

YEAR 1 BULLETIN

TERM 2 - Week 3

In School Learning Day (previously referred to as Curriculum Day)

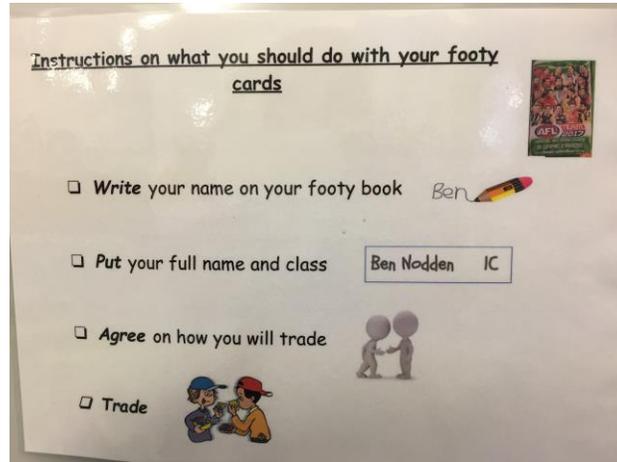
Like all work places, teachers are expected to refine their skills and develop their knowledge and understandings in their craft. Teaching is no longer a job where we deliver information. Maths traditionally has been a subject that is associated with formulas and algorithms and rote learning. However we now know that this is not enough. Understanding is the key and promoting this in our young learners is paramount. The day provided us with opportunities to reflect upon and analyse various mathematical experiences and what they would offer a learner. Using the maths proficiencies – fluency, problem solving, reasoning and understanding in our design and planning of mathematical experiences continues to be of utmost importance.



A highlight for the week for many children was exploring the new areas that were created to provoke learning during our Investigation sessions. The Dance Studio saw several children creating and expressing themselves through movement. The Gym attracted those children who were keen to test their strength, balance and coordination. The children were prompted to use several mathematical tools in this space, including time and counting. The Design Studio continues but the children have been presented with new materials to work with including socks and felt. It was pleasing to see the children gravitate to the Science area where being a scientist was enabling them to explore various forces, including push and pull in the toys that they use to play with. Skills such as observing, predicting, theorising and testing were being exhibited and improved.

We have also been learning about...

The power of effective communication has been raised as a need if we want to avoid misunderstandings and conflict. This discussion was a direct result of 'footy card' trading. As a result we, the children and the teachers, wrote the following instructions:



In Maths, we have been exploring the concept of half. The 'Fruit Bowl' problem offered children the opportunity to present a solution with reasoning. Giving an answer was not the focus but instead we are encouraging children to share their thinking. 'Tell me or show me how you know' proved to be a far more complex task for many than simply coming up with an answer.

Unpacking the 'clock problem' continues with the children making some great discoveries and identifying obstacles. We have many generous children in the grade 1 area. Several children had suggested that we could ask the bank for the extra money whilst others simply offered their parent's money. It was surprising that many children voiced a desire to work for the money. After careful analysis we have decided to run a lemonade stall at school. The children will be involved in the making of the lemonade but we do need lemons. We know that some of you have lemon trees at home so please bring these to school. The lemonade stall will be held in the second last week of May. A definite date will be decided upon shortly.

What you can do at home:

Continue to have discussions about the need to have calm bodies (you might like to refer to this as the yellow zone). Continue conversations and identify the importance of being calm and the impact this has on learning. Develop a toolkit of calming strategies and practice these. Evaluate their effectiveness in various situations. Such strategies may include taking 5 deep breaths, walking away from a situation and identifying the issue and clearly stating it.

Please share what works for you with your child too. We are all different and what works for one person does not necessarily work for someone else.

HELP NEEDED:

Thanks to those parents who have made donations. We will continue to collect the following items:

- Socks (to make sock puppets)
- Wind up toys (to explore forces)
- Yoghurt containers, plastic bottles, small boxes, packaging (to create and construct)
- Succulents (to observe and record)
- Anything to create a fairy garden

DATE TO REMEMBER:

READING FORUM – A practical guide to helping your child develop into an effective reader

Tuesday 16 May

6:30 -7:30

Have a great week!

The year 1 Team