



Lucas Gardens School

Celebrating Ability Through High Expectations

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28 August 2020

Dates for Your Diary

25 September – Last Day of Term 3

12 October – First Day of Term 4



***Celebrating our Administration
and Support Staff***

Principal's Message

School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS) were acknowledged for their commitment during 'SASS Recognition Week', which was held this week. In light of the challenges this year, the professionalism and expertise of our administration team and the dedication and 'can do' attitude of our School Learning and Support Officers and the skill of our General Assistant (GA), Don, has been abundantly evident. The P&C arranged special cupcakes for SASS, whilst the teaching staff and our Director of Educational Leadership, Maria Serafim, joined me in celebrating the wide range of talents SASS bring to our school community. Of course, students reap the benefits of these dedicated staff members, as SLSOs work as co-educators in the classroom and the

administration team look after asset management, procurement, finance and project management. Amongst numerous maintenance tasks, our General Assistant, Don, also makes tailored resources for students, providing direct support. Thank you to all the teaching staff for providing a wonderful morning tea and small gifts of appreciation.

I know that the whole school community join me as I salute the invaluable contributions of our administration and support staff!



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It was a privilege to have on site this week Maria Serafim, Director of Educational Leadership. Maria was able to witness first-hand the outstanding teaching and learning that occurs on a daily basis at Lucas Gardens School. Maria enjoyed speaking to staff about their progress towards their performance and development goals and used her teaching skills to support P6/S1 in a literacy task. The highlight of the day was participating in a **student voice audit**, where Maria engaged in conversations with students about their learning. Hermeslla expressed how she helps her classmates during art/craft activities, Richard demonstrated requesting particular foods and activities using his iPad and Hadi was very excited to express his increasing vocabulary, both in English and Arabic.



Maria, Director Educational Leadership, engaging in a student voice audit

Due to precautions around COVID-19, every person who enters the school building is required to read and sign a form declaring that they will abide by current health advice as well as provide contact information for emergencies or, if necessary, for contact

tracing purposes. This form must be completed every time you enter the school building, even if it is for a short period of time. I thank you for your adherence to this procedure to help keep all safe. If you have any queries regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact me, as the safety and wellbeing of students and staff is my highest priority.

In closing, I would like to leave you with the following inspirational quote befitting SASS Week:

"No one can whistle a symphony.

It takes a whole orchestra to play it."



Kind regards

Jenny Zagas

P&C Report

We are more than half way through 2020 which has been a challenging year. We thank all staff at Lucas Gardens who have, and continue to, work hard to keep our children safe.

The P&C have continued to keep in touch via Zoom. As you all know we had our AGM on Monday the 17th of August. Here members had the opportunity to vote for the executive committee:

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President: Regina Ashdown
Vice President: Mary Mouawad
Secretary: Bruno Brandon
Treasurer: Carla Kok

During this time of uncertainty, the P&C are working within the school guidelines, and as such, all fundraising plans have been put 'on hold'.

We would like all parents/carers to join the P&C. A membership form will be sent home with your child next week. A fee of \$2.00 applies. I encourage you to join, as together we can help our school, which helps our children.

For those who were not here last year, a small team of eight parents hosted a very successful fundraiser that allowed us to donate \$80,000 to the school. We also applied for Government grants, receiving a further \$40,000. These funds assisted the school to install a new covered outdoor learning area (COLA), in the playground.



We hope to see you at our next meeting, which will be via Zoom so you do not have to leave your home. Please feel free to contact your committee if you have any questions.
president.lucasgardens.p&c@gmail.com

Regards

Regina Ashdown
President

Health and Safety

At Lucas Gardens School, we continue to follow the guidelines of the Department of Education and NSW Health to keep everyone safe around COVID-19. Schools are operating full time, while actively following health advice.

If your child is unwell, please keep them home, even if they have mild symptoms. Arrangements will be made to send students home who present at school unwell.

