

# Sir Eric Woodward School Newsletter

Term 1 2021

Week 9

25<sup>th</sup> March 2021



*Student artwork decorating our school*

## **Relieving Principal's message**

### **Thank you for a great term!**

I would like to thank all staff and the community for a great Term 1. Whilst extremely busy, I have been consistently impressed by the great examples of teaching and learning I have seen every day at SEWS. From face to face STEM and project-based learning to the great work done via on-line platforms to increase social connections and enhance learning through our DESU.

Great to see some of our DE leaders being able to participate in professional learning via the Distance Education Leaders conference held in Ballina last week. Reported as a truly inspiring and re-invigorating few days of learning and connecting with colleagues supporting similar patterns of study via the distance education model.

### **SEWS Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP)**

Our school plan / SIP is approaching its final stages of readiness, with executive working closely with Director Andrew Stevenson to refine our targeted areas for improvement and focus over the next four years of school operations. I would like to take the time to recognise my colleagues who have worked strongly as a team to bring the plan to a point of readiness for implementation. As well as you, the community, who have throughout the past year provided us with specific feedback which has informed the directions outlined in the plan itself. As a school we aim for SIP publication early Term 2, 2021.

### **Ziggy update**

Ziggy (our SEWS therapy dog) continues to have a major positive impact on our school community. With each student interaction there is real evidence of student learning and powerful engagement. The feedback that I have received has really demonstrated high impact on our students' communication skills, social capacity, emotional regulation and wellbeing. A credit to Ziggy, our students and staff that have strongly supported this SEWS initiative. What great outcomes you are achieving with our kids.

## Harmony Day

This was a fantastic day at SEWS. With great individual and class specific examples of students participating in Harmony Day themed activities and working collaboratively to support a feeling of belonging and respect for one another.

I wish you all the best over the Easter break and look forward to seeing you in Term 2, 2021.

## Patrick Price



*Celebrating Harmony Day across the school*



## Wishing all students born in March and April a very Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to Jeremiah, Ned, Seth, Nikolina, Harry, Freyja, Yash, Ryan, Leon, Kye & Quinn

## Important dates

### Term 1 2021

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – last school day for Term 1

### Term 2 2021

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – school returns for staff

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April – school returns for students

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – ANZAC Day assembly for students

## Social Club at the DESU

Social Club has been going extremely well this term. All of the students who have been able to come along on a Tuesday at 12:30pm have been having a great time.

Last week we dressed up a day early and wore green to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Special mention must go to Kye and Georgia for their fabulous attire. Kye wore a green feather boa tied around his black hat and a green bow tie. Georgia adorned her green leprechaun hat and even had a St Patrick's Day sign in the background.

Jacob and Tilly have been entertaining us with their fabulous voices.

We have shared pictures of our family, places we have been to, places we would really like to visit one day, and things we have made as well.



*Kye using Zoom at Social Club*

Ziggy has started to join us for Social Club, and that has been amazing. Ziggy brought along a mystery item last week, one of his favourite books, 'My friend Fred'. Students have also had the opportunity to find out about Ziggy by asking questions and watching what he does throughout the sessions.

A reminder that Social Club is at 12:30pm Tuesdays if you would like to come and join us!

## Beat Treats band project at the DESU

I have been working away writing and recording parts and instructional videos for our Beat Treats band project. I am really excited to announce that the Beat Treats band sessions will start next Term.

The Beat Treats band sessions will run from 11:00 am – 11:30am on a Tuesday starting Week 2, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

As with Social Club, attendance is not compulsory but it is encouraged for you to log in and join the Zoom session if you can.

Like last year, you can still participate in the band project even if you are unable to attend the rehearsals. You will be allocated a part and then you can work on it at home and send through your recording once you have learnt your part.

**Kiri**

## Ziggy's news

Ziggy has had a busy and wonderful first term at SEWS in 2021. He has joined in with the DESU teachers and their students for their Social Club on Tuesdays at 12:30. The students have asked some interesting questions about Ziggy and he was included in the activity where each student showed something which was special to them. Ziggy's 'special something' was a book called 'My Friend Fred'.

Each week, Ziggy has visited F2F classes for class time and students also had some special 'Ziggy Time' with him.

During 'Ziggy Time', the students have chosen to do one of the following activities with Ziggy:

- Reading a book or chatting to him
- Grooming Ziggy or walking Ziggy using the 2-handled leash
- Having a game of throwing the ball, focussing on ball throwing skills
- Showing their work and sharing activities

It has been wonderful to see the improvement in all of the students with regard to approaching a dog in a safe manner. We hope that this method will be used when students are out and about and see a dog that they'd like to pat.

