



# Lucas Gardens School

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Artwork by Michael Fardon

2 December 2022

## Dates for Your Diary

8 December - Presentation Day

16 December - Last Day of Year for Students

31 January 2023 - First Day of Year for Students

## R/Principal's Award

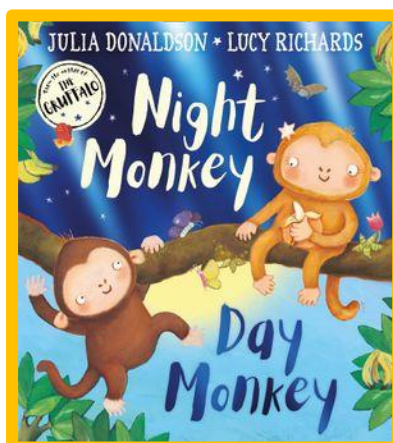
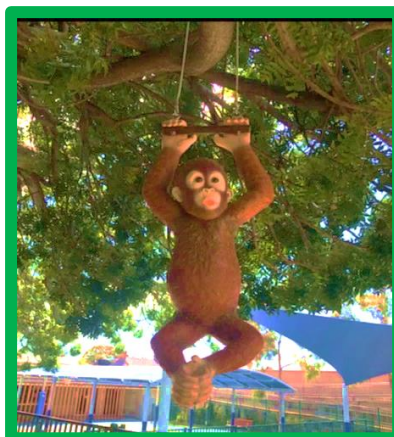
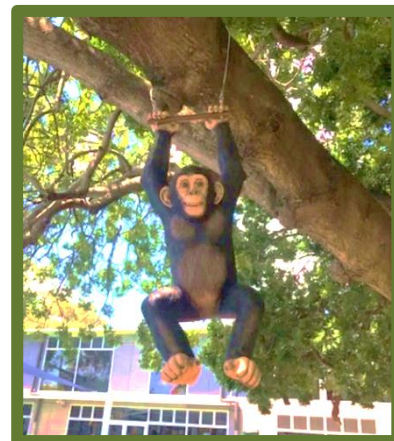


***Cara received the Principal's Award for being an engaged learner in all key learning areas***

## R/Principal's Message

I am delighted to be Relieving Principal whilst Jenny enjoys a break. It has been a privilege to lead the school and witness student achievement over the last two weeks. Of particular note are improvements in how students have seamlessly transitioned around a range of school environments. This has had a positive impact on student engagement and I commend all students for their learning commitment and for moving around the school with such ease.

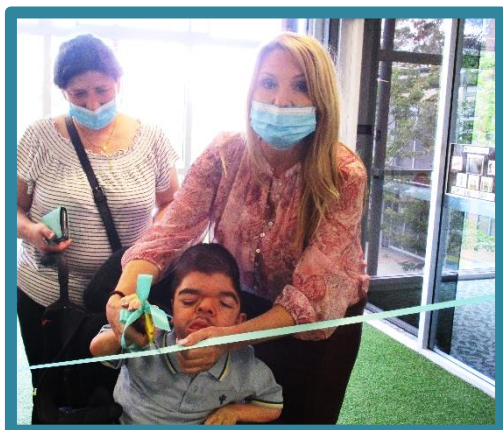
I am pleased to announce that two monkeys and a chimpanzee have joined our school community! They hang from our Kaffir Plum



Tree and have been very popular additions. Inspired by these new critters, some students read *Night Monkey Day Monkey* by Julia Donaldson, a story about friendship, overcoming our fears and embracing different worlds. The moral of the story is a

lesson to us all about the importance of accepting others and valuing all contributions to make the world a better place.

On 15 November, we welcomed back Alumni, Christopher Taouk, to officially open our Wellness Hub. It was an honour to invite Christopher to cut the ribbon and reveal the plaque, with his mother Therese and sister Ruth. I am happy to report that Christopher's indomitable spirit was on display for all to see, as he embraced his official duties with style. Christopher, who is now 22 years young, attends a post school option two days a week, where he is known for his painting and willingness to explore the world around him on excursions. Thank you Christopher for making this an occasion to remember. The Wellness Hub would not have been possible without the generosity of the Margaret Pemberton Foundation who we thank for making a real difference to our students.



