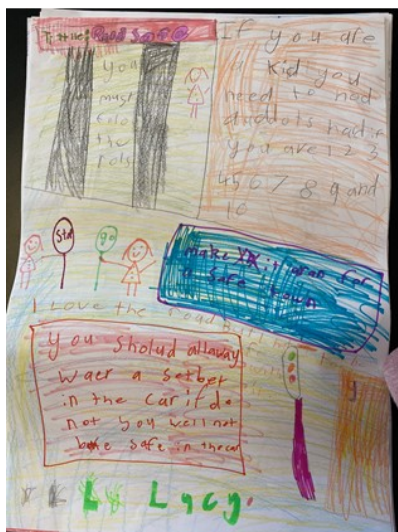
Team Frozen's thoughts on K-2 Kids Curriculum electives so far:

- *"Science is fun because we got to make experiments. We made a candy explosion with coke and mentos - it was satisfying to watch"* Muhammad (Mini Scientists Elective)



English

This term, Team Frozen have been learning about persuasive texts. Students have learnt what a point of view means and how to convince their teachers, peers and wider community by using high modality words and by giving strong reasons and examples. So far, we have written persuasive letters to convince Mrs Simic to get us McDonalds in the school canteen and created road safety posters for our school community about pedestrian and car safety.



Mathematics

In mathematics, we have been learning about patterns. We started by practicing skip counting patterns by 2's, 5's and 10's, creating shape patterns and finding the missing numerals. Not only have we looked at patterns, we've also been looking at how to describe a pattern and the rules for patterns! For example if the pattern has a square, circle, square, circle, we would describe this as a 2 pattern.

We have also been learning about length. This has involved estimating the length of objects and then measuring the objects using informal units (blocks, hands, paper clips) and formal units (rulers).



Science

Team Frozen have been learning all about Australian seasons and months. We have learnt about weather events, typical clothing, special activities and plants and animals for each season of the year. We are looking forward to finding out all about the moon, sun and stars in the second half of the term.



Shout-out to Miss Fairall

Miss Fairall has been our student teacher in Team Olaf! She's worked really hard to create meaningful and engaging lessons across all key learning areas for across Stage 1. A highlight from one of her lessons was her Creative Arts lessons. She looked at Indigenous arts works, the different types, the materials used and the purpose of the artworks. Team Olaf then designed their own Aboriginal inspired artwork. Thank you Miss Fairall for the time and dedication during her time at EWPS.



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

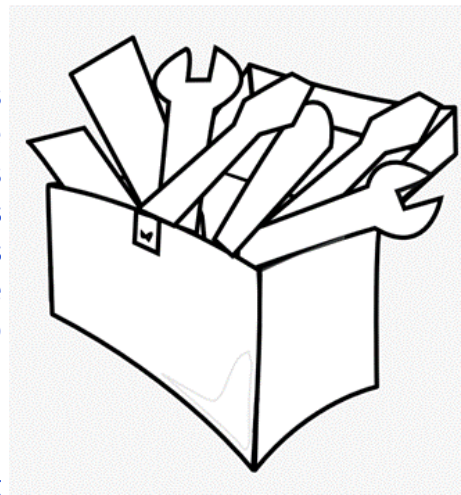
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Team Hulk and Team Thor

