



## NEWSLETTER

# FISHER ROAD SCHOOL

*'Together we can'*



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

**Welcome back to all our students! It is wonderful to have our students return full time. Unfortunately there are still restrictions in place which mean we can not engage in all our fabulous programs. We are looking forward to getting back into the pool and will be doing a lot of in-school work experience for the interim. Students and staff are loving our new rainbow walk!**





# SUPERSITTERS

Support Workers with a Difference

**ABALink  
SuperSitters  
are  
Behaviourally  
Trained**



ABALink staff provide Intentional  
Engagement & Support for Children & Young  
Adults with Autism in the comfort of your  
home or community

**(02) 9411 4618**

[Supersitter@abalink.com.au](mailto:Supersitter@abalink.com.au)

### Available Sydney Metro

Our employees meet  
NDIS Registered Provider  
worker screening requirements

- National Police Checks
- Working With Children Check
- First Aid and CPR
- NDIS Code of Conduct

[abalink.com.au/supersitters](http://abalink.com.au/supersitters)

### Tailor Supports to suit you!

ABALink SuperSitters are able to:

- Engage 1:1 with your Child
- Offer Fun Activities
- Support NDIS Goals
- Assist with increased independence and community participation
- Integrate therapy goals naturally into activities and outings



ABALink is an approved NDIS Registered Provider # 4050000904



**Please be aware that from this week the pedestrian gate near the entry driveway will be closed. Parents and students walking in are requested to use the pedestrian gate with the intercom (southern end).**

**Parents and visitors are reminded that they are not to be on site except for drop off and pick up. If you are visiting or dropping students to school outside of start and finish times please follow school procedure and wait in the foyer.**

**If the office is unattended there is a bell on the front counter. These procedures are in place for the safety and well-being of our students and staff.**

## **P & C NEWS**

**A huge thank you to our new P & C Committee**

**President - Katy Hair**

**Treasurer - Vicki Taylor**

**Secretary - Samantha Arnison**



## CLASS MP

Our class is pleased to have everyone back. Last week we were all together for morning circle the first time in more than a month. It was nice to see everyone actively participate in the activity such as following simple instructions like passing an item to the person next to them or choosing a sensory item from a container. We were also trialing the use of Objects of Reference in setting up our timetable and so far, there has been some positive response. From May 27 to June 3 is National Reconciliation Week. We have been immersing ourselves with activities that involve painting using specific colors and reading books and listening to songs on Aboriginal culture. During Covid-19 we have been utilizing the school oval instead of going to community parks. Laragh, Jasper, Gwyneth, Dylan and Geoffrey do laps around the oval while Alexandra tries her best to complete a lap. After the walk, they have a choice of riding a bike, going on the swing, using the trampoline or hammock, various gym equipment or just chilling out in the sensory garden. It is great to have alternative resources within reach. However, we do look forward to our community activities.

Maria, Sandy and Sue R





## National Reconciliation Week 2020

**On this journey, Australians are all In This Together; every one of us has a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories and cultures. At Fisher Road School students are engaged in everyday activities that acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples across Key Learning Areas. Students have been decorating designs of native animals in colourful patterns, listening to sensory stories about Aboriginal culture, participating in the Yarning Circle and communicating with each other.**

