



Lucas Gardens School

Celebrating Ability Through High Expectations

Cnr Queens Road & Walker Street Canada Bay NSW 2046

Ph: 9744 6461 Fx: 9744 1705 Email: lucasgarde-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au

20 November 2020

Dates for Your Diary

9 December – Presentation Day
11 December – Crazy Hat Day
16 December – Last day for students
29 January – First day for students in 2021

Principal's Award



Archie confidently using his head switch to request 'more' and activate interactive games on the computer

Principal's Message

Currently, staff are busy writing student reports which will be sent home in Week 10. This is a great opportunity to collectively celebrate student growth and achievement.

The National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) origins

can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920s who sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. This year, the theme was 'Always Was, Always Will Be', recognising that First Nations peoples have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. Classes embraced this history through lessons including reading stories and completing related activities to emphasise the rich history of our country that dates back thousands of generations.

Last week our school driveway was emblazoned with red poppies to mark Remembrance Day. Students participated in lessons and activities that included making red poppies to honour those who have fought and died in the line of duty, to ensure the freedoms we enjoy today. The poppy is the enduring symbol of remembrance as poppies were a common sight on the Western Front. Understanding our history is important as it enables us to develop a better understanding of our nation and make sense of our current context.

Due to the invaluable support of a private foundation, we have been able to purchase additional mobility equipment for students. This equipment supports students to sit, stand, walk and transition, enhancing their mobility which reaps rewards as students engage more readily with their learning.

By now you will have received an Expression of Interest for Presentation Day. Please

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

complete this and return it to the school as soon as possible, to enable us to plan this event in a COVID safe way. All students will receive an award; however, the event will be staggered to ensure the safety of all. The P&C Christmas Raffle will also be drawn on this day. Further details will be available closer to the event.

Planning for next year is underway and I would like to flag that the first two days of Term 1 will be School Development Days (SDD). These days have been moved to the commencement of Term 1, instead of being at the end of the year, to enable staff time to prepare for the arrival of students on Friday 29 January.

Kind regards

Jenny Zagas

Crazy Hat Day

In collaboration with the PBL team, the SRC will be holding a Crazy Hat Day on Friday 11 December to fundraise for resources for the Lucas Gardens School library. This event will also promote the PBL team's term focus of 'Be Safe', as wearing a hat provides sun protection. For a gold coin donation, students can wear a crazy hat and support our library.



SRC

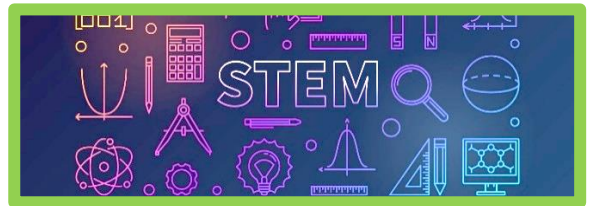
P&C Report

This year we will be continuing our annual Christmas Raffle. All donations will be used to purchase school resources for our students. If you would like to donate items to our Christmas Hampers, please send them in no later than Friday 4 December. If you would like to purchase a \$2 raffle ticket, please return the note to school before Tuesday 8 December as the raffle will be drawn on Presentation Day which is Wednesday 9 December.

Thank you for your contribution!

P&C

STEM Update



For the past three weeks, students have been exploring 3D shapes using the Makers Empire 3D app on the Commbox or iPads. This software allows students to manipulate shapes by changing their size, position and colour to create designs and constructions. These skills are necessary for the next part of our program - using the 3D printer!



Archie using the Makers Empire 3D software on the Commbox

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

We have been designing flags for the countries studied in class as well as the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags. Our aim is to print these flags so that students with vision impairments and students requiring physical objects as support for learning, can explore flag attributes such as shapes and designs.



Cara exploring 3D shapes on the Makers Empire 3D app on the iPad

We are working hard on our design skills and look forward to showcasing our 3D prints at the end of the year!

Bec, Kate, Emily and Ilias

MOVE Update



We have been very excited to start using our new mobility equipment, purchased with the help of a private foundation. New standing frames, walkers, chairs and tables are already having an impact on student access to the curriculum as well as improving student independence. This equipment empowers students to have control over their bodies, and encourages them to develop muscle

strength whilst improving health and wellbeing as students are taught to sit, stand, walk and transition with at least two position changes each day. I know that this equipment, as well as strong home-school-therapy partnerships, will assist students to develop functional skills now and into the future.



