



Lucas Gardens School

Celebrating Ability Through High Expectations

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9 August 2019

Dates for Your Diary

21 August - Book Week Celebration at 10am

29 November - Graduation Dinner (save the date)

6 November - P&C Meeting



Ryka Ali engaging students and teaching them about Indigenous cultural practice

Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break and are ready for another dynamic term!

We concluded Term 2 with a 'Jersey Day Athletics Carnival' supported by students from St Patrick's College Strathfield. Students participated in a variety of activities and proudly received participation ribbons at the conclusion of the carnival. My thanks to Michelle Gray for coordinating this successful event.

I donned my project manager's hat during the school holidays to coordinate the installation of our new fixed climbing playground equipment. Students have already begun using the equipment with great excitement and it has been fantastic to see their lunchtime play options broaden to include this engaging equipment.

The school could not have achieved such a magnificent resource for our students without the invaluable financial support of a philanthropic organisation and I know that the whole school community appreciate how fortunate we are to have such generous support. I would like to acknowledge the unwavering support this donor provides for our students and the faith they have in me to deliver exceptional programs for all students. Drum roll.....

I am proud to announce that the playground will be known as:

Margaret's Playground

I selected this name to honour this donor, for whom I have the utmost respect. This gracious donor, who prefers to remain anonymous, is always pleased to hear about the achievements and progress of students,

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taking a keen interest in their learning and wellbeing.

I know that all students will benefit from this wonderful project and it has been such a pleasure to witness their delight as they play in:

Margaret's Playground!

The excitement continued this week as we hosted Ryka Ali, an Indigenous Australian performer, whose heritage stems from the Wuthathi Tribe of Shellburne Bay, Cape York and from the Torres Strait Islands. Ryka painted himself in traditional ochre and engaged students through his music, dance and storytelling. Of course, our students were very happy to participate and his request for volunteers was met with great enthusiasm.

Focus on Learning

Term 3 English lessons for all classes will focus on film study and digital texts. Listed below are the texts that classes will study:

P1 - *Frozen*

P2 - *The Lion King*

P3 - *Finding Nemo*

P4 - *Sing*

P5 - *The Jungle Book*

P6/S1 - *Babe*

S2 - *Shrek*

S3 - *The Greatest Showman*

I am pleased to advise that the External Validation process is complete and I am proud to report that the schools status as a leading special education setting was resoundingly reaffirmed. Thank you to all the staff who participated in this important process.

It was a great pleasure to see so many parents/carers attend our Education Week Open Day, further strengthening our shared

commitment to celebrate 'Every Student, Every Voice'. A special thank you to Maria Serafim, Director, Educational Leadership for the Strathfield Network, for making the time to visit and participate in our Education Week event. Enjoy the photos of this event throughout this newsletter.

Margaret's Playground

Lucas Gardens School new fixed equipment



Kind regards

Jenny Zagas

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SRC Report

As a very hectic Term 2 drew to a close, the SRC organised and held their annual Pyjama Day. Staff and students wore an impressive array of colourful sleepwear including gowns, personalised pyjamas and onesies!

This year we continued our support of the Exodus Foundation at Ashfield, who provide nutritious meals for people experiencing disadvantage and homelessness. Our tinned food drive was very successful and the Exodus Foundation expressed their gratitude. Thank you to the Lucas Gardens School community for such generous support!

Pictured below are some of the donations.



Denise and the SRC

Secondary 2

Secondary 2 have had a fantastic start to Term 3. In visual arts, students have been using a variety of materials to create artworks. For example, metallic paint was used to design face masks, with felt and paint then used to create Picasso inspired artworks. The students really enjoyed comparing the different artworks and the effects of the materials.

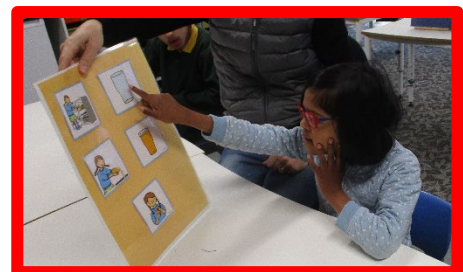


Sofia painting her mask for Education Week

For English and food technology we have begun looking at procedures and recipes. Students followed the recipe 'How to make a drink,' and as a class, we looked at the visuals for this procedure. Students then followed the visuals to make their own drink.



