What’s in a name?
When Beth Cregan completed workshops with our students a couple of weeks ago, she did the entire 90 minutes using oral storytelling. It was truly remarkable to watch and all students were engaged and successful throughout the whole workshop. These workshops reminded us of how profound an oral story can be and how important it is to listen to and have opportunities to tell stories. Oral stories influence our students’ ability to visualise what is being explored, their ability to concentrate without having visual aids and verbalise their ideas when it is their time to share. ‘What’s in a name?’ is an opportunity to share an oral story with your children about something that is so important to them. Our names are important for personal identity and the story of how we came to have our names sometimes includes family history, traditions, names of relatives or your interests. Discussing this together can open up a multitude of other stories to be shared. Telling and getting your children to develop and tell stories is a wonderful idea. You can use props or pictures to add emphasis to your story.

Mini-Olympics fun!
On Tuesday the 9th of August all students participated in a fantastic Mini-Olympics day beginning with an Opening Ceremony and closing with an afternoon full of Olympic events. It was wonderful to see all children dressed up and participating in all the activities. We learnt about the Olympic rings and their significance as well as about where the Olympics is held this year. It was a wonderful day!

Music Incursion Review:
In their arts class last week, the preps participated in a music incursion where they learnt to play the glockenspiel and other percussion instruments. They created their own pirate song by singing, playing their instrument, creating their own sound effects for a pirate’s ship and finishing with a big pirate’s AARGH!

Some of the major learning outcomes for the day were:
- Communication – use of dramatic characterisation and vocal expression to communicate a character and to show their feelings, including expressing different pirate quotes.
- Singing – exploring use of voice, volume, and pitch and learning lyrics.
- Techniques for playing instruments – etiquette, responsibility and correct use when playing musical instruments, particularly when being introduced to the glockenspiel.
- Percussion instruments – using a percussion instrument the preps followed the beat and rhythm of the song and experimenting with their instrument to create long/short and soft/loud instruments and sounds that represented those heard on a pirate’s ship.

These skills plus many others will be continually explored throughout their The Arts lessons for the remainder of the year. Thank you Laura for organising this for the students.

Thank you Fiona!
A HUGE thank you goes to Fiona (Willoughby’s mum) for helping us to plant some herbs in the new drinking tap area in front of the Infant building. The children loved helping and we can’t wait to see what it looks like when the plants grow a bit more.
We still need your help!
For our construction site, we require some assistance with sourcing all the necessary materials. If you have any of the following items at home or know of somewhere appropriate we can source them please speak with your classroom teacher.

- Pipes
- Stiff pieces of cardboard (long)
- Pieces of rope
- Paper/plastic tubes
- Tip trucks
- High viz vest/jumpers
- Mini wheelbarrows

Upcoming dates:
Tomorrow (Friday 12th August) is a Curriculum Day. OOSH will be operating during the day should you require care for your child. Otherwise enjoy a long weekend together!
Book Week will be held in Week 7 (22nd – 26th August), it would be great to start discussing possible costume ideas.

Excursion levies:
If you have not yet returned the Term 3 Levy, please ensure this is done AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The children are beginning to engage in the incursions and workshops that are listed on the levies and it is extremely important that we have their permission slips returned in order for them to be able to participate.

Health notices:
Please return your completed health notices in the provided envelope to school with your child AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If you do not wish to participate, please return the envelope as is.

Late arrival during Investigation sessions:
We understand that late arrivals happen, however we still encourage the children to be independent when entering the building in the morning. If your child arrives to school late during Investigations please ensure the student enters the infant hall independently with their school bag. The children are aware of what happens during these sessions and are capable of finding an activity and beginning their day without parent intervention. All prep teachers are around at this time and will notice if a child needs assistance at any point. Thank you for your cooperation.

Have a brilliant long weekend!

Angela, Connie, Nikita, Steph and Amanda