We would like to thank the students, the staff at SEWS and the families for embracing the worthwhile addition of our therapy dog, Ziggy.

Have a wonderful break!

## Paula, Louise & Ziggy



*Paula and Ziggy joining the parachute game*



*Tom showing his 'Ziggy Time' voucher*



*Quinn and Dylan spending some quality time with Ziggy*

## Premier's Reading Challenge 2021

Our school is participating in the **Premier's Reading Challenge** this year.

The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

It is open to all students K – 10 this year.

The challenge starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March and finishes on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August.

Students can participate by independently reading the books, shared reading or having the books read to them.

Years 3 – 10 must read at least 20 books, including at least 15 books from the PRC book list and up to 5 personal choice books.

Years K – 2 must read at least 30 books, including at least 25 books from the PRC book list and up to 5 personal choice books.

Students may read or listen to books from any list K – 10.

Check out the website below to discover books that are on the reading challenge list.

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>



Visit your local library or have your teacher send you some of the great titles on the PRC book list.

Happy reading!!





## Sora and Overdrive

Sir Eric Woodward School has access to a **digital library** this year.

A huge range of e-books and audiobooks are now available to be borrowed by students on their own devices anytime, anywhere!

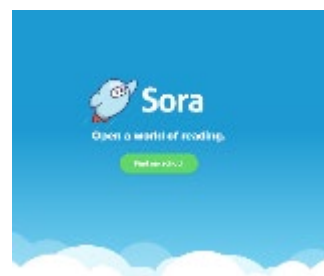


All Sir Eric Woodward School students have access to the digital library.

Follow the steps below to access the digital library.

### Step 1: Download the app or go to Sora in your browser

- Download the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
- On a computer, go to the Sora website at [soraapp.com](https://soraapp.com)



### Step 2: In Sora, find our school Sir Eric Woodward Memorial School



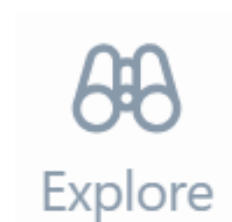
### Step 3: Sign in with your school email address and password

Email address: [xxxx.xxxx@education.nsw.gov.au](mailto:xxxx.xxxx@education.nsw.gov.au)

**Note:** If you need help to sign in or are unsure of your child's email or password, please contact your child's teacher.

### Step 4: Browse the Explore tab and borrow a book

- Your book will open so you can start reading or listening right away.
- If all copies of the book you wish to borrow are checked out, you can place a hold on the book. This will put you on the waitlist. Once a copy of the book gets returned, it will become available for the first person on the waitlist. You will be sent a notification in Sora when the book is available for you to borrow.
- Books are automatically returned on their due date.



### Step 5: Go to your Shelf to see all your books

- Tap Open Book or Open Audiobook to read or listen to the book where you left off.
- Tap Options to renew or return a book early.



If students are having difficulty accessing this resource at home, please contact your child's teacher.



Sir Eric Woodward School has subscribed to ClickView this year.

ClickView is an education video platform.

ClickView's Library comes with thousands of educational titles to support the Australian Curriculum and improve learning outcomes in our school.

All Sir Eric Woodward School students can access ClickView by following these steps:

1. go to this link: [\*\*clickview.com.au\*\*](https://clickview.com.au)
2. sign in with your child's school email, eg [xxxx.xxxx@education.nsw.gov.au](mailto:xxxx.xxxx@education.nsw.gov.au)

A screenshot of the ClickView sign-in page. At the top is the ClickView logo. Below it, the text "Enter your email address to sign in to your ClickView account" is displayed. There is a text input field with the placeholder "Email address". Below the input field is a large orange button with the text "Next" in white.

3. select – sign in with your DoE account
4. sign in with your child's school email address and password
5. search for videos

Student access is restricted to videos that are rated G or E (exempt from classification), according to the Australian Classification Standards.

If students are having difficulty accessing this resource at home, please contact your child's teacher.

## Min's class news

My class has made it so hard to choose which of their achievements to highlight in this newsletter. They have all done so many wonderful things in Term 1!