I encourage you to support the P&C raffle, with all funds being used to continue our successful Rhythm Village music program in 2023. Tickets can be purchased using the QR code included in this newsletter.

This year, particularly over the last two weeks, I have seen 'first hand' the results of our collective efforts and I would like to thank all who have made contributions.

I look forward to another year of exemplary teaching and learning in 2023. Until then, on behalf of the staff of Lucas Gardens School, I wish you a safe and relaxing festive season and a happy new year.

Kind regards

**Michelle Gray**





## Principal's Report Highlights of 2022

As I reflect on student achievement this year, I would like to touch on a few of the many highlights!

The Wellness Hub proved to be a boon for senior students who have benefited enormously from purpose-built gym equipment. It has been wonderful to witness students embracing the concept of wellbeing for themselves, as well as their peers.

This year, the Strathfield network of schools championed a strong educational focus on Aboriginal education. Acting locally, Lucas Gardens School are proud of our initiatives in this area including:

- \* Engaging local indigenous artist, Michael Fardon, to custom design artwork that will shortly be displayed in our foyer.
- \* Using the new artwork design to refresh our school letterhead,
- \* Forming an Aboriginal Education committee that included a parent representative.
- \* Acknowledging all 11 significant dates, as determined by Reconciliation NSW.
- \* Hosting author, Kylie Captain, to discuss her book *Dream Big and Imagine the What If*.

Enhancing our outdoor learning spaces was also a priority, including purchasing deck animals and tree monkeys, installing play panels and other equipment in the Magnolia Courtyard, developing a senior students' area and adding additional mini trampolines. All have been designed to further engage students in their learning.

We extended our implementation of the *Zones of Regulation* school wide, which reaped rewards for students who now recognise emotions and have the tools to self regulate and deescalate.

Staff committed to further familiarisation and the implementation of curriculum reform, which will continue next year.

Delivering exemplary literacy and numeracy lessons to all students, under the guidance of Assistant Principal, Wendy du Plessis.

Generously sharing our expertise and best practice in special education with other schools and external agencies, further cementing our standing as a leading special education setting.

One of the greatest privileges of leadership is recognising the achievements and leadership of others. Recently, outstanding educator, Jen Angelini, received a *School Performance Network Award*. Amongst her many achievements, Jen has led important literacy and numeracy reforms and developed scope and sequence in science, history and geography. An outstanding mentor for early career teachers, Jen's abundance of energy and natural ability to impart information enables her to be an effective and strong collaborator. Her willingness to share knowledge has seen others flourish and it is this compounding effect that has helped build whole school capacity. Jen's passion for teaching ignites and engages students and staff alike. Congratulations Jen, you are a very deserving recipient of this accolade.



My final highlight was supporting our students and building staff capacity through the implementation of our school-based speech, physiotherapy and occupational therapy programs, which have again been a real joy. Witnessing the tangible student attainment and engagement that these programs deliver, is a source of great pride, for myself and staff.

I would like to wish you all the best for the festive season and the new year, and I look forward to continuing our partnership in 2023.

**Jenny Zagas**

## **Primary 9/Secondary 1**

What a wonderful year of teaching and learning, we have had! The progress made by P9/S1 students this year has been very gratifying to witness, as all students embraced the curriculum with enthusiasm.

Recently, as the Secondary PBL Ambassador for Term 4, Pierre had the honour of presenting the Class Award to Secondary 4. Congratulations to all S4 students for being PBL champions.

We have planned many engaging learning experiences for P9/S1 students, that will take us to the end of this term and this year. We are all looking forward to Presentation Day on 8 December, when students will be applauded and rewarded for their achievements.

Semester 2 reports will be going home in Week 10. Reflecting on them reinforces what a great privilege it has been to be part of students' learning journeys this year.

As this is the final newsletter for the year, we would like to wish all a safe and relaxing break and we look forward to reconnecting in 2023.



