



Lucas Gardens School

Celebrating Ability Through High Expectations

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23 November 2018

Dates for Your Diary

29 November – Parent/Carer Coffee Meeting

30 November – Graduation Dinner

11 December – Presentation Day

14 December - SRC Crazy Sock/Shoe Day

19 December – Last day of Term 4 for students

30 January 2019 – First Day of Term 1 for students



Principal's Message

Thank you to all parents/carers who have returned their RSVPs and payments for the Graduation Dinner being held on Friday 30 November. I am confident it will be a very special occasion and thank the organising team, led by Jen Angelini, for their invaluable contributions. The evening commences at 6pm and I look forward to seeing you there.

I encourage all parents/carers to attend the Coffee Meeting organised by Mary Mouawad for Thursday 29 November, with special guest speaker, Lance Brooks from Communities for Communities. Lance has

kindly offered to share his expertise around fundraising. Thank you Lance and Mary for your boundless enthusiasm and willingness to support our students.

On Wednesday, it was an honour and privilege to attend the Principals Network Awards evening. The Lucas Gardens School parent nominee, Mrs Mary Mouawad, received an award for her exemplary support of our students and I know you will join me in congratulating Mary for her sustained efforts and commitment over the last seven years. Mary's positive nature and 'can do' philosophy has made a significant difference to the learning outcomes of our students and we are delighted that she has been recognised by the Department of Education in this way.

Recently, you received two surveys relating to school planning and our leadership team. The survey results help inform us about future directions and form part of our self-evaluation, ensuring we continue to offer outstanding educational programs. Thank you in anticipation of your support for this process. Results will form part of the data we publish each year in our Annual Report.

This week an impressive group of students visited us from St Aloysius College, providing our students with an opportunity to engage with their peers. I congratulate the St Aloysius students for the way they conducted themselves, with many commenting on the impressive range of programs offered to students at Lucas Gardens School.

Kind regards

Jenny Zagas

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Be Respectful

Be a Learner

Library

For Term 4, we have been primarily focusing on the *Engaging Asia* topic through exploring Vietnam. In library, we have been reading Anh and Suzanne Do's book, 'The Littlest Refugee.' This book informed students about his journey from Vietnam to Australia.

Continuing with our *Engaging Asia* unit, we also read a classic folktale from Vietnam 'How the Tiger Got His Stripes.' Students used visual arts techniques to create a vibrant wall piece dedicated to this story, painting bright yellow stars with red backgrounds to represent the Vietnamese flag.



Vietnamese flags for Engaging Asia

Students also crafted some beautiful flowers to decorate our library walls, inspired by the characters in Anna Walker's novel, 'Florette.'



'Florette' inspired wall display

Library lessons will recommence next year as we now move towards the annual stocktake.

Next year will again be full of reading and other fun and engaging library activities. I would like to remind all parents/carers to return their children's borrowed library books as soon as possible to assist with the stocktake process. Your cooperation is invaluable.

See you next year!



Archie & Malayka painting flags

Georgia

Primary 6

Students in Primary 6 have continued to have a busy Term 4. For mathematics, we have been looking at different ways to make patterns. They have been exploring this concept by experimenting with various materials in the classroom including blocks and magnetic letters. Students enjoyed this approach to learning as it allowed them to see how patterns look different depending on the pattern material.



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Andrew and Ryle exploring patterns for mathematics

In English we have been exploring the text 'The Walking Stick' by Maxine Trottier. This book is part of our *Engaging Asia* unit where we are studying Vietnam. The boys were given the opportunity to engage further with the text by completing a jigsaw puzzle of one of the illustrations. They demonstrated excellent problem solving skills during this activity.



Richard completing the jigsaw from 'The Walking Stick'

Students have been enjoying our physical education sessions where they continue to develop their ball handling skills. They have been practising throwing, catching and kicking balls. Andrew has been enjoying the challenge of shooting goals on our basketball court.



Jayson practises his throwing skills during physical education

Michelle and Danielle

Primary 7/Secondary 1

What an exciting term for students, the swimming program has returned, it is the final term of the year, and the festive season is upon us! The joyful anticipation is consistently displayed on the student's faces, especially with their interactions with staff. What a privilege it is to be part of this learning process!

As an extension of the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education key learning area, students are working towards developing and increasing group interactions and fundamental movement skills through participation in ball catching skills and games.



Sehal making a great catch

Our physical education lessons in the Hydro Centre remain one of the highlights of each year as it allows us to see the students continuously developing water confidence. The benefits from this program are relaxed limbs and improved resilience as a result of stretching techniques and movements throughout all physical activities.



Clare and Isaac enjoying a lesson in the water

Sunday, 11 November 2018 marked the centennial anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War. The students in Primary 7/Secondary 1 prepared for this marked occasion during Term 3 by learning about ANZAC soldiers, their values, sacrifices and how we should embrace their legacy. Our students should be commended on their exceptional reaction and participation during our school tribute and commemorative assembly by making poppies, wreaths and exploring the symbolic significance of the service.



