

Kookaburra Room June 2024 Reflection

June in the Kookaburra room was a vibrant and busy period, filled with enthusiasm from the children who eagerly delved into sensory experiences, creative arts, and outdoor adventures with their friends. Amidst the festivities, our primary commitment remained nurturing the emotional and physical well-being of the children, resulting in remarkable improvements as they demonstrate increased kindness and empathy towards each other.

Literacy and numeracy remain integral parts of our curriculum, and we are delighted to witness significant strides in the children's cognitive abilities, including name recognition, writing skills, number comprehension, and grasp of tenses. They are becoming more independent, relying less on instructional support, and confidently applying their learned knowledge in activities such as counting, days of the week, and letter recognition.

The first month of winter brought delightful weather with more sunny days than rainy ones, allowing the children ample opportunities for outdoor exploration and adventure. A highlight for the children this month was their engagement with the story of "Titanic" which some children, including Elpis, an educator, visited the exhibition, sparking a group discussion. The sinking ship and its location led to talks about icebergs and Antarctica, inspiring the creation of "Antarctica World" in the Kookaburra Room. This sensory experience, affectionately named after the story "Titanic," involved the children using recycled materials and art supplies under the guidance of educators to craft igloos and glaciers with added polar bears and pinguins.

Moreover, the educators organised numerous sensory winter-themed activities, such as ice painting and exploring frozen treasures hidden in ice blocks, fostering the children's curiosity and creativity.

Throughout June, we celebrated various occasions including First Day of Winter, World Environment Day, World Oceans Day and National Buddy Day. These events provided abundant avenues for creative expression through arts and crafts.

As June drew to a close, we participated in National Yoga Day and delved into Insect Week, further enriching the children's learning experiences. Furthermore, the Kookaburra children enjoyed two exciting incursions: one featuring firefighters educating them about fire safety, and the other showcasing real-life butterflies. These experiences not only sparked the children's curiosity and imagination but also provided valuable lessons on safety practices and appreciation for nature's beauty.

Looking ahead to July, our calendar is brimming with exciting activities including:

- 4th July: American Independence Day
- 7th - 14th July - NAIDOC Week: Keep the Fire Burning Blak, Loud and Proud
- 7th July - World Chocolate Day
- 10th July - Teddy Bears Picnic Day
- 14th July - Bastille Day
- 19th July - National Pyjama Day
- 28th July - National Tree Day
- 30th July - International Day of Friendship
- 1st-31st July - International Plastic Free Days

In July, our focus remains on nurturing emotional and physical well-being, as well as continuing to enhance literacy and numeracy skills. As we embrace the winter season, we anticipate continued growth and enjoyment for all.

Learning Outcome 4: CHILDREN ARE CONFIDENT AND INVOLVED LEARNERS

Children develop a range of learning and thinking skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching, and investigating.

This is evident, for example, when children: Make predictions and generalisations about their daily activities, aspects of the natural world and environments, using patterns they generate or identify and communicate these using mathematical language and symbols.

Children develop a growth mindset and learning dispositions such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.

This is evident, for example, when children: Are curious and enthusiastic participants in their learning.