***Pierre presenting the S4  
PBL award to Juliette***

**Sian and Rebecca**

## **P&C Raffle**

Help us fund the school's music program! Delivered by Rhythm Music, the program is an important part of our children's school life, enabling students to improve memory, attention, and cognitive function. The joy it brings to our children is priceless. Please share with family, friends and on social media.

Raffle closes  
**Thursday 8 December 2022**  
and will be drawn at the  
School Presentation Day

For more information on the P&C and to  
become a member, visit  
**[bit.ly/lucasgardensPC](https://bit.ly/lucasgardensPC)**

Purchase tickets from [bit.ly/lgsraffle](https://bit.ly/lgsraffle)





## Primary 3

Primary 3 have been working hard this term.

As the weather warms up, as part of their PDH program for this term, students have been learning about looking after themselves by exploring areas of the playground which they can use for play and relaxation. We have spent time on the deck reading the Julia Donaldson book *Night Monkey Day Monkey* and exploring the great additions to the deck – the monkeys, animals and birds hanging from the trees and positioned around the deck.

This term, students enjoyed travelling across Asia to explore similarities and differences as part of the history program and reading texts with an Asian focus in English. We have enjoyed exploring the symbols relating to cultural events across Asia, such as the Loy Krathong festival in Thailand.

Jen and I would like to thank families for their wonderful support during the year, and we wish you a restful break and a happy festive season.



***Primary 3 enjoying the new animal additions on the deck***

## Julia and Jen D

### Primary 7

Students have worked hard and grown so much this year!

As the weather begins to warm up, Primary 7, as part of their PDH program, have been learning how to look after themselves. They explored how to be sun safe by playing in the shade and drinking water more often.



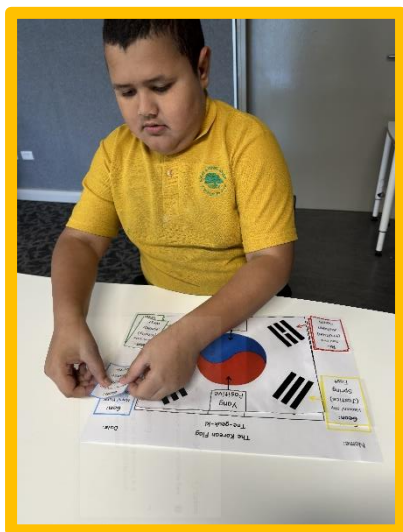
***Sofia observing our new Kookaburra***



***Ethan learning how to be sun safe through 'slip, slop, slap, seek and slide'***



Primary 7, enjoyed exploring Korea. They investigated similarities and differences as part of the history program and read a variety of Korean folktales in English.



***Joji learning about the Korean flag and its different meanings***

We are so proud of how much Primary 7 have grown and improved in all learning areas. We would like to thank parents/carers for their hard work and support and we look forward to the amazing work they will continue to do next year. Angela and I hope you all have a happy holiday.

**Paul and Angela**

## **Primary 4**

We want to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication this year.

We been busy in English and history learning about the country India. In English, we are reading and looking at non-fiction and fiction texts, relating to India. For our fiction text, we studied the Indian folklore *The Drum*. Students really enjoyed playing the drum and looking at all the items the boy received.



***Lily playing the drum to go with our folklore story***

In history, students have been interacting with items relating to India and comparing them to items we use in Australia. We enjoyed touching and smelling different spices from India and attempted to make our own naan bread. In another lesson, we tried to wrap a sari around us and model it to the rest of our classmates.



***Alicia exploring Indian food and spices***

To help learn about India, we have crafted things related to their Diwali and Holi festivals. We made some rangoli patterns and our own little lantern.



***Adam inspecting and counting all the lanterns***





It's been a wonderful year of learning and we wish everyone a lovely and safe break.

## **Vicki and Nobuko**

### **Primary 5**

It has been a fantastic year of learning in P5 and we have enjoyed working with the students and watching them move towards achieving their goals. We look forward to formally celebrating their achievements on Presentation Day.

In Personal Development and Health (PDH) this term, students focused on how they can look after themselves by staying healthy and strong. We focused on hygiene - how to clean our hands and body and exercises or food that help us stay healthy.



