



# REDDAM EARLY LEARNING SCHOOL WOOLLAHRA NEWSLETTER



## Dee's Message

15 OCTOBER 2021

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to the final term of 2021! It was good to see the enthusiasm and excitement from the children who returned this week and I'm sure that this will continue throughout the coming term. The children who attended the Holiday Care programme clearly had many moments of shared happiness, as is so evident in the report below. My thanks to all the teachers, Christina Mandalis in particular who made their time so special.

We all have places which hold a special place in our hearts. Perhaps these are in our homes, or a favourite spot in a holiday cottage, or under the trees in the park, or lying on the beach. A sense of place has a powerful resonance in all our lives and many of our most treasured memories are of the emotions associated with that place. As one person has said, "Sense of place is the sixth sense, an internal compass and map..."

This is certainly the case for young children, who gain their sense of security and of being

loved from those around them, and often these emotions are associated with place. Whether in the home or here at school, the significant adults in their lives, along with their friends, are inevitably linked to the place. Just as relationships develop with people, so they also develop with places.

One educationalist writes that "A developing sense of place is linked to a sense of belonging. A sense of belonging contributes to children's overall social and emotional development." This "sense of belonging" is an integral part of the Early Years Framework, and one which we hope to hope to build on each day here in the ELS.

This sense of "geography" is also a useful topic of conversation which we can have with children. Engaging them in chats about the route to school, or how they find their way around the house or garden, or even how people live differently in different parts of the world, all adds to a child's sense of

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place. We can also discuss how things change around us – the new building going up in our street, the ever-shifting weather, and even how things change when we move furniture and toys around a room.

It is no surprise that young children love role-playing and many of those roles are associated with the place where they occur. Whether little cooks and bakers, or electricians and woodworkers – all enjoy their activities with a strong sense of place. And of course, as we all know only too well, often this sense of place extends far beyond a physical spot in the classroom to magical, adventurous realms far beyond our limited adult imaginations!

We hope that this term will provide many opportunities for the little people in the ELS to feel safe, secure and affirmed in the classrooms and play areas around the school – and that as they do so they will grow in confidence and develop their unique personalities.

Have a wonderful term!

**Dee Pitcairn**  
**Principal**



# Holiday Care

Christiana Mandalidis, Holiday Coordinator

“Children love to explore the world around them. As they feel confident in their surroundings and with those with whom they interact, they investigate further and further. They demonstrate a sense of wonder about the little things around them and delight in the aspects of the world.” So said Coral Campbell, Associate Professor in the School of Education at Deakin University

Over the holidays the children explored transport. Transportation is an important part of everyday life, and as such is a topic many children are interested in. A transportation theme not only teaches children about what different vehicles are for and how they work, but it can also be used to teach other important concepts such as safety when riding in a vehicle or walking.

During the first week of the holidays the children explored different modes of transport. On Monday, they learned about trains. They watched a documentary on how steam trains work, played with trains and their tracks and brought in trains to share with their friends. On Tuesday, they learned about aeroplanes. They made their own paper aeroplanes and flew them in the playground and learned all about the Wright Brothers and the very first aeroplane. On Wednesday, the children learned all about how cars work. They participated in process art by painting with cars and observed the different types of cars they could see on the road from the safety of the school gates. On Thursday, they learned about boats, ships and other sea vessels. They played pirate games and put their scientific skills to work in a float or sink experiment to develop a range of processes such as problem solving, experimentation, hypothesising, inquiry, researching and investigating. The week concluded with a magical Dance and Drama

lesson with Laura as the children travelled around the world in different modes of transport.

Week 2 of the holidays produced some dress up days such as Rainbow Day and Pyjama Day, in which the children always eagerly participate. The highlight of this week, though, was the children being able to use the new balance bicycles, tricycles and scooters. They challenged their gross motor skills in this very active play. Active play is beneficial to children as it allows them to develop gross motor, balance, movement and coordination skills, and it allows high energy children to disperse their energy in a positive manner, while enhancing the fitness, health, happiness and wellbeing of children.



# The Nest (1R)

Kiri Winders, Helena Zhang and Min Pattharasiritanarat



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# Fledglings (1E)

By Tatiana Botrel, Jane Teh, and Nadia Breus



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# Stage 2

Daniella Gosty, Susan Casey, Jason Corrigan, Sarah Garderner – Ventura and Yuliya Ginis





# Stage 2

Daniella Gosty, Shauna Corry, Sarah Noone, Roberta Sokame and Joyce Matsui



# Stage 3

Christina Mandalidis, Susan Casey, Jason Corrigan, Sarah Gardener – Ventura and Yuliya Ginis



# Stage 3

Susan Casey, Jason Corrigan, Sarah Gardener – Ventura and Yuliya Ginis



# Stage 4

Cassandra Holmes, Jane Pledger, Sandra Carberry, Nina Bergel and Kristina Rocchi



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# Happy Birthday



## Reddam Early Learning

would like to wish a very happy birthday to

**Elia Bergman, Emily Stesel, Nina Burnham, Clara Dileo, Skye Leis, Hector Nuche Eznarriaga, Islay-Rey Kennelly, Charlotte Krigstein, Martin Zhou, Benjamin Vo, Hugo Golding, Hugo Geredov and Georgia Predebon**

who celebrate their special day this week and over the weekend.

**We hope you have a fabulous day!**



# Happy Birthday

