



**Gold Creek
School**

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Nicholls ACT 2913

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Junior Site
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www.goldcreek.act.edu.au

Newsletter

15 October 2021, Volume 23 Issue 12

The staff at Gold Creek have been busy this week teaching remotely while also excitedly preparing for the return of our students. We continue to be impressed by the amazing efforts of our students and are regularly amazed by the incredible learning happening.

Reopening of schools

An email was sent out today to all families outlining the adjustments that will be in place once the school has reopened for face to face learning. For more information in relation to these adjustments, we will be posting a range of documents to our website over the next week. Any information that is specific to classes will be sent to families through the regular communication channels like the Seesaw app.

As always, if you have any questions about the operation of our school – including issues like mask wearing, ventilation and cleaning, the Education Directorate also has some very useful [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on their website.

As we get closer to reopening, we have been assessing a number of factors that contribute to the safe return of students to the school site including the ventilation of learning spaces. Indoor air quality plans will be available on our school's website by 22 October.

P&C Meeting

The Gold Creek School P&C will be holding an extraordinary meeting this coming Wednesday, 20 October from 6.00pm where parents will be given an opportunity to pose any questions to staff about the upcoming reopening. The meeting will be held online and a link to the meeting can be found [here](#).

Australian Council for Educational Leaders Awards

Each year, the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) asks for nominations for outstanding school leaders who have been judged by their peers to have made a significant contribution to education through their leadership practice to be considered for a number of awards. We are extremely excited to be able to announce that, this year, our very own Kirrally Talbot has been awarded the ACEL ACT Excellence in Educational Leadership Award for demonstrating excellent leadership in implementing an educational initiative and/or for conducting research which leads to improved educational outcomes for students. Please join with us in congratulating Kirrally on this prestigious award.

Once again, we cannot thank you all enough for the flexibility, patience, good humour and resilience shown by all members of the school community during this time, it has been greatly appreciated.

Dan Breen, Janine Waters, Nicole Jagers and Cindy Condon



ACT
Government
Education

PRINCIPAL:
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL:
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL:
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL:
Board Chair:
P&C President:

Daniel Breen
Janine Waters -SS
Cindy Condon -JS
Nicole Jagers - Curriculum
Kirsten Maloney dandkmaloney@bigpond.com
David Pollard goldcreekschoolpandc@gmail.com



CALENDAR DATES

For important dates please visit our calendar via the school [website](#) and click on a particular event to display more information such as times, locations etc. The calendar can also be viewed via the school App on your mobile phones if you have downloaded it.

Remote Learning GCS Parent Site

[Remote Learning GCS Parent Site](#)



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES



Preschool -Year 6 Parent/Teacher Conferences – Phone Interview Only (10 minutes each):

Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October 8:30am – 4:30pm

NB: Teacher availability differs across year levels, therefore the times available for these conferences will differ from teacher to teacher.

Primary Site parents/carers will have received an email with information regarding their login. Please be on the lookout for these emails.

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

HOUSEHOLD DATA VERIFICATION

Over the past two years ACT Public Schools have been transitioning from school-based databases (MAZE) to an ACT Public School's database (SAS) where household data is shared between schools. As increased functionality in the new database is available to us, we are using this data more and are less reliant on MAZE which will soon be decommissioned.

Recently, new functionality has been added to SAS in the areas of billing and messaging. For example, family finance invoice statements can now be split between two households. In messaging we will soon be able to send SMS messages to two Primary Contacts, rather than just one. We will also be able to send emails and school reports home direct from the database rather than downloading a spreadsheet of contacts and adding attachments. Before we start using these new functions, we need to be confident that the relationship data in our database is correct.

Over lockdown it has also become evident that it would be timely for parents/carers to check their child/ren's household details, contacts, and permission data. To protect the privacy of individuals in other households, we will only be sharing with you the names of contacts attached to your child/ren but not their phone numbers and email addresses. As it has been some time since we have completed a data check you may find some data attached to your child/ren is out of-date. Also, some data has migrated with your child from their previous school and may no longer be relevant.