***Johan sorting out food that is healthy or not healthy***

Students have shown progress in understanding the Zones of Regulation, particularly with their focus on the colours and tools associated with the zones. Our students now respond well to using their own tools to calm and 'get to the green zone,' which is helping them achieve their learning goals.



***Chloe exploring the green zone in her red cape as a superhero!***

In visual arts we have been recreating artworks from the Philippines, including looking at adapted artworks by famous artists such as Fernando Amorsolo - including Rice Farmers. This fitted well with our history program, where we also focused on the work adults do in the Philippines - including rice farming and fishing. Students enjoyed exploring sensory objects and images related to the artworks and created their own versions.



***David exploring 'rice farming' as part of adapted visual arts artworks and history***

It has been such a pleasure teaching primary 5 this year and seeing all students develop and become more confident learners. We are excited to see our students continue this growth in the coming years. Many thanks to our supportive families over the year and we wish you a very merry festive season!

## **Jen and Toulia**



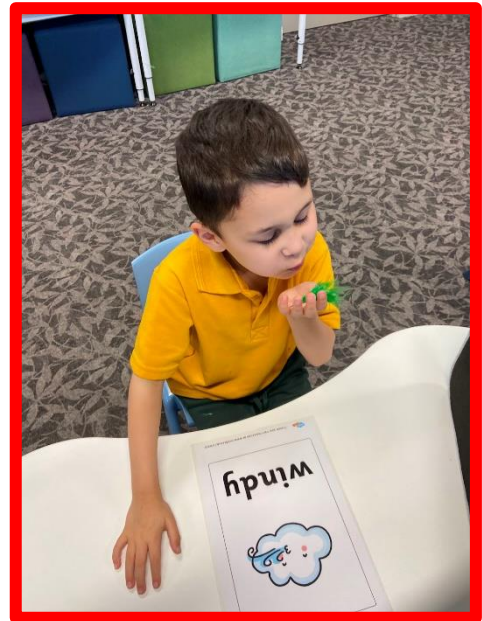
## Primary 1

Students have had a fantastic year of learning together at Lucas Gardens School. As we near the end of the year, they continue to work hard to achieve their literacy and numeracy goals. In English, students have been working on building words and sentences using concrete materials and technology to strengthen their literacy skills. In mathematics, they have been practising combining and separating groups of objects to model multiplication and division.



***Saige writing a sentence  
about healthy habits***

In science, students participated in experiments to model weather conditions and extreme weather events. In PDHPE, they focused on healthy habits and playing partner and group games to practise turn-taking and movement skills. Students enjoyed creating artworks based on the works of Australian artist, Tracey Keller, using a variety of artmaking techniques. Primary 1 would like to say a special thank you to The Rhythm Village, for leading our music program this year. We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.



***Ferris modelling windy weather***

**Allison and Anna**

## Primary 6

Students are continuing to work hard this term. We explored creating our own music using our knowledge of the patterns we learned in mathematics. We composed a musical pattern to play on the xylophone.



***Areeqa creating a musical pattern***

In science this term, we are exploring how weather affects the environment around us. We looked at the impact of natural disasters, through hands on experiments. Students used simulation boxes to explore the effect of weather on soil, as well as tsunamis and





floods. They also created their own 'fossils' to replicate the process of fossilisation.



***Antonia using a spray bottle to explore the effect of flooding***



***Christian Creating a fossil of a seahorse***

We are so impressed with the students of Primary 6 and all that they have achieved this year. Thank you to the families for your support throughout the year. We wish you a safe and happy holiday.

**Sophie and Bree**

## **Secondary 2**

As Albert Einstein once said, "Time flies when you're having fun," this is surely the case, as we have had an exciting and enriching few weeks.

Our community access program gave students the opportunity to explore sustainable materials at Reverse Garbage in Marrickville and use their critical thinking skills to envisage how everyday objects can be repurposed into something useful or beautiful. Students enjoyed the sensory experience of materials, as well as practising

their mathematical life skills such as using money to purchase goods.



