



NEWSLETTER

ADELAIDE
NORTH
SPECIAL
SCHOOL

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Term 1, Issue 1—April 2021

From the Principal

Term 1 is quickly coming to an end and I have the opportunity to reflect on the journey so far.

With COVID-19 still in our minds, it's great to see opportunities for our community to connect with our school. We have welcomed back NDIS providers, held a Variety in Action whole school party, participated in Clean Up Australia Day, Harmony Day and welcomed back families to our open classrooms.

In Week 0 the staff had our Respect and Remembrance Day to honour and reflect on students who have passed away, as well as ensuring new staff have an understanding of the complexities of our work. Jaswinder Sharma, the longest serving staff member, read the school's poem.

The ANSS School Improvement Plan (SIP) is in its third year. We have shifted two of our three priorities into embedded status. This means Communication, and Reading and Writing will underpin all future priorities, ensuring they are front and centre to our core work. This year's focus of 'Social Development' will support our work in preparing our students for life after school.

Staff have embraced the focus area and are working as teams to grow student social skills across the school, with Harmony Day and our Clean Up Australia Day events being very well received and lots of fun for our students. Assemblies will also continue this year for all classes, and provide another opportunity to showcase student progress and achievement within a formalised social setting.

It was a pleasure to be invited to our Pathways Sports Day at Elizabeth Vale School. Many parents were there to cheer their children along, and it was a wonderful day full of activity, friendly rivalry and fun.

You may have seen a new face at ANSS. Gareth, our groundsperson, has been beautifying many areas of our school. The new grassed areas look amazing, due to Gareth's natural 'green thumb' and tireless efforts throughout the term. Welcoming and attractive physical surroundings contribute to an atmosphere of serenity and provide the backdrop for a myriad of social outdoor activities for our students.

Governing Council is an integral part of our school and a voice for our families. Please consider being part of this decision-making body. This year Governing Council has a very important part to play in establishing the criteria for the Principal's position for 2022 onwards, which will be advertised in Term 2.

We also now have a bulk SMS (text) service allowing us to send information to all families, such as end of term reminders, finishing times, Pupil Free Days and special events.

Term 2 looks like another exciting time of teaching, learning and enjoyment. Please keep safe and enjoy the break.

Best wishes,

Byron



*"Social Development
will support our work
in preparing our
students for life
after school."*



Junior Primary

Laura Ewens

As we started the new year, we welcomed 3 new students to our class and welcomed back returning students. It has been wonderful watching our new students adapt to the expectations and routines of school and flourishing in this space. JPB3 is a class of quick learners!

We have had a real focus on play-based learning in the Junior Primary this year, so many of our Literacy and Numeracy activities have been hands-on and sensory to engage our students in different ways.



Each week in Literacy we introduce 2 letters for the week and our activities revolve around those letters. This term in Numeracy we have been learning about shapes and numbers. Some of our favourite sensory and hands-on activities are painting, using playdough and finding hidden letters or shapes in rice to sort. We also love doing craft for our letters and shapes.

*Take it all one day
at a time and enjoy
the journey.*

Kristi Bartlett



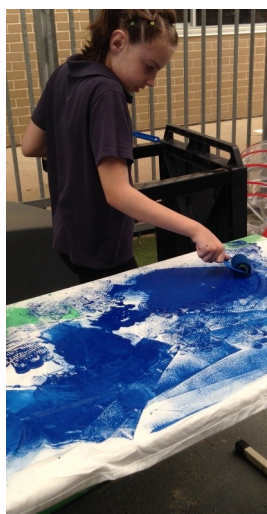
R-12 Primary

Mel Ernesti

Wow! What a busy term we have had! We have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a range of inspiring learning activities. The Variety in Action party, Clean Up Australia Day, Harmony Day, Fun Fridays, library sessions with Jenny's R-12 class, Aloha Day and weekly Buddy Class sessions with Sharine's Primary Class have been just some of the highlights so far this year.

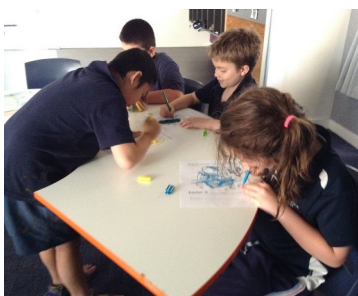
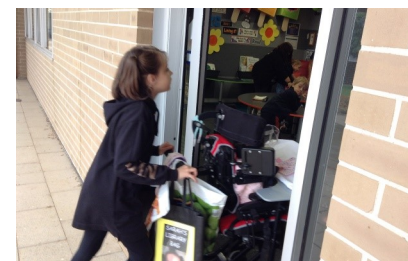
These learning experiences were not just incredibly fun but they also provided the students with an invitation to strengthen their communication, whilst practising and developing social skills. As a class, we drew inspiration from each of the above social opportunities to engage in literacy activities that further extended our learning. Such activities included Predictable Chart Writing, Shared Reading and Independent Writing.

