



Lucas Gardens School

Celebrating Ability Through High Expectations

Cnr Queens Road & Walker Street Canada Bay NSW 2046

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25 February 2022



***Congratulations to our 2022
School Captains Sienna & Hadi***

Principal's Message

It is with great pleasure that I welcome all our students and families back to Lucas Gardens. I extend a special welcome to our new students and their families. We hope that after the challenges of last year we will have a productive and uninterrupted year of learning ahead. It has been a very smooth transition back to school and teachers have been working hard in establishing routines and expectations. We welcome some new staff members to the Lucas Gardens team this year. Please refer to the staffing list included in this newsletter.

This week we hosted our 'Meet and Greet' sessions where parents/carers had the opportunity to meet their children's new class teachers and School Learning Support

Officers via Zoom. We will continue to keep you updated as department guidelines are changing regularly, and we look forward having parents/carers back onsite soon.

Over the next two weeks, Personalised Learning and Support Plan meetings will take place. I strongly encourage all parents/carers to participate in this important process as it is an opportunity to collaborate with teachers in the setting of personalised goals for your child. We greatly value the strong partnerships between home and school and acknowledge the impact this has on student growth and achievement.

I am pleased to inform you that the school has recently purchased several pieces of gym equipment and is in the final stages of creating a wellbeing centre. This is particularly to cater for some of our senior students and enable them to increase the range of physical activities in which they already participate. We are also aiming to recommence our school hydro program in the coming weeks depending on volunteer availability. Your child's teacher will keep you informed as to when this will commence for your child's class. Thank you to parents/carers who have already volunteered to support these sessions.

Our additional support programs have also commenced and I would like to welcome Jess our speech therapist, Sarah our OT, Haley our physiotherapist and Michael our music teacher.

Kind regards

**Jenny Zagas
Principal**

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2022 Staffing

Class	Teacher	SLSO
P1	Allison Scragg	Anna Koundouris
P2	Mitchell Oxley	Zenab Zayed
P3	Julia Morgan	Jenny Doumanis
P4	Vicki Nguyen	Nobuko Nguyen
P5	Jen Angelini	Toula Mihalatos
P6	Sophie Amos	Brianna O'Bree
P7	Paul Kim	Belinda Guiffre
P8	Nicole Short	Angela Cameron
P9/S1	Sian Dunn	Rebecca Sheen
S2	Richard Manchee/Melinda Broadbent	Lisa Karaspyros
S3	Alex Polly	Sandy Kotevski
S4	Kristine Cotton	Vicki Stamatopoulos
Healthcare SLSO		Denise Noordeloos
Administration staff	Vanessa Mallin	Leah Wicks
	Hannah O'Loughlin	Pamela Ziino
Assistant Principals	Wendy du Plessis	Richard Manchee
	Michelle Gray	

Student Late Arrivals and Early Departures Reminder Please avoid collecting or bringing Your child at these times:

10.40am - 11.15am – Recess
12.55pm - 1.30pm – Lunch

School commences every day at 8.45am. On occasions where circumstances dictate that your child is late, parents and carers enter the school and sign their child in/out on *Passtab* using their *Quickpin*. Administration staff will notify class staff to collect or bring your child to/from the reception area. Whilst class staff make their way to the foyer, please remain in the reception area.

Uniform Orders

If you would like to order additional school uniforms, please complete the order form on our website lucasgarde-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au and place in your child's bag please include the correct money. If your requested sizes are available, we will place the uniforms into your child's bag.

Primary 8

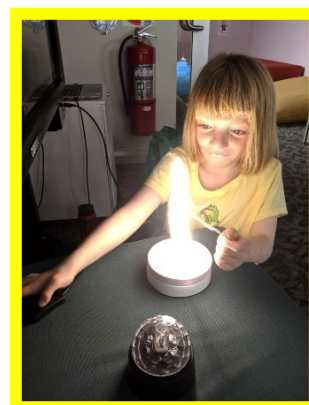
We have had a very busy start to the year. Our teacher is Nicole and our SLSO is Angela. Students have settled well in their new class and routines.

We are learning about visual literacy in English this term. Our class chose the book 'Mirror' by Jeannie Baker. Every week, we will focus on one page of the book and analyse and interpret the images we see.



