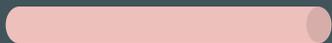




MELROSE
PARK OSHC
BLOG

TERM 1 WEEK 7



DEAR PARENTS

A friendly reminder that once your child is signed out of our services they are no longer in our care or supervision and therefore it is your responsibility to ensure their whereabouts.



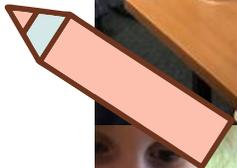
OUR WEEK AT OSHC

At OSHC we love using natural materials in play and learning activities. We therefore began our Monday morning with creating collages using sticks, leaves, flowers and bark. The children chose their materials and used their imagination and creativity to create various designs. Many of the children drew inspiration from the natural materials and thus created rainforests, waterfalls and various animals. This activity nurtured the children's natural desire to explore with the sense of touch. It also allowed creative freedom as the children were able to make their own decisions about which materials to use and can then manipulate shapes with various textures, forms and colour until they are satisfied with their arrangement. Since introducing the children the collaging and natural materials, we have noticed how much more observant they have become. They are beginning to look closer and notice texture. They see the beauty in ordinary things and can appreciate the possibilities of everyday objects. This activity was a great way to combine the process of art with nature exploration. The arts looked so beautiful when finished as well!

The afternoon was spent engaging in minute to win it challenges. In teams the children were challenged with quick games to complete in under 1 minute. They were racing to see which team/player would finish the task first. Often the task seemed simple but once they started they found it to be a real challenge. The games were all a little silly but added a lot of laughter and fun to our afternoon.

Tuesday morning the children created beading templates. Beading is a great activity for developing children's essential fine motor skills but is also a useful way to introduce them into colour, patterns, shapes and counting. Templates such as circles, squares, dolphins and love hearts.

In the afternoon the children painted with combs. We have found that painting sessions with children are much less about creating the end result than they should be about exploring materials in an experimental, hands on way. This fun activity teaches the kids about using new materials in a different way, investigating how to create patterns and textures and



observing colour mixing. When drops of paint were added to the paper, the colours merged together in a beautiful marbles effect after the comb was dragged through.

Wednesday morning the children embraced their inner scientist and participated in a crystal growing experiment. The children collectively stirred, mixed and diluted various ingredients and then added the crystal rocks. Once the rocks were placed into the mixture the children took a closer look with their magnifying glasses to see if they could notice any changes in the rocks. The crystals should continue to grow each day until they reach their full size. The afternoon was spent painting with salt. The children firstly made a design on their plain paper with glue. Salt was then sprinkled until the glue was thoroughly covered. A great tip that we discovered was to let the excess salt fall away as this proved to produce the best results. Paint brushes were then dipped into liquid watercolour where the salt covered glue lines where gently touched. The children were then amazed by how the paint magically traveled in both directions.

Thursday morning the children wandered the school playground to collect leaves and flowers to use for our nature sun catchers. The suncatchers were firstly prepared by cutting out the centre of paper plates. Contact paper was then applied to the paper plate with the sticky side face up. Flower petals and leaves were then stuck to the sticky side of the paper, arranging them as desired. This activity resulted in beautiful designs which will be hung on a sunny window for all to admire. The afternoon was spent creating streamer rainbows. We cut paper plates in half and attached strips of coloured tissue paper to the back side. Many of the children took advantage of the opportunity to teach each other about the correct rainbow colour order. Cotton balls were then glued to the other side to create the cloud shape. Our weekly tennis lesson also took place this afternoon with James. This week, James focused on developing the childrens judgement, precision and hand eye coordination skills needed to lobby balls and position their racquet in order to send it back to their opponent.



Friday morning the children created windchimes using paper cups. The cups were firstly decorated by the children then small holes were cut into them. Thread was then passed through the holes with small beads added. We then took the masterpieces outside for a bit of sunshine.

The afternoon was spent engaging in the sensory activity of clay making. Using a small amount of clay, the children rolled, squashed and molded the substance to form various figures. Unicorns, ice creams and palm trees were among the most popular. This activity enabled the children to be creative and learn about texture, shape and form all whilst having lots of fun.



Melrose Park OSHC
110 Wharf Road
West Ryde NSW 2114
Phone - 0411 526 238

Email - Melroseparkoshc@gmail.com
Website - www.melroseparkoshc.com.au