Ned has increased his community access this year and is now going into Grafton on Wednesdays as well as his usual Tuesdays. He is catching the bus from Yamba to Grafton with his mum, and will continue this with a support worker next term so he can work towards greater independence. Ned also turned 17 in March and had a fun-filled adventure weekend away in Coffs Harbour with his family, which included waterslides, laser tag and putt putt golf. In addition, Ned has been enthusiastically engaging with his music program which has included work on the singer Pink. Keep up your enthusiasm for learning Ned!

Isabel designed and painted a stunning summer paper parasol. She completed it over four sessions and made all the design decisions herself using a combination of her PODD book and yes/no cards, and painted it with hand over hand support. The first section is tall pink buildings, the second section is a yellow house with yellow grass beside it, the third section is a tree with red and orange leaves and the fourth section is a yellow house, and a purple house with five white windows. I am amazed at your creativity Isabel, and I love the final result.

Kye has completed a set of work this term on magpies, which is his favourite animal. He studied the book 'Penguin Bloom' and he completed an investigation on the magpies he feeds in his backyard. He worked out how many were male or female based on their feather colouring. I was also very impressed with the acrostic poem that he wrote about magpies. Furthermore, Kye has already smashed one of this PLP goals by learning his full address. Keep up the great work Kye!

Summer has been enjoying learning Spanish this term and has been focusing on all things Mexican – Mexican mariachi music, Mexican arts and crafts and even Mexican food. She made some delicious Mexican tacos and enjoyed them so much that she declared 'oh yes' when asked if she would make them again. Summer also mastered all the letters of the Spanish alphabet and has been using her newfound knowledge to spell out words and people's names. Your enthusiasm and knack for learning languages is amazing Summer!

Have a safe Easter break and I am looking forward to seeing what you all achieve in Term 2!

## Min



*Summer putting together a delicious Mexican taco that she helped to cook*



*Kye's wonderful acrostic poem about magpies*



## Min's class news continues



*Ned catching the bus from Yamba to Grafton*



*Isabel's amazing summer parasol artwork that she designed and painted*

## Class 3 news

Class 3 are powering ahead with their learning! Every day we are blown away by our awesome students' efforts and achievements.

We were all delighted with our Henny Penny hatching program. There was an incubator full of eggs and a big brooding pen for the lovely little chicks that hatched during the week. It was inspiring to see how hard the tiny chicks worked to break out of their eggs. Everyone learnt about the needs of chicks and we were amazed at how quickly they grew. A huge level of self-control and care was shown when they gently held a chick to closely observe its features. We were very proud of the concerns expressed by all students when they observed the smallest chick, who happened to be the only dark one, being bullied by the others. This provided an opportunity for discussion on difference, inclusion and belonging. Strategies were suggested for both chicks and children who experience feelings of isolation or bullying, and those who observe it. We have a very kind, considerate group of young students in Class 3.

When the weather allowed us to go out, we practised fundamental movement skills, with a focus on balance, hopping, skipping, catching and kicking. We also loved dancing and making patterns with our bodies! It's hard to believe Term One is almost over. Have a healthy, happy and relaxing holiday break everyone, and we'll be looking forward to an awesome Term Two!

**Ms Lee & Mrs B**

## Class 3 news continues



*A new chick pushes its way out of an egg*



*Quiet please! Baby chicks are resting*



*Gentle hands with a little chick*



*Gareth was excited but calm and gentle*



*Class 3 practised their skipping*



## Class 6 news

The happy team in Class 6 have been enjoying hydrotherapy, library, music and visits from Ziggy to name just a few activities this term. We begin morning circle each day with 'Here Comes the Sun' by the Beatles and there is always a warm response to this song from Raymond. The whole class sits together patiently as we start our day and they love to press the 'I'm here!' switch when we take the roll.

We have been learning about what living things need, particularly the needs of seeds for germination. We felt the hard seed case before adding water, then contrasted with seeds soaked overnight. They are growing well and Tele, Daniella, Raymond and Yash have watered and checked them every day.

Yash, Raymond and Daniella have been doing well in hydrotherapy and everyone is always keen to get in the water. Yash has been moving well, Raymond has been kicking strongly and Daniella has been blowing lots of bubbles for us to pop. Everyone is always extra hungry for morning tea after swimming on a Monday, teacher included!

We have listened to lots of songs and stories in English, Mandarin and Hindi and learned how to say 'Hello' in many different languages. We combined with Class 3 to celebrate our diversity and belonging for Harmony Day on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

Wishing you all a restful break over the holidays and we look forward to seeing the smiling faces of Class 6 in Term 2.