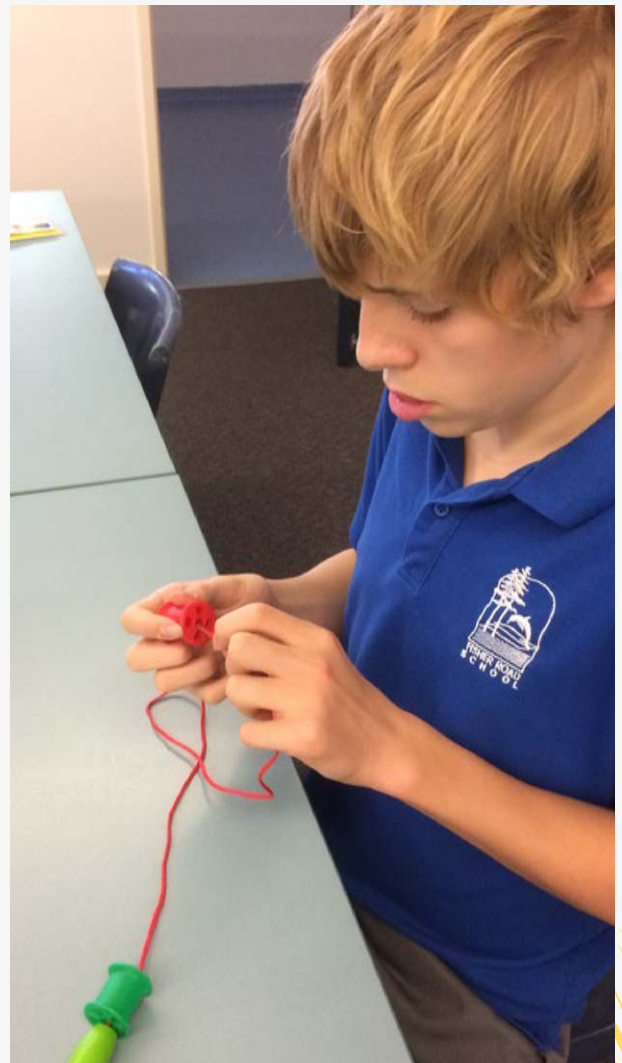
**Students are very enthusiastic about the community project at the front of the school. So far, we have learnt about the Dreamtime story of the Rainbow Serpent who created the valleys and river beds and Tiddalick the Frog who brought the floods to fill the streams and rivers. Aunty Caroline Glass-Pattison is our cultural mentor and is advising us on our designs for the front of the school including a Welcome Wall. Students have experimented with using underglazes on ceramic tiles to paint their designs. We look forward to seeing more of the artwork.**



# CLASS NS

All of the students in Class NS are happy to be back at school full-time and doing their normal school routines. I have been very impressed with the way they have all coped with the disruptions to their usual home/school routines, despite the limitations that the Covid-19 restrictions have imposed, such as no swimming and the modification of some of their group activities. From a staff point of view, it is so much better to have everyone back in class and a return to normality. In the attached photos, you can see some of the Class NS students busily engaged in their usual activities.

Nick, Sam and Mandy





# CLASS VR



Just prior to the Covid-19 lockdown, Class VR acquired some tadpoles which we couldn't wait to see develop into frogs. We checked out the lifecycle of frogs and discovered we needed to feed the tadpoles' boiled lettuce or spinach, it was exciting to watch and see them rush toward the food when we placed it in their container. Tadpoles first grow front legs, then back legs and then they lose their tails to become little frogs. Kari took our tadpoles' home over the holidays and fed them and changed their water. Some turned into frogs and she put them into a separate container, they are Striped Marsh Frogs. The frogs like to eat little crickets. Our class will release the frogs and remaining tadpoles into the School frog pond once we have cleared out some branches and put in some clean water.

Virginia and Carmel



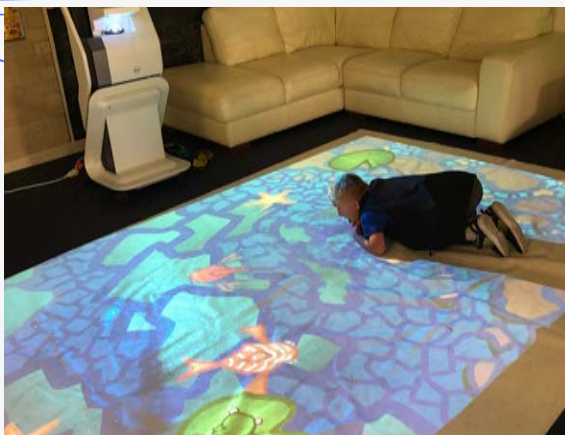
**What's been new in Class AP in Term 2? The biggest new thing is me! A warm "hello" to all the Fisher Road School community. My name is Annette Palmer and I have commenced at Fisher Road as an Assistant Principal. I am thrilled to have joined the dedicated team at Fisher Road School. I have been working in the special education field since 1992 and have been in leadership roles since 2000. In the field of special education, Fisher Road School has a reputation of best practice and the implementation of progressive, innovative teaching and learning programs in a very happy setting. I feel so proud and fortunate to be here!! I am a dynamic, respectful, energetic and resilient person. I am a Mum, wife, sister and daughter who is very passionate about teaching in special education, supporting children with disabilities, and their families, to live their best lives. I am looking forward to meeting and working with all members of the school community and contributing all that I can. I thank Arianne and all the staff of Fisher Road School for the wonderful welcome I have received. My time at Fisher Road School so far has been very enjoyable and has, for the most part, been dedicated to getting to know the 5 endearing Class AP boys who have been attending school on varying days of the week. We have enjoyed exploring the story Handa's Surprise alongside Class FR and have been engaging in a wide variety of KLA-based activities. I thank the Class AP parents who have made me feel so welcome and I look forward to us continuing to gel as a happy team of learners.**