Emmarisa standing in her new dynamic stander to access sensory activities

It is with great pleasure that we announce this week's MOVE Award winner - Emmarisa! Emmarisa has been using the new Dynamic stander and Rifton activity chair to engage in learning activities and socialise with peers. She has better access to the Commbox to use touch screen activities and is now standing at the same height as peers to engage in learning, make eye contact and socialise. Well done Emmarisa!

Bec – MOVE International Trainer



PBL News!

This year, the PBL team have been working hard to implement a school wide acknowledgement system. The

Be Safe

Be Respectful

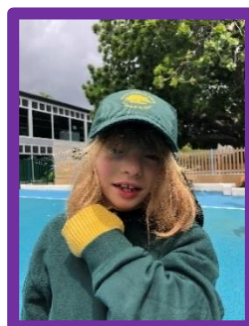
Be a Learner

acknowledgement system provides immediate positive feedback to students who demonstrate being **Safe Respectful Learners**. Each student has their own Marlee chart displayed in their classroom, once a student has received 10 stars on their Marlee chart, they receive a Marlee Award!



Congratulations to our **Safe Respectful Learners** that have also received Marlee Awards.

This term, Lucas Gardens School is focusing on **'Being Safe'** by wearing our hats in the playground.



Students have been working hard this term to demonstrate being **Safe Respectful Learners** and we are excited to announce that we have already given out multiple Marlee awards! We are celebrating ability through high expectations with every student being known, valued and cared for, while celebrating their success across all school contexts.

We would like to congratulate our first ever Marlee Award winner:



Joji!

Thank you to all staff and students who have been sun **safe** by wearing their hats.

PBL Team

Primary 1

Students have continued to work hard across all areas, in addition to commemorating Remembrance Day and participating in activities for NAIDOC Week in Week 5.

In science, students have been investigating landscape change through experiments. Students explored the characteristics of soil, and simulated how erosion occurs using cars moving across soil. We have also been looking at the elements of the weather. Students learned about the qualities of air, and conducted an experiment to see how it moves.

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner



Archie investigating the movement of air in science

In history, we have been exploring the culture of Thailand. Students studied the Loi Krathong festival – its origins and significance to Thais. We made a ‘floating candle offering’ replicating those used in Thailand for the celebration.



Emmarisa’s floating candle offering

In Primary 1, students have had their hard work recognised each day through earning stars and Marlee Awards across the PBL areas of Be **Safe**, Be **Respectful** and Be A **Learner**. Well done, Primary 1!

Julia and Dani

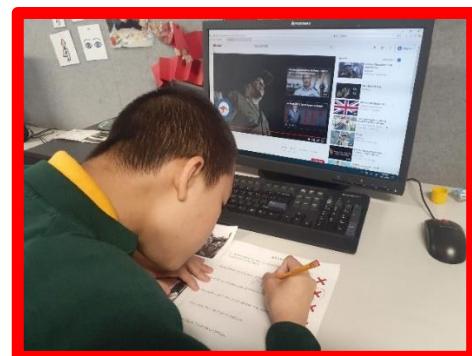
Secondary 3

Secondary 3 have welcomed new student, William, to the class! William has already begun to settle in well and is beginning to follow our school routine. William has been part of the class celebration of Vietnamese culture, as we continued our focus on Vietnam for our ‘Engaging Asia’ topic. We have also been thinking about special events in the past few weeks.



Welcome, William!

In Week 5 during history, our class commemorated Remembrance Day. We discovered some facts about Remembrance day, including that soldiers from the Vietnam War are remembered along with soldiers from other wars. Students learnt about objects of significance and constructed poppies.



William finding out ‘the facts’ about Remembrance Day

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

Last week, was also a special week to celebrate NAIDOC Week and to consider our links with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders around Australia. We read a story on Storybox Online called *In Your Dreams*, which focused on what you would like to be when you grow up. The story also focused on using natural resources such as paperbark to paint pictures.



Andrew painting a rainbow onto paperbark

The theme for NAIDOC Week was 'Always Was, Always Will Be' and included beautiful images using rainbow colours. After reading the story, students used paperbark to paint rainbows in line with our story.



Student art contributions on paperbark for NAIDOC Week

In science, we have been learning about Earth's natural and manmade resources and how we use the Earth's resources at school. Students enjoyed following directions to perform simple tasks around school including

washing hands with water and planting a seed in soil.



Ake using soil as a natural resource to plant a seed

Jen and Lisa

Primary 5

Recently in Primary 5, students have participated in learning experiences focusing on the concepts of **safety** and **respect**.



