

Term One Newsletter

Kinder Four.

It is hard to believe that Term one has been and gone. One of the first things that sparked curiosity in the kinder room was the story of Eric the Caterpillar. Deanna introduced this Facebook page to Paula, who in turn engaged the children with his story. It was the story of Eric the Caterpillar's journey to becoming a tailed emperor butterfly.



We followed up on this story by creating our own interpretations of butterflies by doing folded paper and splashes of paint paintings. Alfie suggested that we could make our own caterpillar and butterfly puppets. In the rapidly moving arena of kinder curiosity, Louis and Mel guided us into the direction of spiders. Louis and his Mum discovered a beautiful spider crawling in the hallway leading to the kinder room. Mel quickly caught the spider and set up an observation tank for the children. Coincidentally they had also found a huntsman spider exoskeleton in their horse paddock for the children to examine. Louis told everyone that came into the room that he had found the “dangerous creature” this morning. Arthur was convinced that it was a bird eating spider. To show just how big a bird eating spider could be Paula went to the resource shed and found a large spider figurine.



Our next spark of curiosity came when Raelene suggested that she and the children begin to dig over the planter box for our bush tucker garden. The children enthusiastically began to dig and dig and then combine new soil into the planter. Once they had completed that job, it was time for the plants to go in. Raelene and the children planted Murrnong (daisy yams), Australian lemon grass, Minchenberries, Saltbush and Warburton greens.



Chinese New Year was celebrated in the kinder room. One of our families kindly lent us a Lion head, which the children were able to try on. As this was a fragile artefact, the children decided to make their own dragonhead from a box.



The children wore the crafted dragonhead and pretended to be a dragon moving around their peers. This indicated that the children had started to establish an understanding of a specific cultural symbol. The children explored lantern decorations and the traditional Chinese dessert called “Tang Yuan”. They were able to explore the food and culture in the Chinese restaurant setting, by wearing Chinese costumes and role-playing a chef and their customers. The children tried to pick up toy food with chopsticks and pretended to cook and eat noodles, glutinous rice balls and dumplings in the kitchen corner. There was also the odd cup of tea served.



These are some of the ways the kinder children engaged in the experiences during Chinese New Year:

Freya thought she could cook delicious food in the Chinese restaurant.

Joseph played a cashier at the restaurant and calculated how much the food was.

Jane fed her baby with a chopstick and a spoon.

Hugo and **Maxwell** thought the dragon head was a funny monster.

Lulu and **Piper** coloured their dragons using every colour of the rainbow when they were making their lanterns.

Alfie put the dragon head on and did a dragon dance.

The children explored a bird's nest that Paula found in one of her trees at home and had brought to show the children. They were amazed with how the bird was able to build the nest and were able to take a closer look and talk about what things the bird had used to make it. Discussions were also had on what bird may have owned the nest, thinking about what birds would have been too big for the nest and wouldn't fit in it, and what birds would have been small enough for it to be their home.



After listening to *The Very Busy Spider*, and watching videos of spiders making webs, the children and Paula decided to see if they could build their own web. Using a ball of wool and teamwork this goal was achieved. Ari volunteered to be the fly caught in the web and all the spiders had a delicious feast.



Another ongoing project has been observing the life-cycle of plants. We sprouted sprouts and had mini green houses on the kinder window in which we germinated broad bean seeds.





This is Maxwell's broad bean just before he planted it into his vegie patch at home. We also have some of our broad bean plant growing in one of the planter boxes in the 3-5 and kinder yard so the children can continue to observe the growth of the plants and observe the life-cycle from seed to plant.

We cannot wait to see what discoveries the children will make in term two.

Paula, Jasmin, Mel, Lauren and Deepali.

Kinder Three

Our fun Kinder Term One has come to the end and we did not even notice! We have been so busy learning and creating things in Kinder Three. Through the a wide range of learning experiences the children have been building connections with their peers and educators while exploring knowledge and acquiring skills in kinder environment. Some of the new children were getting to know the kinder physical environment and make new friends with the support of our educators.