***Benito and Andrew explore drums full of bottle caps and imagine how they could use them***



***Tjanara practising money handling skills to pay for items at Reverse Garbage***

In music, students have continued to engage in music from different times and places around the world. Students were particularly interested in learning about songs from Africa and South America, and impressed Michael when demonstrating their understanding of structural features, such as call and response, musical phrases, and riffs.



***Benito and Ashan practise a call and response with Michael***



In PDHPE, students continued to engage in weekly sessions at the school gym to promote healthy living and exercise.



***Santiago uses the cycling machine***

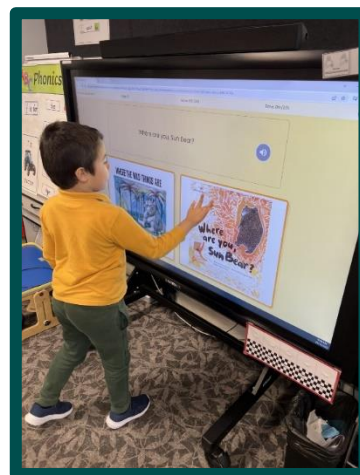
It has been an absolute pleasure to work with students in Secondary 2 this year. We are so honoured to have witnessed their amazing growth and development, and in particular see friendships flourish. We hope you all have a wonderful summer break!

**Richard, Melinda and Lisa**

## **Primary 2**

We would like to congratulate students on a fantastic year. It has been very exciting to see our students achieve goals and build their knowledge and skills, as the year progressed.

We have had a fun time exploring the country of Malaysia in English and history. In English, we enjoyed our focus text *Where are you, Sun Bear?* This text explored forest sustainability and different animals found in the dense forest known as 'Asia's Amazon.' In history, we have been looking at the different festivals celebrated in Malaysia, compared to Australia.



***Mason explores features and representations of Where are you, Sun Bear? by Eun-mi Choi***

In science, we investigated water and specifically, exploring the water cycle. We enjoyed using snap lock bags and food colouring, as part of an experiment to recreate the cycle of water. We created our own 3D water cycle display for our classroom, using different materials to represent the different stages.



***Massimo and Kai creating pieces for our 3D model of the water cycle***

We enjoyed using the new equipment in Magnolia Courtyard, as part of social and imaginative play, and using the drums to explore beats and sounds. We also had fun with Michael from The Rhythm Village, using musical instruments and performing musical sounds. We explored sounds and music with ICT through the program Chrome Music Lab.







***Leonor enjoying using the new equipment in Magnolia Courtyard***

P2 would like to thank everyone for their hard work throughout the year. We wish everyone a very restful and safe holiday break. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2023.

**Mitch and Zenab**

## **Secondary 3**

It has been an amazing year, with lots of great progress and valuable memories made. It has been wonderful to see the students of Secondary 3 grow and achieve their goals throughout the course of 2022.

For PDHPE, Secondary 3 students have been taking advantage of their direct access to the basketball court area to learn and play a range of games. Students have been practising the fundamental movement skills involved in a range of popular sports, such as aimed kicking for football and 'shooting' for basketball. This has been a very enjoyable experience and has supported students to access a range of games that can be played with friends and staff members, during morning tea and lunch breaks.



***Amaan and Sofia showing off their impressive ball skills***

Secondary 3 have enjoyed creating artworks throughout the year, however, our current focus of 'Art Appreciation' has allowed students to examine and admire notable artworks from a range of famous artists. Students have not only drawn inspiration through this unit, they have also reviewed artworks, including identifying colours, deciding whether they like them or not, and reflecting on the way different artworks make them feel.



***Daniel and Ava reviewing 'The Great Wave Off Kanagawa' for art***

We are excited to be heading into the Christmas break, and have already started creating Christmas crafts, because it is never too early! We wish all of our students a fun and happy final few weeks and a restful break.

**Alex and Sandy**



## Primary 8

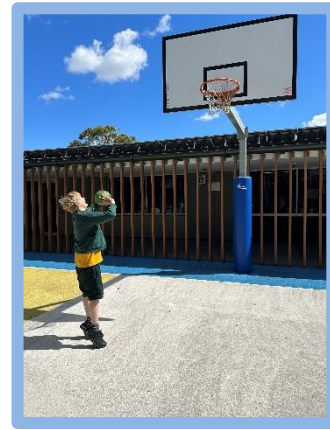
Congratulations to all students, and a big thank you to the families for their wonderful support during the year.