Joji making paper poppies for the garden for Remembrance Day

For visual arts, students created poppy artworks for Remembrance Day to pay their respects to those who have served our country in the past and continue to serve to keep us **safe**. They also participated in NAIDOC Week activities by decorating hand

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

prints and learning about Eora country in their history lessons.



Ryle decorating his handprint art for NAIDOC Week

Students continued to practise the PBL rules for being **safe** and being **respectful** through cooperative game play with a focus on inclusion and helping their peers. It has been a busy and exciting couple of weeks, and the students in Primary 5 have continued to put their best effort into their learning as they head into the second half of the term.

Allison, Nicole and Grace

Primary 2

Students in Primary 2, have been working diligently in all learning experiences. Additionally, the students commemorated Remembrance Day and participated in different activities for NAIDOC Week in Week 5.

To commemorate Remembrance Day, during visual arts students created poppy artworks to show their respect for the people who protected our country. Also, in celebration of NAIDOC Week, the students decorated different Australian animals.



Hermeslla making poppies for the garden for Remembrance Day

In science, students have been learning about the weather. Students enjoyed participating in experiments to demonstrate that wind can move objects. We created balloon rockets to observe how wind is able to push objects in different directions.

It has been a busy few weeks and we look forward to new activities we will be engaging in for the remainder of the term.



Marcus creating balloon rockets to observe that wind can push objects

Paul and Jen D

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

Primary 7/Secondary 2

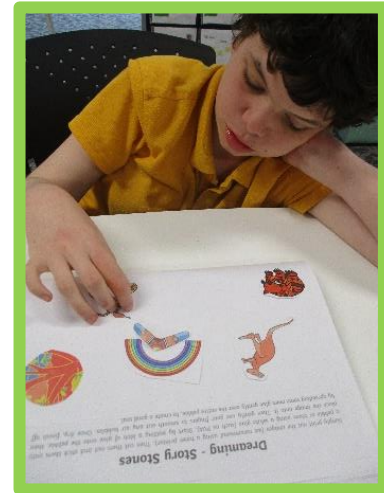
Students in Primary 7/Secondary 2 have continued to work hard in all key learning areas this term. For science, they have been looking at what living things need to grow, for example, light and water, by conducting experiments using plant seeds. They have enjoyed watching and observing the changes that have occurred to the plant seeds over time.

In Week 5, Primary 7/Secondary 2 acknowledged the traditions and customs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by engaging in a range of activities to celebrate NAIDOC Week. Some of these activities included listening to traditional Aboriginal dreamtime stories and creating artwork. Students made stones out of clay then decorated these stones using images representing Aboriginal culture.



Daniel making a clay stone to decorate for NAIDOC Week

The students also showed their respect to our fallen soldiers by making poppies which were displayed in the front garden in the carpark.



Sofia identifying common items related to Aboriginal culture, e.g. boomerang

Michelle and Nobuko

Primary 3

Primary 3 completed lots of artwork to celebrate NAIDOC Week and commemorate Remembrance Day. For NAIDOC Week, we have been learning about traditional Aboriginal dot paintings and students have been using their artistic skill to create their own representations of these artworks. It was a multistage process where we decorated an outline of Australia on one day and the following day we made the water that surrounds our country. Students enjoyed learning about First Nations peoples and their culture.



Becki using her finger-painting skills to create her artwork

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner



Our finished artwork

Students used cotton balls and a spray bottle with food dye to create poppies for Remembrance Day artwork which were displayed in the school garden. Students learnt about why we commemorate Remembrance Day and we listened to the bugle play the music that we hear on this important day.



Our finished poppies artwork

Students have also been developing their skills in throwing and catching and have been enjoying playing with their peers for different ball games. Over the term, students have been showing greater confidence in these different sports.



Trung engaging in ball activities

Jessica and Vicki

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

Primary 4

The students in Primary 4 have continued to engage in a variety of interactive learning experiences. In our visual arts lessons, we have created artworks about important events in Australia's past and present. To celebrate NAIDOC Week, we read two Indigenous texts, *Tiddalik* and *The Lost Girl*, then decorated spiral-shaped snakes in the colours of the Aboriginal flag. We chose this symbol to represent this year's theme of 'Always Was, Always Will Be' as spirals can continue on forever. For Remembrance Day, we each constructed large red poppy flowers that were placed throughout the front garden, where the metallic materials we used could reflect the sunlight.



Alicia counting the stripes she painted on her snake for NAIDOC week

We have also been accessing the gardens to continue our science lessons, investigating how different types of weather can cause changes to our local and global environments. We have continued to record data on the weather each day. After learning in Term 3 that plants need sun and water to grow, it has been interesting to observe the waratah bush and colourful flowers, that we planted together, blooming.

