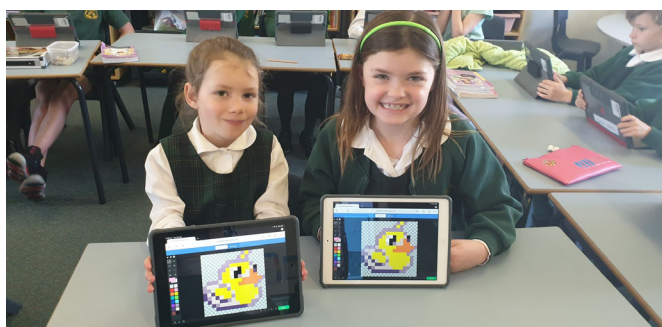
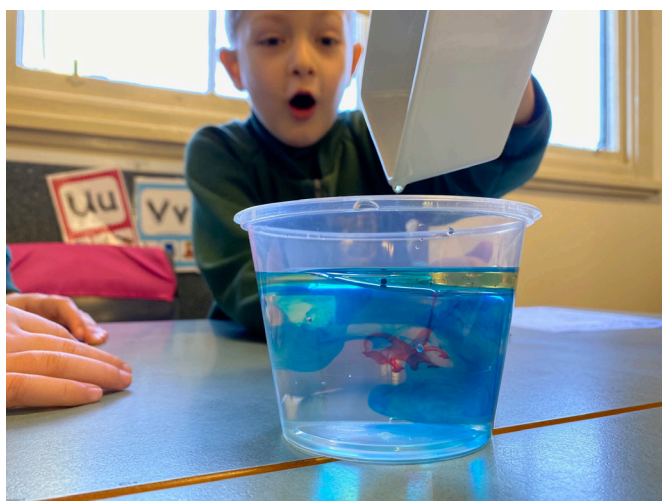




2 Serpentine Road, Erina Heights NSW 2260  
PHONE 02 4367 7608

erinahts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 Spring Mufti Day
- 2 Online Debate
- 3 Year 5 Check-in assessments
- 23 Year 3 Check in assessments
- 24 PBL Rewards Day
- 25 Last Day Term 3

### OCTOBER

- 12 All Students Return to School
- 19 - 22 Life Education Van
- 21 Stage 2 Rumbalara Excursion (1)
- 28 Stage 2 Rumbalara Excursion (2)
- 30 Oakvale Farm Excursion Kindergarten

### NOVEMBER

- 4 Stage 3 Rumbalara Excursion (1)
- 5 Stage 3 Rumbalara Excursion (2)

### PAYMENTS DUE

## Spring Mufti Day

Spring is just around the corner and we need to celebrate it with some fun. So, what better way than a mufti day?

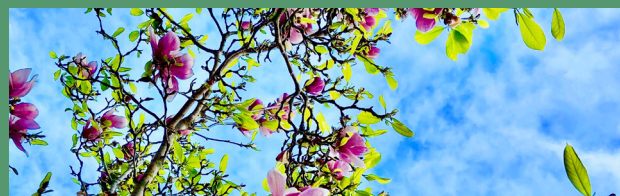
*Theme* Celebrating Spring

*Date* Next Tuesday the 1st of September

*What to wear* Get creative and colourful and wear Spring colours. But no singlets. Your shoulders must be covered as well as wearing closed-in shoes.

*What to bring* A gold coin donation

This is a fundraiser for our year 6 students gift to the school.



# Principal Update

## SASS Week

I would like to personally thank the AMAZING SASS staff that we have at Erina Heights. I'm sure that you would all agree with me that we are very lucky to have such a great team of SASS staff who support students, staff and our community in so many ways.

I would certainly be lost without the daily support of Tara and Rachael in the office. They both take on so many extra responsibilities and go above and beyond to support students and staff across the school. I love listening to them greet and talk to students and parents when they come into the office. They certainly contribute to the friendly and welcoming environment at Erina Heights and make my days brighter. We are also very lucky to have the additional support of Sandy in the office on a Monday, and although doing just one day a week is tough in a school, Sandy has gotten to know students and staff, and is a great asset to our school.

