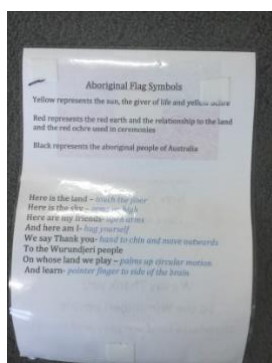


Term 3 Newsletter Weeks 1&2

Welcome to term 3. Again we start the term under very different circumstances and we will continue to support and respect each families decisions and needs during this time.

This term we will focus on greetings in other languages and welcome children each week using a language other than English. This will support the literacy and communication aspects of our curriculum. Week one began with using Woiwurrang language from Australia's Indigenous Wurundjeri people – Wominjeka for hello/welcome. Then this week we used Chinese Mandarin – Ni hao. The flag from the country of the language will be displayed so as children may begin to learn about the Identity of a nations through different flags.



Each day to begin our group language time we begin with an acknowledgement of country. This gives children an early understanding towards developing respect and recognition of Australia's Indigenous culture. While saying this children use sign language for each sentence, teaching communication other than through spoken words. It was lovely to hear children share that they had seen people using "hand language on the Corona news" – It's amazing what children notice and then relate to their everyday lives.



Our program on teaching emotions, respect and kindness will be extend this term through the use of kindness rocks. When educators see or hear children engaging in an act of kindness, big or small, they are recognised and asked to choose a kindness rock to place into the basket. Then at the end of the day we count the rocks to see how many acts of kindness we had for the day. The book Kookoo Kookaburra is a lovely Dream time story which talks about kindness to others, here is a youtube link to the story which you may like to listen to with your child at home <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FrKGsnPVRww>

We have been making beads from air dry clay which children will decorate and thread to create necklaces. This activity involved a series of steps and allowed children to see how time and air made the clay harden so as it could be used differently. It was also a great activity for fine motor skills of the hand. This is something you can do at home by either purchasing airdrying clay form Officeworks or making your own using this recipe,

- 1 cup salt
 - 2 cups flour
 - $\frac{3}{4}$ cup water
- Mix together to form a dough, bake beads in an oven 180c



Outdoors has been chilly with some lovely sunshine. Active games have developed gross motor skills while keeping warm. The bean bag launcher was enjoyed by some children this week – turn taking, sharing successes and what to do so as the bean bag will launch properly, catching, how power affects the launch So much learning through a very simple activity.



Mystery Tin Group Time Activity

Children will be involved in a take home sharing activity called **“Our Mystery Can”** Children take turns to take home a tin and find something to place inside and with parent support think of clues which they can say to help others guess what is inside. This experience is aimed at stimulating children’s curiosity, enhancing thinking and language skills and encouraging the use of public speaking and listening skills. These concepts support the areas of community, communication and literacy from the Early Years Framework. All children will have a turn at some point during this term.

Literacy Development

To enhance literacy and encourage children to recognise their name amongst other names we have created ‘sign in rocks’. As children arrive they will find their name on a rock and place it onto the *I am here* tray. This will progress later in the year to having children write their own names when arriving.



School 2020

This year will be very different for families with resources available for choosing schools and being able to go on tours. Schools will be accepting enrolments and I encourage you to enrol your child for school in 2020 if you haven’t already done so. I am very happy to discuss/answer any questions parents may have in regards to school/transition etc.

Home Activities

Families are enjoying new experience sat home during isolation and at times share them with us in kinder. Kira and her family enjoyed some science making Rainbow Cups. They would like to share this with you as something other families may enjoy doing at home. See second attachment in this email.

Karen Newton