In mathematics, we have been having a fantastic time incorporating musical concepts such as fast and slow clapping, and our favourite rhyming songs, with pictorial

representations and concrete materials to explore and identify numbers up to five. We've gone 'shopping' and adapted illustrations from our focus texts to count and highlight the characters.



Cooper exploring his Remembrance Day poppy

We are looking forward to telling you more about our final four weeks of learning as we enjoy the rest of the term together in Primary 4.

Rhiannon and Zenab

Secondary 4

Secondary 4 have enjoyed playing games during physical education this term. We have been playing tee-ball, basketball and soccer.



Sehal using a ramp to play soccer

Students have been practising their grasping, releasing, accuracy, power and distance skills.



Jayson ready to play tee-ball and Hadi about to take a shot in basketball

We held a small class assembly in our classroom on Remembrance Day. Students paid their respects by observing a minute's silence. We then made poppies that were displayed in the garden in front of the school.



Remembrance Day poppies made by S4

We would also like to say a huge congratulations to Hadi, Jayson and Richard for winning Marlee awards. They each earned 10 stars for being **safe**, **respectful learners**. Well done!

Sian and Toula

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner

JANUARY 2021 – WEEK ONE

MONDAY 4/1	TUESDAY 5/1	WEDNESDAY 6/1	THURSDAY 7/1	FRIDAY 8/1
<p>Office Day – NO PROGRAM</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. Please pack spare clothes</p>	<p>Community Access Explorers (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 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) FEATHRDALE PARK</p>  <p>Pat a koala, hand feed a kangaroo and meet all your favourite Australian animals. Enjoy yummy lunch in the sunny outback with your favourite EPIK friends.</p>
	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) LET'S GET MESSY</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. Please pack some spare clothes</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) PIZZA MAKING</p>  <p>Today is all about choices and decision-making (and yummy pizzas of course!). What topics will you pick, how will you arrange your pizza? Cheese or no cheese? Lunch Provided</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) PEACE AND LOVE!</p>  <p>Today we will be putting our gloves on, rolling up our sleeves and creating some wearable art. Using rubber bands, dye and water we will be tie-dyeing a t-shirt we can wear! T-Shirts will be provided</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) YOGA</p>  <p>Disconnect from the iPad and TV for a while! Connect with others, and within instead. Here's where your child can bend, stretch and strengthen, have a laugh, and recharge!</p>

JANUARY 2021 – WEEK TWO

MONDAY 11/1	TUESDAY 12/1	WEDNESDAY 13/1	THURSDAY 14/1	FRIDAY 15/1
<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) SYDNEY OLYMPIC POOL</p>  <p>Pack your swimmers, goggles, towel and sunscreen, today we are going swimming. Here at EPIK we love Olympic Pools. Here you can choose the 50m lap pool to practice your best breaststroke or the smaller paddle pool. Bring swimmers and towel.</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) SKY HIGH</p>  <p>Come Jump & Play with your friends at Sky High Chullora followed by lunch at Wangee 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>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) BBO @ WANGAL PARK</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. Lunch Provided</p>
<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) BAKING DAY</p>  <p>Bring your chefs hat and your best baking skills. Today we are creating delicious sweet veggie muffins! We will be rolling, mixing, sprinkling and decorating. Yuuuuuummm!</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) ZUMBA</p>  <p>Lets combine movement, music, community, Zumba! High energy dance party packed with building self confidence, increasing focus and enhancing coordination.</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) SUCCULENT SUCCESS</p>  <p>There is nothing cooler right now than succulents! Today we are going to create our very own succulent pot to take home and decorate our bedroom. If you have an awesome idea for a pot (eg. Teacups, mason jars etc) feel free to bring it in.</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) SPLISH SPLASH</p>  <p>Spring is here and so is the beautiful warm weather. Bring your cossies and let's enjoy some water play in the backyard with our EPIK friends. Swimmers and towel required</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 rumbly tummies. We will be working on turn-taking, kitchen hygiene and healthy options. Lunch Provided</p>

