



The Children's House Montessori School

The Kindergarten children go to the aquarium in the first term, the zoo in the second term, the Botanic gardens in the third term and the museum in the fourth term



Term 1 2019

DEAR MONTESSORI FAMILIES

I hope the first term of 2019 has gone well for you and you are pleased with the ongoing growth and development of your child through the Montessori approach.

In particular, I warmly welcome the new families to the school and hope you have been made to feel close and connected to the school since commencing.

It was great to meet many of you at the Easter Picnic, and I look forward to seeing you all again on the guest days. As we have quite a number of children now we have two guest days for you to choose from.

I would like to give a special thanks to those parents who have volunteered to be on our school council. We meet once a month and work towards the longevity of the school and supporting the staff as best we can.

We were very pleased to be asked to participate in a research study looking at the benefits of the elderly interacting with preschoolers.

We are picked up every Thursday afternoon and taken to

The Twilight Aged Care home in Gladesville. We participate in an activity followed by afternoon tea.

Then the bus brings us back to school. Some of the activities we have done are: planting tulips, making bookmarks, making chocolate crackles and dancing the Hokey Tokey.

We will have four more families join us next term, please welcome them and let them know about our routines.

Kind Regards

Denise
Underwood

Principal



CLASS REPORT

We would like to welcome Shanaya Chadha, Jonathan Zhang and Chloe Tan and their families to our school. They have settled in well and are learning the classroom routine.

The three-year old's have been looking at and learning about farm animals. They have made horses, geese, cows and pigs as part of their study. The craft activities have given them the opportunity to practice their fine motor skills such as pencil and scissor skills.



The four-year old's are learning about the human body. They have explored the five senses gaining some understanding of their senses. They have had opportunities to physically experience the senses tables set up in the classroom, each table highlighting a different sense.

The kindergarten children are studying about land and water forms. They have completed a book on land and water forms.

They have gained a sound knowledge about many land forms such as an island, lake, bay, cape, gulf, peninsula, an isthmus and a strait. They made their own land forms with clay.



The kindergarten children have started a world book. They learn about a country each week-starting with Australia and following the alphabetical order. With this study, the children learn about the language spoken in the country, the currency used, its population, the neighbouring countries and the climate, the significance of their flag and also places of interest.

They have also begun a flag book. Children develop researching and investigating skills as they find background information regarding the flag-which country it belongs to and its exact location within the continent.

The kindergarten children have been studying about the famous artists. They re-created a Monet art work by painting the water and adding lily pads

and water lilies to complete it. They have also studied about Ken Done, an Australian artist.



They drew their own beach scene with pastels and added sand to represent the beach. Their art work was displayed on the classroom notice board. They have also looked at art work from other famous artists such as Margaret Preston who painted still life. As part of their study the Kindergarten children arranged their own vase of flowers and painted the still life vase of flowers which is on display on the classroom notice board.

The science focus for the Kindergarten children this term were colours and magnets. They learnt about primary colours, secondary colours and



neutral colours. They have conducted many experiments with mixing different colour combinations and also adding white to discover the results. The Kindergarten children experimented with magnets to find things that were magnetic conductors and which things are attracted to magnets.

The kindergarten children have been on an excursion to the Sydney Aquarium as part of their study about things that live in water. As it was the first time most students had visited the Aquarium, the excitement was infectious.

They watched the sharks swimming and a diver feeding them, the manta rays gliding above, an octopus, dugongs moving around and many other colourful fish.



They also had the opportunity to touch the star fish, sea urchins and shark eggs at the touch pool. Having lunch outside the Aquarium, the food in the lunch boxes attracted a lot of sea gulls -as usual. It was

funny and scary to have a seagull come and steal one of their sandwiches. It was a very exciting and an enjoyable day. We wish to thank the parents who accompanied us on our trip to the Aquarium.

The class continues to enjoy cooking each Thursday. For the new additions to our class room it was a novel experience to learn to sieve flour, beat eggs and roll out dough. As a result of the cooking sessions, the students experience how to work collaboratively as part of a team. They learn about the ingredients that goes in to the cooking and to follow a recipe.

It's Easter!

We are getting ready for Easter. The students have completed many art and craft work. They have made cards, Easter baskets and completed many other fun activities. The students have decorated their own hats which they will wear for the Easter hat parade. They also made a bunny ear hat for a family member.



We are looking forward to this Friday when all the families

come together to join us at the school grounds for the Easter picnic.

Another term has come to an end.

We wish Lucas all the very best in his future schooling as we say good bye to him and his family.

The staff wishes everyone a Happy and safe holidays.

We look forward to seeing you all on your return at the end of April.

Kindergarten Information Evening

On Wednesday 22nd May

As you may be aware we are accredited to have kindergarten age children at our school.

We have a ratio of 1 teacher per 5 students which is quite different from the ratio of 1 teacher to 28 students at main stream schools.

The students do from 12pm to 2.30pm over and above the morning class. These hours are at no extra cost as the school and Department of Education subsidize these hours.

Please come and see the extensive program they achieve during these hours.

Any family is welcome whether you are attending kindergarten next year or the year after.

IMPORTANT DATES

Term 2 2019 starts on Tuesday 30th April

Maintenance day is on Saturday 4th May

BBQ Fundraiser Sunday 12th May

Parent Information Evening is on Wednesday 22nd May.

It will cover our Kindergarten program.

Guest Day is on Thursday the 30th and Friday the 31st May.

Parent Library is open every Monday in the small classroom from 8.30 am to 9.00 am.

Please come in and browse our selection of books on child development and Montessori.

Fundraising

This year we hope to raise \$10,000 to go towards the side deck works that were completed last year. All additional funds raised will go towards putting a sunshade on the deck off the small room at the front. The date for the Family Fun Day is Saturday 2nd November! We have raised \$1200 so far at the BBQ. A big thanks to all the parents who assisted.

As we head towards Easter holidays I want to thank everyone who has sold chocolates & lollies for the current fundraiser.

Jane (Ella's Mum), Fundraising School Council

Parent Toddler

Our **Parent Toddler** sessions are held every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 am to 11.30 am.

These sessions are great for new parents to the school to meet the teachers and talk to parents who already have a child attending the 3 to 6 class.

If you have a child approaching 18 months it would be a good idea to come and book a place for Term 2 2019.



Contact the Principal at childrenshousensw@gmail.com