**Annette and Alena**





# CLASS LS



Class LS are enjoying being back together again. It's Autumn now and we have been exploring the changes in our environment. Brown, orange, crunchy leaves have started falling from the trees. Henry, Isla and Lachlan have been busy collecting leaves, sticks and bark for the Autumn display in our classroom. We have also taken advantage of the sunshine and enjoyed some time outside getting exercise. Jumping on the trampoline and bike riding around the oval has been lots of fun! We are lucky to have 'Herb' in our classroom at the moment. This is an interactive computer system that projects images onto a mat on the floor. The children can use their hands, feet and body movements to visit different planets and enjoy a variety of cause and effect activities. Our favourite place to visit is the pond, where we can listen to the tranquil sounds of water and nature. Our movements cause ripples in the water and we all enjoy trying to catch the fish and frogs, as they move around underneath us.

Lainie, Sandy and John

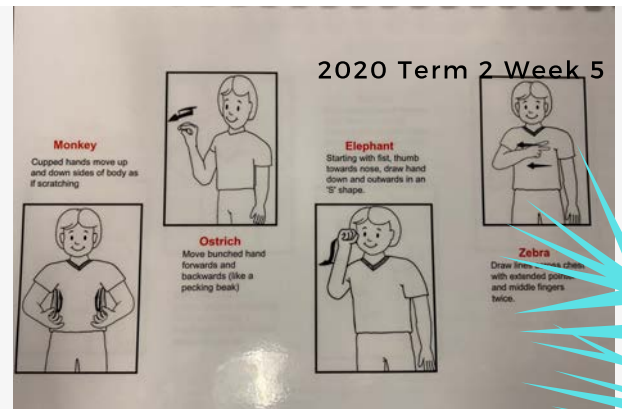




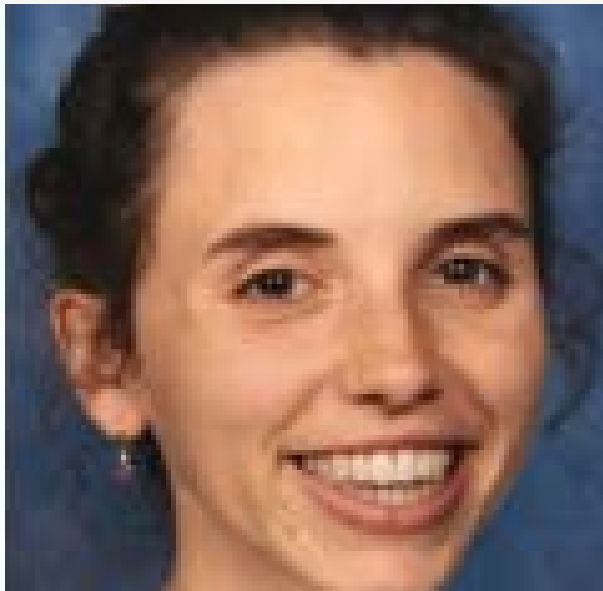
# CLASS FR

Together again! Wow it is great to be back to routine. With a new term comes a new theme. This term's theme is based around the book *Handa's surprise* by Eileen Browne. We are loving this book and all the fun activities and learning experiences it is providing. We are learning the Key Word Signs that go along with this book and this helps us to comprehend and retell the story. For those of us using Proloquo2go, we are able to retell the story using the iPad. We are also having many adventures on our "trip" to Africa. We loved our flight to Africa and the safari's we have taken to find Zebras, parrots and other animals. The class are also enjoying dressing up in African animal outfits and playing in the *Handa's hut*. If you come by our classroom, pop your head in and join us on our trip to Africa.