Sehal and Daniel painting their Picasso inspired artworks



Ava and Sienna using visuals to support learning in food technology

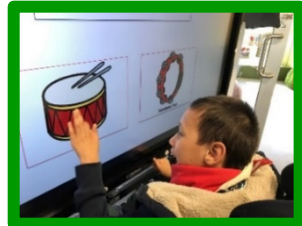
Michelle and Zenab

Primary 6/Secondary 1

Primary 6/Secondary 1 students completed a special recycling project that was showcased for visiting families during Education Week. Following a reuse and recycle philosophy, the class made musical instruments from reusable items and recyclable materials. They chose materials, instruments and music genres for inspiration and creation.



Isaac, Morgan and Richard choosing elements to create their instruments



Richard 'exploring' Australian explorers

In visual arts this term, students have begun exploring the work of artist, Sidney Nolan, specifically his Ned Kelly series of paintings. This forms part of the class study in the history of colonial Australia and Australian explorers. In literacy we began a film study of the feature film, *Babe*. It is going to be a busy and productive term!



Students studying the characters of the film, Babe



Andrew, Jayson and Pierre making and decorating instruments

Claudia and Nobuko

Primary 1

A big welcome back to school for Term 3!

This term we have been busy by working hard in all our lessons. We have started studying position, multiplication, division, and money during our mathematics lessons this term. Primary 1 students started by positioning objects above and below each other and will shortly move onto positioning

objects left and right as well as inside and outside.



Ryle placing Elmo below the bed when studying position during mathematics

As part of our PDHPE lessons, we have been learning about how to be safe, healthy and active. Every day we have been reading a social story about how to play in Margaret's Playground.



Alicia reading a social story about going up the stairs and down the slide

Primary 1 have enthusiastically returned to music lessons with their new music teacher, Ilias. This term we have been focusing on percussion instruments, including the bongo drums and sleigh bells. These lessons are always such a hit!

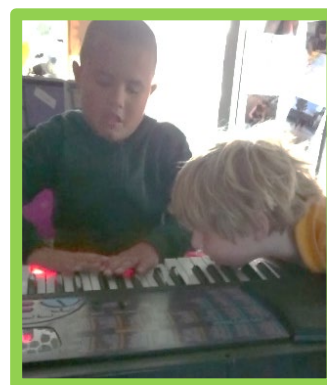


Marcus, Ryle and Yohan developing their musicality

Sian and Jenny D

Primary 4

Welcome back everyone, we hope every one is prepared for a fabulous term of teaching and learning. For our film study in English, we are exploring the Illumination movie, *Sing*. Students have already demonstrated their preferences for which characters they like and don't like. They identified the character's animal species and if they dance, sing or play an instrument.



Joji and Archie enjoying playing the keyboard like Johnny the Gorilla

During mathematics, students explored 'position' by following directions to describe

various movements they do throughout their day such as on, in, out and under as well as turn left, right and turn around. They also described the position of an object or action using words, signs and symbols, integrating the language of position across all KLA areas of learning.



Joji reflecting on 'Be Respectful' by taking turns up the stairs and down the slide

Visual arts this term has been very engaging as students have used their creativity and imagination, just like the artist Joan Miro, who did not know what he was painting until he completed it! Students selected their paint colours, painting a different bright colour for each part of the figure, finishing with drawing the details with black marker.



Joji and Archie's creative artworks



It was wonderful to share and celebrate our learning with parents/carers and the community this week. Primary 3 showcased their unit of work called 'Recycling through Art'. In this unit, we reflected on recycling and sustainability as well as providing opportunities for collaboration, team work and creativity through the various art projects undertaken.



'Recycling through art' display

This term we will be looking at the work of the artist Henri Matisse. Students viewed a variety of artworks expressing their preferences and identified which one was their favourite. We then recreated our own artworks inspired by Matisse's work 'The Snail'.



Lily creating her artwork inspired by Matisse

Diane and Dani

Primary 3

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Reham creating a storyboard page for our class display

Students have been very engaged in activities in our film study based on *Finding Nemo*. We have been identifying 'who' the characters are and engaging in shared reading and writing activities based on the first scenes of the movie. We are creating a storyboard for our classroom wall to support us to identify the main events in the film.



