

Y2 Early Years Extension (EYE) Program

"The World and Me"

"Children... are connected with and contribute to their world, are confident and involved learners and effective communicators"

Early Years Learning Framework (COAG 2009)



The Year Two Early Years Extension program has been designed to build on and extend the work done with our students in Year One. We continue to use the Philosophy for Children (P4C) approach to further students' ability to ask and answer questions that encourage multiple and diverse responses. We also aim to advance their understandings and applications of the Habits of Mind. Further to this, we aim for students to develop their sense of identity and wellbeing and their appreciation of their place in the world.

As in the Year One program, the Habits of Mind (as dispositions necessary for success) will act as an umbrella and P4C will provide a forum for asking open-ended questions and engaging in thoughtful discussion. Familiar and new thinking tools will be utilised to extend the students' thinking.

Program content continues to draw on the General Capabilities of the Australian Curriculum: Critical and Creative Thinking, Personal and Social Capability, Literacy and Numeracy. As with the Year One program, our lesson planning is structured to enable the teachers to respond to the interests, nature and needs of each group.

The program features a core non-fiction text called "The NOT-FOR-PARENTS Travel Book," published by Lonely Planet, which concentrates on the really interesting bits of the very big place that is our world. The book includes a warning to parents that reads: *"these might not be the same 'really interesting bits' that you like...where to buy coffee, how many stars the hotel has, what's the phone number for the airport, blah, blah, blah. In this book are the epic events, amazing animals, hideous histories, funky foods and crazy facts that make the world's 200 countries so fascinating."* Your children will be 'Responding with Wonderment and Awe' (one of the 16 Habits of Mind) as they are encouraged to ask and answer questions about their world.

In 2014 we trialled and adopted the extra dimension of Edmodo: a secure online classroom environment used internationally by millions of educators and students. This medium provides a platform for students to complete tasks; access recommended extra resources; prepare for sessions; and communicate with their teacher and class from home. We encourage EYE parents to access Edmodo *with* their children. Updates posted by the teacher allow parents to share in and extend what their children have covered in the extension sessions and provide opportunities for students to follow up on aspects of the program that most interest them. Information about how to access Edmodo is provided to students and parents at the beginning of the program.

Feedback for each student is provided after the program is complete. This typically includes a student self- assessment and a teacher comment.

If parents have any questions or comments about the program they are encouraged to contact their child's Early Years Extension teacher.