In science, students used their senses to gather information and make simple observations when participating in practical experiments. This term, they explored the changes to the Earth's landscape caused by weather events, natural disasters and human activities.



***EJ and Marcus participating in practical investigations during science***

We continued to learn new ball skills every week in PDHPE. Students engaged in various ball games, such as tee ball, soccer and basketball. Not only did we learn new ball skills, we also practised turn-taking skills when we were waiting for our turn to play with equipment. Students were also very excited to participate in the aquatic program, where we learnt about water safety and basic swimming skills.



***Archie learning how to 'shoot' a basketball***



***Harriet's very happy about participating in the aquatic program***

We have been very honoured to teach each one of our students in Primary 8 this year. What an amazing year we have had. Thank you!

## Nicole, Dennis and Dani

## Secondary 4

Students continue to work hard this term, as we get ready to conclude what has been a very busy and exciting year!





Secondary 4 students have enjoyed playing different ball games for PDHPE this term. They have been developing skills in throwing and catching and enjoying playing games, such as ten pin bowling and catch ball with peers.

To commemorate Remembrance Day, students participated in different activities, such as creating poppy artworks and observing a minute of silence to show respect for the people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, who fought in the wars to protect our country.

Students also enjoyed 'hands-on' learning activities, such as exploring natural resources from our gardens at Lucas Gardens School, based on our science topic focus 'Natural Resources' such as plants, rocks, and soil. Students also engaged in many different literacy and numeracy activities to support students' understanding, for example, letter and number of the day!



**Harry using a ramp to play ten pin bowling**

## Kristine and Vicki



**Cara wearing her poppy she created for Remembrance Day**

# Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:

- Learn
- Make friends
- Build skills through fun

## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	they miss weeks per year	and years over their school life
1 day per fortnight	4 weeks	Over 1 year missed
1 day per week	8 weeks	Over 2.5 years missed