Please be on the lookout for a Data Verification email next week. Attached to these emails will be a Data Verification form. We would like you to check the data attached to your child and update this as appropriate. Data Verification forms will need to be verified and scanned back to us or printed out, verified, and dropped into the front office once schools are out of lockdown. Alternatively, an email reply with any updated information would be acceptable.

If possible, we would like all Data Verification forms returned by 12 November 2021. If you have any concerns about this email mailout, or require further information, please contact Student Records at GoldCreek.StudentRecords@ed.act.edu.au or phone 61421312 or 61421356.

SCHOOL INTENTIONS FOR 2022

To enable Gold Creek School to transition students effectively from their current year level in 2021 to the next school year level in 2022 we need a clear picture of prospective student movement. This includes gathering data about known school leaver intentions. If you are aware of prospective changes, and your child/children will not be returning to Gold Creek School for schooling in the **2022 school year**, could you please complete the form using the link below. This form does not replace the Student Leaver's form which will also need to be completed at the time of your child's departure from the school.

[2021 Leaver Intention Form](#)

SCHOOL APP & REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES



Option 1

Using the school App allows you to report student absences, check the school calendar, read newsletters and receive important information via sms on your mobile phones (provided you allow push notifications). All this is available through our school App!

Download the school App NOW, to help us keep in touch!

(Download from Apple Store or Google Play).

Option 2

email **junior site** GoldCreek.StudentJuniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au

email **senior site** GoldCreek.StudentSeniorAbsences@ed.act.edu.au

Option 3

The other option is by leaving a short message via our dedicated absence number:

Junior Site: 6142 1344

Senior Site: 6142 1323

If using the number above, please leave a short message stating student name, year, PC class and reason for absence eg. Late/Sick or Leave.

School website and social media links



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE LEARNER PROFILE & WORDS OF WISDOM

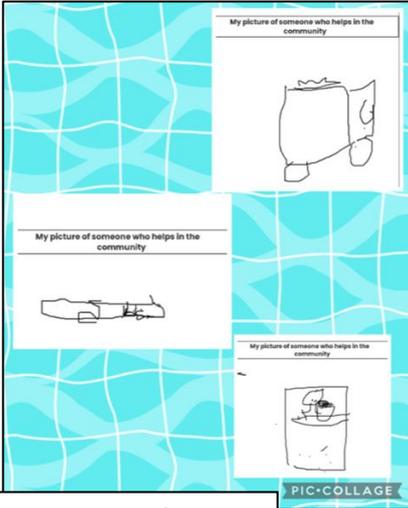
IB LEARNERS ARE:

INQUIRERS, KNOWLEDGEABLE, THINKERS, COMMUNICATORS,
PRINCIPLED, OPEN-MINDED, CARING, REFLECTIVE, BALANCED
and RISK-TAKERS.

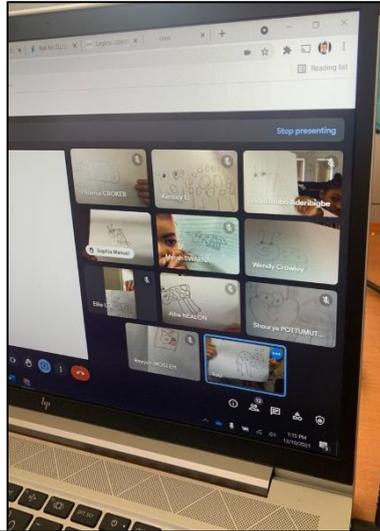
"There is no greater journey than the one that you must take to discover all of the mysteries that lie within you." - Michelle Sandlin.

"The capacity to reflect is at the heart of what it is to be an effective learner."
- Bill Lucas

Preschool students are enthusiastic learners! The children have shown such enthusiasm and resilience during our period of remote learning and have enjoyed sharing their learning with us via Seesaw. They have learnt new skills and demonstrated these in such diverse ways. They have been motivated inquirers and communicators and have demonstrated amazing determination. During our class group meetings, children have enjoyed sharing with their educators and friends, and have been so patient in adhering to microphone protocols and taking turns. This term we are learning about How We Organise Ourselves: discussing roles within our community.



These are some people in my neighbourhood – Arshiya Rainbow Bee Eaters



Directed drawing on Google Meets – Legless Lizards.