Even though Term 1 was well and truly packed full of wonderful opportunities, we know that this is just the beginning. We cannot wait to see what Term 2 (and the rest of the year) has in store for us!



*Humans are social beings,
and we are happier, and
better, when connected
to others.*

Paul Bloom





Senior

Jessica Bedell & Amy Checkley

This year Jess and Amy's classes have joined forces to create a super class of 16 bright-minded students who love to get their hands dirty.

For our Science project for Semester 1, we looked at living and non-living things in the school yard. Classes participated in a range of hands-on activities and written work, which they thoroughly enjoyed! After looking at what plants need to survive, we thought it was time to create a garden of our own.

Every Friday we went shopping to collect seedlings for our Woolworths Discovery Garden. Students were so excited to see the seedlings tray fill up each week.



*Don't wait for someone to bring you flowers.
Plant your own garden and decorate your own soul.*

Luther Burbank

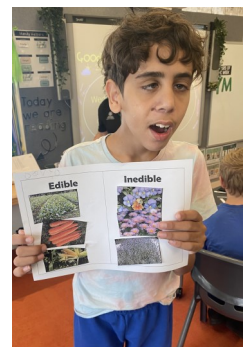
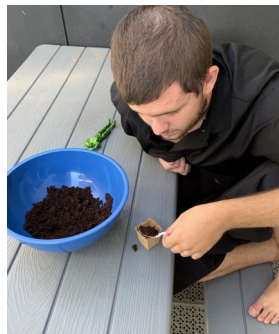
Once we had a full tray, each student selected their favourite seedling... and the planting commenced! Students enjoyed the sensory aspect of the task where they could pour the water and watch and feel the hard soil discs expand and turn into rich, soft soil, which also increased their engagement.

Our Woolworths seedlings were planted not even a week ago and we have already had several pots start to sprout. Jackson's is currently in the lead with a beautiful flower, the Zinnia. Every day students water their plants and ensure they get enough sunlight so they grow to reach their potential.

While students are watching and waiting for their seedlings to grow, we have another project underway for Term 2. Our class purchased two garden beds from Bunnings, and Miss Jess provided plenty of seedlings from home, which included vegetables such as onions and corn.

Students got hands-on with tools such as spades and shovels. They put on their gloves to pour the soil into the garden beds and then levelled it with their spades.

Planting will start in Term 2 so watch this space! We think this will be the best term ever! All we need to do is "be-leaf" in ourselves and great things will begin to grow... in time.



Pathways

Lidia Reveruzzi

Term 1 has been busy for Class 1, getting to know each other and setting up class routines and structures. We have been learning about boundary safety within the school and the community, and have practised safe walking by identifying the boundary areas within the school and going on local community walks.

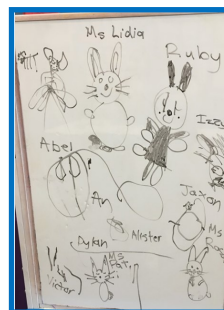
For Maths we have been learning about money through play, prior to embarking on the Shopping Program where students go to the supermarket weekly to purchase goods for home. Students have been enjoying the class shop with play food and money, matching visuals to the actual food and then finding the correct money for the food. In Week 9 we made our first visit to Woolworths, with success.

The students have also enjoyed expressing themselves through art, which is linked across different learning areas, special events and themes. Easter art activities commenced with a directed drawing lesson. It was great to watch the students explore their creativity.



Art is a place for children to learn to trust their ideas, themselves, and to explore what is possible.

MaryAnn F Kohl

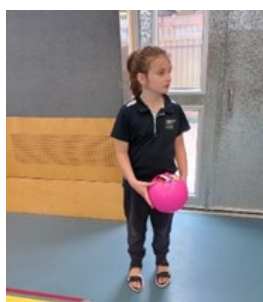


Primary

Sharine Pritchard

Every Friday, Sharine and Mel's Primary classes meet for a gym session. We are focusing on social interaction through climbing, ball play and games.

Using literacy skills to connect with a friend, we swapped Valentine's Day cards. The students have fun in a relaxed atmosphere which supports student sensory needs.



If you don't leap, you'll never know what it's like to fly.
Anonymous