Fran, Rebecca and Ebony.







## **OUR NEW SCHOOL COUNSELLOR**

**Hello Fisher Road parents, carers and friends! My name is Isobel Burchett and I have just started at Fisher Road School as the new school counsellor. I will be at Fisher Road School each Tuesday. On the other days of the week I will be at Curl Curl North Public School and Mackellar Girls High School. I am passionate about working with students with disabilities, and their families and teachers, to support them to enjoy school and progress in their learning and development. I am really looking forward to getting to know, and being part of, the Fisher Road School community. If you would like to speak with me about your child, you can speak with your child's teacher or the front office and they will put you in contact with me. Hope to meet you soon!**

**Isobel**

# CLASS TH



Class TH had a farewell party for Dallas during Week 5 of this term. Dallas has moved to the Central Coast. Cupcakes were made by the class, and were eaten as the class enjoyed watching a slideshow of all the wonderful things Dallas achieved at Fisher Road School. Unfortunately we also said goodbye to the lovely Ruby, who has moved outside the area.

We wish both of these beautiful girls, all the very best at their new schools.

Trish and Sue W







## CLASS SB

Class SB is super happy to be back at school! We have had big smiles all round. Our boys have settled back into school life beautifully and we are picking up where we left off with our class programs. We love singing lots of ABC songs and learning the letter sounds. We have been accessing the Reading Eggs program on our Interactive White Board and it is lovely to see the boys learning together and taking turns whilst interacting with the program. We have also been busy decorating our room with new art and craft projects. WOW do we make a great mess while we are painting! It is all fun and we don't mind the clean up!

Sally, Justine and Nanaako





## CLASS JK



Class JK are all so happy to be back at school and were all excited to see their friends again. Over the last few weeks we have been trying to stick to our regular routines where it was possible. We have been unable to see our music therapist so the class has really enjoyed the music therapy sessions that Anita has put up onto google classrooms. The children were very excited to see her and to play along on instruments. We have also been doing a lot of Tacpac sessions. It is a big hit in our class and it helps the students to regain focus and to regulate their senses. Heath and Rafaela particularly enjoy this program. We look forward to returning to most of our class programs and are very excited to have the class JK gang back together!

Julie & Jenny





**At the term 2 Staff Development Day, Teachers were engaged in professional learning about Teaching Sprints, a new way for teachers to be involved in improvement practice. Building quality teachers has a positive impact on student learning outcomes. The focus for Term 2 is Explicit Teaching and Direct Instruction. Teachers have been working in class groups and reading articles about evidence based practice that will be implemented over a four week Teaching Sprint. Teachers will evaluate their teaching practice and develop strategies that improve results in student achievement.**

**Also, In staff meetings we have been highlighting a best practice strategy known as Wait Time which allows students time to think and process a request. In inclusive Education, it is suggested that there should be 10 seconds Wait Time between asking a question and receiving a response.**

**For Life Skills activities, the Wait Time can be up to 1 - 2 minutes and longer for higher order thinking and cognitive processing. The staff are very interested at seeing the results of this evidence based practice.**

**I have also been meeting with individual teachers to work together on planning teaching strategies, programming and learning goals. It will be a fantastic opportunity to CoTeach in classrooms and focus on particular strategies in learning for student achievement. We have been developing resources in Video Modelling which is a strategy that provides short videos of expected behaviours such as working together in a group and playing nicely in the sand pit. As students watch the Video Model, they learn positive behaviours.**

**Caroline White**



# Year 12 Jackets 2020

**Check out our current Year 12 students in their 2020 Jackets. The jackets are very smart and our students are very proud to wear them.**

**Virginia**







## CLASS MT

Class MT are excited to welcome a new student into our class. Whitney joined us for our Zoom sessions from the end of last term and was finally able to join us onsite from week 2 this term. Whitney has settled nicely into our class and school routines. And for some more exciting news from the class, last week both Liam and Aidan celebrated their birthdays. Their parents must know that all of the students in the class and the teacher love doughnuts because both boys brought in donuts to celebrate their birthdays.

