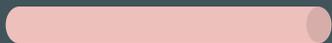




MELROSE
PARK OSHC
BLOG

TERM 2 WEEK 8



DEAR PARENTS

Over the next week we will be leaving our Lost Property Basket at the Drop and Go point on Mary Street. If you are missing any items such as hats, jackets, water bottles etc please check the bucket. All items will then be discarded/donated at the end of the week.

We wish the Edelman family a safe move to Perth over the weekend. We hope both Amy and Isla have a great time at their new school and home. We will definitely miss the fun and laughter you both brought to OSHC.



OUR WEEK AT OSHC

Monday morning the children expressed their interest in using play dough. We therefore took the opportunity to create 'calming' play dough for the children to play with which is scented. The children rolled, squeezed and squished the play dough using many utensils such as rolling pins to create items such as balls and various food items. We took this a step further so the activity became not only an engaging one but also a calming one. By incorporating the soothing aromas of lavender, mint and orange into the play dough we provided several of the children's senses the relaxing calming stimulation needed.

The afternoon was spent painting with various vegetables. The children were challenged to make vegetable stamps using items such as cucumbers and carrots. Many of the children used their imagination to create holes in centre of the carrots which would stamp like a lady bug once they added the additional features. The children explored symmetry and patterns by making the stamps where they were encouraged to dip a few vegetables into various colours at once. As a follow up of the activity the children were asked to identify which vegetables made which prints, based on their earlier observations.

Tuesday morning the children embraced the winter warmth with creating a handprint campfire - which resulted in a beautiful keepsake gift. To prepare the campfire the children firstly painted their hands and printed them onto the paper which would look like 'flames' on a log. Next brown paint was used to create some logs underneath the flames. To finish off the campfire another long stick was painted with a cotton ball attached to the end to give the look of someone roasting a marshmallow.

In the afternoon the children created stick yarn people. This required the children to search the playground for Y shaped sticks which were then wrapped with different coloured yarn. The children then enjoyed adding additional features such as crazy hair and eyeballs.

The children have expressed their interest in ocean creatures and especially seahorses so we therefore prepared a seahorse art activity for the children to participate in. They say Seahorses are the 'unicorns of the sea'. The children had to firstly cut out their seahorse template and then decorate it with tissue paper and cupcake linings.



To create the fins the children flattened the cupcake liners into semicircles and then glued 3-4 along the edge of the seahorse. It was then time to play with the beautiful seahorses!

Wednesday afternoon the children participated in our weekly cultural cooking activity. This week we cooked something from our own backyard, being Australian lamingtons. These are a classic Australian sweet treat that is loved by everyone. The children firstly beaten the eggs until they were thick and creamy. Sugar was gradually added until dissolved. Flour was then added and combined with water and butter. The mixture was then baked for 30 minutes. After the sponge was cooled, the children sifted the icing sugar and cocoa into a bowl. Milk and butter was stirred in over a pan of hot water until the icing was smooth. The cake was then dipped into the icing and sprinkled with shredded coconut.

Thursday morning the children participated in a beginners origami class to make monster and owl bookmarks. Reading books will definitely now be a lot more fun! To make the DIY bookmarks, the children were required to follow simple folding instructions that would lead to the monster or owls head being formed. All that was left to do was cut out some eyes, beaks, tongues, teeth, tentacles or horns and glue them onto the bookmarks.

In the afternoon the children had some messy fun with sponge painting. This was a great way for the children to explore a new painting technique. The children were guided to cut the sponges into various shapes and then carefully put the sponge into a colour and place it on a sheet of paper. This process was then repeated with another sponge and various colours. During this activity the children were asked leading questions to further engage them in the activity such as; "what do you think will happen when you mix colours with the sponges?". It was also our final afternoon with Amy and Isla before they leave for Perth. We therefore celebrated with the girls by decorating their very own cakes to share with their friends. Both girls had the opportunity to choose their own icing colour and decorations.

Friday morning we celebrated World Refugee Day early at OSHC. This day allows us to continue to raise awareness of how different people's experiences are around the world through craft and activities. Not only were the children excited to learn and engage but this day also assists in building upon qualities such as compassion, kindness and understanding. In the morning the children created a paper chain using



templates of people that were coloured in to represent each child's cultural heritage which will be displayed in the OSHC room to celebrate diversity. In the afternoon the children painted with foil. This activity was great for the children to work on their fine motor skills and colour mixing. For this technique we used cotton buds (Q tips) as paint brushes where the children used different shades of colours and explored with swirling the paint around the foil.



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