Ayla Legless Lizards – “These are my school clothes waiting for them to dry. And I’m waiting of them so I can go back to school. My job at school is to play and learn”.

My hero is a nurse that helps people in the ambulance. She's a hero cos she helps people get better when they are sick or injured.

Can you think of a hero in YOUR neighborhood? Who is it? What makes them a hero?



Alice – Swift Parrots



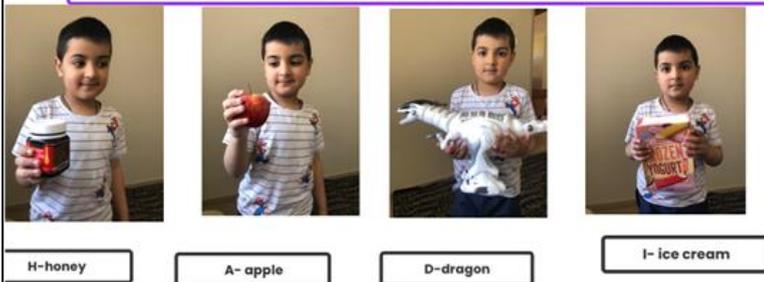
Skye wants to be a vet and her drawing is her taking an x-ray of an emu and a duck. Swift Parrots

My photos of items to spell my name



Swift Parrots

My photos of items to spell my name



Perunga Grasshoppers Directed Drawing

Google Meet - Let's Draw a Wombat!
What: We are going to draw a wombat together from our focus book 'Wombat Draw'
When: Today - Tuesday 9th October @ 10:30am
Where: Online Google Meet - Follow the Session Activity Link (it will be added shortly)
Bring: Paper and Pencil

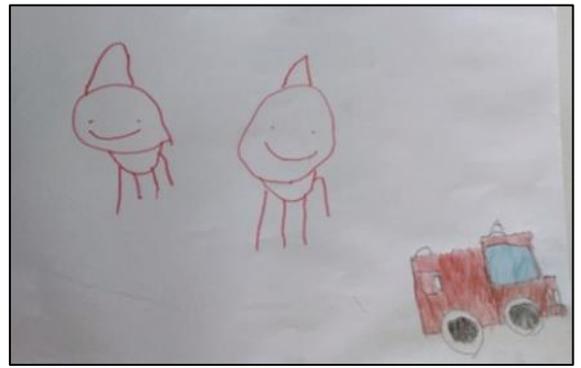


My picture of someone who helps in the community

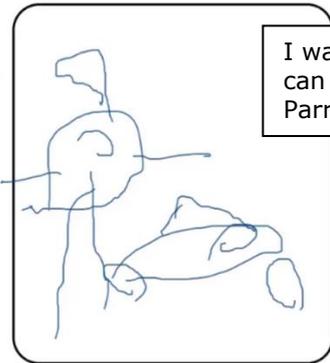


A Firefighter

Sofia – Swift Parrots



I want to be a fire fighter when I'm older. This is me and Dad standing at the truck and we have helmets on. William Swift Parrots



I want to be a police officer so I can catch baddies. Leo Swift Parrots



Liam's Post Office in his community. Swift Parrots.



Georgia – Rainbow Bee

What I learnt about Australia Post



Sophia – Legless



Ivy's koala – directed drawing activity. Swift Parrots



Alba making juice – Legless Lizards

Junior Site Library News

ONLINE BOOK FAIR Closes Sunday!

Do some Christmas shopping while supporting our Junior Site library to raise funding for 2022.

After following the steps on the invitation below don't forget to:

- add the Book Fair ID number and
- select 'Home Delivery' at the bottom of the Checkout.

The Book Warehouse
AFFORDABLE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES AND CHILD CARE CENTRES

Online Book Fair Invite

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
Nicholls Joint Facilities Library
ONLINE BOOK FAIR!

There are so many books to look at, it's like having a book shop at your finger tips
Online from 9th to the 17th October!

Fantastic Books at Fantastic Prices!
Jump online at www.thebookwarehouse.com.au
(No need to log in or register)

And start shopping.
A \$6 home delivery shipping fee will apply, simply add the following details at the bottom of the checkout page.

1. Book Fair ID **17431**
2. Students Name
3. Students Class

Every book sold during the Book Fair will earn our school up to 30% in commission
Home delivery fee of \$6.00 per order

All titles shown are subject to availability.

