



MELROSE  
PARK OSHC  
BLOG

TERM 2 WEEK 10



## DEAR PARENTS

We are all so excited to have moved into our new room!

The best way to enter this new space is from Mary Street where we have our very own gate and ramp.

We can't wait for you all to come in and enjoy the space. Please see the last page of the blog for some pictures!



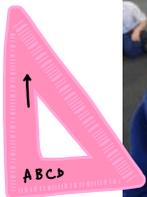
## OUR WEEK AT OSHC

Monday morning the children participated in Cotton Ball Painting. This was a fun activity which enabled the children to use and develop their motor skills and hand eye coordination as they dipped the cotton balls into the paint and created various patterns. This was an exciting way to broaden the children's painting experiences away from just traditional paintbrushes. To paint the children used stamping movements and strokes just like a typical paintbrush. This activity allowed for self expression and imagination where there were no limits to what the children could create. Many of the children enjoyed colour mixing.

The afternoon was spent creating surprise rainbow drawings. This required the children to firstly create a drawing with black permanent marker on paper towel that was folded in half. They had to often press hard or go over the lines a few times to ensure that it bleed through to the second layer of the paper towel. On the bottom layer the children then coloured in their designs. It was crucial to use a lot of colour so that it would bleed through to the top layer. The designs were then ready to drop in the water. Once added the children waited and watched their designs come to life. The black drawings on the front would magically turn rainbow colours and bleed through from the bottom. The children then experimented with this activity in various ways creating many drawings and using pippets and water to see if that would work.

Tuesday morning the children engaged in beading and created various designs on templates which were ironed and then turned into fun decorative items. This activity is not only great for developing the children's essential fine motor skills but is also a great way to introduce them to mathematical concepts such as colours, patterns, shapes and counting. Many of the children engaged in pre planning their design before starting which required them to select their colours, template and pattern. From engaging the children in activities like these we have observed that their hand eye coordination skills are overall improving. Placing small beads on to a template requires bilateral coordination of their hands, and requires their eyes and hands to work together.

The afternoon was spent creating birds and nests. We have found that one of the best ways to learn is by doing, so with the help of some paper plates and a little inspiration from the birds we built a birds nest craft thats complete with a little fluffy bird inside.



The children firstly cut the paper plate in half like a "C" shape. Tissue paper, feathers and sticks were then glued to the flat portion of the plate. A triangle was then cut out for the birds beak and googly eyes.

Wednesday morning the children participated in loom bands, one of their favourite activities at OSHC. Loom bands are used by the children to create decorative items such as bracelets and charms by weaving the colourful plastic bands around one another. This is not only a fun activity but is also great for improving fine motor skills by encouraging pencil grip and improving dexterity. Pre planning is often undertaken by the children as they imagine what the end result will look like before beginning. This therefore often utilises basic math skills to work out how many bands of each colour they will need to make various sizes of bracelets and rings.

In the afternoon the children made an under the sea themed craft using buttons. The children firstly searched for blue buttons which would be used to create the sea. Various animals were then added to their artworks such as starfish, seahorses and fish. The children loved using the buttons to create their animals and were further inspired to create other themed artworks such as rainforests and outer space.

Thursday morning the children created thumbprint pineapples. The children firstly dipped their fingers in the colour paint of their choice and made a pineapple shape. Many of the children experimented doing this technique with various other of their fingers. Using a paintbrush they then painted the top part of the pineapple green.

Thursday afternoon was spent celebrating Tilly and Riley who are moving overseas! The afternoon consisted of lots of dancing, music and cake. We wish the Lybrand family all the best in their move and look forward to seeing photos! We also had a special guest visit OSHC today. Lisa and Evie paid us a visit to see and play in the new OSHC room. All the children were very excited to see Evie and interact with her.

Friday morning the children participated in bubble wrap painting. We are overflowing with bubble wrap now due to our move and new furniture and therefore saw the opportunity to use this for a fun craft activity. This was a great activity as the children were able to create interesting patterns and shape with the bubble wrap. Once the bubble wrap was covered in paint the children gently pressed it against the paper, pressing with their fingers and lifting to create various textured patterns.



The afternoon was spent further exploring new painting surfaces. The children experimented painting on foil. This was a great alternative to painting on standard paper as the children learnt quickly that painting on foil responds quite differently to what they are use to.

Using a paintbrush is fun, but for an additional fine motor challenge we like to use cotton swabs.



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