education.nsw.gov.au





Invites you to

# Carols at Halliday Park

McGrath Avenue, Five Dock  
Wednesday 14th December, from 6.00pm

## A Magical Community Event

Variety of Food, Face Painting,  
Christmas Carols, and  
a visit from SANTA

Principle Sponsor



City of  
Canada Bay

CANADABAYCLUB



CONCORD BOWLO

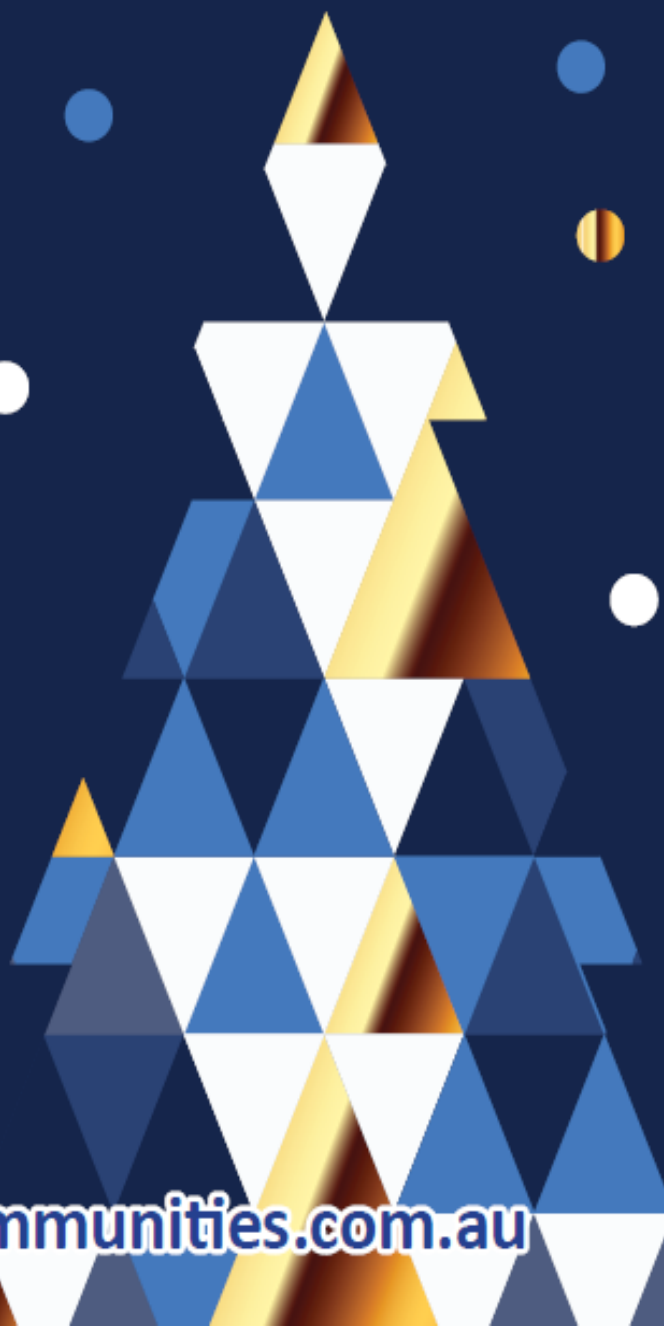


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# School zones: understanding the rules

Children are small,  
harder to see, behave  
unpredictably and  
are extremely vulnerable.

They need you to take extra  
care when driving and parking  
around school zones.

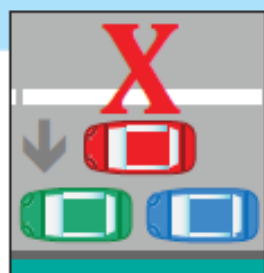
## PLEASE CHOOSE SAFETY OVER CONVENIENCE

To help understand school zone traffic rules, refer below to our quick reference guide.

### DOUBLE PARKING

You must not stop on the road  
alongside a car that is parked at  
anytime.

Fine: exceeds \$330  
Demerit points: 2



### NO PARKING

You have two minutes to drop-off or pick-up and  
must stay within three metres of your vehicle.

If no spaces are available you cannot queue on the  
road way or in any other zones while waiting for a  
space. You will need to drive away and park elsewhere,  
only returning when there is space to pull up.

Fine: exceeds \$183  
Demerit points: 2



### FOOTPATH, DRIVEWAY OR NATURE STRIP

You must not stop across a driveway,  
footpath and nature strip for any reason.

Fine: exceeds \$330  
Demerit points: 2



### NO STOPPING

You cannot stop in a no stopping zone for any  
reason (including queuing or waiting for a space).

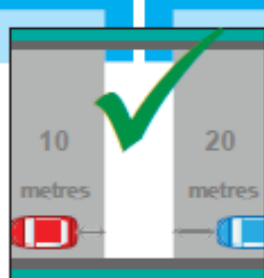
Fine: exceeds \$330  
Demerit points: 2



### PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

You must not stop on or within 20  
metres before a pedestrian crossing or  
10 metres after a crossing (unless a sign  
allows you to park there).

Fine: exceeds \$439  
Demerit points: 2



### BUS ZONE

You must not stop or park in a bus zone for any  
reason (including queuing or waiting for a space)  
unless you are driving a bus.

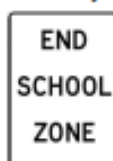
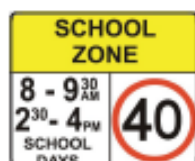
Fine: exceeds \$330  
Demerit points: 2



### SPEEDING

40km/h school zones are in force on all days which are not a weekend, a public holiday or  
a publicly notified school holiday for government schools. School zone days include school  
development days, also known as  
student-free days.

Fine: maximum penalty \$3,740  
Demerit points: +7



### PEDESTRIANS

**STOP**  
one step back from the kerb  
**LOOK**  
for traffic to your right, left and right again  
**LISTEN**  
for the sounds of approaching traffic  
**THINK**  
whether it is safe to cross

Information effective at 1 March 2018 and subject to change