

Lucas Gardens School

Celebrating Ability Through High Expectations

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17 May 2019

Dates for Your Diary

4 June - Open Classrooms

14 June - P&C Dinner Dance

14 August - Term 3 P&C Meeting



***Harry and Cara received
the ANZAC Award***

Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 2, students and staff returned rejuvenated and ready for another busy term.

Through merit selection last term, Rosie Ryan and Pauline Steel obtained new positions in other schools.

Rosie accepted the position of Assistant Principal at Yennora Public School, leading the support unit, whilst Pauline accepted a classroom-teaching role at The Ponds School. We wish both the very best in their new educational settings; I know they will continue to champion the best quality learning opportunities for all students.

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Ayse Sirikci and Michelle Gray were the successful candidates for the vacant positions at Lucas Gardens School. Congratulations!

In the last week of Term 1, staff from Concord High School visited with resources made by their commerce and design and technology students. These resources will support our students personalised learning programs. They made real object visual boards to support expressive and receptive language, as well as tilt tables.

We wholeheartedly thank the staff, Ms Danka Milinovic, Mr Armi Bassak and Mr Cliff Atkin, for initiating these projects. Thank you also to the students who were involved in fundraising, designing and creating these amazing resources.



Students 'testing' the new resources

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

On Friday 12 April, we held our ANZAC Commemoration service, led by Daryl Hood. It was a pleasure to host Wendy Stanton from Club Five Dock RSL Sub Branch, who spoke to students about the hardships associated with war, for those serving as well as the animals who went to war.

Our students made beautiful poppies and wreaths for the service that were subsequently submitted to the art competition at Club Five Dock. It is with great pleasure that I announce that Lucas Gardens School Year 4 students received an award and a book voucher for their fine efforts. Well done Harry and Cara!



***Katherine and Wendy Stanton
participating in the service***

Communication Matters Initiative

Recently, we established additional play activities for students to participate in during lunchtime. These activities include bike riding, quiet time under the Kaffir Plum tree on the timber deck, listening to music, reading a book, using the trampoline and swings, dance troupe and gardening. Using visuals accompanied with speech, students select their preferred activity. This facilitates students having a voice to express their needs, wants and dislikes, outside of their classroom, encouraging student

independence and participation in their areas of interest.

Thank you Ayse for coordinating this valuable program.

Validation

Every five years, all NSW public schools undergo an external validation whereby they engage with an external panel and conduct analysis of their performance in relation to the School Excellence Framework, in the areas of Teaching, Learning and Leading.

Lucas Gardens School is currently undergoing this process, collecting evidence and writing detailed reports in preparation for a meeting with the external panel members in July. Staff have been working additional hours, over a sustained period, to collate this report and I would like to acknowledge their commitment and hard work, over and above their many other duties, whilst continuing to provide all students with engaging and authentic learning.

Finally, I would like to thank our new P&C for their preparation for the Dinner Dance. Jacque Weaver is kindly guiding and supporting the committee, sharing her vast event management expertise. Thank you Jacque.

I look forward to seeing families and friends at the dinner dance on the 14 June, for what I am sure will be a wonderful night.

Kind regards

Jenny Zagas

P&C

Thank you to parents/carers and friends for supporting the Easter Hat Parade. A total of \$940 was raised, which was a wonderful effort.



***The Easter Raffle Prizes donated
by the school community***

This week, we presented the school with a \$200 donation to be used towards their gardening program. We would like to thank Bunnings for supporting this project by providing planter boxes, watering cans and aprons. Teacher, Daryl Hood, is looking forward to beginning the gardening program with students, this term.

Dinner Dance & Meetings

The P&C Dinner Dance is fast approaching; we encourage all families to join us to support the school in this exciting event. Tickets can be purchased as a table of 10 or individually and you may request to sit on a particular table. **The link to purchase tickets is on the school website on the Events tab, under the Lucas Gardens School Dinner Dance event section.**

We are still seeking items for the silent auction. Examples of suitable items may include homeware products, kids' toys, pampering products for ladies and men or gift vouchers.