We have a great team of Student Learning Support Officers in Corey, Deb, Liberty, Rebecca and more recently Jarryd who work in classrooms and the playground daily to support students across the school. Seeing them connect with students daily and the wonderful relationships they form is really touching.

Without Craig our wonderful General Assistant we would also be lost. He is always on speed dial when issues come up across the school and no job is too big for him to tackle. Craig does a wonderful job in making improvements to and maintaining our school. He too has a great relationship with students and it's great to often see students tagging along and helping him in the gardens and doing odd jobs around the school.

I feel very lucky to be surrounded by such a great team of SASS staff and to see the great impact they have on students, staff and our school community.



## New School Logo

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey regarding our new school logo. Results from all three survey's completed by students, staff and parents were collated and there was overwhelming support for logo 1. This will be our new school logo and this will be launched with our new uniform upgrade later this year.



## Uniform Upgrade

The designs for our new uniform upgrade are well under way and these will be shared with the community next week to seek input into the final design of our new uniform.

On Monday of next week, a survey will be sent out with 3 uniform options for you to vote on. There will be a short turn around and this survey will close off at 8am on Thursday morning. This will enable the information to be sent back to the supplier so that work can start on our new uniforms.

Lowes will be supplying our new uniforms, once they become available you will be able to purchase uniforms from Lowes at Erina Fair.





# Principal Update

## COVID-19 Update

Just a reminder of information that has been sent previously in regards to your child being unwell.

- Parents/carers are reminded that students must not come to school if they are unwell - even with very mild symptoms.
  - Teachers should be vigilant in recognising if any students are exhibiting flu like symptoms during teaching and learning activities.
  - Where identified, teachers must refer students to the sick bay where they can be isolated and the school must arrange for the parent or carer to take them home.
  - If a student has been absent due to flu like illness or develops flu like symptoms while at school (even if mild), they are not to return to school until they have a negative COVID-19 test and are symptom free. The negative COVID-19 test result must be sighted and received by the school before his or her return to school.
- Please refer to the following document for further information.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families#School2>

## Classroom Upgrades

Due to ongoing COVID restrictions and not being able to welcome parents into our school like we usually would, I thought it would be nice to showcase some of our classroom upgrades that you may not have had a chance to see. These upgrades have included; new painting, wall carpet for displaying student work, new flexible furniture, new vinyl, new sinks and splashback, updated technology including Smart boards and laptops in classrooms and new air conditioning units.

In addition to these upgrades there has also been a significant investment in purchasing classroom resources to support teaching and learning across K-6. Maths resources have been purchased for EVERY classroom, PM readers to support all classes K-2 and sets of quality texts to ensure the teaching of English is highly engaging. These new resources have already had a significant impact on teaching and learning across the school.

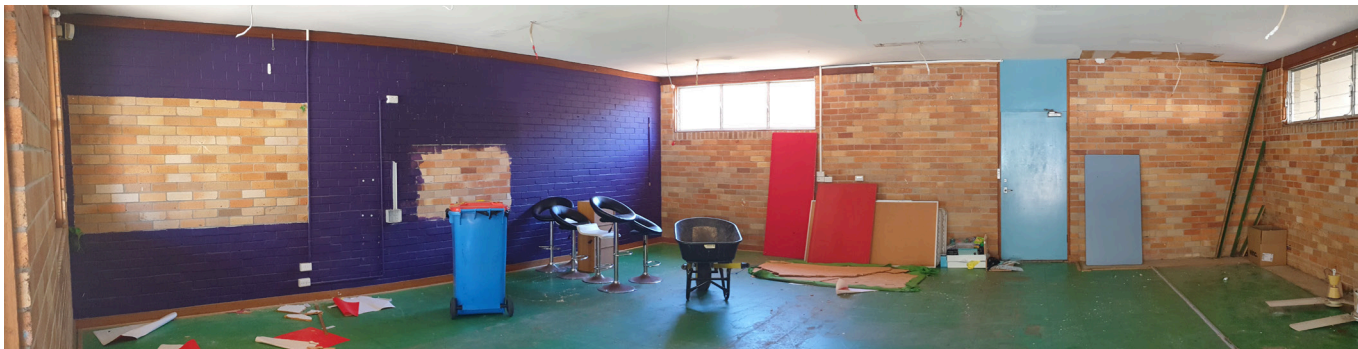
## New Quality Texts and PM readers for classrooms and in action in the classroom