### Miriam, Sandy & Kelly



*Daniella shows Ziggy how our seeds are growing*



*Yash checking on our chick pea's progress*



*'Hello to all the children in the world'*

## Deborah's class news

Happy birthday to Jeremiah who turned 14 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. He celebrated by going out with his family for pizza, which is one of his favourite foods!

Georgia is attending a new day program, where she is meeting new people and developing her communication and social skills. It's also great to see Georgia participating in our school's Zoom Social Club, recently wearing a green hat for a green-theme.

Tilly is also enjoying Social Club over Zoom, especially when she has the opportunity to sing or hear others sing. Tilly enjoys going out with her family for meals, and is developing her verbal communication skills to order food and drinks independently.

Ramona's communication is developing, and she is beginning to make some independent verbal requests. Ramona is also identifying living things in science.

Wishing my students and their families a restful and fun mid-semester holiday!

### Deborah



*Jeremiah*



*Tilly and her mother Nicole*



*Georgia*



*Babycino ordered by Tilly*

## Jo's class news

The extreme weather conditions have impacted many of our students and their families recently, including my student Eve. Unfortunately, she has not been able to access the beautiful areas in her environment as she normally would, such as the many beaches. Instead Eve has spent time in her local library listening to stories and engaging in the many different sensory experiences you find in a library like the smell of books and the sound of young children enjoying story time.

Suzy has enjoyed exploring a variety of different cultural experiences of New Zealand including listening to Maori songs and greetings. One of the greetings songs she is listening to is one of her favourites and it always brings a smile to her face when she hears it.

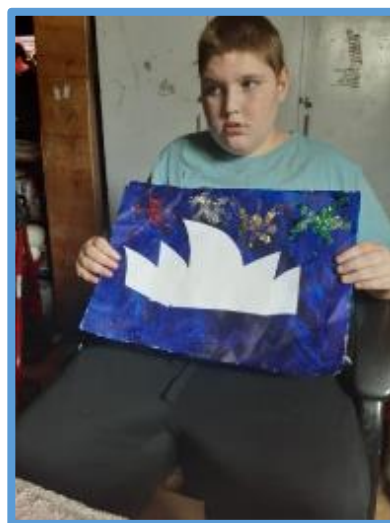
This term Jayden has explored famous places across New South Wales by creating artwork replicating these places. He has created a Sydney Opera House piece which portrays the building during a popular time of the year – maybe you can guess which time of year when you see his photo below!

Harry recently had his 15<sup>th</sup> birthday and he planned, shopped and prepared the food to celebrate this milestone occasion. His skills in following a budget and knowing where to locate items in his local supermarket have improved with each event he has planned. Harry is becoming quite an impressive party planner and is renowned for his cheese platters!

Jo



*Suzy always practises sun safety*



*Jayden proudly displays his artwork*



*Community visits to the library for Eve*



*Happy 15<sup>th</sup> birthday Harry!*



## Charlotte's class news

Big congratulations to Nikolina who has just turned 18! She had a huge party at home with her family and a very big cake. Nikolina had an amazing time with her cousins, smiling for the camera and sporting a stylish new hairdo!

Turning 18 signifies a few adjustments as a young person transitions from paediatric to adult care and guardianship orders can help young people by appointing a legal guardian to make decisions on their behalf.

In other news, Ethan did an amazing job with his reading aloud, he read almost half a book to me over the phone. It was great to hear his errorless reading. He has also started to earn money by collecting cans to take to the recycling centre. There's nothing better than the feeling of money earned in your pocket.