NSW Health have requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID-19 clinics.

Students with flu like symptoms will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result emailed to the school email:

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and the class teacher, before being permitted to return to school.

We understand that testing students with complex health needs or disabilities may be challenging. In these situations, please have your child assessed by their medical practitioner. Where a medical practitioner determines that a COVID-19 test is not required, a medical certificate must be provided to the school to confirm that the student does not have symptoms warranting a COVID-19 test. The certificate must also indicate that the student is able to return to the school environment.

At Lucas Gardens School, we continue to be vigilant when implementing infection control, physical distancing and personal hygiene protocols to protect the health and safety of students and staff. We follow good hygiene practices such as:

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- regularly washing hands
- regularly using hand sanitizers
- coughing or sneezing into elbows
- regularly cleaning high touch surfaces including door handles.

Physical distancing of students in schools is not required; however, all staff and parents/carers must maintain a physical distance of 1.5 metres from each other.

Parents/carers are reminded to physically distance from each other and staff when collecting or dropping off students.

We encourage all members of the school community to monitor the **Latest COVID-19 locations in NSW** site and follow the recommended actions if you have been in a location where there have been confirmed cases. Please follow the relevant health advice if you have been at any of the locations at the specified dates and times. The locations, along with the times and dates when the cases were identified, can be found on the **NSW COVID-19 website**.

If you have any concerns at all, please contact the school for more information.

Kind regards

Michelle Gray
Health and Safety Coordinator

Primary 1

Primary 1 have had a busy and productive few weeks since the last newsletter. In science, we have been investigating pets for kindergarten students, and farm animals and the products they produce for humans for Stages 1 and 2. We have produced sensory

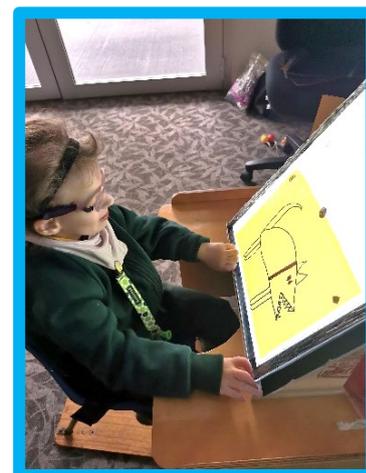
boards for cats and dogs, identifying the main features of these animals. We added furry, floppy ears, a wagging tail and a pink tongue for dogs. Our cats had big almond-shaped eyes, whiskers and white fur.

In literacy, we have been studying poetry and rhyme. We have enjoyed reading the book, *Too Many Cheeky Dogs*. Students have been learning the colours of the dogs and engaging in dramatic play, pretending to be the cheeky dogs in the book.

As it is SASS week, a big thank you to our amazing SLSO, Dani, for the fabulous work you do in the classroom.



Alexander with his furry cat artwork



Eleanor looking at the yellow cheeky dog on the light box

Julia and Dani

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Primary 6/Secondary 1

In history, we are continuing to learn the history of immigration to Australia. Students have been exploring and experiencing the various jobs people did to build Australia as a nation, such as a shearing, carpentry and farming.



Cara matching the word Australia



Pierre building a house



Harry tapping the nails into the wood

Using similar objects in different learning areas of the curriculum has enabled students to transfer their skills from one to another. For example, Hasna transferred the skill of hammering a nail into a wooden block, to that of playing a tune on the xylophone during music. Hasna was so motivated and focused, hammering a nail into a wood block to imitate a carpenter, that she used the stick to tap a tune on the xylophone during music.



Hasna transferring her skills



Morgan role-playing the 'troll'

Integrating and transferring skills across key learning areas continues to motivate students to participate and learn. During music, students used musical instruments to represent the characters in the story, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. Listening and feeling the vibration of the drums to represent the 'angry troll', Morgan vocalised loudly as Denise said, "Who's that tripping over my bridge?" Morgan was so excited by this

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character, that during English he independently pressed a voice output device with the same message, as Pierre moved the three goats along the bridge to recount the story. We found this very entertaining.



