



WOOMERA AREA SCHOOL

Government of South Australia
Department for Education and Child Development

Phone: 86737287 Email: dl.0746_admin@schools.sa.edu.au

31st March 2022

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

COMING UP...

Welcome to our second newsletter for 2022. It is hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of term 1. We have been very fortunate at this point not to have been too disrupted by Covid-19. Our only restrictions have been those directed by Government and our Department which has allowed us to continue our educational programmes without disruption and we hope this continues.

We have had a final approval for our new playground at last and hope that we will see this being installed next term. It has been a long wait but our students are really looking forward to having a new area to play on. We are also hoping that our school oval will be repaired so we will have access to this again soon.

Last week, due to my absence, we were fortunate to have Mr Cameron Redden here as a relief teacher. He has a back ground in PE so was able to

provide our students with some different opportunities in this area. He worked across the curriculum with all students ensuring there was no disruption to their learning.

On Easter Sunday for the Woomera 75th celebrations there will be a breakfast provided at Breen Park between 8:00am and 10:00am with the funds raised coming to the school. We will be looking for volunteers to help cook at these times so look out for more information coming your way. All fundraising we do goes back directly to the students we have in the school now, so we hope you can offer an hour or so of your time to support us.

We continue to focus on our priorities of literacy and numeracy across the school with our students have blocks of time every morning to focus on these subjects.

14th April	Last day of term.
15th April	Good Friday
	75th Anniversary Weekend
2nd May	Start Term 2

Tongue Twister

Betty Botter bought some butter
But she said the butter's bitter
If I put it in my batter, it will
make my batter bitter
But a bit of better butter will
make my batter better
So 'twas better Betty Botter
bought a bit of better butter



There is explicit teaching of specific skills during this time and students have dedicated reading and writing time daily to help improve their skills. Providing these opportunities at home will also help with their development. This can be done easily by highlighting all the times you use these skills in daily life and talking about them with your child. From reading the labels to following a recipe you are demonstrating to them the importance of these skills and how it is relevant to them in all aspects of life. The research is conclusive: When parents successfully support their children's literacy learning from an early age, everyone benefits. For more information on this and how to support your child with their reading please go to:

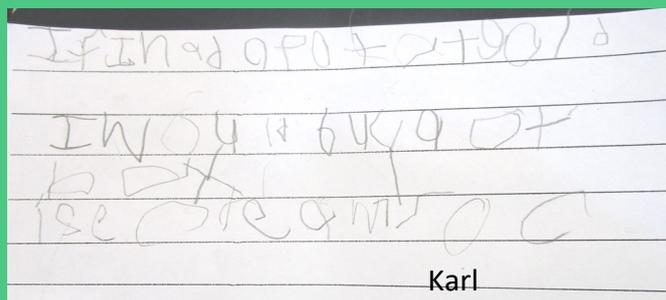
https://www.petaa.edu.au/w/teaching_resources/parents_guide.aspx#:~:text=Children's%20reading%20improves,outcomes%20for%20all%20children%20improve.



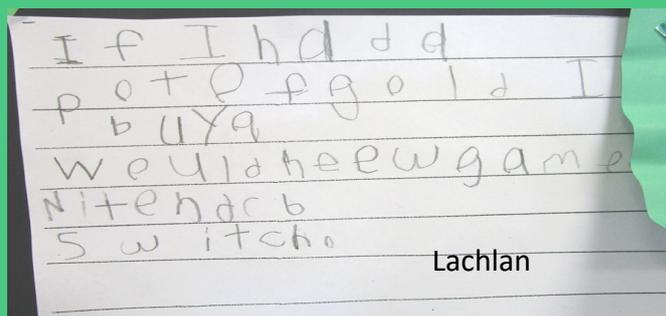
Next week we will be having parent teacher interviews. This is an opportunity for you to find out where your child is in their learning journey and to discuss any goals or questions you may have with your child's teacher. A booking sheet will be coming home this week for you to make a time with your teacher. If the times provided are not suitable please contact your teacher directly to make an alternative time. Although it is not holidays yet they are close and I hope you and your family enjoy a safe and happy Easter and make the most of the time you can spend together.