Our Kinder Three children are culture explorers! We have explored the meanings and cultures behind several special days throughout our Term One learning, such as Chinese Luna New Year, Easter and Anzac Day. We started our Kinder Three in January with exploring Chinese Luna New Year and learning to say simple greeting phrases in Chinese Mandarin such as “你好” pronounced “Nǐ hǎo” meaning “Hello” and “谢谢” pronounced “Xièxiè” meaning “Thank you”.

Teddy and **Angus** role-played customers and chef in our Chinese restaurant setting.

“I’m a cool waiter, I make tea and serve food!” said **Teddy**.

“I eat dumplings, hm... yum!” said **Angus**.





We made red lanterns as we just learned that in the old time ancient China did not have electricity so people made lanterns to have light to see things at night. Chinese people also celebrate the Lantern festival on fifteen of January in Luna calendar.



We enjoyed role-play so much as we can make friends who share the same interests and learn with and from each other.

“Hey Amelia, we are all princess!” said **Zoe K.**

“We dance in a princess party!” said **Lottie.**

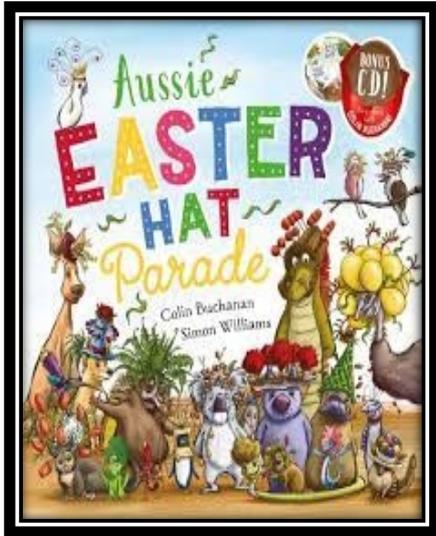
“Mia, hold my hand and we can dance!” said **Amelia.**

“Look at me, my princess dress is so long” said **Mia.**

We played a very creative Easter Bunny!

Easter “Easter was more than chocolate bunny eggs”
said **Magnus.**





We made **Easter Bonnets**, had a fun **Easter Parade** in all the rooms in our service and had an **Easter Egg Hunt** in our community garden. We played a game of who can find the most eggs and counted how many eggs we found in our community garden.

Our children noticed something furry sitting in one of our trees!



It was so lucky of us to see our furry friend resting in one of the trees at our back yard!

“... Upon further investigation, noting the white tipped tail, we discovered that we had two (or three, depending on who you ask) ring-tail possums enjoying a warm afternoon nap. The children, and the educators, were very excited by this because it isn't something we're used to, and who can resist the thrall of cute little critters! We cut up an apple and offered it to our new found friends, cooing with excitement when one of them crept nearer to educators Mel's outstretched hand and took the piece of fruit to nibble on.”--- by Mel (educator)

We can learn so much when we got our hands busy!

We were feeling the sensations that come from the sand, water and things in them hands. We were measuring “coffee” and “potions” with lab tools and sorting colours with tongs. We also made ice-cream cones with scoopers and pompoms. .



Zoe said, “I wanna see how much green potion is enough for turning a kitten into a princess!”

Emmanuelle said, “I’m making a beach and I hear the ocean through the seashells!”

Hudson said, “Hey Jordan, how many scoops of ice-cream on your cone?”



Frankie asked Angus, "Can I help you catch the tricky bunny egg?"

Jordan said to Hudson, "Hey Hudy, I'm making a special drink for you."

We made pizza!

"Look! I made a pizza for my mum, dad and Luna!" said **Kohana**.

"I made a pizza for dinner tonight!" said **Angus**.



"Look! I made a flower! There are many different shapes on my flower!" said **Lottie**.



We make magic with the Magic sand.



Grace said, "I want to have some dinosaur foot tracks on my land"

Harvey said, "I'm filling up the cup with sand so I can make a volcano, and the floor is hot lava!"



ANZAC DAY
LEST WE FORGET
25 APRIL



We read Anzac books such as “Lest we forget” and “What will I see on Anzac Day” to learn about and through Anzac Day. Our educator Cat shared her father’s story related to this special day, and we made Anzac biscuits with our educator Lauren to experience one of the traditions of Anzac Day.