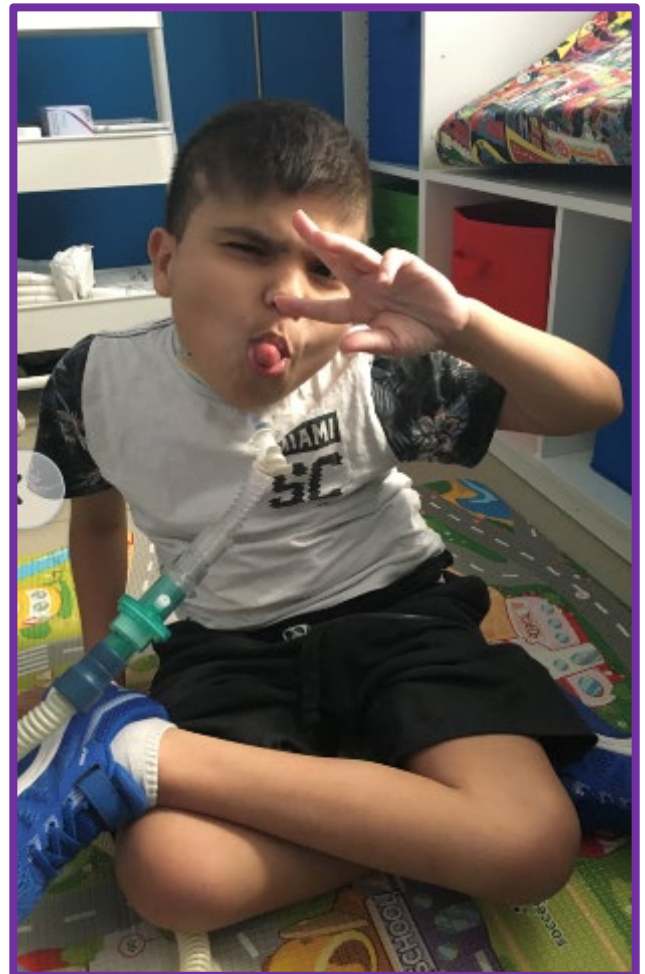
Dominic has been singing in his lessons with Kiri. He has a new tablet so he can now enjoy the thrill of receiving his work electronically. I'm excited to be able to see his work on Seesaw.

Moustafa has a new set of wheels! He has a brand-new electric wheelchair (his Ferrari) which he is learning to drive at his local mall. He demonstrates some serious skills and loves the independence it gives him. I can't wait to see the videos on Seesaw.

### Charlotte



*Nikolina celebrating her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday*



*Moustafa looking super cool*

## Karen's class news

This term has flown by so quickly and my students have all been very busy completing set work and working towards achieving their goals.

Jules has been engaging in regular Zoom sessions with me a couple of times a week to work through the content for her TAFE course. I am so impressed with how focused she is during these sessions. Jules has been attending weekly sessions on how to train a dog and has enjoyed having a friend's dog to look after.

Nate continues to engage in all aspects of his program. He has been focusing on independent life skills in preparation for his post-school transition.

Katana has been exploring the colour green in visual arts and has produced some colourful creations. She has been enjoying going out for walks while the weather has been good.

I am looking forward to getting to know my new student Jake through the different assessments and activities that have been sent out and hopefully will get the opportunity to meet him in person next term.

### Karen



*Katana's green themed artwork*

## Melissa's class news

I can't believe that we are already at the end of Term 1. My class has had such a big term of learning and personal achievements.

Toby continues to work hard to achieve his Certificate II in Horticulture. He has been working through modules related to observing and reporting on weather. In preparation for his work placement in a nursery he completed the Go2 Work lessons and assessment. He whizzed through the program and completed all lessons in less than a week.

Alicia has been attending the DESU Social Club and over the weeks has extended the amount of time that she stays in the Zoom session. It is lovely seeing Alicia each week. She has also been working through her Set work learning about the Northern Territory and how to write her name.

Ethan continues to build his ever-growing knowledge on the evolution of animals and he is also learning about the periodic table. Science and history are definitely areas of interest and strength for Ethan, he continues to impress with his vast knowledge. Recently Ethan purchased a new computer and he has started getting back to using Spellodrome, Mathletics and completing electronic worksheets.

Angus has made a fantastic start to the year at his new school. Each week he has been attending music lessons with Kiri and even attended Social Club to meet some fellow DESU students. He has been so engaged with his Set work, completing it promptly and at a high standard. It will be exciting to see what he can achieve in the future.

## Melissa



*Toby studying weather*



*Alicia writing her name*



## Sharon's class news

Term 1 has been a very busy term and it is always nice to reflect on student achievement.

Tyson has continued to develop his literacy skills. This is one of his recent recounts.

*On Monday, I helped to make mashed potatoes, I peeled and cut the potatoes.*

*On Tuesday, I do swimming lessons with Lora.*

*On Wednesday, I helped to make meatballs for dinner.*

*On Wednesday, I went to exercise class with Finn and Elijah. The shuttle run is a new exercise.*

*On Thursday I went for a scooter ride at the bike park and made banana bread.*

*On Friday I went bowling with Brady, daddy and mummy.*

*I made the mince meat for meat pies.*

*Bye for now Sharon*

Leah has had the opportunity to further develop her interpersonal skills as she visits with family; and her fine motor skills as she explores various textures and objects in the home.

Chris has been enthusiastically helping around the home as he completes activities with far less support. It is wonderful to converse with him as he uses Proloquo2go.