Thank You!

Keryn Hoeschle
Junior Site Teacher/Librarian

PE News

Athletics Carnival - The PE Team were delighted with the running of a successful school Athletics Carnival in Term 3. It was pleasing to see so many students entering a number of track and field events and trying their best. All place getters in each track and field event will be awarded a ribbon and we look forward to handing these ribbons out to each student when school returns from lockdown. Unfortunately, but in accordance with the school COVID-19 Safety Management Plan, we will not be able to welcome parents and care givers on site to celebrate these achievements at a school assembly, but this does not dampen the significance of each achievement. The PE Team look forward to distributing the ribbons to classroom teachers and allowing each class to celebrate the success of their peers in their own way.

School Sport - Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, School Sport ACT has had to cancel all events on the Term 4 School Sport ACT calendar. Whilst there is a possibility that some School Sport ACT events may return to the calendar, we accept that this is unlikely. What this means is that our students, like all other students across the ACT, will not have opportunities to participate in inter-school sporting events or School Sport ACT Representative Sport. As we welcome back our students to our school, the PE Team is looking forward to providing a range of sporting activities during class and at lunch times. We would like to thank School Sport ACT on their efforts this year to foster sporting opportunities to all Canberra students despite the difficulties presented by COVID-19.

Remote Learning - The PE Team would like to congratulate all students, parents and care givers who submitted their completed remote learning activities for PE during this period of lockdown. We are heartened to see such rich and diverse ways our students stay active and show resilience. Importantly, the ability to manage and participate in your own physical activity schedule is an important life skill and the PE Team is very impressed with each student who was able to successfully demonstrate this. We are eagerly looking forward to having the school doors open so that we can enjoy PE in face to face settings and to see the smiles on our students faces that PE can provide.

The PE Team

2022 Year 9/10 Electives

Year 8/9 students and parents, please be on the lookout next week for an email about 2022 Year 9/10 Electives. This email will include an Electives Guide with an outline of all the electives available in Semester One, 2022. A guide to using web preferences will also be included in the email. The web preference database will open up after the emails are sent, and students will be able to indicate their 2022 Elective preferences from this time. The closing date for choosing 9/10 Electives will be Tuesday 9 November 2021.

Library News – Urgent Call Out



shutterstock.com · 463737065

We currently have well over 1100 outstanding overdue library loans, and this of course comes as no surprise as we were all forced to go into lockdown back in August. Please take some time to begin fishing around at home for any loans that you might have. As soon as we return to face-to-face teaching, we ask that these be returned to the MYP Library. We will need to safely process the return of all items, and this takes time and plenty of love and care.

This message is particularly important to Year 10 students who finish earlier than other years. Please note that Year 10 Certificates will not be issued to students unless their library account is finalised. Any lost or damaged items will need to be paid for or replaced.

Students will still be able to continue accessing eBooks and audio books, as well as all the other digital resources available on Oliver>LearnPath at any time.

Thank you in advance for your help with this.

Mrs Porcheddu – Teacher Librarian

Year 8 Language & Literacy

Forest for the Red Room Poetry Competition

POEM FOREST is a free nature writing prize that literally breathes life back into the natural world that sustains us. Created by Red Room Poetry, in partnership with The Australian Botanic Garden, POEM FOREST deepens our connection with nature by inviting students and communities to use their words to make positive climate action. For every nature poem received a tree is planted to help heal habitats and create a POEM FOREST for future generations. All POEM FOREST Prize entries will be published and in the running for \$5,000 worth of prizes, including \$500 cash for each category, book packs from Copyright Agency and Magabala Books, as well as Garden tours, trees and publication opportunities. [Competition Link.](#)

Poem: Sets Me Free

Trees accompanying me,
As I stroll through the forrest
I am now free...
Time goes slow
My thoughts and mind rest
As I stride beyond the river it flows
I feel refreshed...
The insects crawling up my feet
I am where I belong
The wind passing through
Leaves rustling
This is the best view
I am here...
By Aastha Krishan