Pierre and Morgan learning together

Diane and Denise

Primary 7/Secondary 2

There has been lots of learning happening in Primary 7/Secondary 2, this term. We cannot believe that it is already Week 6!

In English, we have continued our study of texts that relate to our History unit. Students enjoyed completing activities around the text *I'm Australian Too* by Mem Fox. They were really engaged with this book and loved looking at, and identifying the illustrations from different parts of the world.

In mathematics, students have been working hard on consolidating their understanding of whole numbers, including counting forwards and backwards. They have also been diligently developing their understanding of money. During these lessons they have been identifying different Australian coins and exchanging money for items within the classroom.



Sofia identifying Australian coins during mathematics

Students have also been enjoying interacting with their friends in *Margaret's Playground*. During these breaks, students really value listening to music with their peers. The school speakers have been a great success with all of the students as they further develop their music appreciation.



Amaan and Benito enjoying the music in Margaret's Playground

We are looking forward to the rest of the term and cannot wait to share all of our great learning with you at the end of this term.

Michelle and Nobuko

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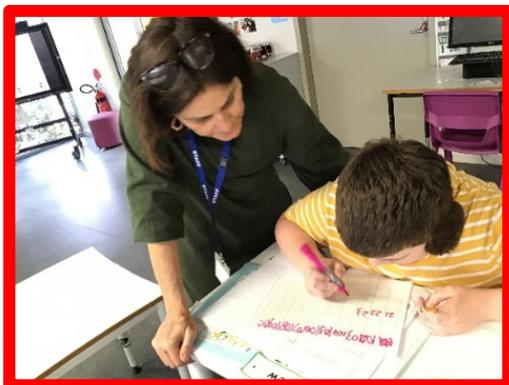
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Secondary 3

Secondary 3 have been working very hard on their goals over the past few weeks, and it is showing! All students have demonstrated progress towards their PLSP goals, as well as their goals in literacy and numeracy. It has been great to see the students become more confident showing their skills. Hadi and Richard had the opportunity this week to show our Director of Educational Leadership, Maria Serafim, how well they have been moving towards their communication goals and in their learning through English as an Additional Language/ Dialect.

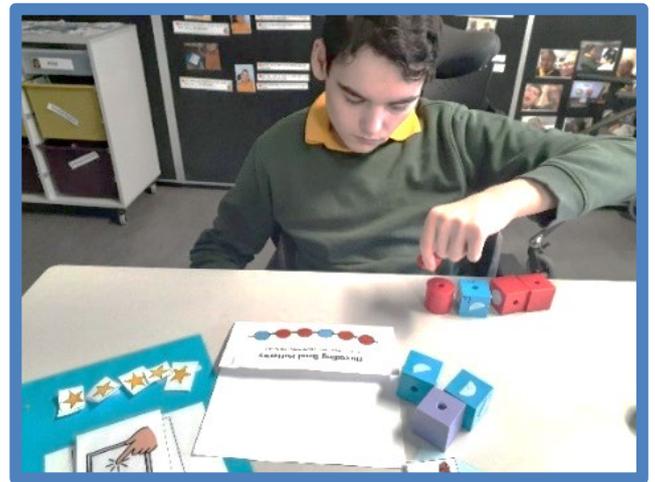


Hadi saying his PLSP sentence 'I want...' during his reading time



Andrew finding the next numeral as part of his numeracy goal

In mathematics this term, students have been focusing on developing money skills. They have been practising recognising coins and notes and have also been counting the number of coins or notes required to buy a favoured item. Additionally, students have developed an understanding of pattern and have been learning to continue or repeat a pattern using colour or shape, with beads and blocks.



Jayson continuing a colour pattern using beads

In science, we have been learning about our bodies and how they need healthy food and water for survival. Students have begun learning about where foods come from and how it is stored before we receive it, to ensure it is healthy and safe. This week, we made simple snacks using ingredients students brought in from home - mmmm milkshakes!