Please contact Mary Mouawad - Dinner Dance Coordinator, on 0404 86 0741 to organise the collection of these items.

Also, please save the following dates for the next P&C formal meetings, which will commence at 7pm:

Term 3 – Wednesday 14 August

Term 4 – Wednesday 6 November



***Mona presents School Captains, Katherine
and Jacob, with a P&C donation to support
the Gardening Program***

Regards

Regina Ashdown

P&C President

NSW Department of Education Ambulance Cover Scheme

The *Ambulance Cover Scheme* provides assurance that if a student enrolled at school has an accident or falls ill travelling to and from school on Assisted School Travel, whilst at school or on an organised school excursion or activity, and requires the ambulance service, the cost will be met through the scheme.

The Ambulance Cover Scheme is **exclusive to students who have no other form of ambulance cover**. Therefore, if the student has private health insurance which provides ambulance cover, the cost of the ambulance will be payable by the family, through their insurer.

Signing Students In and/or Out of School

It is compulsory that students attend school every school day, unless they are sick, attending an unavoidable medical appointment, recognised religious holiday or there are exceptional or urgent family circumstances.

When it is necessary for students to arrive late or leave early, the Department of Education require parents/carers to record this. At Lucas Gardens School, this is recorded in the *Passtab* iPad system, located in the school office foyer.

When parents/carers enter the school, they should immediately use the school's iPad Passtab system to 'Sign In' or 'Sign Out' on behalf of their child, using the *quickpin*, which is the **first three letters of the student's last name**. For example, for a student with the last name 'Smith' enter 'Smi'.

If you are unfamiliar with this system, the administration staff are happy to show you how to use *Passtab*.

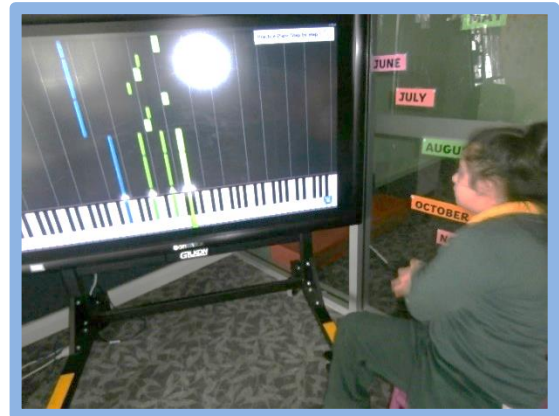
Thank you for your compliance with this important matter.

Music

The Music Program began this term by refreshing students about the Lucas Gardens School Song and the National Anthem; and how to deliver these songs through sign language!

Pierre is doing very well with his signing and seems to really enjoy it! Last week we engaged with songs from many of the students' ethnic or cultural origins including Pop music from Lebanon and Greece! This

week was 'hands on' again featuring the electric keyboard!



Ava fascinated with 'Synthesia'



Sehah repeating on the keyboard, what he sees on the interactive classroom board!



Sofia likes making sounds on the piano!

Daryl

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

Primary 2

We have continued working hard in Primary 2. This term, for mathematics, students are learning about two-dimensional space. They have engaged in a range of learning experiences to identify different shapes, including circles, squares, triangles and rectangles. Students have also been learning about the features of different shapes, sorting them to make various representations of a range of shapes with a variety of materials.

To support their learning, students have been using visuals, concrete materials, technology, key words or sentences written in braille and Cortical Vision Impairment (CVI) resources, for example, the light panel, transparent materials and reflective materials. This demonstrates that every student is known, valued and cared for, as their diverse learning needs are met and students deepen their understandings. Additionally, students connect, thrive and succeed, as they are provided with opportunities to access their learning. Well done P2!