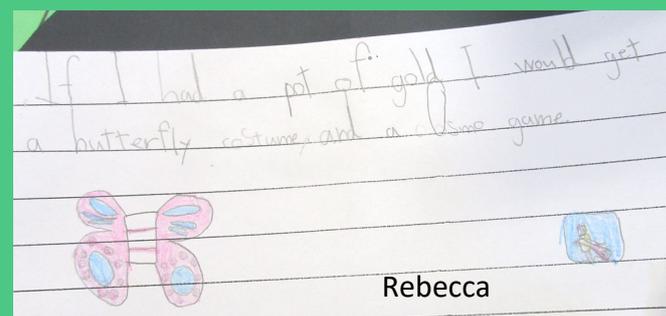
If I had a pot of gold...



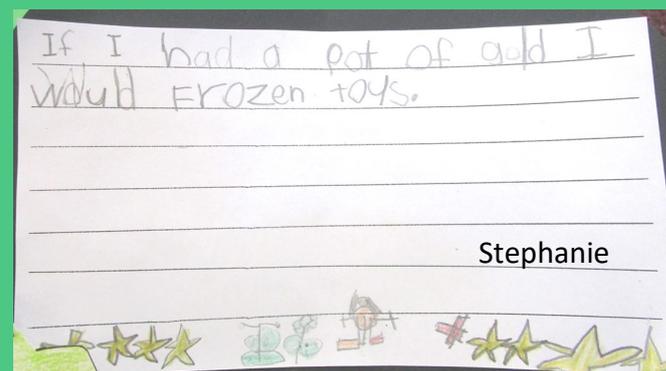
Karl



Lachlan



Rebecca



Stephanie



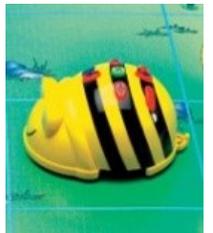
St. Patrick's Day

St Patrick's Day is celebrated on the 17th of March each year to commemorate the death of Saint Patrick. The wearing of green on the day is an Irish folklore tradition and people say that the colour will bring you good luck. The students created a leprechaun mask and did some writing about 'If they had a pot a gold.....'





Robotics

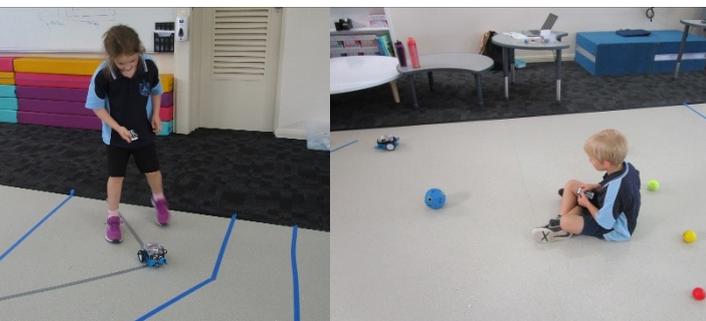


In STEAM we have been learning about robotics and computers. We have learnt that a system is a group of parts that work together. Digital systems include computers, phones, tablets, and other digital devices.

We (R-8 students) used this knowledge to build mBots. This process required us to follow instructions, use tools correctly and be willing to problem solve. Sometimes we put things on backwards or missed a step meaning we had to go back and fix it. Eventually we all got our robots working effectively.



Digital systems work with inputs and outputs. We have been using remote controls to send inputs to our robots. Once the robot receives the input it gives us an output; Movement! We practiced with sending the right input to our mBots to get the best output; we did this by trying to steer our mBots around obstacles in challenge course.



To develop our skills, we have been identifying and following a sequence of steps (algorithm) that are needed to perform simple tasks or solve simple problems. We have been developing sending specific instructions to our mBots to complete mazes, follow lines and push balls into goals.



The older students have also been starting to learn how to code. This is another way to give specific instructions to the robot. The robots have been able to move as well as make sounds and give visual displays with lights through coding. It doesn't always go smoothly but we have found persistence and experimentation can help us succeed in coding.

The Preschoolers also got to explore some ideas with coding and robots. Through the use of Bee Bots they have begun to explore giving specific instructions to robots to achieve a desired outcome.