Maths

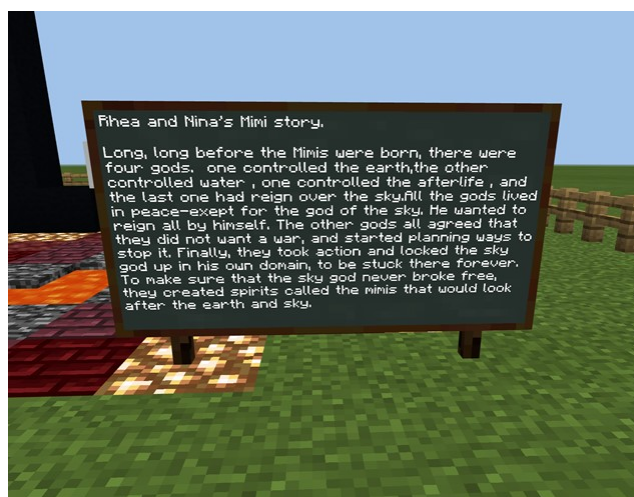
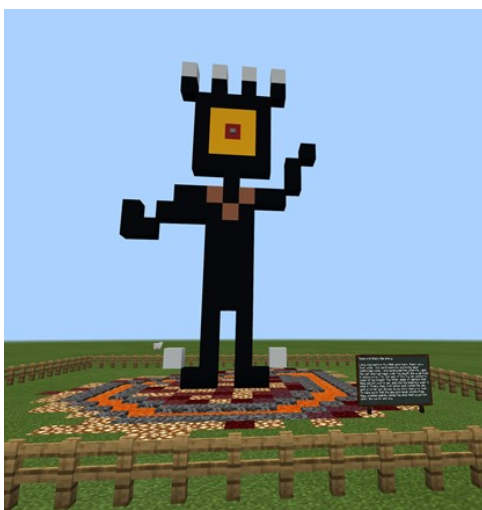
Team Hulk and Team Thor have been busy again this term. The students have been learning about fractions, decimals and revising our multiplication through games like multiplication buzz. Earlier in the term, the students worked together to design their own paper versions of 'fraction pizzas'. We had some very interesting toppings that were designed and some of which are yet to be invented! Nonetheless, all students were able to collaboratively identify the fractions of their pizzas and display them for others to see.



Stage 2 are now coming into their final week of learning about patterns and algebra in mathematics and all are looking forward to demonstrating their knowledge of this topic by designing number sequences and pattern representations using digital technology and solving problems involving repeated addition.

Education Week

During Education Week, Team Hulk and Team Thor engaged in a number of lessons which broadened their understanding of Aboriginal culture. Over two separate sessions, both teams learned about Aboriginal Dreaming, and the story of the Mimis from Arnhem Land, in Northern Australia. The students heard all about these mischievous mythical beings, who were said to have originally taught the Aboriginal peoples from Yolngu country how to hunt and prepare food. Team Hulk and Team Thor were then tasked with recreating the Mimis using Minecraft for Education and worked collaboratively to develop their own 'Mimi Stories'. The results were absolutely fantastic!

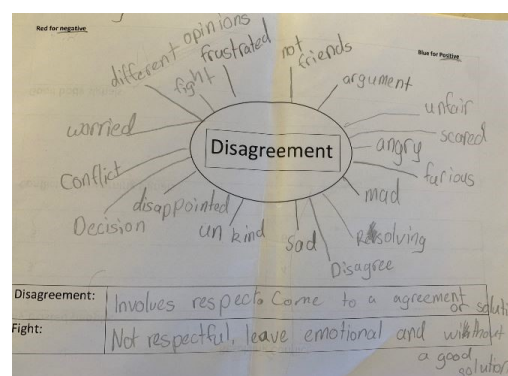
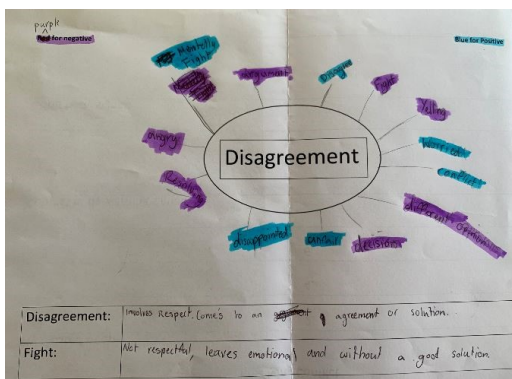
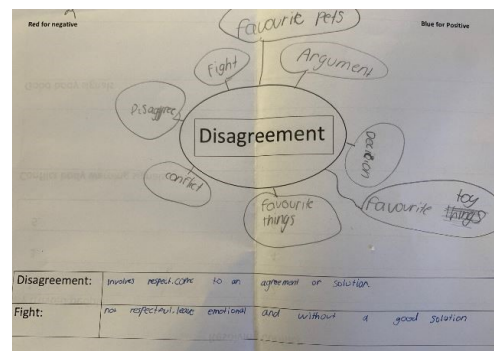
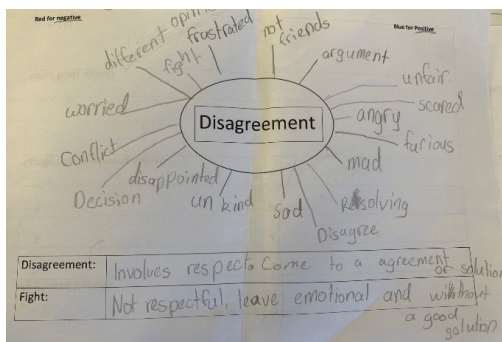


Writing

Our budding writers have continued to flex their creative muscles in our writing lessons this term. Team Thor and Team Hulk have explored the process of persuasive writing and how to convince others with our words. We continue to develop our skills while exploring concepts in writing such as perspective, point of view and codes and conventions and how these impact what we see and how we feel. Our studies have featured visual literacy texts which require our writers to examine books with minimal words and make informed decisions on what is happening and what the meaning behind the picture is.

PDHPE

In PDHPE this term we are actively developing our problem solving skills and looking into situations of conflict and how to successfully resolve them. Team Thor and Team Hulk have explored strategies for managing change in their physical and social environments and how to appropriately respond in a positive manner. We have taken the concept of a toolkit which we will seek to fill up with our skill set in order to apply to challenging situations. In Got Game we have also begun improving our fundamental movement skills through a number of skills and games based activities.



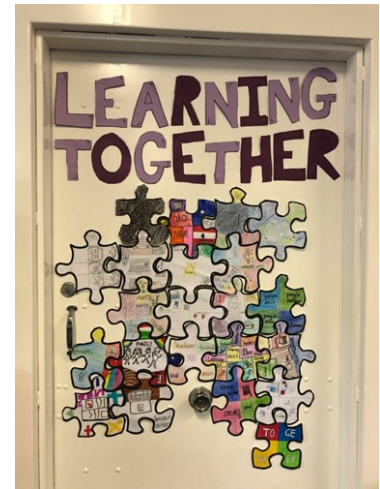
Digital Portfolio

If you would like to see your child's digital work, please visit their 'Digital Portfolio' on Google Drive. Please email Mr Davies or Mr Bailey if you require access assistance to the Google Drive account for your child.

Team Coyote and Team Road Runner

Education Week

Last week was Education Week with the theme of “Learning together”. As a stage we learned what it means to learn as a community and working together with our teachers and family. We each got a puzzle piece to represent what learning together means to us. Some of the students in Stage 3 drew pictures of how we stayed connected during online learning and face to face and the people who they appreciated helping them. We also learned more about the Aboriginal Indigenous culture. We read a story called “Wilam” and created a platypus dot painting. Education Week was amazing.



Kids Curriculum

Aboriginal Culture - What do you think the look was on our faces when we got told electives were back on? Well our faces were like we just won the lottery! Everyone was screaming “Yay!” and “Yes” we were all excited. There are so many interesting electives this term like Debating, Improvisation, Aboriginal culture and many more.

My favourite elective is Aboriginal culture run by Mr D. In it we have to research about one dreamtime story then make a creation of something in the dreamtime story on Minecraft or paper. I can’t wait for more lessons! *By Shakira Cooke*

Teacher Training - Having electives back on is really fun. We can learn about new subjects that we usually do not learn about. Sewing, puppetry and many more! My favourite elective is teacher training, where we get to see a teacher’s perspective when planning a lesson. The goal of that elective is for you to run your own elective next term! Electives allows us to socialise, meet great people in other years and spark some hobbies and interest. *By Dylan Kan*

Puppetry

So far in Puppetry, students have created finger puppets, created their own plays and completed a reader's theatre using handheld puppets. Students have been learning to rehearse before performing it in front of the class. They are able to take on the perspective of the characters and changing their voices to add more effect to their play.



Travel Plan

In the Travel Plan elective, the students have the opportunity to choose a country that they would like to visit and plan an itinerary. Some places that they want to visit include Lebanon, England, America, New Zealand and different states in Australia. Students used their computer skills to research the country and look up flights before creating a plane ticket. They also had to keep in mind the budget they were given for the holiday. Students made a list of items that they needed for the trip.

Soccer

Soccer has been fun and an engaging elective where the students have been learning different skills and techniques. This soccer program has been created by Miss Moore using her extensive soccer knowledge to design an enjoyable learning experience. Students have been learning ways to control the ball, playing tactical games and then using these skills to play a mini soccer match. Students have been learning how to be persistent, resilient and to work collaboratively as a team.