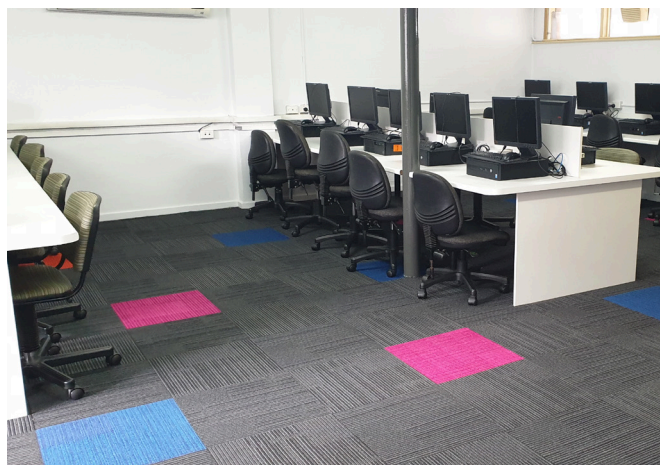


# Principal Update

## Classroom Upgrades



## Computer Room Upgrade



## New Maths Resources in all classrooms





# Principal Update

## Hall Upgrade

We have also made improvements to our school hall with new stage curtains installed. These have improved the whole look of the hall and will be great for student performances and showcases.



**And just as a reminder of what it used to be like – our backfield upgrade**





## Writing Super Stars

Earlier this year S2/3A and S3R completed writing based on the photo stimulus right.

Two finalists were chosen to have their writing submitted as part of the NESA WriteOn 2020 Competition. Congratulations to Albie our Stage 2 finalist and Carmen our Stage 3 finalist.

Carmen received a Silver Certificate for her writing and her work will be published in the WriteOn 202 Anthology, which will be available later this year. Our Director Educational Leadership Chris Bice visited Erina Heights last Friday to congratulate Carmen on receiving this prestigious award.



### **The Times We Shared**

**By Carmen M S2/3A**

Listening to Liam's soothing breath, my eyes droop. Up...and down...

I shut my eyes. Enveloped by Liam's loving arms, my breathing slows. Up...and down...

Ominous darkness comes as my eyes relax. But there is a light, dancing in all the darkness, galloping nearer and nearer.

A field, full of daisies and dandelions. Oh my! So much to smell! Looking up, I see a boy. Liam. This time only four years old, whistling cheerfully. As I run toward him, I look down. Since when did I have such short legs?! The sun is setting in the distance. The sky is painted warm shades of pink, blue, orange and purple. A wind blows the abundance of flowers as though they are dominoes. Liam throws my favourite toy football. It looks much better here than it does in the present time. Hmmm, I wonder where that toy is now...

Then the darkness revisits, sucking me out of this lovely memory. The light resumes, dancing in front of me. I try to reach for it but my legs are stuck to the dark floor.

Now, I seem to be somewhere in our neighbourhood. It is dark and rain splats my fur. Ugh! Liam is on the phone. I look at him, smelling the salty tears that prick his eyes. I feel sadness wash over him like a strong wave. How his face drains of colour, how his eyes now burst with tears that stain his concrete coloured cheeks. His mother has died.

