



Kings Road Long Day Preschool

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www.kingsroadpreschool.com.au

Weekly Wrap – week ending 7th October 2016

Dear Families,

We've had very beautiful, warm weather during the second week of the school holidays. Teachers have had multiple opportunities to have in-depth, informal conversations with children about their home experiences, holidays and important events.

We are all getting used to the new summer routine this week. Children have been able to make the best of the lovely, warm weather by starting their day outside and engaging with a variety of play-based learning experiences. Since the school holiday routine is less structured, there have been many opportunities for children to engage with sustained, focused play. Educators have been able to extend on children's learning through both spontaneous as well as planned experiences by adding additional resources, taking discussions further through reflecting, researching, questioning; and providing hands-on fun experiences to test and hypothesise our knowledge.

Another gentle reminder to be sun safe with warm weather approaching very quickly. Please remember to apply sunscreen on your children as well as bring their sun-safe hat to Preschool.

Although a bit relaxed and informal, yet our busy week was packed with fun, engaging and in-depth learning:

- Following on from a children's interest in making machines during their imaginary play, we introduced children to the idea of what simple machines actually are – things that make any job easier and that these simple machines are all around us. To extend on children's understanding, we offered a hands-on experience where many children made their own individual catapults (from the group of levers).
- Card making was a big interest this week – children started by working on a "Thank You" card for Life Church's working bee as well as one for Mrs. Lynch for kindly donating their time each in supporting our Preschool. Following on

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from there, children made smaller cards for themselves or their friends and family. Card making has been an excellent opportunity for children to not only think about and to acknowledge other people's kindness but also to engage with literacy for meaning.

- Children created their pieces of art representing their own worlds as they see from their perspective – “My house” and “My car”.
- We made lemonade with children and then poured it in plastic cups along with some cut up fresh fruit. Then we added a Popsicle stick into each cup and put it in the freezer to make our very own ice blocks. Apart from it being such a nice treat on a hot day, children could visually see the transformation of liquid to ice!
- Miss Leah engaged children in many exciting experiences. Some simple sounding experiences involving big learning for young, growing minds. Examples of some of these experiences:
 1. Small group of children were trying to tie shoe laces with little success. Miss Leah noticed that and tied a few strings around a pole to teach children a simple 3-step process to tie laces and then children had plenty of practice throughout the day to refine their skills.
 2. Creating slides in the sandpit – involved lots of problem-solving to figure out the design, thickness, length and material of the slide which will work for the specific purpose the children had in mind. The group also had to think about how they could create what they needed using the available materials only while also working out the best way to make it stay in the spot, in a desired way so it would not fall off.
 3. We revisited concepts in relation to “Air” as well as those related to absorption, from earlier in the term, based on discussions with children. Miss Leah did a balloon rocket experiment on two different days, one when it was very windy and another when air in the atmosphere was still. We also used different-sized balloons then compared results and factors involved in making the balloons go fast or slow.

Enjoy your lovely weekend!

From the Kings Road Preschool Staff Team