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Richard showing the class his healthy snack items

Jen and Lisa

Library

The Premier's Reading Challenge closes Friday 28 August and we are proud to announce that all Lucas Gardens students have completed the challenge for 2020!



Primary 5

Primary 5 would like to welcome Mahir and Ethan who are new students in our class. Mahir and Ethan have had a successful transition and have settled very well into their new class. They have enjoyed completing learning activities and classroom routines. Well done Mahir and Ethan!

Students have been very focused on achieving their numeracy goals. The students in P5 would like to commend Ryle for pointing to items as the teacher counts aloud during counting activities. Also, P5 would like to congratulate Joji and Archie for improving in number identification. Joji indicates the correct numeral from a range of different symbols for most numbers up to 10, whilst Archie is able to identify the valid numeral for most numbers up to 20. Keep up the great work P5!

For mathematics this term, students have continued to work on numeracy, counting with a range of concrete materials and visuals, number identification, indicating numbers before and after, matching numerals and ordering numbers to 10 or 20. For multiplication and division, students used counters to make a group to explore multiplication and shared counters to deepen their understandings of 'division'.



Oscar and Marcus enjoying library lessons



Joji making two groups using counters

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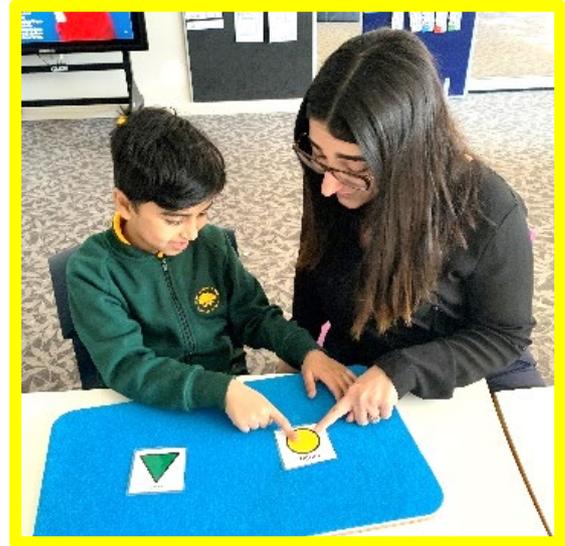
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Archie sharing counters

For volume and capacity, students have been learning the term 'full', 'empty' and 'half' by filling and emptying different sized containers with sand, rice and water.



Mahir identifying different shapes

For length, students have been learning about the concepts 'long', 'short', 'tall', 'high' and 'low' by making and sorting long or short constructions from concrete materials. The students used these concrete materials, visuals and other objects to measure the length of an object from end to end, then used comparative language to describe the length of these objects.



Ryle measuring the length of the play-doh to explore the term long

For two-dimensional space, students have been matching, sorting and identifying a range of shapes, then tracing, copying and drawing a variety of shapes to reinforce this learning.



Ethan exploring the term 'full'

Ayse, Allison and Grace

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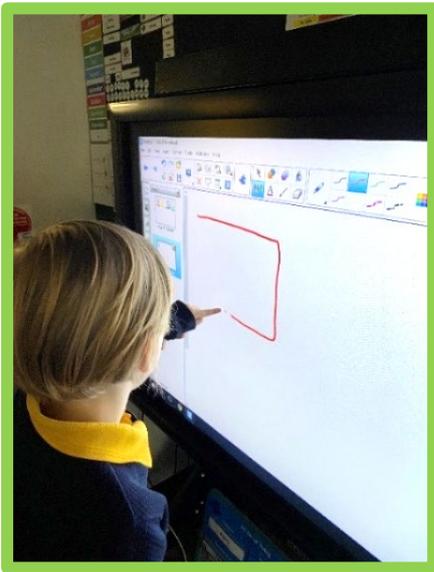
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Primary 2

All students in P2 have been making great progress in their PLSP communication goals. It is great to see the students developing confidence in communicating needs and wants around different school settings.

