

31st July 2026

Session Overview

I Am Me: Imagination, Identity & Growing Together

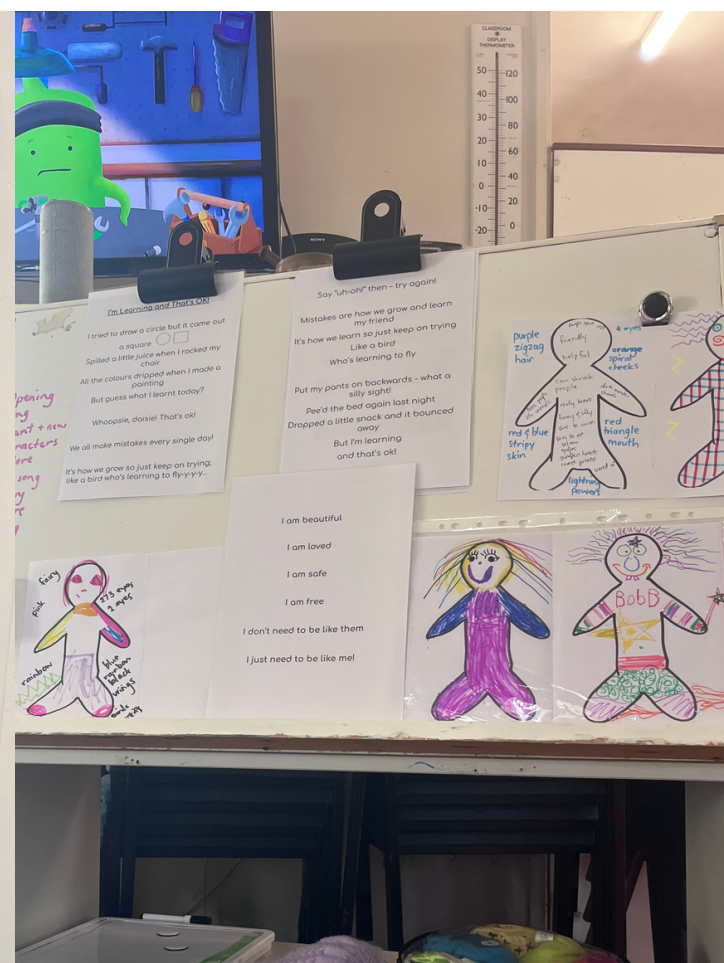
We began our first Balance & Bloom session of the new term with a lovely opportunity to reconnect, welcome some new friends into our community, and settle back into our familiar rhythm together.

Our opening circle included some of our much-loved songs and rituals, including *First You Make Your Fingers Click*, our problem-solving song, and a new positive affirmations chant:

I am beautiful. I am loved. I am safe. I am free.

I don't need to be like them.

I just need to be like me.



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We then explored the idea of character through **imaginative character design**. Together we co-constructed a character before inviting children to create their own, using gingerbread-shaped templates, paper shapes, drawing, writing and lots of imagination. Children could also bring their characters to life through our Nature Playdough invitation, with different colours of playdough, googly eyes and gingerbread cutters available for **open-ended character creation**.

Our imaginative theme continued into the sensory play space, where children excavated frozen pieces of red cabbage in the tuff tray. These became our very own "monster brains" – a **playful sensory invitation inspired by the monster characters we were exploring through our learning**.

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We also introduced the first two ClassDojo Big Ideas videos, meeting Mojo and Katie and beginning to explore growth mindset, mistakes and the idea that we can keep learning when things don't go the way we hoped.

This connected beautifully with our new song for the term,
"I'm Learning & That's Okay" (Oopsie Daisy):

*"Oopsie daisy, that's ok! We all make mistakes every single day.
It's how we learn so just keep on trying
Like a bird who's learning to fly..."*



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Throughout the session, our familiar provocation spaces remained open for **children to follow their own interests**. The mindful colouring tablecloth continued to be a popular creative invitation, while our collection of nature and social-emotional books offered opportunities for **quiet exploration**. Whiteboards and pens emerged for **character drawings, setting designs, letter writing and spontaneous creative ideas**— including some wonderfully imaginative characters!

We also introduced our new Balance & Bloom session booklets, with printed and laminated overviews of previous sessions for children to explore, remember and reminisce about the experiences we've shared together. It was lovely to see the children looking back at our journey and recognising familiar experiences from their time in the community.



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Our finger puppets also returned to the middle of the mat, supporting **imaginative role-play** and helping children extend their character ideas into different settings and stories.

It was a beautiful beginning to the new term – **reconnecting with one another** while gently opening up new threads of **identity, imagination, growth mindset, self-belief** and the courage to keep learning when things don't go perfectly.

Arohanni,

Becki, Sean & Donovan



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