

Education for Sustainability Report Term 3 2021

Term 3 began with a lockdown but from there, there were many exciting experiences and walks that the children from across the centre engaged in during the term. Spring has definitely sprung and the children have been interested in noticing and discussing the changes that can be seen around them.

The changes that have been noticed and the children have actively participated in conversation about have included:

Leaves and flowers on the big Manchurian pear tree

Leaves and flowers and even small fruit forming on the apricot tree

The daffodil and jonquil bulbs sprouting leaves and then flowers

The wattle trees bright yellow flowers and the red flowers of the bottlebrush trees

The change in weather from cold to some sunshine

Lots of activity has been occurring in and around the vegetable patches. Old autumn vegetables have been removed and new seedlings and seeds planted over a few weeks. We are currently growing broad beans, tomatoes, eggplants, capsicums, mint, parsley, coriander, onions and the strawberries are looking very lush and healthy and are beginning to produce flowers. We will continue to care for them by fertilising and watering them when required. We are all looking forward to being able to eat the strawberries when they are ripe.

During Term 3 we celebrated National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. On this day our menu was full of native food ingredients. We made, cooked and ate wattle seed pancakes during the morning in room 3, and were shared across the centre, had crocodile tacos for our lunch and lemon myrtle muffins for afternoon tea. During the group time in Room 3 we explored the ingredients of the pancakes and smelt the ground wattle seeds and discovered they smelt like a mixture of coffee and chocolate.

Another celebration during the term was science week and the theme this year was Food: Different by design. We decided that we should do some cooking using something we were growing in the garden so with the help of the children we decided to make carrot cake. The children have been eagerly waiting for the carrots to be harvested so this was the perfect opportunity. The children helped pull the carrots, take the carrot tops off (which were fed to the worms) and wash all of the soil off the carrots. The carrots were then grated and added to a bowl. The rest of the ingredients were gathered and during group time the cake mixture was made. It was then taken to the kitchen and transformed into a delicious cake that was enjoyed at afternoon tea time.

Room 2 enjoyed a walk to the community garden and the rose garden one sunny morning as it was a fabulous opportunity for the Room 2 children and educators to connect with and explore the natural world. Lots of physical skills such as jumping, crawling and rolling were explored and lots of observations about plants, birds and people were made.

Flowing on from Term 2, bugs still continue to be of huge interest. Bug hunts and time in Pilyabilyangga have been undertaken during EfS time. The small containers with a magnifying top are the perfect vessel to collect bugs, observe them and then return them to Mother Earth. The children are very respectful of the living creatures and understand the need to be gentle with them and to return them after observation.

Routine tasks such as feeding the worms, feeding Fluffy the tortoise and emptying recycling bins have occurred and again provide for more learning opportunities.

EYLF Links

Outcome 1

- Children feel safe secure and supported
- Children develop their emerging autonomy, inter-dependence, resilience and sense of agency
- Children develop knowledgeable and confident self-identities
- Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect

Outcome 2

- Children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation
- Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment
- Children respond to diversity with respect

Outcome 3

- Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing
- Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing

Outcome 4

- Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity
- Children develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigation
- Children transfer and adapt what they have learned from one context to another
- Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials

Outcome 5

- Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes
- Children express ideas and make meaning using a range of media

Expenses T3:

July - Sept 2021

Storage shed for firewood	\$340.91
Close the Loop battery collection box	\$81.77
Seedlings for planting	\$14.00
Oxfam donations (1 per month)	\$150.00
EfS Teacher Wages Term 3 29 hours	\$1163.17