The dragging happens once again. And then when the darkness vanishes, it reveals a chilly night. My paws are soaked from the dew-stained grass. There is cheering and yelling from all around. This is Liam's first ever football game. I see him running up to me and his dad. Liam's dad claps him on the back and gives him a tight hug, his eyes swimming with emotion. Then it is my turn for attention. Smothered in hugs and kisses, I have never felt happier in my life. Liam's dad takes us all out for a celebratory dinner. I love being a part of this family.

My eyes suddenly open. Liam is still peacefully asleep. I lick his chin affectionately. I love you Liam.

Suddenly, black cloaks my vision like fog. My breathing slows so much I almost don't notice it. Up... and down... The black gets more and more intense.

Wait. Wait! Liam! Then everything stops, as fast as it had started. I am no longer scared. I am just floating pleasantly in the darkness.

Liam's sobs and yells become more distant. I want to help him, tell him I am fine. But I can't find the strength.

Goodbye.



## Writing Super Stars

### Long Gone. Forgotten.

By Alberta E S2/3A

I stood in front of the reflective mirror. My thoughts drowned me, the melancholy feeling draped over me. The inevitable truth was ominous. I thought of the flourishing feelings; meadows, friends, cherished moments that were long gone. Because the darkness lingered in the corner, shadowing my life. My friendship.

Suddenly my eyes twitched. Was it what I thought? A paw was wedged between my lifeless legs, a snout snuffled around on the cold, tiled floor. I bent down trembling, my clawed hands scraped the floor. Nothing. I squinted in the mirror. Yes, Yes! I was certain it was there! But my mind took control. Outside the light was fading like the heart inside me. My limbs were exhausted, I flopped down on my motionless pillow. A boundary surrounded me from my social life. I was trapped in isolation.

My eyes drifted to the mysterious mirror. There it was, the anonymous dog, slouched beside me. Licking my bony chin. I could almost feel the wet slobber trickling down my skin. I rolled over just to make sure it wasn't there, again, nothing. This dog was starting to play with my mind. It was tormenting me.

The next morning I refused to get out of bed, I had a restless sleep. Eventually, I clambered out in a messy heap. I stood in front of my perplexing mirror, the images had strangely changed. Two other hands clung onto my shoulders, now I was holding the dog. The woman smiled, a nice warm, comforting smile. Her orange, wavy hair hung down from her head. She was holding hands with a well-built man. He was dressed in a black tuxedo. Just like the woman, he looked beautiful.

Suddenly the look in their eyes aroused me. My own eyes darted from me to them, memories started to flush back all at once, the family I used to own, the love I used to have. From that day on, whenever the sun would rise and fall, more people would appear. These affectionate friends and family who were erased from my life.

Every day I look back at that mirror. But one thing still demands my attention, that little puppy. My first friend and my first love. These sorrowful days end with reflective meanings, heartbroken or peaceful. But why was it their turn to say goodbye first?





## The Silly Scientist Show

K-2 had a fantastic time at the Silly Science show. The children loved seeing so many different experiments including 'elephant toothpaste', a rocket launcher and a fizzing Cola-mentos experiment. It was wonderful to see all their smiling faces.

Mrs Conroy



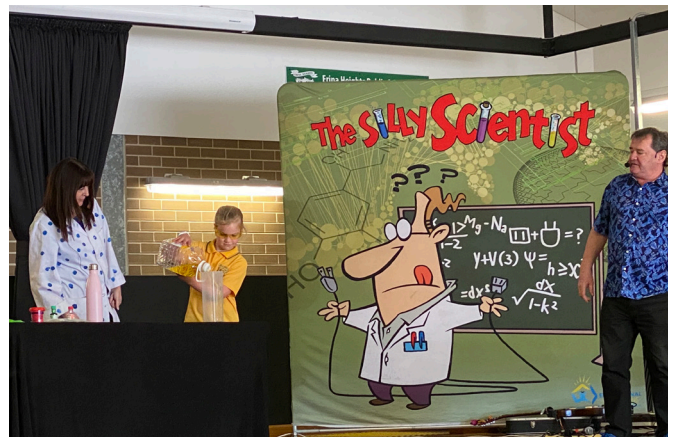
Dancing, singing, slurping, rock and roll guitar-song playing and best of all – SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS! Year 3-6 had an absolute blast (quite literally) watching Michael and Nikki, the Silly Scientists conduct a variety of experiments that revealed different chemical reactions and optical illusions. Many students were lucky enough to come up on the stage and join in on the fun. A big thanks to Miss Bailey for organising a great incursion.

