

Kookaburra Room May 2024 Reflection

May in the Kookaburra room was a busy and exciting time, filled with great energy from the children who are always eager to explore sensory experiences, the arts and outdoors with their friends. Amidst the festivities, our primary focus remained on nurturing the children's emotional and physical well-being, which has shown incredible improvement as they exhibit increased kindness and empathy towards one another.

Literacy and numeracy continue to be fundamental aspects of our curriculum, and we are delighted to observe notable advancements in the children's cognitive skills, including name recognition, writing proficiency, number identification, and understanding of past, present, and future tense. They are becoming more self-reliant in their abilities, relying less on instructional songs and showing newfound confidence in independently applying their memorized knowledge to counting, the days of week and the letter of the Day.

The transitioning from Autumn to the colder days of the incoming Winter months has been an adventurous experience with outdoor fun and discussions on wearing warmer clothes like coats and beanies.

Throughout the month, we celebrated various occasions including - International Firefighters Day, International Compost Awareness Week, International Nurses Day, Mother's Day, World Day for Cultural Diversity and National Simultaneous Story Time providing ample opportunities for creative expression through arts and crafts.

Toward the end of May, one project that greatly engaged the children's creativity was "Under the Sea – Mermaid World," affectionately dubbed by the children themselves after the beloved storybook "The Little Mermaid." Utilizing recycled materials like felt, lace, satin, and chiffon, the children created mermaid tails. Guided by educators and a variety of art supplies, they attached these tails to wooden figurines, bringing each mermaid to vivid life. The scene was further enriched with aqua-coloured sand, assorted blue and green stones and gems, seaweed, seashells, and other natural elements for an authentic touch.

As May came to a close, we commemorated National Sorry Day on May 26th and will continue into the first week of June for National Reconciliation Week, spanning from May 27th to June 3rd.

As we transition into June, our calendar is filled with exciting activities:

- 1st June – First day of Winter
- 3rd June – Mabo Day
- 5th June- World Environment Day
- 8th June – World Oceans Day & National Buddy Day
- 12th June- Monday – Public Holiday- Kings Birthday
- 11th-13th Shavuot Day (Jewish festival)
- 15th June- Global Wind Day
- 16th June – National Vegemite Day
- 18th June – International Picnic Day
- 21st June – International Day of Yoga
- 24th-30th June Insect Week

During June, our main emphasis remains on fostering emotional and physical wellness, along with enhancing numeracy and literacy skills. Nonetheless, as we progress through the month, our attention will gradually shift towards exploring the transition from Autumn to Winter, preparing for the upcoming seasonal change in June.

Looking back on the previous month, it has been remarkably enjoyable and rewarding.

Learning Outcome 4: CHILDREN ARE CONFIDENT AND INVOLVED LEARNERS

Children develop a range of learning and thinking skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching, and investigating.

This is evident, for example, when children: Make predictions and generalisations about their daily activities, aspects of the natural world and environments, using patterns they generate or identify and communicate these using mathematical language and symbols.

Children develop a growth mindset and learning dispositions such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.

This is evident, for example, when children: Are curious and enthusiastic participants in their learning.

