

Term 3 2018

# The *Engineering Express*

*Engineering for All – Come on Board!*



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## The EFA Team

Leading Mater Dei School's **Engineering for All (EFA)** team is Dr Bree Jimenez, our in-resident Research Consultant. The class teachers involved with the EIE Research are Jen Twine (3/4 McCabe) and Gemma Croft (6 MacKillop). The teachers are implementing an adapted but aligned Engineering in Elementary (EiE) program. Eryn Longeran is currently the Acting Assistant Principal, Jacqueline Gorey is the Leader of Mission and Vision and is also involved in establishing the Engineering Research framework and will be involved with the coding process and documenting the study.



Mrs Jacqueline Gorey, Mrs Jen Twine, Dr Bree Jimenez Ms Gemma Croft, and Mrs Eryn Lonergan (absent).

The EiE research project aims to study effect of the research-based EiE designed by the Museum of Science, Boston, USA. While the curriculum has extensive research to support its use in primary classrooms, with a wide-range of students, no research has been conducted on its use with students with extensive support needs (students with intellectual disability). We aim to gain expertise in teaching engineering as part of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) curriculum, the EiE curriculum itself and develop the adaptations /modifications necessary for our students to engage in meaningful engineering curriculum. Specifically, we will research the student outcomes associated with the implementation of the program (i.e. science and engineering practices: student engagement, communication and problem solving).



Mater Dei celebrated National Science Week with an Engineering Day on August 13th. The EfA team did a fabulous job in presenting Engineering challenges for the students. All the staff and students were very hands on during the day, creating solutions within criterias! The students created bridges, flight towers and stethoscopes, all with the aim to make society a safer and better place!

On July 2nd, Dr Bree Jimenez and one of our class teachers Ms Gemma Croft presented at the University of Sydney's 'Successful Learning Conference'. They spoke on how using the Four Stages of learning, as the basis for Evidence- Based Practice and Instruction in the classroom.



The EIE team participated in another Research Information in-service at the AIS on August 27<sup>th</sup> 2018. The day focused on what stages our research data collection was up to and what directions we were headed along. We discussed our Poster Presentation that will be presented on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the AIS Education Research Symposium at Ultimo.



On August 29<sup>th</sup>, the EfA team presented to our school staff on the progress and future direction of our research project. The staff was shown how the project continues to be implemented into the lessons.

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