



Mark Oliphant
College

Early Years

NEWSLETTER

TERM 2, WEEK 3

18 MAY 2018



“Play is the highest form of research.”

- Albert Einstein

DIARY DATES:

Monday 28 May
Reconciliation Day

Monday 11 June
PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Queen's Birthday

Friday 6 July
Last day of Term 2

8-15 July
NAIDOC Week

Monday 23 July
First day of Term 3



A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF EARLY YEARS

This term we welcome two new staff members to the Early Years family. Millie O'Grady joins the teaching team in the Red Building on a Tuesday. Although new to the Early Years, Millie has been a familiar face around the Primary Years in Term 1 and continues to work in the Primary Years on the other days of the week. We also welcome Mikayla King to the team. Mikayla joins our SSO team supporting a number of students in the Early Years. Mikayla is currently studying to be a teacher and so will be splitting her time between study and working at MOC. We are so happy to have the two new additions to our team and hope you will say hello when you see the ladies around.

Candice Horton, Head of Early Years

HELLO



FOUNDATION

We have had a fantastic start to Term 2, with students and families returning from holidays refreshed and ready for the term ahead. You may notice a new face in our room this term, Laura from Uni SA is doing her 3rd year practical, so please say hello. Our Literacy block continues to have a focus on alphabet, phonological awareness and book making. This term we are reading the wonderful books by the author, Mem Fox. We continue to investigate number and this term we move into position and transformation, which we will do through map making. Hopefully we have some nice weather so that we can still use the outdoors as a learning space to explore this concept also. This week EY had their swimming lessons, and the children thoroughly enjoyed learning some very important skills. They did an amazing job of getting themselves ready for swimming and were upstanding citizens outside in the community!

Angie Madison, Foundation

(See images right and top)



STUDENT WELLBEING IN THE EARLY YEARS

My name is Melissa Demasi and I am the Student Wellbeing Leader in the Early Years. It is an absolute pleasure to be back at Mark Oliphant College and working in this role.

This term we started off with classes teaching about fixed and growth mindsets. The students learnt that people with a growth mindset believe they can learn, change, and develop needed skills. They are better equipped to handle setbacks, and know that hard work can help them accomplish their goals. Kids with a growth mindset are more engaged and motivated learners!

We also had the introduction of Yard Stars.

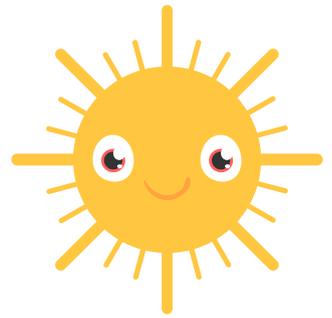
A Yard Star is a person who displays the following characteristics

- picking up rubbish
- looking after and playing safely with the play equipment
- following the 3 Bs

Every play time staff are on the look out to award a coupon to students displaying these characteristics. Students place their coupon in a box and every 2 weeks a winner from each level will be chosen to receive a special prize.

We are doing some wonderful things in the Early Years and I am looking forward to a great term.

Melissa Demasi
Student Wellbeing Leader,
Early Years



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YEAR 1

In Week 3, all the Early Years classes undertook a week-long swimming course at the Elizabeth Aquadome. During swimming week, students were provided with opportunities to work towards their development of the importance of life skills, water safety and survival. All students thoroughly enjoyed their time at swimming and look forward to going back again next year. Students from 6.12 loved their time at swimming and had a few positive messages they would like to share.

Jack Barr:

"I like swimming, my favourite part was going under the water to get the sinking toys from the bottom of the pool".

Callum Morris:

"My favourite part of swimming was on the Friday and going on the water slide".

Aurian O'Connor:

"I liked going under the water and trying to swim".

Sienna Jansson:

"At swimming, I liked floating on my back using the noodle to hold me up".

As Term 2 is well underway, 6.12 have quickly settled back into their routines. In literacy, students are continuing to learn the Jolly Phonics letters and sounds. This term we will continue to learn a sound a day which will help us with our spelling and reading. This term in Mathematics, we are continually working on numbers, place value and the ability to skip count by 5's, 10's and 2's. Students are participating in a range of activities and learning materials to help concrete their learning. Students are showing their love of math and are continually wanting to learn new things.

Skylah Parker-Hudson:

"I like skip counting because I was to learn my times tables".

Hayley Davies
Year 1 Teacher

