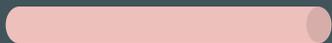




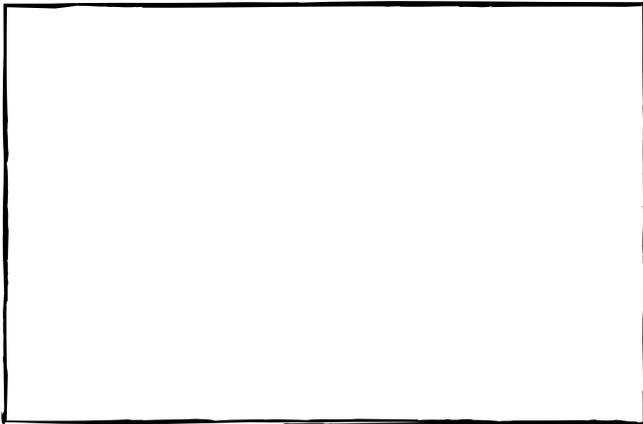
MELROSE
PARK OSHC
BLOG

TERM 2 WEEK 4



DEAR PARENTS

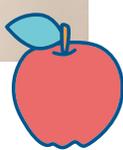
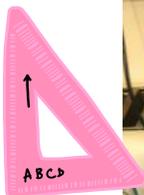
OUR WEEK AT OSHC



Monday morning the children engaged in beading. They placed individual beads onto a template that was then ironed. Placing the beads required the children to use their fine motor skills and therefore this was a great activity for the children to exercise and refine these skills. Given how much we use our hands in everyday life, improving these skills is a core focus of ours to assist the children in building independence and confidence. Many of the children sorted the beads into colour and made dolphins, love hearts and various shapes. This activity was highly stimulating to the children's imagination, which allowed them to explore and express their creativity in whichever way they liked. This encouraged them to examine their likes and dislikes and experiment with a wide range of colours and patterns.

In the afternoon the children further developed upon the above skills in creating jewellery pieces using beads such as bracelets, rings and necklaces. This was a task that required some degree of planning, such as making patterns with the beads and choosing colours of string, which all are fantastic for helping children to develop their cognitive skills. As they decided which material that wanted to use for their band, how they wanted their bracelet to look and which colours and patterns they liked, they employed planning and problem solving skills that will be essential for them later in life.

Tuesday morning the children created paper plate unicorns. The children firstly cut out a horn and ears for their unicorn. These were then attached to the top of the paper plate. Goggle eyes and a nose was glued on along with rainbow coloured wool as hair. The children then used these in imaginative play where they described their unicorns as 'extra magical and unique'. In the afternoon the children participated in various drawing challenges. The first challenge was Animal Shadow Drawing where the children attempted to trace the shadow of a toy animal outside. They had to firstly find the perfect position for their paper where the sun would reflect a shadow for them to draw. The children then had the idea to get a group of children stand in the sun to cast a shadow and trace their figures with chalk. The second challenge was called 'Animal Surprise Drawing' where the children folded paper in a particular way that firstly showed a nice fish figure until the paper opened and big scary teeth were shown.



The children have been enjoying looking after our vegetable garden, particularly picking fresh produce to make small dishes out of. The children have collaboratively made salad, lemonade and rice cake from our very own fresh ingredients.

Wednesday morning the children created Slinky dog from Toy Story paper chains. The children firstly cut strips of brown paper and then looped/taped them together for the construction of Slinky's body. Face shapes were then cut out from the black, white and brown construction paper. Goggly eyes were then glued on. The folding paper aspect of this activity was a great way for the children to work on their fine motor skills. Apart from being a fun activity, the educational benefits of paper folding are many.

In the afternoon the children participated in our weekly cultural cooking activity. This week the children created English Apple Crumble. This recipe and dish was so simple to make that the children thought it could hardly be called cooking. It resulted in a delicious healthy dessert that was enjoyed by all. The children assisted in peeling and cutting the apples into small slices and then in making the crumb by mixing brown sugar with butter and flour. This was then poured on top of the apple mix and put into the oven until brown and crisp.

Thursday morning the children created owls out of paper cups. These owls with feather wings were so colourful and fun - also great for building fine motor skills. The children firstly decorated their cups in patterns and various colours to make them stand out. Additional features were then added such as eyes, beaks and colourful wings.

In the afternoon the children created emojis out of paper plates. They firstly created traditional yellow ones by painting the plates and then added the faces afterwards. The children then wanted to challenge themselves in creating an entirely new emoji by mixing various colours together and new surprising faces. Once dry the children used them for imaginative role play where they attached a paddle pop stick to them and would chose a different face for any emotion they felt.

Friday morning the children began a new project called straw weaving. Who would have thought that you could use straws to weave? The children thought that this was a really cool concept to learn and once they got the hang of it, it was really simple and easy to weave a fun bracelet, necklace or hairband. All we needed to create this was yarn, straws and tape.



The children firstly watched a Youtube to grasp the concept of the weaving. Once some of the children had mastered the basic technique using three straws, they tried the exact same method making wider bracelets using 4, 5 or even 6 straws. The children not only found this activity fun but also relaxing gaining a sense accomplish by watching their creation grow and turn into something.

We ended the week with some secret message painting. The children really felt like secret agents during this activity by learning the cool art trick. The children firstly wrote an invisible message or picture with a white crayon and then watched in amazement as they painted over what looked like a blank piece of paper and saw their picture emerging. This creative project tapped into the children's creativity whilst also providing a challenging exercise in handwriting and spatial awareness. The children additionally engaged in a sensory activity of using water beads.



Melrose Park OSHC
110 Wharf Road
West Ryde NSW 2114
Phone - 0411 526 238
Email - Melroseparkoshc@gmail.com
Website - www.melroseparkoshc.com.au