JANUARY 2021 – WEEK THREE

MONDAY 18/1	TUESDAY 19/1	WEDNESDAY 20/1	THURSDAY 21/1	FRIDAY 22/1
<p>Community Access Explorers (Mary's Place) INFLATABLE WORLD</p>  <p>It's as easy as stepping stone for some, for others it is a huge challenge to get to the other side. Can you make it? Today is about having fun, come bounce with us and enjoy lunch at a local park. All Children must wear socks whilst at the venue.</p>	<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) CASULA ADVENTURE</p>  <p>Pack your runners and hat, we are heading to Strathfield Park for a BBQ and to burn some energy! Slip down the twisty slides or fly down the flying fox! Lunch Provided</p>	<p>Community Access Explorers (Mary's Place) SYDNEY PARK</p>  <p>Sydney Park is one of our new favourite parks! We will pack up the cars and head to the amazing playground at Sydney Park for a play and some lunch. For those who would like, we can go for a walk around the water before heading back to Mary's Place.</p>	<p>Community Access Connectors (Mary's Place) DRUMMOYNE POOL</p>  <p>Pack your swimmers, goggles, towel and sunscreen, today we are going swimming. Here at EPIK we love Drummoynes Pool. Here you can choose the 50m lap pool to practice your best breaststroke or the smaller paddle pool to cool down on a hot January day.</p>	<p>Community Access Explorers (Mary's Place) BLAXLAND RIVERSIDE</p>  <p>We love Blaxland Riverside Park. We are so excited to come back, pack your swimmers, towel and some running shoes to explore this amazing water park!</p>
<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) SUSHI DAY</p>  <p>Today we are putting our chopping, mixing and rolling skills to the test and attempting to make some delicious sushi! Which filling will you choose? Tuna and avocado? Chicken and cucumber? Yumm!</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) WATER FIGHT!!</p>  <p>Water play! Pack your swimmers or a set of spare clothes and lets get wet! Its staff vs kids, who will win the water fight?? Who will be the driest at the end of the day? Bring swimmers & towel</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) LASAGNE DAY</p>  <p>Hidden Vegetable Lasagne or cheesy Lasagne? Nothing like a home-baked lasagne! Come join your friends to learn healthy cooking skills where we try to hide as many vegetables as we can into a lasagne</p>	<p>Centre Based (Wangee Park School) MESSY MASTERPIECE</p>  <p>Today the aim of the game is to make as much mess as possible. Today we will be threading cheerios, painting with our feet, creating slimy goop and plunging our hands in buckets of beans.</p>

Explorers 5-11 years Connectors 12-17 years

EPIK Disability Service is delivered by St Anthony's Family Care, ABN 95 063 182 336



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

JANUARY 2021

Learning Links' School Holiday Programs help children aged 4-12 years to develop social skills, strategies for emotional regulation, ways to manage anxiety or the confidence to cope with big transitions. Our 3-day programs include fun and engaging activities and are facilitated by our passionate team of psychologists.



I support the
ndis

PLAY AND LEARNING TO SOCIALISE (PALS) SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM: 4-6 YEARS

PALS is an evidence-based program to help children develop a range of social behaviours for the early years of school. Using puppets, stories, games and role play, children learn important skills like greeting others, talking and listening, taking turns, understanding feelings and problem-solving in social situations. The program is suitable for young children who may need extra support in social situations or in the lead up to preschool or kindergarten.

COST \$225 for a 3-day program (1.5 hours/day)



I support the
ndis

THE ZONES OF REGULATION EMOTIONAL REGULATION PROGRAM: 6-12 YEARS

The Zones of Regulation aims to address challenges with emotional and sensory regulation, and social skills. Using visuals, play-based activities, role playing and video modelling, the program teaches self-regulation by helping children to categorise their emotions and develop strategies to control their impulses and cope when they feel overwhelmed. It is suitable for all children, including those with ASD, ADHD or mood disorders.

COST \$225 for a 3-day program (2.5 hours/day)



I support the
ndis

TAKE ACTION ANXIETY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: 8-12 YEARS

Take Action is an evidence-based program that teaches children helpful ways to cope with anxiety. Using letters in the word A-C-T-I-O-N to highlight a range of skills, children develop a personalised 6 step action plan to manage their fears and worries. This gives them practical strategies to improve their social skills and wellbeing. Take Action is suitable for children who are anxious and need support to cope at school and in social situations.

COST \$225 for a 3-day program (2.5 hours/day)



MOVING ON AND UP PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS STARTING HIGH SCHOOL IN 2021

Moving on and Up is suitable for students transitioning to high school next year, who may need some additional support. The program provides a range of practical skills, tools and strategies so children can build the confidence to navigate the new high school environment. It incorporates group discussions, brainstorms, practical tasks and fun activities to help children feel organised and prepared.

COST \$225 for a 3-day program (2.5 hours/day)

LEARNINGLINKS.ORG.AU

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be a Learner