Matt and Sue M



## From our School Captain

**Our School Captain, Russell Holmes is preparing a submission to the Principal for a vending machine at Fisher Road School. Having encountered a vending machine at Bunnings Warehouse, Russell decided it would be beneficial to have one here at School. His submission argues that students could learn about making choices between nutritional food and 'sometimes' food as rewards for good work. He also recognises the opportunity to use money in a realistic situation and the need to calculate any change which would be expected. Our older students will encounter vending machines at work experience and indeed at work when they leave school. Having access to a vending machine under supervision at school could help to prepare our students to make good choices at work. The Principal will consider this proposal.**





Chantelle



good



afternoon



everyone



I



feel



very



happy



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captain



Road



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to a good



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thank you

Russell



Good afternoon



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Year 12



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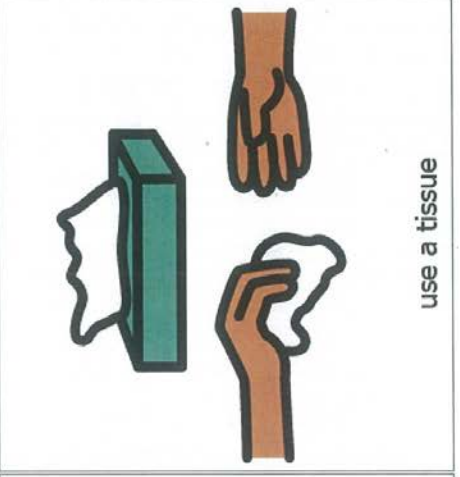
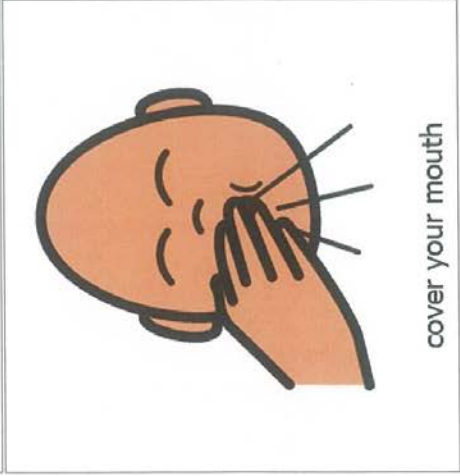
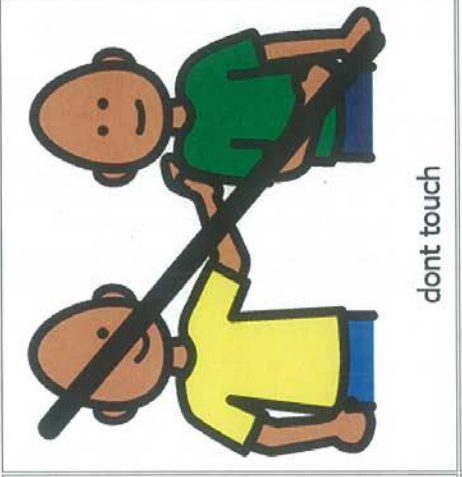
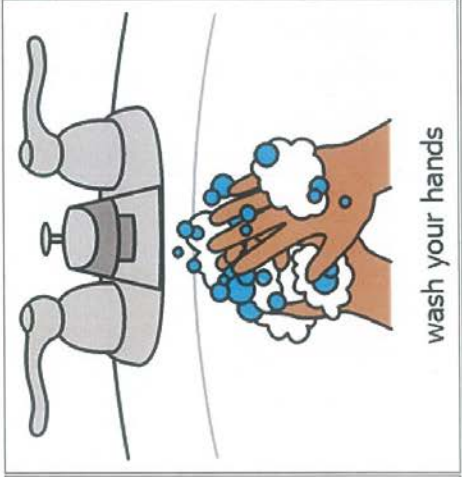
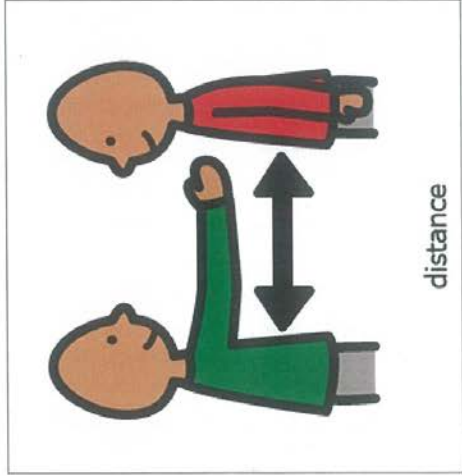


