



Australian Early Development Census

## Pre-primary Classes May – July 2015

### Schools get ready for the 2015 Australian Early Development Census (AEDC)

#### What is the AEDC?

In early 2015, our school, along with thousands of others across the country, will begin preparations for the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC). Since 2009, results from the AEDC have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families where it is needed most.

The AEDC measures childhood development in children during their first year of full-time school time (**Pre-primary classes only**) to establish a national picture of health and wellbeing. Teachers are trained to assess children individually, but the final results are reported as groups of anonymous children at school, community, state/territory and national levels.

Census results are already being used to help young children and families in a range of ways: communities providing new playgrounds and parental services, schools seeing improved student performance through new literacy programmes and governments using

results as evidence to develop more targeted policies for children.

Aside from the usefulness of the data for helping communities, teachers have also noticed practical benefits in the classroom. Some said that completing the AEDC made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole. Others reported that the census results helped in their planning for transitions to school and in developing class programmes.

In late 2014, our school was provided a copy of the previous results - an AEDC School Summary and access to a school profile. This profile is available to staff to help with school planning, however is not for public use.

To find out how other communities are using census results to help children and families visit the AEDC website at [www.aedc.gov.au/schools/school-stories](http://www.aedc.gov.au/schools/school-stories)