Rebecca touching a square to explore two-dimensional shapes



Emmarisa using technology to engage in cause and effect learning activities



Alana uses her eye gaze to track and scan visuals to identify two-dimensional shapes



Cooper using the light panel to look at a yellow circle made from a transparent material

Ayse and Denise

Primary 3

The term got off to a busy start with students being very engaged in our geography unit of work learning about the features of places. Our focus this term is on our local park and students have already been involved in many practical activities using technology to explore the parks features. Additionally, students have been completing shared writing activities about some of the things that can be done in the park. Later in the term, we will be going on a field trip to explore the features of Timbrell Park and we will share our photos of the excursion in the next newsletter.



Antonia identifying a park environment

In English, we are reading books about our environment and sustainability. Our class has been participating in shared reading and writing activities based on the book '10 Things I can do to help my World'. We have been learning to turn off the lights when we are not using them and remembering to turn off the tap to save water. Each student is creating their own book of shared writing activities based on this text, which we look forward to sharing with our parents/carers when we have our Open Classrooms session this term.



Harriet engaging in a shared writing activity



Reham turning off the lights to save electricity

Each newsletter, Class Primary 3 will share a **'WOW MOMENT'** or achievement. This week we would like to share Lilu's, as she has been working very hard during playtime, learning how to ride a scooter by herself using her foot to push and propel forward. And..... she has done it! Well done Lilu, for persevering and achieving this goal.



***'WOW MOMENT' - Lilu
independently riding a scooter
(SLSO, Vicki was nearby for safety)***

Wendy, Emily and Vicki

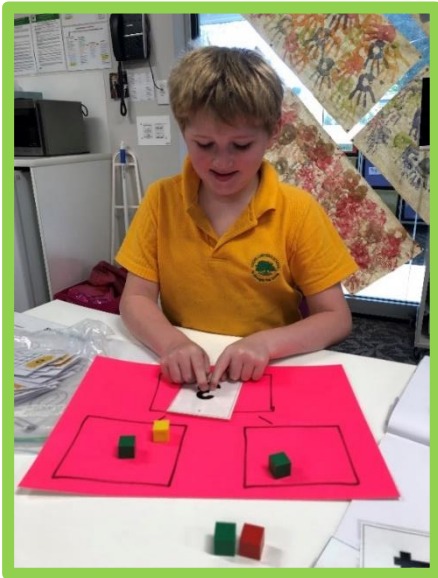
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Be a Learner

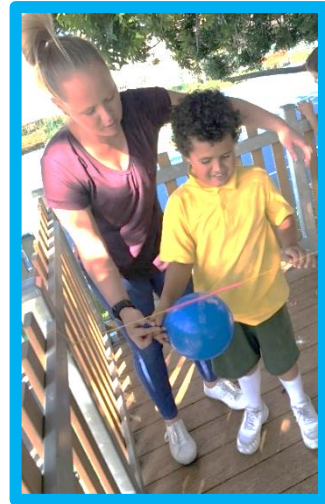
Primary 4

Everyone in Primary 4 has been working hard on our new topics for the term. In mathematics, we have continued to develop counting and number identification skills through a variety of hands on activities. This term, we are specifically focusing on addition and subtraction, exploring the concepts of 'more' and 'less'. We are reinforcing these concepts through our day to day learning experiences.



Archie completing addition activities

In science and technology, we are learning about forces and exploring different types of movement. We have been investigating how different objects move and whether they can roll, spin, bounce or float in the air. We have enjoyed making predictions and then testing these through practical activities.



Joji investigating how he can make a balloon move through the air

We recommenced hydro sessions, one of the highlights of our week! In PDHPE this term, our focus is on athletics and we are developing our skills in throwing (distance and accuracy), jumping and running. We are learning to be respectful and have been working on identifying and following our school PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) rules of being respectful: 'using a quiet voice', 'using good manners' and 'taking turns'.