Trung identifying different images he can see on the front cover of the book 'Mirror'

In science, we are learning about the *Physical World*. We have started exploring and describing the different forms of energy such as light and heat. Students learnt about the different energy sources by identifying and engaging in 'hands on' investigations.



Harriet participating in our investigation of a light source (lamp)

Nicole and Angela

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Primary 3

Welcome to Term 1 of 2022. It is wonderful to have students back on site and getting back into a regular routine.

It was a pleasure to meet new parents and to be reacquainted with others at this weeks *Meet & Greet* Zoom meeting.

This Term, we are busy launching into learning across all KLAs. In science, we are exploring energy. We have looked at different types of energy, such as light and sound. Students have been able to activate lights using switches and explored making different sounds by hitting and tapping a variety of instruments.



Archie using a drum to create sound

In mathematics this Term, in addition to number, we are exploring and identifying a variety of shapes using real objects and technology, such as light boxes. Students have all settled in very well and we look forward to a busy and productive term.



Alexander investigating light as a form of energy

Julia and Jenny

Primary 1

Students in Primary 1 have worked very hard to settle into their new class. To support their transition back to school, they have been learning about the *Zones of Regulation* in PDHPE to identify how they are feeling and choosing strategies to stay in the green zone, so they are ready to learn. Students have been practising their counting skills and learning about time and money in mathematics. They are studying the book *Where the Wild Things Are*, for our visual literacy unit in English to support their literacy skills.

The Primary 1 students have done a great job showing off their skills in the classroom and forming positive relationships with their peers. We are looking forward to engaging in lots of fun learning activities together this year.

Allison and Anna

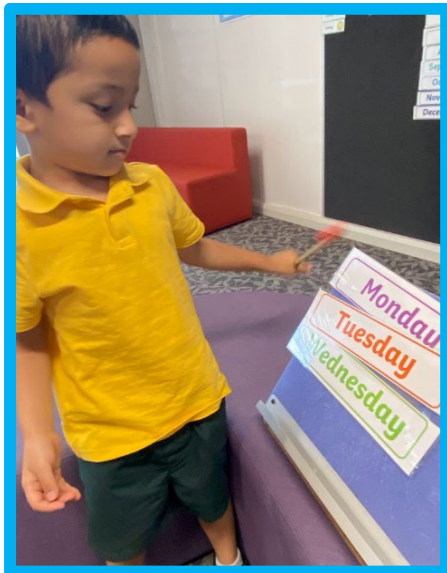
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Ferris and Leonor exploring elements of the story *Where the Wild Things Are*



Rhythm working on identifying the days of the week

Primary 2

Welcome back to school for 2022! Students have enjoyed settling into their new classroom with myself, Mitchell, and SLSO, Zenab. Primary 1 have worked hard on transitioning back to the school routine and being ready to learn.

Students have been investigating number and algebra in mathematics, exploring numbers, and representing them in a variety of ways. In our visual literacy unit for English, we have selected the book *Where the Wild Things Are*, to study and support our literacy learning.

In PDHPE, students are practising their skills in understanding and identifying the zones of regulation, and how they can choose tools and use strategies to ensure they are ready to learn.

In science, we are investigating the physical world, and have explored different types of energy such as light, movement, heat and sound. We will be completing a deeper investigation of sound energy throughout the term.

Primary 2 enjoyed music with Primary 1 and Michael from *The Rhythm Village* on a Friday, learning about cultural music using a variety of instruments.

We are looking forward to a great year with students. It has been a very positive start to the year, as we continue to follow our PBL of being **safe**, **respectful** **learners**.

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Kai identifying and ordering numbers



Isabel enjoying the liberty swing during PE



Mason exploring shapes and numbers by creating groups of shapes



Massimo playing the guitar during music

Mitch and Zenab

Primary 5

Welcome to Primary 5! It has been a great start to Term, as we get used to new routines and different staff and students. As we start the Term, we have been remembering all our school expectations for PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning)- and working on how we are **safe** at school. In PDH we have been thinking about who keeps us **safe** at home, at school and when we're coming to and from school on the bus or in the car. Students thought about their special 'go to people' who help them a lot at school. We also made Valentine's day cards to thank our families for helping us at home!

In English this Term, we are focusing on Visual Literacy. Our book is 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' by Jeannie Baker. Students have enjoyed responding to sensory elements of the text, while constructing simple sentences about the story- e.g. "I see a..." using objects and symbols.



Emmarisa thinks about what she can see and feel in our story 'