

FOR THE LOVE OF COOKING.

During the last week of Term 2, the Kindy children were going through the WPPS cookbook, tagging the recipes they would like to make. After talking to Sonja, we decided our first cooking experience would be cookies in Term 3. The children's enthusiasm continued throughout the week and into the first day of Term 3.

The children were so excited when our cooking day arrived. They put on their aprons and washed their hands. Nicholas helped read the recipe. Working together the children cut up the butter, cracked eggs, added all the ingredients and made biscuit shapes. They were so excited to share their cookies, showing pride in what they had made.

For the rest of the term the children worked through the other recipes they had tagged. We created a delicious program that inspired and allowed the Kindy children to engage and learn the wonderful skill of cooking. Great Job Kindys, we loved your creations.

WOOLWORTHS CAME TO VISIT

We were thrilled when Kate from Woolworths came and set up our Discovery Garden. We were grateful to be one of three services chosen by Woolworths Thornleigh for the Discovery Garden project. Kate provided us with each type of seed, biodegradable pots, coir soil, lesson plans, books and a range of wonderful activities.

On the first week Sonja demonstrated how to use the coir soil and we planted our first seed. Horticultural coir is a peat-like substance that is used in gardening and agriculture

Over the next couple of weeks, the children taught each other how to plant new seeds. We carefully consider the growth time of each plant aiming to have them all sprout and flourish at once.

We tracked the planting dates on the calendar. Each day we ticked the chart when we had watered them. The children constructed a greenhouse for the plants to be stored in over the weekends. This gave the children a sense of ownership and understanding of the importance of water.

OUR AMAZING MARBLE TRACKS.

At the beginning of the term a group of children relished every opportunity to play with the marble track. Inspired by this we decided to construct our own from cardboard boxes, cones and tubes. The children were thrilled with the opportunity to design, create and challenge themselves.

With the help of a big team of children, we were able to construct a 2-metre marble course that went out the hallway window and to the bottom of the stairs. It was an intricate process requiring multiple repairs and alterations along the way.

The most fun part of the whole exercise was testing the course. Each person had a go at dropping the marble down the winding track. Each track test was a marvel to watch, an opportunity to reflect on teamwork and also a chance to improve



CUBBY HOUSES

Constructing cubby houses has been an evolving interest with the Year One and Year Two students this term. The children started off by using sheets, mats, pillows and tables outside, in KE, under the bench in the hallway and at the picnic table.

The children's joy was evident through the great amounts of laughter. The students demonstrated great teamwork skills working together they showed consideration, planning, problem solving skills and experimentation. We encouraged them further and provided more opportunities through purchasing tarps, string, clips and a range of other materials.

The children became more excited, asking everyday if they could make a cubby. We created a roster and expanded the range of locations for cubby houses. We will continue to support the children as they develop stories and create memories together.

KERRY

This term we have been lucky enough have Kerry, (our interior designer friend), come in to help with a couple of sessions each week. This has allowed us to engage in a range of projects including card making, Father's Day and a special Stage 3 program.

A very special project Kerry worked on was with the stage 3 children to create a "pie chart of their lives. Kerry provided them with a range of beautiful decorative paper and cardboard. The children calculated activities, values and routines involved in their daily lives and how much they rated each in percentages. This allowed them to choose the portion of pie for each area. At the end they created a wonderful illustration of their lives, something they were proud of, beautiful and a great visual illustration of their lives.

Having Kerry as a friend and educator has been wonderful for us as a community. We have already arranged for Kerry to come again next term for more fun, craft and friendship.

LEGO MASTERS

The children's interest in Lego was supported further this term when we used the projector in KE to air episodes of "Lego Masters" while providing the children with Lego to build with.

This was a calming, creative and social opportunity for the children. It allowed the children to have a sense of consistency, knowing that every Thursday they could participate to become the Lego Master.

The students have developed some incredible constructions and we are so proud of the innovative designs and creativity, they demonstrated great perseverance and dedication to completing their projects each week.





THAT'S 'MAGIC'

Towards the end of last term, the children showed a developing interest in magic tricks using playing cards. Building on this we scheduled a 'Magic Show' for the last week of school. Throughout the term the students practiced their skills.

The children's confidence, repertoire of tricks and creativity grew as they learnt from each other, our educators, videos and books. The children created a cardboard mat to perform their shows on and the final performances started with the children crowded around to watch each other perform.

Later that afternoon a wedding was held by the children, all the dress-ups were pulled out for the wedding party and guests then Sol was hired by the wedding party to do some Magic Tricks. Sol picked a volunteer from the audience and demonstrated his amazing magic skills. We are so proud of the talent the children have shown. Demonstrating perseverance through the challenge of learning a new skill and building confidence in themselves.

1000 PAPER CRANES

Sporadically throughout the term the children have worked to reach their goal of 1000 paper cranes. We were still shy of reaching our goal but with a total of 370 we decided to showcase what had been achieved. We threaded the cranes we had made onto string and have hung them in front of the window in the hallway.

Seeing how amazing they looked the children were eager to make more and add to the display. Our new goal is to reach 500 cranes by the end of the year. We look forward to the new challenge.

As a part of the project we have read and discussed the story of Sadako Sasaki and her interpretation of the Japanese legend of '1000 Paper Cranes'.