Antonia identifying the characters in the film Finding Nemo

Our 'WOW' moment goes to Harriet this week for her great progress in eating independently.

Keep up the good work everyone!

Wendy, Emily and Vicki

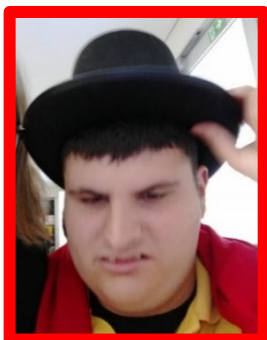
Secondary 3

Secondary 3 have commenced an English unit on film studies, focusing on *The Greatest Showman*. We began by familiarising ourselves with the introductory song 'This is the Greatest Show'. We performed our own version to the music and thought about the characters and what 'the greatest show' is for us. Jacob chose cricket, Katherine and Luke chose Disney musicals and Nada enjoyed a concert performance. We also spent time preparing our 'greatest show' for Education Week - making books and displays to show our families and the community the work we completed last term on our paper recycling project.



Bianca preparing our 'greatest show' display with Nobuko

In visual arts we looked at self-portraits and started with 'This is Me' - taking selfies of ourselves as the Greatest Showman. We will focus on Frida Kahlo's self portraits and make our own versions this term.



***Katherine, Luke and Jacob as
'The Greatest Showman'***



***We will begin to focus on Frida Kahlo and
her portraits throughout the term***

Jen, Toula and Antoinetta

Primary 5

It has been a busy beginning to Term 3 in Primary 5. We have been getting to know each other, settling into a class routine and I am excited about the learning experiences we will be undertaking in P5 throughout the term.



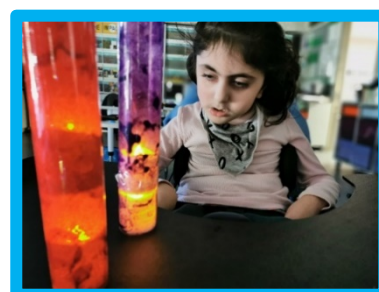
Harry immersed in the water display

For history, we are currently investigating first contact between Indigenous Australians and those who arrived on the First Fleet. We have been fostering our connections to Australia and its land through reading *My Country*.



***Cara reaching out to explore
the water sensory item***

Students have also been enjoying themselves in visual arts as we focus on the content of Angela Bulloch, whose installations incorporate light and sound. Using this as our inspiration, Primary 5 have been building our own installations with coloured film and light.



Juliette admiring her installations artwork

Julia and Penny

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Primary 2

This term for English, Primary 2 students are studying the film *The Lion King*. Students are particularly focusing on listening and viewing the songs in the movie. Before the songs start, we pause the film so students can recognise and copy the wild animals they have seen. We did this using props and visuals and listening to the calls of the animals in the wild, to support their differentiation of these animals. As the song plays, P2 students spot the different wild animals and look out for the main characters in the film.



Alana using her E-Tran board with visuals to communicate 'yes' or 'no'



Rebecca using her GoTalk device to indicate 'no'

After watching the song, the students use their personalised communication systems to comment and state their opinions by responding to the closed question; do you

like the song? The students in P2 would respond using their digital devices; yes or no visuals, yes or no switches and the PODD.



Cooper looking at the 'no' visual

The students have thoroughly enjoyed these lessons, as they are provided with the opportunity to express and communicate their opinions.



Emmarisa pressing the switch to communicate 'yes'

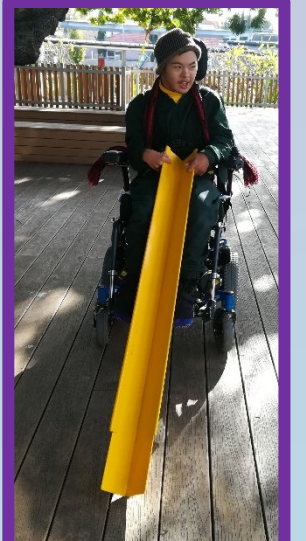
Ayse and Denise

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Jersey Day and Athletics Carnival



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Education Week Open Day

'Every Student Every Voice'



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