I am excited to welcome a new student to our class in Term 2 and we are looking forward to learning more about Roki.

Wishing all students a safe and restful holiday.

**Sharon**



*A photo collage displaying Tyson's week that was*

## Nicole's class news

As the end of Term 1 gets closer, I want to thank all my students for all their hard work and effort over the last few weeks. Completing school by distance education has been a new experience for two of my students this year. Mayiar and Blake have settled in very well to their individual school programs and it has been wonderful to have them and their tutors join our SEWS family.

Mayiar has been enjoying spending time with her siblings including listening to music with them. She has also been engaging in number rhymes and enjoyed listening to Five Little Ducks.

As a new student, Blake has been completing some assessments and activities over the last few weeks for me. These activities have helped me gain a better understanding of some of Blake's strengths and talents. I have been especially impressed by his spelling skills.

Jacob has been an active member at Social Club each week this term. He has performed some songs in several sessions, much to the delight of those listening. Social Club is a great opportunity to connect with peers and practise conversation and social skills.

One of Andrew's elective subjects this year is Food Technology Life Skills. Over the last few weeks, he has practised a range of cooking skills and has made a quiche, chocolate brownies and eggplant lasagne. Yum!

## Nicole



*Mayiar wearing a duck mask as she engages in the rhyme Five Little Ducks*



## Jon's class news

Term 1 has flown by and Class 11 students have continued to impress by their dedication and attitude towards their learning and their approach to their individual goals.

Nadine has been enjoying several interactive Seesaw activities including those that have helped her learn about her family tree. She has been interested to find where she lies in her family tree and how her family members are connected. Nadine has also had fantastic results identifying the correct money to use when purchasing items. She is now working towards recognising the exact dollar amount of items using both notes and coins. Nadine has also learned more about the people and places in her community and has used this knowledge to her advantage when participating in outings and community events.

Ben has continued to impress when completing his workbooks. He has had many community outings including visits to the local pool and skateparks. Ben has made significant improvements as he works towards his personal goal of writing complete sentences. He has managed to write three complete sentences a week with minimal support.

Izack created a beautiful watercolour painting for his aunty. I look forward to more fantastic artworks from Izack in the terms ahead.

Class 11 will welcome a new student in Term 2. I look forward to working with this student and his family and reporting on his achievements throughout the year.

Happy Easter to all students and their families. Thank you for a great Term 1 and I look forward to achieving new goals in Term 2.

## Jon



*Ben at the Newcastle museum*



*Ben skating through his local community*



*Little bit of rain won't stop Ben skating*

## Class 5 news

Class 5 have enjoyed our mathematics unit the last few weeks. We have been exploring different shapes and patterns against the lightbox. Emily, Alfie, Quinn and Ariel are continuing their learning on how we can look after our earth and environment for future generations to come. We listened to a video about the different types of plastics and which we can recycle and drop off at our local supermarkets. Class 5 also talked about the things we can do at home such as turning off any running taps and switching off lights when we aren't using them.

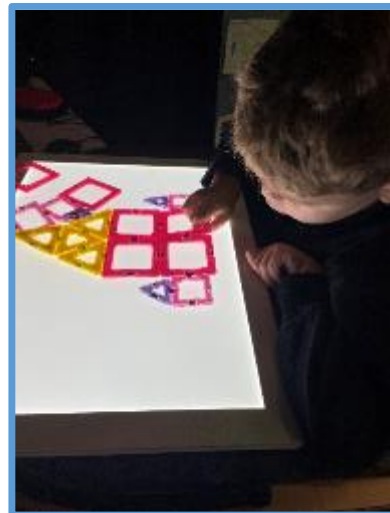
Class 5 particularly like Tuesday afternoon when we get to have library with Christine. We love sharing sensory stories together as a class. Emily, Alfie, Quinn and Ariel also like to look through all the amazing books we have in our library. In music, Quinn, Ariel, Emily and Alfie have made rain sticks and listened to the sounds that nature can make. We also enjoyed last week trying to clap and use the claves to make different beats with different tempos.

We have loved having Jodie work in our classroom again. She has helped Emily, Alfie, Quinn and Ariel with their PLP goals and stretched their muscles. Class 5 have worked on their core muscles and are working towards having as much independence with their bodies as they will need in the future. They should be all super proud of their achievements in Term 1.