Wishing all of our mothers and special carers a belated and very happy Mother's Day. We hope you had a lovely day and liked your special cards.

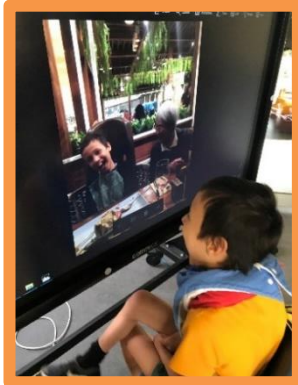


Happy Mother's Day from P4!

Stacey and Dani

Primary 6/Secondary 1

Welcome back to a new term! It seems like the holiday break was enjoyed by all, as P6/S1 students have shared their school holiday experiences in class 'news'.



Morgan and Richard share their holiday news

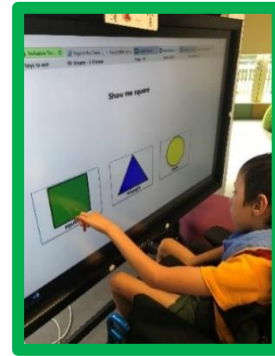
In English this term, students will focus on the theme of environment and sustainability which links to our geography course, and all students will continue to work towards their literacy goals.



Pierre and Isaac developing their fine motor and writing skills

Over the next few weeks, students will focus on two-dimensional shapes and time in mathematics, explore forces in science, and practise a number of skills in preparation for the upcoming athletics carnival. Last week, the students also worked on making cards to give their mums and special carers for Mother's Day.

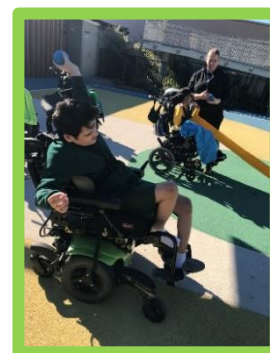
We look forward to the rest of this term as we prepare to work on some exciting projects.



Morgan works with shapes and Pierre explores forces



The lovely cards students made for their mothers and special carers



Students practising their athletics skills

Claudia and Nobuko

Be Safe

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Be a Learner

Secondary 3

Secondary 3 have enjoyed the first few weeks since the Easter Break and are learning about sustainability and eco-systems as a cross-curricular unit in English, science, geography and visual arts. Our class theme is 'Paper in Our World' and we are considering where paper comes from, how we use paper and how we can make sure we use paper sustainably to help the environment. We are also assisting each class to recycle their paper, by re-using the paper in visual arts to make useful objects.



'A Little Paper Caper' by Oliver Jeffers

In English, we began the unit by analysing the fictional text 'A Little Paper Caper', which looked at animals in the forest who were concerned trees were going missing. It is a lovely story that discusses the big issues of sustainability, in an accessible way.

Students made paper planes and trialled throwing them, and in science we began looking at the forest eco-system; as a place where we harvest trees to make wood and paper.



Katherine locates natural features of the forest eco-system



Luke experiments with ways of using paper in visual arts; fold, tear and scrunch!

In PDHPE, we began looking at our PBL rule 'Be Respectful' and explored how we can use a quiet voice in class. Bianca enjoyed comparing quiet and loud music.



Bianca listening to loud and quiet music

Congratulations, particularly to our School Captain Jacob who turned 18 recently. He enjoyed celebrating with many friends at school! Luke also had a birthday last week so there was plenty of cake to share!



Jacob celebrating his 18th birthday with friends

Great work from Secondary 3!

Jen, Toula and Antoinetta

Primary 5

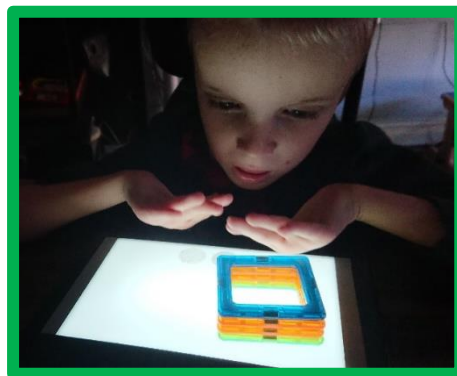
Welcome back everyone! This term we are exploring addition, subtraction and two-dimensional shapes in mathematics.