In mathematics this term, we have been focusing on 2D shapes. Students have been practising locating, identifying and drawing different 2D shapes and learning about length. Using various 2D shapes, students made tall and short objects to support their learning.



Oscar drawing different shapes on the Interactive Smart Board



Harriet learning about the importance of washing our hands

In PDHPE this term, we have been focusing on how to look after ourselves. The students have been learning about why it is important to wash their hands after playing outside, before eating and after using the bathroom.

We look forward to continuing our great work and sharing our achievements with you next time.

Paul and Jen D

Primary 4

There has been a lot happening in Primary 4! Students have been learning about farm produce and looking at animals, such as cows and chickens, and what they produce. We planted sprouting potatoes in the garden and are growing wheat in the classroom to provide us with the opportunity to measure it as it grows, however, it has been growing so rapidly that we are measuring it on a daily basis! We hope to obtain enough produce from our potatoes to do some cooking!

In mathematics, we are working on whole numbers and recording data.

In creative arts, we have been inspired by Vincent van Gogh and have been working on his famous painting *Starry Night*. We look forward to sending home our artwork for you to view.

We continue to integrate work on our communication skills, especially during our mealtime programs.

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Alana selecting her wheat growth chart



David measuring his sprouting wheat



Alicia watering our future potato crop



Juliette investigating characteristics of cows



Cooper investigating different plants in the garden

Jan and Zenab

All Things
STEAM Update **STEAM**

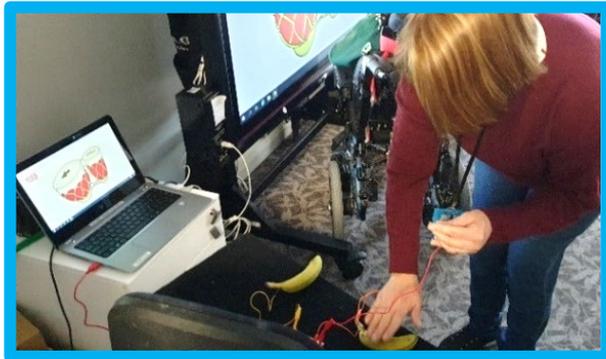
As we celebrate our amazing SAS Staff this week, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the SLSOs for their support in implementing our innovative STEAM program. They continue to support the students to try new things, assist them to solve problems and always 'find another way,' if things don't go to plan the first time!

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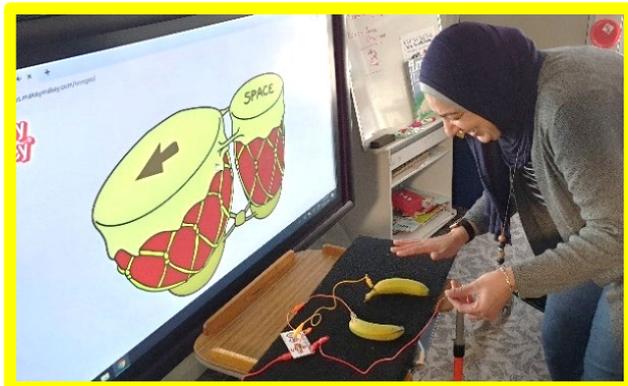
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Working with robotics is fun, engaging and assists our students to problem-solve, be creative, interact with devices and technology, try new things and work with their peers. Our SLSOs enjoy learning alongside the students and have been an integral part of the success of the STEAM program this year.

