

## PEER TEACHING WORKSHOPS HAVE BEEN SO MUCH FUN!

We all had such a fantastic time during our Peer Teaching Workshops! We began with some tips for effective communication, and then ran Ambassadors through some fun ocean-related activities about our local marine species, the issues they face, and how we can all act to protect our precious marine environment. The Ambassadors practised teaching each other and supported each other throughout the sessions! Ambassadors then became the teachers, and did a brilliant job of teaching the younger grades!

Many Ambassadors commented that they were so nervous at the beginning of the day, and they were surprised how much fun they had teaching! It is so inspiring to watch the Ambassadors gain the confidence to learn and effectively teach the younger students, and their support for each other was a pleasure to witness! Thank you so much to St. Finbars and Sandringham Primary for hosting us, and the ISIC teachers and parent/carers for transporting Ambassadors, we are so grateful!



*"Nature is not a place to visit, it is home." Gary Snyder.*



## WORLD ENVIRONMENT WEEK DAILY 'ICHAT' SERIES

Leading up to World Environment Day we hosted ICHATS with people who work and volunteer in marine conservation! David Donnelly, DRI's Field Research Officer thrilled Ambassadors with stories of dolphin and whale encounters! Paleontologist Ben Francishelli chatted about his field research on fascinating Australian fossils, and Dr Prue Francis from Queenscliff Marine Science Centre discussed her amazing research on the Great Southern Reef. Finally, Marine Biologist, Fam Charko presented on a community project helping identify and remove the Northern Pacific seastar in our local waters.

## I SEA I CARE 'ICHAT' FUN FOR AFTER SCHOOL!

Our online ISIC ICHAT sessions support our Ambassadors throughout the year. The first ICHAT focused on learning Auslan signs with Michelle Hughes, and we loved learning some of our theme words such as 'i sea i care', and Reduce, Reuse and Recycle! Other ICHAT'S focused on Climate Change facts, issues, and solutions, and the issues with sustainable fishing. IF YOU MISS AN ICHAT, do not fear as recorded ICHAT session links are posted to your parent's/carer's emails.



## DRI RESEARCH TEAM UPDATE ON MARINNA AND FAMILY!

In 2012, a dolphin called Jean gave birth to little Marinna. Marinna suffered a horrible injury to her back when she was only four. It was a miracle she wasn't paralysed or killed. She seemed to heal well, with a deep scar on her back as a sign of her accident. Then in 2021, something extraordinary happened - Marinna became a MUM! - but there is more...Marinna now has a second calf!

Marinna's calves are adding to the third generation of this remarkable community of common dolphins! In 2022 we recorded the birth of six calves. Knowledge of dolphins recovering from injury, calving and calf survival is crucial to understanding the health of this dolphin community. Because they are top-order predators, it also reflects positively on the health of our ecosystems. The 2023 PHILLIP ISLAND WHALE FESTIVAL has online and on site activities 30th June- 2nd July. Meet the research team, and participate in a range of super fun activities!