Visual Arts

In visual arts this term, **Kindergarten** and **Year 1** students have been working hard to complete their amazing robots. **Year 2** students have been busy creating fluoro pink flamingos that are peeping through palm leaves! **Stage 2** students have almost finished their beautiful Van Gogh inspired flower vases. **Stage 3** students have been viewing and responding to the works of Australian artist Peter Cromer. Peter's colourful artworks focus on Australian flora and fauna. Students have used Cromer's style to create collages of animals and birds.

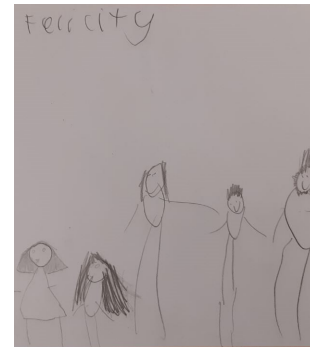
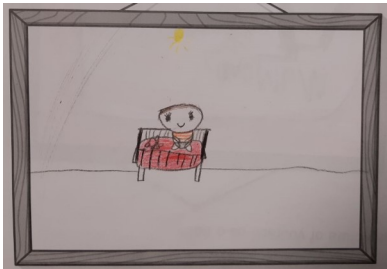
Meanwhile, in the Primary 'Maths in Art' elective, students have been learning about the geometric works of Paul Klee and have been creating their own geometrical city artworks. In the Infants 'Art and Craft' elective, students have learnt about symmetry and have produced dazzling, glittering symmetrical butterflies.



History

Early Stage 1 & Stage 1

Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 are learning about the history of families. They will investigate the key questions; Who Am I? and Where do I come from? The students will discuss what generations mean and why family names are passed down through history. Students will observe and investigate photographs from different time periods to develop their knowledge of terminology used to describe past, present and future to sequence events.



Stage 2

Students in Stage 2 have been researching the history of the community of Ermington, Parramatta, Carlingford or Dundas Valley. Using Google Docs or Google Slides the students will present three changes that they have found out about their chosen community. Did you know that the Ermington Shopping Centre was opened in 1958? Ermington was also the birthplace and was for many years the home of the 1956 Olympian Betty Cuthbert. The main street of the Ermington Shopping Centre is named Betty Cuthbert Avenue in her honour.



Stage 3

Have you ever wondered why Australia has a Federal government, State/Territory government and local government? Ask the students from Stage 3 who are learning about colonial life in Australia to Federation in 1901. Stage 3 will also identify and discern what is a reliable source when gathering information to complete a timeline leading up to Federation.



SAS Recognition Week



Next week is School Administrative and Support (SAS) Staff Recognition Week, a time to acknowledge and thank the often unsung heroes in our public schools. Our SAS staff play an important role in the school community. They are often the first people you see when you enter a school and are essential to maintaining positive relationships with students, parents and the community.

SAS staff work in school offices, in classrooms and maintaining and caring for school grounds and buildings. They are often the ones to tend to students when they are unwell and they ensure the efficient management of school financial and administration functions. We are very grateful to our wonderful SAS staff and thank them for all they do to ensure students are safe, happy and achieving their best!

On behalf of the community I would like to acknowledge and thank Mrs Collins, Mrs Luxford, Mrs Piper, Mrs Richardson, Ms Moore and Mr Smith for the valuable work they perform and their great contribution to supporting great teaching and learning outcomes at Team EWPS.

Strategies to keep our students, staff and community safe

Students **must** bring water bottles to school as they cannot drink from the bubblers. Water bottles can be refilled from the water filters in the classrooms or the bubblers.

Students and staff wash or sanitise their hands when entering/leaving classrooms, before eating and they also wipe down desks and equipment which has been used by students throughout the day.

During recess and lunch we have three play areas for the different age cohorts in the school-K-2, 3/4 and 5/6. We use the basketball court area, and the grass playground behind Block C and E.

We thank the community for their understanding and continued support of the physical distancing guidelines at the school gates during pick up and drop off times, as well as the changes that have had to be put in place to ensure the safety of the community this year.

NSW Department of Education

Refill your water bottle here



Don't drink straight from a water bubbler

education.nsw.gov.au