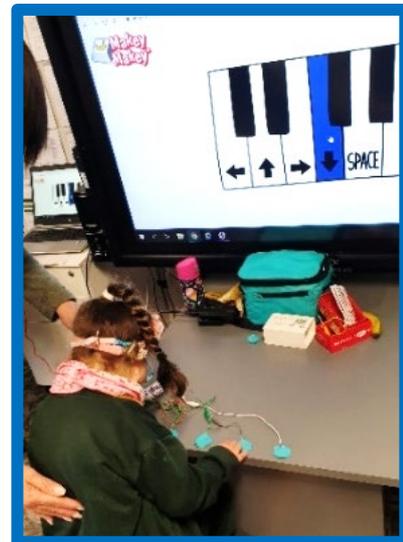


Bec assisting Alexander and Aoife helping Eleanor to play music with Makey Makey



Toula and Zenab engaging in professional learning about Makey Makey robotics to support student engagement

Our focus for STEAM is reflected in our learning intention: We Are Learning To (WALT) use technology to create music. Our success criteria, or What I'm Looking For (WILF) is for students to use touch and various technologies, to play music. The assistive technology we are exploring is called *Makey Makey*, which connects the world to the computer, making access easier for students.



Lily using play-doh and Makey Makey to play the piano

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Alana using bananas to play bongos



Class painting

Bec, Aoife and Nicole

Primary 3

In P3, students have created a family tree and have enjoyed exploring family members and their heritage. Using Google Maps, students have explored different countries and different places within Australia. They have found this history unit very engaging, and are looking forward to exploring how things have changed over time, during the coming weeks.

In visual arts, we have been exploring the work of Spencer Harrison, an artist from Melbourne, who combines abstract art and the complex modern world. Students created individual artwork as well as whole class art pieces based on his art. Completing the artwork in stages, students have been painting, ripping paper and gluing, to create the artwork.



Lily used her fine motor skills to tear paper to create her artwork

During English, we have focused on fairy-tales and nursery rhythms, including *Cinderella* and *Five Little Ducks*, with students now exploring the *Three Little Pigs*. Students have been engaged in a range of activities from each fairy-tale or nursery rhyme. We have been focusing on the characters and working on phonics and phonemic awareness from words in each fairy-tale or nursery rhyme.



Class artwork

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Lilu gluing and dressing the 'Three Little Pigs'



Sehal listening to the music he composed on Chrome Music Lab



Christian dressing the 'Three Little Pigs'

In mathematics, we are continuing to work on our numeracy goals. Clare is learning to make groups of objects by adding and removing one at a time, and Sehal and Ake are practising pointing at numerals. We are also learning about money and financial mathematics this semester. At the moment, we are learning about silver and gold coins.

Allison, Jessica and Vicki

Secondary 4

Our music program this term has been hugely successful. We have been combining instruments with the technology of the Chrome Music Lab website to make our own rhymes, songs and simple compositions. Music is definitely Sehal's new favourite subject – he could happily play the piano all day!



Ake pointing at the number two

In society and culture this week, we learnt about the Pakistani celebration *Chaand Raat* and *Eid*. Next, we will investigate the celebrations of the Cook Islands!