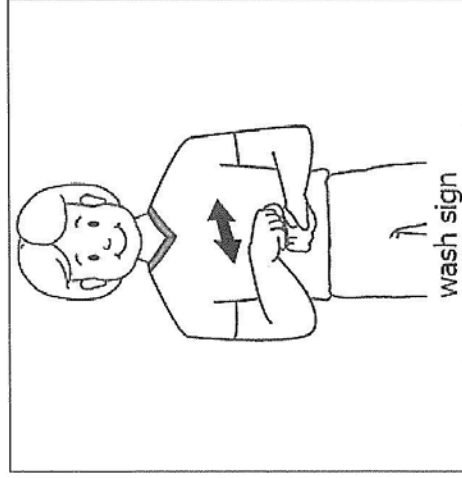
Captain



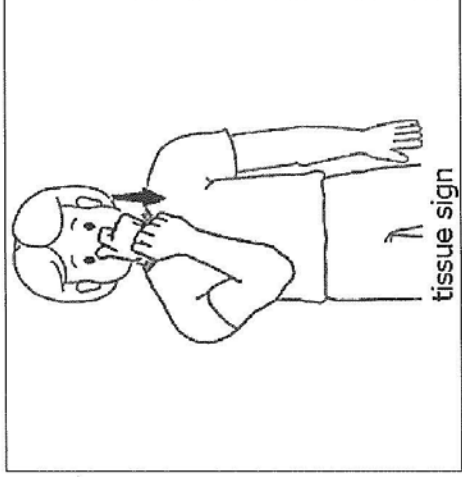
Thank you



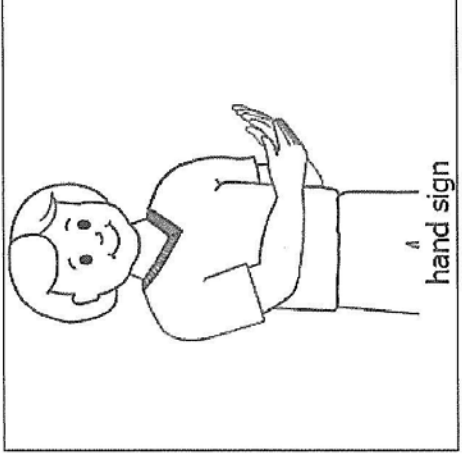




How to sign the word **WASH**:  
Rub fingers of fisted hands together.













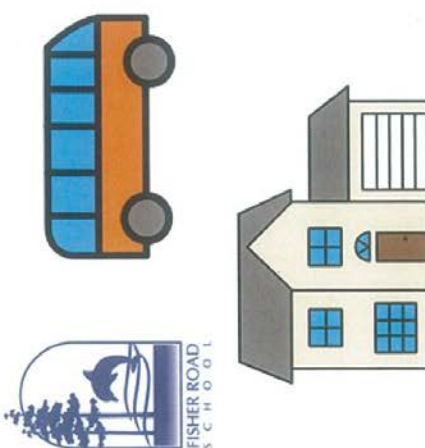






How to sign the word **TISSUE**:  
Start with pointer finger hooked and thumb extended on either side of nose bring hand down closing thumb and pointer into fist.



How to sign the word **HAND**:  
Hold one hand flat with palm facing you, fingertips pointing upwards. With your other hand grasp your first hand so that the thumb holds onto the palm and all the other fingers are holding the back of the hand.



 <p>change clothes</p>	 <p>listen to music</p>	 <p>shower</p>	 <p>finished</p>
 <p>wash your hands</p>	 <p>free time</p>	 <p>swing</p>	 <p>no</p>
 <p>unpack backpack</p>	 <p>afternoon tea</p>	 <p>play outside</p>	 <p>yes</p>
 <p>home from school</p>	 <p>play basketball</p>	 <p>stop</p>	 <p>I want</p>
 <p>watch tv</p>			