

## **Teacher's Report March 2020**

### **Possum and Wombat group**

What an intense month we had at kinder, filled with important learning and a significant emotional journey. The children are getting used to the kinder environment, they are more confident during our sessions and seem to be happy, socially comfortable and engaging with teachers and peers.

Drop off time can still be a challenging time, but the challenge is getting smaller every day. I am proud to say that the children in both groups are doing an excellent job in managing their emotions in the morning and say goodbye to parents is becoming easier.

We are currently analysing emotions during our group time and learning to recognize different emotions. As part of this process we are learning breathing techniques to self-regulate and self-manage overwhelming emotions. We are having class discussions about emotions like anger, boredom, happiness, fear, anxiety worrying, confusion and are talking about strategies to take a proactive and positive approach when experiencing them. We emphasize as it is ok to feel this way and that everyone has these emotions from time to time.

We have been making some changes to our routines and we have increased cleaning times during, before and after sessions. Because of the current environment we live in and the effort to avoid contamination, we have been making some changes to the program, for the time being we avoid playdough or materials that can be a vehicle of contamination during sessions because subject to long manipulations. We have made a permanent change to our lunch and snack routines to improve hygiene. We are revising our routines daily in order to stay ahead of the current situation

We had our Carnevale celebration and a special Carnevale parade at kinder. The children had the chance to create their own masks in the sessions leading up to the event and they proudly wore them during our parade. The children explored Pablo Picasso's painting of his son Paulo dressed as Arlecchino and experimented with metallic water colours on this topic.

We had our first incursion of the year: The Responsible Pet Ownership Program. It was an educative, fun and involving experience that outlined the rights of dogs and our need to be aware of our behaviour around them. Dogs communicate in a different way than us and we had the chance to learn some

dog language! We wagged our tails to show that we were happy, growled and showed our teeth to show that we were angry and pretended to be very small to show that we were scared. We learned to never pat a dog that is tied up and always ask the owner for permission before patting a dog. The dog that came to visit was very patient and sweet, what a valuable experience and lifelong learning.

We have a lot of parent involvement this term and thank you to all the parents that volunteered their time to come to kinder duty and helped us during our sessions. We learned some words in Mandarin with Nicole, Winter's mum, and learned how to sing the song 'Head shoulder knees and toes' with the help of Winter and Panda!

At the beginning of the current week we will have our St Patrick day celebration. The children will participate in many activities on this topic and will learn some sentences in Gaelic, thanks to Derek, Cadhla's dad!

Thank you so much for your participation to our program, if you would like to further contribute to our sessions with one of your talents and passions, please do not hesitate to approach us to see how we can implement them in our sessions.

We are almost at the end of our first term and the children are surely in need of a relaxing time at home after our intense first term at kinder.

Alfred Nuttall Memorial Teaching Team