Bianca, Daniel and Morgan making wreaths

Stanton and Nobuko

Primary 2

In English, we have focused on writing skills and phonics. For Term 4 we have concentrated on the letters C, B and U. Students have been learning how to write these letters as well as pre handwriting activities such as drawing lines and patterns. The students have improved their pencil grip through fine motor skill activities.



Antonia practising writing the letter U

Primary 2 students continue to develop their abilities in mathematics through whole numbers. We have been working on one to one correspondence through hands on learning. We have used the Commbox to practise counting up to 5 and backwards from 5.

We have also used music to aid us in our mathematics knowledge, through counting songs. One of the students' favourite songs is '5 fat sausages' and we enjoy acting out the song with our toy sausages and pan.



Alana working on a clay candleholder

In Primary 2 we have been learning more about India by discovering its traditions and customs. We have crafted decorations in visual arts to honour Diwali, as it is celebrated in November. Our flower garlands look fantastic in our classroom! The students recently made candleholders with clay, which we painted with bright colours and decorated with gems and sequins. We look forward to continuing to learn about the Indian culture and their celebrations.



Alicia painting her clay candleholder



Harriet with her finished product

Francyne and Vicki

Secondary 2

Secondary 2 continue to explore all things associated with China, presenting lots of exciting learning opportunities.

In science this term, students focused on different Chinese habitats, exploring animals best suited to these environments. We focused on the Chinese Himalayas, forests in China and the Gobi desert. Students were able to explore what they might see in each place, and match animals to the correct habitat.



Muhamad and Katherine exploring animals living in the forests in China

In mathematics, we are focusing on understanding graphs and pictograms and have been making our own by sorting and counting objects, then representing them on simple graphs. We have been using objects we can find in China to count, such as lanterns.



Luke making a pictogram using different colours of Chinese lanterns

For our history and art projects, we completed work on ancient places in China, and made 3D replicas of places such as the Great Wall, Terracotta Army and the Forbidden Palace and made posters using *publisher* on the interactive whiteboard.



Lina building a replica 'Great Wall of China'



Jacob researching the Terracotta Army

Great work Secondary 2!

Jen, Toula and Antoinette

Primary 4

Students in Primary 4 have been engaged in learning activities continuing to explore the cultural and geographical differences between Australia and Indonesia. Over the past few weeks we have explored the music and art of Indonesia. We enjoyed listening to Indonesian music and viewing traditional dances. We identified some of the traditional Indonesian instruments and participated in Indonesian dancing and movements. In our art program we experimented with different materials creating both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional Indonesian masks.



Sofia painting her 3D mask

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Students began by completing a design plan; they then selected colours to paint their masks and finally identified, from visuals, what the focal feature of their mask would be.



Sienna producing her colourful 2D mask

This semester in mathematics, students are learning about length and exploring the concepts of 'long' and 'short', 'longer than' and 'shorter than' as well as conducting simple investigations using real objects to explore length. They have measured the length of their hands, feet and arms using a variety of different objects as measuring tools.



Malayka using unifix cubes as a measuring tool

Wendy, Nicole and Zenab

Primary 1

Tapaaii lai kasto cha?

Welcome to Primary 1's penultimate newsletter of 2018! Still engrossed in our Nepalese studies, we have explored the weather of the Himalayas, written about our adventures, and made our own rangoli designs from rice and sand.



Rebecca plays with snow she created during science

Over the past few weeks, Primary 1 have been investigating the weather of Nepal during science. We have learnt that it gets very cold up there in the Himalayas – it even snows! We thought the best way to really experience this would be to dress for cold weather and play in the snow and ice! Students learnt all about the clothing that you might need in order to stay warm in Nepal.



Emmarisa layers up to stay warm

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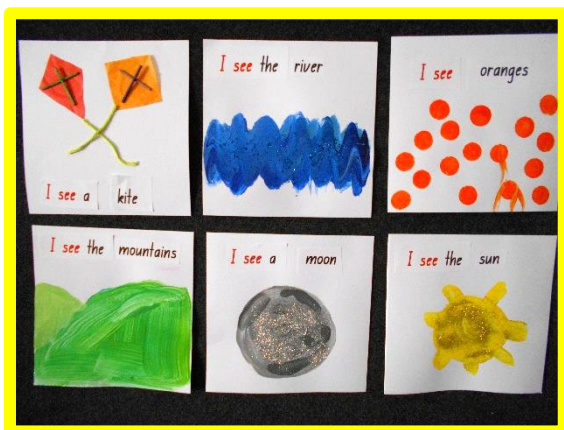
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Concluding our Tihar celebrations, Primary 1 made rangoli with coloured rice and sand. Rangoli are pattern designs made during Nepalese festivals and are said to bring good luck. During visual art Primary 1 made and decorated diyas (lanterns) from clay. Rangoli and diyas are often displayed together.