Poem: My Heart Remains Here

My head is in the clouds
My eyes are on the beautiful stars
I wander around in the forrest
My head dances with the flowers,
My soul is travelling somewhere else
But my heart remains here
I've neve felt so whole.
By Aastha Krishan



Poem: Another Night

I hug the tree
With my tears watering it
The wet moss at the bottom of my feet
The silence of the wood soothes me
The sky began to fill with grey
It starts to darken and rain
I fall to my knees
Can I be free?
By Aastha Krishan



Poem: The Reborn Forest

She felt burnt out
Like a fire brigade had poured water on a fire
She couldn't get up, she felt stuck
The tears streamed from her eyes
As notifications passed by
"A new task has been assigned"
Her mind was an endless blur
The forest that was once full of fire was gone
"I can't do this anymore" she slurred
But fires don't last forever
So later that day the forest was once again reborn
By Anastasia Pasic

Tanka Poem:

Leaves crunch like almonds
The oak is nourishing, enriched
Gradients of green
Smells of damp moss, wet tree trunks
Needle covered paths

By Max Cranfield

Haiku:

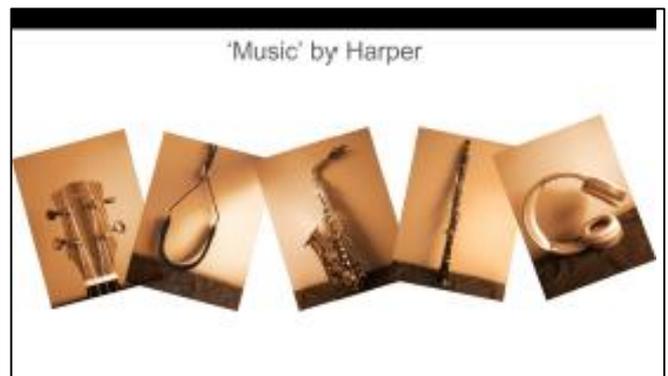
In the silent wood
I wonder through the forest
engulfed in nature

Cinquain:

Trees
Mighty, hollow
Swaying, breathing, living
They freshen the air
Timber

Year 8 Media Arts

Media Arts students in 8B and 8F have been working on their photography skills as part of their first unit this term. This week they were doing letter photography collages on their chosen theme. Here are some examples of their wonderful work - there will be some more to share with you next week!



Phil Simpson

Performing Arts activities this week

Band - We learnt more of Baden's arrangement of 'Octopus's Garden' this week - it's going well, and so great to be able to perform a student's arrangement. We also made a bit more progress with 'Selections from Mary Poppins' - it is SO fast! It definitely wakes everyone up and gets the energy flowing though!

Jazz Band - More Christmas festivities in Jazz Band this week - we started learning 'It's Beginning To Look Like Christmas' to add to their repertoire. We continued working on the awesome rhythms in 'Dynamite' too - can't wait to hear them all playing together at some point when we're back at school! They've nearly learnt all the Jazz Band music that we own as a school now.



Vocal Group - We started learning 'You Will Be Found' from Dear Evan Hansen this week - such a beautifully catchy song! We worked on learning some new harmony parts, and then started some planning for 'Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story' from Hamilton. We've got about 16 students attending regularly now, which is excellent!

Into the Woods - The full cast did a singing projection workshop on Monday, where we focused on our posture and projecting from the diaphragm. We then had some one-on-one vocal rehearsals for some of the lead characters. They are all working hard to make sure they don't forget their lyrics/notes! On Wednesday afternoon the ensemble practised dance routines to ensure they didn't forget, and the lead characters focused on some sections that they identified needed going over

DanceFest - The Dancefest students went over their routine to ensure that they don't forget it for when we return to school and get the opportunity to dance together again. We had a chat about motivation and what we can do in lockdown to keep going throughout this time whilst reflecting on all the awesome things we have done! The students are looking forward to dancing together again soon.



Phil Simpson and Ruth Williams

COMMUNITY NEWS

Community Services

IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH YOUR RENT

CONTACT LEGAL AID'S TENANCY ADVICE SERVICE
 ☎ : 1300 402 512
 OR CANBERRA COMMUNITY LAW
 ☎ : 02 6218 7900

EMERGENCY FOOD RELIEF DELIVERED FOR ACT RESIDENTS IN NEED

CALL VOLUNTEERING ACT
1800 43 11 33

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

CALL THE NATIONAL DEBT HELPLINE
1800 007 007

INTERPRETERS AVAILABLE

The guide at this [link](#) has been prepared by Volunteering ACT. Our Community Info Hub services provide emergency relief, meal services, short stay accommodation, and are accessible via phone and email.