Sian and Toula

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OCTOBER 2020 – WEEK ONE

MONDAY 28/9	TUESDAY 29/9	WEDNESDAY 30/9	THURSDAY 1/10	FRIDAY 2/10
<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) RYDE AQUATIC CENTRE</p>  <p>Pack your towel we are heading to the pool. Today we will head to Ryde Aquatic Centre for some fun in the pool. Our swim will be followed by lunch in the park before finishing our day back at Mary's Place. Please make sure to pack swimmers and a towel.</p>	<p>Community Access Explorers (Mary's Place) CABARITA PARK</p>  <p>What better way than to head to Cabarita Park for a play on the awesome equipment and a picnic in the park. If we are feeling up to it we can head down to the beach for a walk along the sand and a splash in the water. Bring lunch and a hat.</p>	<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) CASULA ADVENTURE PARK</p>  <p>Holiday Program is about testing ourselves and reaching new heights. Today at Casula Adventure Park is all about having fun and zipping around the park with our friends, so let the fun begin!</p>	<p>Community Access Explorers (Mary's Place) THE SHINE SHED</p>  <p>Join the team to the Shine Shed! A place where your child can meet their sensory needs, develop skills and make friends in a fun, nurturing and supported environment.</p>	<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) JUMP AROUND</p>  <p>Come Jump & Play with your friends at Sky high Chullora followed by lunch at Wangal Park! Bring your Trampoline socks & strong shoes for rock climbing. Enjoy the awesome foam pit and ball games. All Children must wear socks</p>
<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) WATER FIGHT!</p>  <p>Water play! Pack your swimmers or a set of spare clothes and let's get wet! It's staff v kids, who will win the water fight? Who will be the driest at the end of the day? Swimmers and towel required.</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) COOKING UP A STORM</p>  <p>Today at EPIK we will be cooking up a storm. Not only will we be creating some delicious treats to share with our EPIK friends but we will be working on lots of different skills. Turn-taking, fine motor skills, kitchen hygiene and choice making.</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) CLAY DAY</p>  <p>Today we are exploring the world of clay! What shape will you make a ball shape? A pancake? A Volcano? Playing with clay can help with hand-eye coordination & help develop social skills.</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) MESSY PLAY</p>  <p>Roll your sleeves up and have a ball getting your hands dirty in coloured spaghetti, shaving foam and other fun messy play essentials. Bring spare clothes.</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) BAKER'S DELIGHT</p>  <p>Today we will be working on our cooking skills and creating some delicious healthy treats. Baking is such a great way to work on your motor skills.</p>

OCTOBER 2020 – WEEK TWO

MONDAY 5/10	TUESDAY 6/10	WEDNESDAY 7/10	THURSDAY 8/10	FRIDAY 9/10
<p>CLOSED LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</p>	<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) PADDLE BOAT FUN</p>  <p>If you're looking for a relaxing day out with good company then look no further. Today we are heading to Lake Parramatta. Here we will enjoy lunch picnic style. We will hire 4 seater pedal boats and pedal around the lake with our friends. Swimming costume required.</p>	<p>Community Access Explorers (Mary's Place) RYDE AQUATIC CENTRE</p>  <p>Pack your towel we are heading to the pool. Today we will head to Ryde Aquatic Centre for some fun in the pool. Our swim will be followed by lunch in the park before finishing our day back at Mary's Place. Please make sure to pack swimmers and a towel.</p>	<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) STRATHFIELD BOWLING</p>  <p>Bowling is a great interactive way to get revved up for the school holidays! Join the SAFC bowling team and see who gets the highest score. To top off the day we will be going to Blair park for lunch just before home time.</p>	<p>Community Access Explorers (Mary's Place) BBQ @ WANGAL</p>  <p>Wangal Park is a huge park just across the road from Mar's Place. We are all going to grab the bikes, balls and music speakers and enjoy an active day at the park. We will also have a chance to work on our cooking skills when we help support workers cook our yummy BBQ. What activity will you choose? The basketball court, the bike track or flying fox? So many options.</p>
	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) MESSY PLAY</p>  <p>Roll your sleeves up and have a ball getting your hands dirty in coloured spaghetti, shaving foam and other fun messy play essentials. Bring spare clothes.</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) ROCK N ROLL</p>  <p>Today we will be creating some scrumptious treats to share with your friends and of course our own rumbling tummies. We will be working on turn-taking, kitchen hygiene and healthy options. Lunch Provided</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) EPIK SPORTS WORLD CUP</p>  <p>Come wearing your joggers and get ready to race, cheer and engage in our very own EPIK sports world cup. Cricket, bowling & Ping-Pong!</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) NATIONAL HOT DOG DAY</p>  <p>Spread the word! Today is National Hot Dog Day! No BBQ or football game is perfect without a delicious hot dog served on a bun and covered in tomato sauce, mustard & onions Lunch Provided</p>

Explorers 5-11 years Connectors 12-17 years

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