Madison's diyas

As part of our writing program this term, Primary 1 have been creating short texts inspired by our book 'I See the Sun in Nepal'. We have made story cards to help us sequence and identify the main features of the text. In this way we learn about daily life in Nepal.



Creative writing project about daily life in Nepal

From all of us in Primary 1, 'subha din!'

Sian and Denise

Primary 5

The students in Primary 5 are enjoying their final term of the year. During physical education, they have been engaged in using fine motor skills including hand-eye coordination, by turning to look in the direction of the ball or balloon to use their hand to strike it.



Cara and Jayden playing volleyball with balloons

During mathematics, students explored a variety of lengths. They used different types of objects to explore and compare lengths that were longer, shorter or the same length.



Harry striking the ball off the cricket stand

The students in Primary 5 always welcome music lessons with Daryl as he captures their attention with his distinct deep voice. Juliette demonstrates her engagement in singing by turning towards Daryl's voice and vocalises alongside him as a duet.

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Juliette and Daryl singing together

Konnichiwa! The students completed a Japanese Haiku poem about the 4 seasons, which are very important in Japan. A Haiku is a traditional Japanese poem consisting of 3 lines and only 17 syllables.



Our students completed Haiku poems

We used various tactile and auditory props to experience the 4 seasons and their characteristic elements. For summer, students were inspired by the beach using sand, water and a heat pack as props. We collected dried leaves from the garden as they reminded us of autumn and for winter, we snuggled under a blanket. Finally, for spring we sat under the pink fairy lights with our handmade Japanese cherry blossoms.

Diane and Penny

Primary 3

What a huge term for Primary 3! For English, students have been learning to write procedural texts. We started by writing our step-by-step procedure then gluing photos next to the sentence it best represented.



Maheen matching photos to write her procedure text

To build their understanding of Korean culture, students in Primary 3 made crafts from Korea including Sam Taeguk fans and paper dolls. The students started by making an outline of their design, and then filled it with bright paints. Photos were taken and developed of the students and their craft to create a fun, class activity.



Lily painting the Sam Taeguk fan

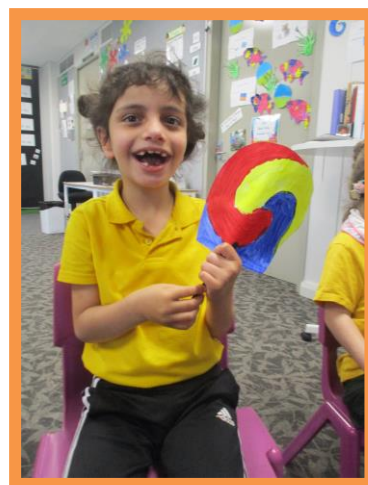
The photos were then laid out for students to use as answers to different questions. The first question was “what you need” which was answered with pictures of the materials they used to make their Sam Taeguk fans. From this, students responded to the question “what to do” by matching and ordering images of themselves making the Korean craft.



Joji listing the items used to make the Sam Taeguk fan

Visual arts is an enjoyable unit for our students as there are many different interpretations of one piece of artwork. Primary 3 students find it interesting to create their own meanings from art, exploring various contemporary Korean artist's works. Students have been appreciating the artist's pieces using their personalised communication systems to comment and respond to closed questions. In addition, students have been communicating their own

rendition of each artists' works by creating their own artworks. Experimenting with a range of media and various art tools to create their artistic pieces has engaged students and enhanced their creativity.

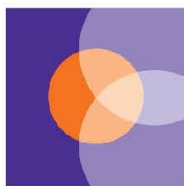


Reham has made her Sam Taeguk fan

Next, students will be cooking Korean dishes and writing procedural texts on how they made the dishes.

We have a very busy term of learning ahead and the students are very excited to continue learning about the many fascinating aspects of Korea.

Ayse and Jenny D



MyTime
*supporting parents of
children with disabilities*

Join us at a MyTime group specifically for parents and carers
of children with multiple or severe disabilities and/or children in Palliative Care.

MyTime groups provide support for mothers, fathers, grandparents and anyone caring for
a child with a disability or chronic medical condition.

It's a place for you to unwind and talk about your experiences.
It's a world away from appointments and therapy. It's support for you.

Groups are held monthly on a Saturday afternoon / evening

Next meeting date:

8 December 2018

4pm – 6 pm – MyTime Group - East Sydney Community Christian Church,
8/10 Soudan St, Randwick

6pm – 8pm – Dinner at local Randwick restaurant for those who can make it
(RSVP: for dinner numbers please)

For more information contact Chantal Kayem, info@ckm.net.au or mob 0415 594 063

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