And remember kids, just as Michael said, "never try these experiments in your own lounge room – use someone else's." Haha!

Mrs Richardson



Aymee E taking part in the 'Elephant Toothpaste' experiment – a mix of blue and red food colouring, yeast, water and detergent.



Caitlin S mixing cooking oil, water, red and green food colouring and an Alka-Seltzer with an outcome similar to a lava lamp



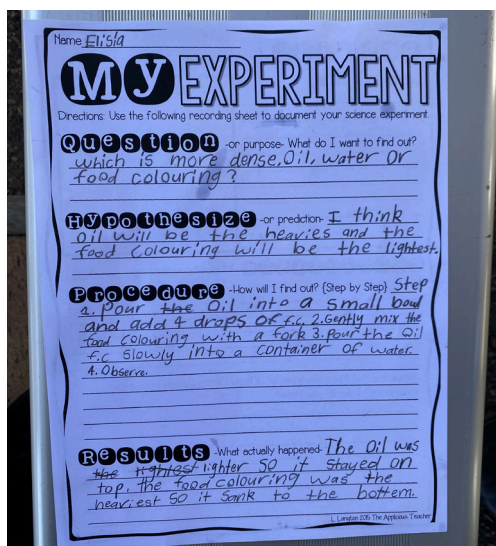
Cola and Mentos explosion! Pictured - Neve M and Imogen M



## Stage 1 Science Day

Our experiment tested the density of oil, food colouring, and water. First, we wrote up our scientific method, which included our different hypotheses and our step by step procedure. Then we got stuck in! The first step was adding the food colouring to the oil and the result took lots of us by surprise when the colouring turned into little bubbles. We poured the mixture into the water and observed the less dense oil rise to the top. As the denser food colouring sunk to the bottom it created some beautiful swirls.

Miss Bradbury



Mrs Thaler's science activity was using block coding to design a simple arcade game. Stage 1 students used Microsoft MakeCode Arcade tutorials to create a game where the 'sprite #1' player 1 chased and caught 'sprite #2' player 2, which we made some sort of food. Students needed to set a time limit and assign points for every time sprite #1 caught sprite #2. Once students complete the tutorial, they can name their game and are given a link to send their game to friends and family to test out and play their game. I was really impressed with their creativity and enthusiasm.

Mrs Thaler





## Stage 1 Science Day

Last Thursday Stage 1 enjoyed a "SCIENCE DAY" full of exciting and challenging science activities. The students rotated through 4 activities:

1. A scientific "worm" study
2. A science experiment investigating mass and weight
3. A paper plane STEM challenge
4. A coding activity using the I pads and computers.

The scientific "worm" study involved the students observing real life worms from my worm farm. They had to observe the colours of the worms, the shapes of the worms, describe how the worm's skin feels, investigate if there is a difference between the top side and bottom side of a worm, discover which was the front end and back end of a worm, describe how a worm moves, and illustrate their worms.

**Did you know: an earthworm has 5 hearts!**

**Did you know: there are 4,400 species of worms, and 2,700 different kinds of earthworms!**

The students had so much fun being scientists for the day!