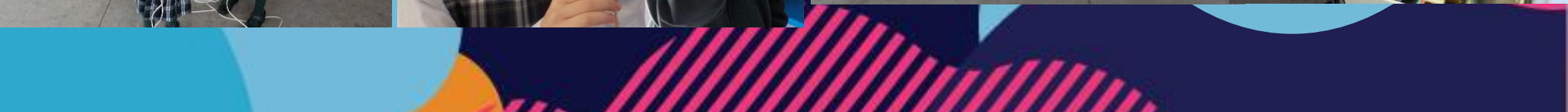
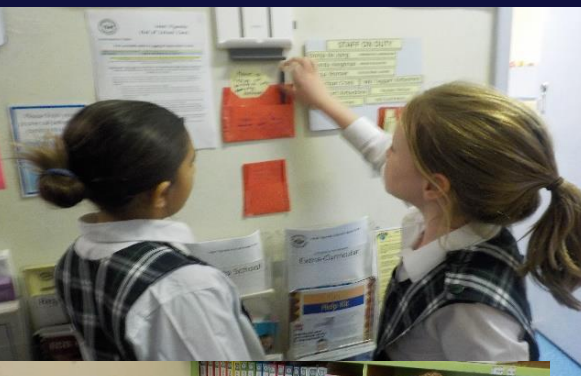
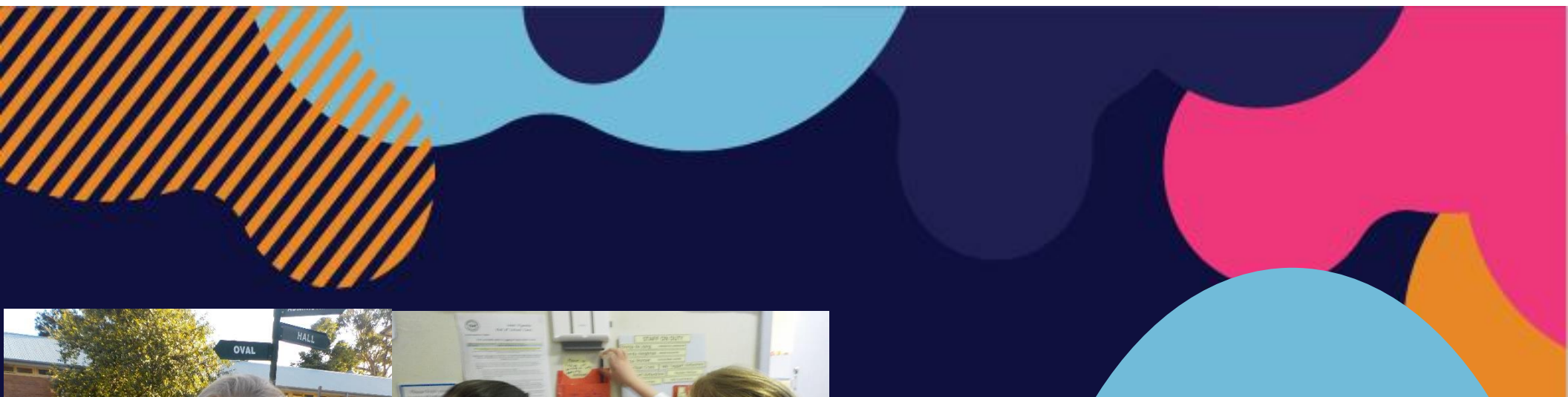
TEAMWORK PROJECT

At the beginning of the term the children and educators set a goal to build respectful relationships through teamwork games. This has been a successful project with laughter, collaboration and consideration of each other.

Some of the games we played included 'spider web walk', the children needed to work together to tie wool to the poles on the play equipment bridge to create a spider's web. They then guided and praised each other as they try to crawl through the tangled web.

We also played a game which required the children to keep a marble from dropping on the floor by holding a cardboard tube ready to catch their friend's marble, moving to rejoin the queue each time the marble left their tube until we got the marble to our goal of travelling the whole way without being dropped.

We made posters and illustrations and brainstormed ideas of how we work as a team. We documented our project on a Teamwork Wall. We look forward to this being an ongoing project, developing a culture and environment that is welcoming and respectful to each other.



EARRING MAKING

This term the children were introduced to simple jewelry making and it was a huge success. Each week they asked if earring making had been put on the programme. The activity ran until we exhausted our supply of materials. When new ones arrived, it was back to business again.

The children made them for their mothers, teachers, friends, themselves. Many of the students didn't let the fact that their ears weren't pierced stop them, finding solutions like sticky taping them to their ears.

The children thoroughly enjoyed this activity and rated it as very special. It certainly was more complex than normal and required expanding on current skills as it needed them to use the tools to manipulate and move the findings (metal part the beads are threaded onto) and some were skilled enough to manage the final twists and bends themselves.

You might be lucky enough to see some earring presents next term as we come closer to Christmas – wear them with pride!.

STORY WRITTING

We were emailed about a writing competition that the Office of the Children's Guardian were holding and informed the children. Amelia and Xavier decided to enter and we are so proud of them. They wrote their own incredible stories about a very important topic close to their hearts, the environment. It was amazing to see them excitedly create and participate in this competition. We look forward to seeing how they went.



PARENTS

We were pleased to have a parent make a suggestion for the program this term. She said that her child saw a group of children creating a robot during box construction and wanted to make her own. The mum asked if we could add it to the program.

We asked the children who had made the robot to host a robot making 'master class', the children were thrilled with the opportunity and loving the idea they set up in the cola and presented to their audience.

It was a success, as not only was the child guided in making a robot, but many others joined in. The children running the master class showed pride and joy in their role and we are proud of them all. Thank you for adding to our program.

Thank you to all our families for your advice, suggestions and support you share with us in person daily and with your feedback to our survey. The survey has given us great insight and we will incorporate and reflect on what you have said. If you would like to share your thoughts and contribute to the program we are always pleased to hear from you.

Jacqui