Info Line 02 6248 7988 (9am-5pm, Monday-Friday)

Email info@volunteeringact.org.au

Visit www.communityinfohub.org.au to find more community services in the Canberra Region.

You can contact Eva or Macca should you like more information: Eva.B.Gasiewicz@ed.act.edu.au or Hamish.mcdonald@ed.act.edu.au

Other useful links

[Community Service Directorate](#)

[Talking to children about the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

[Helpful Strategies for Carers](#)

[abc.net.au-should you step in when your child has a dispute](#)

[Anxiety and Returning to School video series for parents and carers](#)

3 DAY EVENT
14TH - 16TH OCTOBER

ZERO & REWARDS CARD HOLDERS

20% OFF*
SCHOOLWEAR
& EVERYTHING ELSE!

DON'T HAVE A CARD? APPLY IN-STORE OR ONLINE & START ENJOYING THE BENEFITS

*T&C'S APPLY. SAVINGS OFF ORIGINAL PRICES. INSTORE & ONLINE

SHOP SCHOOLS ONLINE

SHOP SCHOOLWEAR

LOWES PRACTISES COVID SAFE MEASURES.

PAY-AS-YOU-WEAR!

Flatten your expense curve by paying off your LOWES purchases over 12-months with your Zero Card.

PLUS take an EXTRA 5% OFF your purchases.

CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LOWES ZERO CARD >

OSHC AT HOME

Powered by OSHClub

WEEKLY PLANNER

-  Activity Sheet
-  Video Activity
-  Reading Corner
-  Challenge
-  Live Stream
-  STEM
-  Art & Craft
-  Mindfulness
-  Physical Activity
-  Cooking

OSHClub 
Outside School Hours Care

-  All Ages
-  Ages 5-7
-  Ages 8-12
-  Hands on
-  Hands off

MONDAY

GOOD VIBRATIONS DANCE CLASS BY CDI

Join Creative Dance Industries for a fantastic new jazz dance routine to the tune of "Good Vibrations". Slip into some comfy clothes and stretch your limbs, it's time to get funky.



TUESDAY

KIDS KITCHEN:NICE CREAM

Feeling a little hungry? Join Christine in the kitchen to make this easy and yummy Banana Chocolate Nice Cream. Mmmm who doesn't love 'Nice Cream'.



WEDNESDAY

BLOTTED PAINT BUTTERFLIES

Grab your paints and paper! We're making beautiful, blotted paint butterflies with Educator Lynette. This activity can get a little messy, so we recommend wearing a smock or an old shirt!



THURSDAY

DANCE YOGA FUN

Educators Hannah and Clare are going to teach you a dance yoga routine. For this one, you can grab a partner or do it by yourself. Shake out your limbs and let's get moving.



FRIDAY

AT-HOME CELERY EXPERIMENT

Have you ever wondered how plants get water from their roots all the way up to their leaves? This simple celery experiment shows how coloured water travels up a celery stalk.



PAINTED GLASS JARS

Paints out and smocks on. Today we're going to make decorated glass jars. How will you use your new painted jar? You could use it to keep your pencils in or maybe even as a vase.



PEG TIGGY MOOVOSITY

A fresh twist on a classic game. Time to stretch your legs and get moving? Why not try Peg Tiggy from Moovosity. You can play with a sibling or get the whole family involved in the fun.



KIDS KITCHEN: RICE PAPER ROLLS

Rolling for a yummy lunch time break? Well then this is the one for you. Join Educator Danielle in the Kids Kitchen to make some rice paper rolls with your favourite fillings.



BEE ROCKART

Let's get painting and create little rock bees to go around your garden. All you need are some stones or pebbles, paint, brushes, and your creativity.



LOOSE PARTSPLAY

Gather up a range of household objects for some loose parts play with Educator Chantelle - make sure you bring your creativity and imagination! What will you create?