David comparing different shapes

Every student is known, valued and cared for by making adjustments to their resources and environment. These modifications support students to independently use their senses to

look, reach and grasp shapes as they learn about shape attributes, similarities and differences.



Harry using the light box to examine the features of a square



Cara discovering two-dimensional shapes using the interactive whiteboard

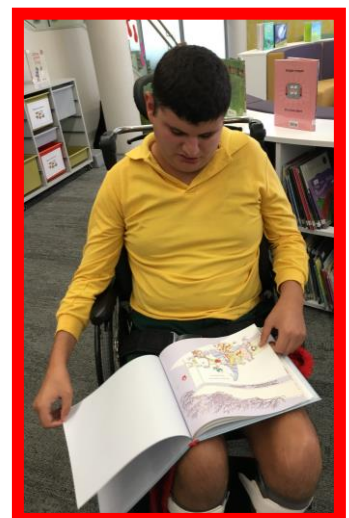
During science, students took turns to make a toy move in different directions using forces. Cara pulled the rope on the rolling toy to make it speed up. Harry tracked the car along the tray and focused on it when it stopped moving because it hit the edge of the tray, this is known as impact force. David and Juliette had fun learning about spinning by turning the musical toy with their hands to make the toy light up when they touched the coloured keypad. Cara made the coloured cogs turn when she touched them with her hands, and when she took her hands away, they stopped turning.



Cara exploring the effect of forces on the cogs



Juliette exploring forces through cause and effect learning activities



Diane and Penny

Library

In preparation for Book Week next term, we have started exploring the Children's Book Council 2019 shortlisted texts. So far, we have read 'Rainbow Bear' by Stephen King and created artwork to support our learning. Students loved hearing how **Rainbow Bear** couldn't work out why he kept changing colour.

We have also been working diligently on our Library questionnaire, recording our favourite book.



Ava, Joji, Jacob, Sienna and Katherine reading a variety of texts

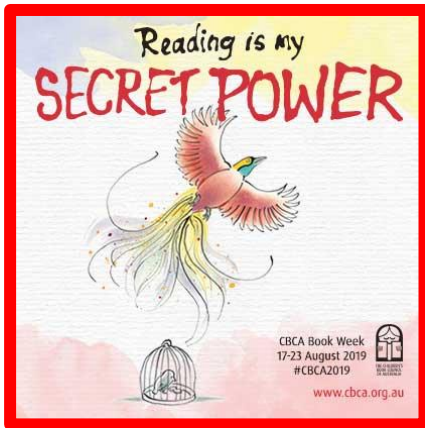
Be Safe

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Be a Learner

The Book Week theme this year is:

'Reading is my Secret Power'



Students have been helping to create a beautiful artwork for the library, which will be on display during Book Week.

Georgia

Primary 1

What a brilliant start to Term 2 we have had in Primary 1.



Yohan matches timetable symbols as part of English and mathematics

As part of our teaching and learning program this term, we are exploring the concept of sustainability and the environment. We have begun this by reading Kate Cumming's text,

'When will it Rain?' This story is about a family who live on a farm and are desperate for rain! Using story cards, Primary 1 students created pictorial texts about life on the farm.



Alicia chooses animals that will live on her farm

The focus of our PDHPE program this term is being respectful. Using our school PBL rules as guidelines, we are practising how to take turns, how to use a quiet voice and how to use good manners. We are also learning about our emotions and feelings and how to identify this in ourselves and others – starting with happy!



Ryle creating a poster about being happy by identifying and selecting happy faces

Time to get back to work!