### Tanya & Georgina



*Emily listening to how to recycle soft plastics*



*Quinn looking at patterns on the lightbox*



*Alfie practising his walking*



*Ariel enjoying reading a book with Christine*

## Carolyn's class news

It has been another busy term for my students!

I am enjoying finding out more about Corey. He has a variety of interests, and especially enjoys socialising and getting out in the community. While in Sydney, Corey took a ride on the light rail for his 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. As you can see from the photo below, Corey likes to smile and I hear that he has a very keen sense of humour.

Azra has been participating in the creation of a variety of artworks, and I am now pleased to have them brightening up my desk. She has also been choosing books to read and independently tapping 'start' on her iPad to request music. Azra is continuing to practise her counting skills and is making great progress with identifying specific colours in a group of objects.

Alex is taking an interest in books, independently making a choice of a book to look at and enjoying the pictures. She has been developing her communication skills and reacting very positively when her requests are understood.

I hope my students and their families all enjoy the holidays!

### Carolyn



*Corey enjoying time with his family*



*Azra's bright and cheerful artworks*



## Class 4 news

Class 4 has been super busy across all Key Learning Areas. In science the boys have been taking data on the progress of our tomato and lettuce plants in the science topic, Salt Rising. They concluded too much salt in soil is not good for plants, animals or people. In technology, we have been absorbed in understanding how the internet works, conducting practical experiments on sending an image in 'packets' and using BBC micro:bits to code and store information using the iPad micro:bit app. Science and technology wins hands down for students wanting more!

Last week, all students participated in the National Day of Action against Bullying which was officially the 19<sup>th</sup> March. The boys made chatterboxes with their own tips on what to do if they or someone else was being bullied. Each student also made a poster with tips from their chatterbox which are now on display in the Ngalawa playground. It was very rewarding to see how all the students made informed comments and showed their understanding of how to support others and also to seek help.

We were disappointed not to be able to go on our excursion to Gibberagong, West Head. The boys were terrific and not unhappy as we had extra time for micro:bits in technology! We hope to re-schedule the visit this term. Fingers are crossed as time is running out and the weather is not helping!

Harmony Day was held this week with Class 4 joining with Class 2 for some fun games and friendship building. A great way to celebrate how easy it is to get along.

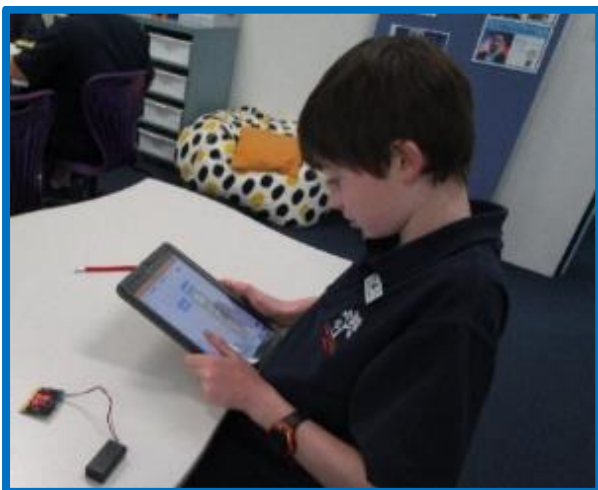
### Sue & Mini



*Class 4 'Bullying No Way' posters*



*A picture of concentration*



*Coding: BBC micro:bit*



*Chatterbox tips say no to bullying*

## Class 2 news

Class 2 have had a productive and fun first term.

Over the recent weeks we have celebrated Harmony Day. The focus being “Everyone belongs”. As a class we have talked about working together, and being kind. Our class project was to draw around our hands, and then paint them orange. This was a fun activity that everyone enjoyed. Class 2 have also been actively involved in the whole school art work project. Our job was to tear up orange tissue paper to form a river. Every student happily took part in this activity.

We have been enjoying our hydrotherapy program, with all students making excellent progress. Ashley’s confidence in water is increasing each session, whilst Lyndon, Ryan and Shaman are learning to safely exit, and enter the pool.

There have been many activities put out for us in the morning to choose from. These activities include a range of different puzzles, books, matching activities and things we need to build.

### Clare & Jennie



*Ryan making a splash during hydro*



*Ashley tearing up tissue paper for the whole-school Harmony Day project*



*Excellent focus by Shaman when studying 'How things grow?'*



*Ryan is tearing up orange paper*



## Rama's class news

The term is flying past and we are already in Week 9!

Freyja enjoys art and has been creating beautiful artwork around the 'summer' theme. She engages with her personal readers and is learning to make choices. Freyja loves spending time with her family and pets, in the garden and out in the community. Amazing effort, Freyja.