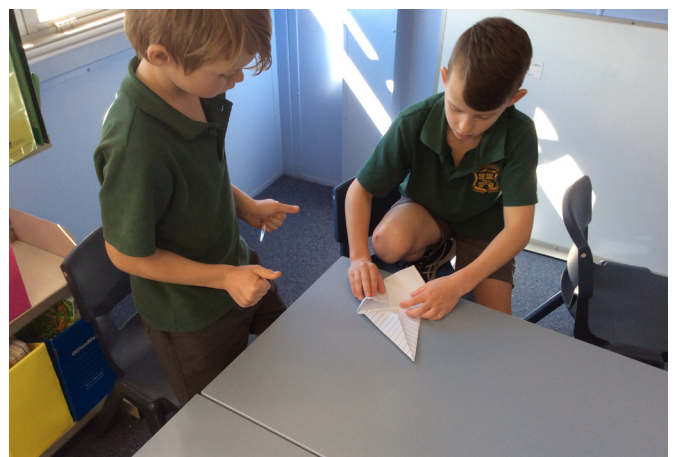
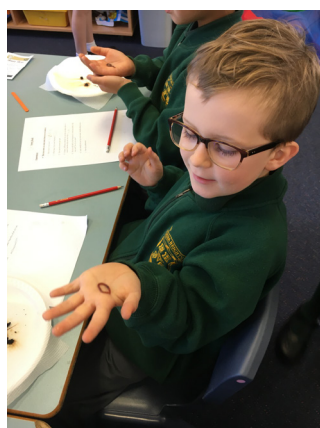
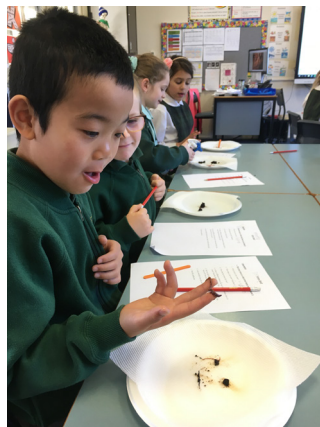
In S1B for Stage 1 Science Day, Mr Beames set us a challenge to make a paper airplane that can carry cargo and fly more than 1 metre. The cargo that was 1 paperclip and 1 paddle-pop stick. We could also use 10cm of sticky-tape if we wished.

Mr Beames was impressed with all the creative ways we decided to make our airplanes. We had fun trailing our plane, making improvements, watching intellectual stretch videos and finally flying our planes.

Mr Beames



Mrs Lanning





## School News

### SASS Week

This week at school we celebrated our wonderful support staff, the people that day in and day out keep our school running.

We are very lucky at Erina Heights PS to have such a wonderful team of SASS staff. Our team is made up of Miss Tara, Miss Rachael and Miss Sandy in the office; Liberty, Corey, Debbie and Rebecca who are our Student Learning Support Officers, supporting our students in class and in the playground and Craig who is our General Assistant (GA).

This team is instrumental in achieving our school's goals, supporting our students and generally helping us to shine!

Thank you for everything that you do for us at Erina Heights Public School Tara, Rachael, Sandy, Liberty, Corey, Debbie, Rebecca and Craig, you guys are SUPER STARS!

Miss Baldock



### Check-in Assessments

Students in Year 3 and Year 5 will be participating in the Check-in Assessments over the coming weeks.

The Check-in assessments are online reading and numeracy assessments that Department of Education schools will be using to assess and monitor Year 3 and 5 students' learning this year. Our Year 5 students will complete both the reading and numeracy assessment on Thursday 3 September 2020, Week 7. Year 3 students will complete their assessments on Wednesday 23 September 2020, Week 10.

If you have any questions about these assessments, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Stahl or Miss Baldock





**JOIN OUR NEW MANDARIN FOR KIDS CLUB  
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CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**



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Unique online resources for members  
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Skoolbo is back with their amazing offer for Flexischools parents. Purchase an annual subscription for \$20, RRP \$119.95.

Skoolbo is an all-inclusive, innovative app that supports your child's learning across reading, writing, numeracy, STEM, languages and brain games. Skoolbo is suitable for ages 4 to 10 and is a highly recommended resource to support your child's learning.

The team at Skoolbo are focused on supporting Australian families, and as part of an Assistance for Families response to Covid-19, they are again reducing their annual subscription by over 80% for Flexischools parents.