Sian and Jenny D

Be Safe

Be Respectful

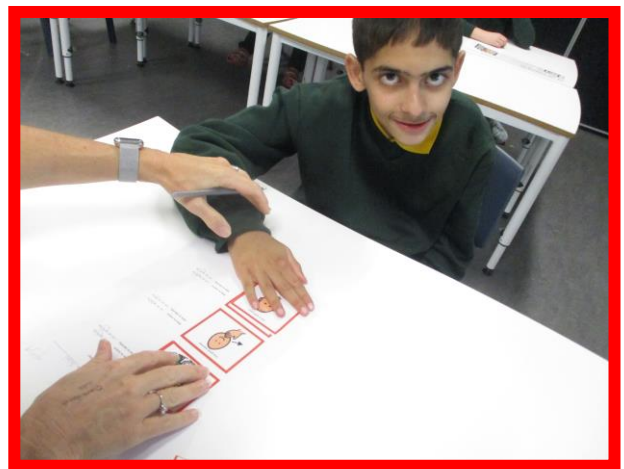
Be a Learner

Secondary 2

In Secondary 2, we have been enjoying beginning our new units of work. For geography, we looked at the text 'Why should I save water?' This provided students with an important understanding of how and why we should look after this valuable resource.

For mathematics this term, we are continuing our work with whole numbers. We are also going to be looking at length. This concept will be linked to our geography unit and our science unit on force.

For PDHPE this term, we are learning about being respectful. This is part of the school's PBL philosophy. As part of a collaborative student experience, students shared their current knowledge of the PBL system by selecting and identifying a variety of visuals with each other.



Ava, Sofia, Sienna and Sehal demonstrating their knowledge of the PBL system

Michelle and Zenab



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LUCAS GARDENS

P&C DINNER DANCE

Join us for an evening of dining & dancing to help with the finishing touches to the new look Lucas Gardens School.

Aqua Luna Waterfront Dining
461 Henley Marine Drive Drummoyne

Friday June 14th 2019

From 6:30PM - Late

Dress: Lounge Suit

Three course gourmet dinner with beer and wine.
Live and silent auctions, fabulous prizes
and dancing to our guest DJ.

Tickets \$120 per person from: <https://hub.benojo.com>
Search '2019 Lucas Gardens Dinner Dance'

All funds raised will go towards the purchase of a new shade structure to provide sun protection for the kids during outdoor play & learning.

Lucas Gardens School P&C Canada Bay, supporting children with severe and multiple disabilities.

For further information, contact
info.lucasgardens.pc@gmail.com

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Short term accommodation and respite services

Set amongst beautiful landscaped gardens just seven kilometres west of Sydney's CBD, Summer Hill House offers short term accommodation for people with an intellectual disability, high physical support and/or complex health needs.

Our accommodation provides a fully furnished 'home away from home' with qualified nursing staff on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

To find out more or to apply, contact us on **1300 22 44 38** or visit achieveaustralia.org.au



Summer Hill House has been designed to offer peace of mind, comfort and convenience

We know that it can be daunting to have a family member in someone else's care. That's why we can provide individual supports and tailored transition services into accommodation at Summer Hill House. This gives families and carers the chance to meet with our on site team, discuss all necessary requirements and explore all available options.

Summer Hill House provides people with disability the opportunity to meet new people and create meaningful connections, explore different activities and discover new life experiences.



Facilities

Guests can also enjoy their own private bedroom, the interactive sensory room, a specially designed spa bath, our peaceful landscaped gardens or simply relax in the shared living spaces to dine, watch television or play games.

In addition, we have a range of special events and regular group activities throughout the year featuring movie nights, music therapy, health and wellbeing, gardening, family days, plus much more.

As Summer Hill House provides short term accommodation for people with disability who have complex needs, we do have eligibility criteria that must be met before booking a stay with us.

To find out more or to apply, contact us on **1300 22 44 38** or visit achieveaustralia.org.au



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