

SNS ESOL Curriculum Update

December 2018

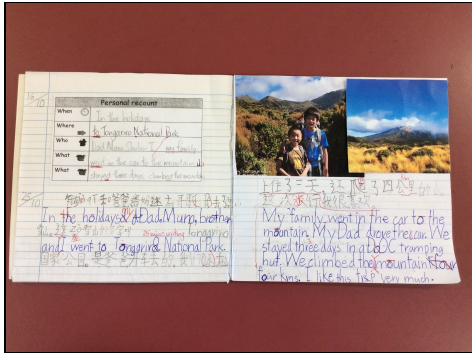
The ESOL Programme

The ESOL programme includes 101 English Language Learners (ELLs). There are 5 reception level groups. The **Reception groups** participate in fun activities to learn about phonics, handwriting and English grammar. They attend classes in Room 14a, twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. These groups are run by Christine Mason and assisted by our Korean and Chinese English Language Assistants (ELAs) Ellen Park and Ming Lei Qian.



There are 7 **topic level** groups, ranging from Year 1 to Year 6. The **topic group** lessons are linked to the specific inquiries that their classes are undertaking. This extra assistance helps the students to keep up with the related vocabulary and concepts, so that they can participate effectively in classroom lessons. We set up a vocabulary list at the beginning of each topic, with the words in English, Korean and Mandarin. We would always appreciate any parent help to translate these words into the many other languages spoken by our ELLs at Sunnybrae.

This year we have trialled the use of the app "Seesaw" to communicate with the parents and caregivers of Year 1 ELLs. We have shared work completed in the ESOL class, and by all accounts the use of this app. has been a great success. Some parents had left a comment on their ELL's post within five minutes of it having been loaded! The ELLs are keen to show what they can do, and are trained in how to upload a post. The pride they get from parental feedback has been a joy to see. This app can be shared among family members, and can also be translated into many different languages. Make sure you join the class when invited next year, and follow your ELL's progress online.



For the ELLs with very little English, their parents have been encouraged to email a photo from a weekend or holiday activity that we can use to provide vocabulary for a recount. This enables the student to share their news even if they do not have the words in English, and stimulates lots of oral language. It has worked very well with Reception level ELLs.

International Food Festival

In March, we held our annual Sunnybrae International Food Festival. There was a great variety of food, fantastic fundraising events and performances by the children. It is always a fantastic way to spend a Friday evening with family and friends and support our school fundraising efforts. We really do value all the school community help we receive that makes this event so successful. It is also a great way to acknowledge the diversity of cultures within of our school community. This event will be happening again in March 2019, so please let us know if you can assist in any way.



International Language weeks

We have celebrated several of the Pacific Island international language weeks at Sunnybrae this year (Samoan, Cook Island and Tongan). We also celebrated NZ Chinese Language week. Throughout these

weeks, we used basic phrases in our classes and encouraged the children to be the 'experts'. We had some special activities organised and children were encouraged to dress up in their traditional costumes. A big thank you to our wonderful Teacher Aides for their support in organising these events.

