

Bush School Day – Term 2, 2017

Monday in Week 7 last term all Primary students and teachers went outdoors for the day to undertake activities in our beautiful bushland grounds.



We have found Bush School Days to help build emotional and social skills, resilience and connections with the natural world. The activities build skills and knowledge in craft, art, orienteering, natural science, and bush survival.

This Bush School we had 5 groups named after native birds – Wrens, Bowerbirds, Pardalotes, Finches and Fantails. The groups were mixed groups of Kindy to Year 6 students in order to build friendships across age groups and to provide opportunities for mentoring. There were many stories of the kind and responsible care provided by Year 6 students as the groups moved through their activities.

We had the traditional campfire – now set in our cleared Bush School area among the trees. Kizz maintained a safe and informative campfire space with time to relax while our Prac. teacher Ben played his guitar.



The bright woollen tree-stars made with Rita and Sarah are currently enhancing our verandah, along with the brightly painted Native Bee hotels made on the day.





Students enjoyed finding and observing small things in nature with Jodie and Meaghan in the meadow. There was also a fun game led by Amanda through the bushland paths around the oval.



Bush School Days have been so successful that we are trying to have one a term, however our plans were rained out in Term 1. It was difficult to find a free day this term, which was why the day came upon us quickly. Apologies for the short notice to those who would have liked to volunteer.



Our **next Bush School Day** is on Planet Ark's Tree Planting Day – **Friday 28th July**. That's the end of Week 2 this term.

We will be planting trees, and undertaking the creation of a beautiful Mandala of natural materials. We would love collections of patterned, natural objects such as leaves, gum nuts, banksia cones and flowers. These are to share with all students.

Please start bringing your contributions to your class teacher in the first week of term.

Thank you to Jes Sommerville for these lovely photos.