Seth likes going for walks to the beach and spending time with his grandparents. He is learning to recognise emotions and is trying to vocalise more. Seth enjoys completing puzzles and watching Harry Potter movies. Well done Seth.

Kayla is working hard at improving her physical strength and gross motor skills. She practises throwing a ball through a hoop and walks inside her house every day. Kayla is learning to recognise emotions. She is understanding about life cycles by observing the cocoons in her garden grow and change. Amazing effort, Kayla.

Jayden is learning about the world of work and will be commencing work experience. To prepare himself for his working life, he participates in shredding, and delivers it to farms. Jayden is very interested in learning how to use the abacus and on his own accord he researched different ways to use it. On a recent road trip with his family, he independently used the self-serve at McDonald's and paid for his own meal. On the same trip, he also went to a bookstore, purchased books and paid the exact amount of cash! Fantastic work, Jayden.

I am wishing all my students and their wonderful families a very safe and happy holiday.

## Rama



*Kayla throwing a ball through the hoop*



*Jayden researching ways to use an abacus*



*Jayden helping with shredding*

## Class 1 news

We can't believe Term 1 is almost at its end. Time has really flown in 2021 and we have been very, very busy!

We were privileged to observe some chicks hatch in Class 3 and even take care of these tiny little newborns for a couple of days. The boys were so gentle when holding them that a couple almost went to sleep in their hands. We had a great discussion about the one 'different' chick who turned out to be much smaller and a completely different colour. Definitely a worthwhile experience.

Our veggie garden offered up quite a few varieties such as carrots, strawberries, beetroot, capsicums and some well-anticipated eggplants. We were able to witness firsthand how much these plants can grow in the right environment.

In science we explored the classification of animals and we were especially intrigued by the axolotl: an amazing little amphibian from Mexico which required some further research.

The boys did an amazing job to promote different strategies on National Anti-bullying Day by developing a set of posters to further the cause. We loved sharing how we belong during our Harmony Day activities and spent some valuable time creating paper dolls with Class 5.

We wish everyone the best for the coming holidays and look forward to continuing our learning in Term 2!

### Ms Nina & Darcy



*Some Harmony Day activities to show how we belong*



*Dylan telling us about his family*



*Admiring the newly hatched chicks in Class 3*



*Class 1's flourishing vegetable garden*





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# PREPARE YOUR CHILD **NOW** FOR THEIR POST-SCHOOL OPTIONS

Children must start learning  
**Independent Community Skills**  
from Year 7 so that by Year 12 they can:

- Walk into shops by themselves to purchase items
- Cross roads safely
- Be stranger aware
- Take public transport confidently







All of these students had never been into a shop by themselves. With individual training they were taught how to choose items, cope with other people in noisy environments, queue up appropriately, and purchase goods using cash and card. Road crossing followed. Each student could then cross roads to access shops. Some students continued on to learn bus, train and metro travel. Stranger awareness skills were also introduced. Importantly, these were also tested in real life situations where

they were approached by a 'stranger' on the bus, metro or train platform.

**Students that learnt these essential skills from Year 7 in 1:1 training sessions easily transitioned from school to work, study and leisure activities. They developed self-confidence, resilience and the knowledge to travel safely and independently.**



#### **DR DESIRÉE GALLIMORE**

M.A(Psych), M.A(Deaf/Comm.), PhD, MBA  
Psychologist / Director

Desirée holds Master degrees in Psychology; Deafness and Communication; and Business Administration. She also has a Ph.D. in Education (Sensory Disability). Desirée is a psychologist, a leading mobility specialist, and a published academic. She is the author of the book *The Essential Guide To Travel Training For Children With Autism and Intellectual Disabilities* (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, London, 2017).

0411 479 981 • [dgallimore@traveltrainingsolutions.org](mailto:dgallimore@traveltrainingsolutions.org)  
[www.traveltrainingsolutions.org](http://www.traveltrainingsolutions.org)





# Live Life Well @ School

## BIKE RIDING ADVENTURES



### Running out of ideas for where to ride?

For cycle maps as well as videos on bike care and other fun kids activities visit:

[www.bicyclensw.org.au/5-ideas-to-entertain-your-kids-with-a-bike](http://www.bicyclensw.org.au/5-ideas-to-entertain-your-kids-with-a-bike)

- Remember a helmet
- Check your brakes
- Chime your bell!

