



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

LITTLE SAINTS | NEWS

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Dear parents

Socio-constructive learning is one of the core principles of the Reggio Emilia philosophy. It includes a focus on the importance of collaboration, also known as “co-action” to intellectual development. Paola Strozzi, a former teacher in the Diana School in Reggio Emilia, said, “Here in Reggio we are convinced that the cognitive learning and the affective development are tied to co-action of children and also to conflict. We are part of a project that is based on co-action of children and on the sureness that this is a good way of learning. Therefore, I see that there is learning as a collaborative process.”

This past month, the Little Saints children have worked on numerous collaborative projects. At the start of the second term the children were part of the Form II girls’ project-based learning. The Form IIs spent some time with the Little Saints children to research possible wonders a preschooler might have about the world. After much investigation, the Form IIs presented their projects in the form of a science fair to answer some of the children’s enquiries. The Little Saints children loved being a part of the exhibition.

Mrs Taylor has frogs in a tank in her classroom and for the past two weeks the children in the red and blue classes have worked

collaboratively to study these frogs. They have shared their knowledge about them and then worked together to create an observational drawing of the frogs.

During this time, the children in the yellow and green classes have looked at patterns in nature. The children shared an interest in studying what constitutes a circle. They spoke about what a dot could be and how it is formed. Many interesting thoughts and ideas emerged from these discussions. The children looked carefully at the onion, cabbage and grapefruit and explored them using a variety of different media.

These collaborative projects provide the children with the skills to work in a team, to resolve conflict, be patient, communicate ideas and problem solve. Our intention is to empower the children to think for themselves, to work effectively with others and to develop a love for learning from a young age.

Kind regards

CELIA DIANA
HoD: LITTLE SAINTS

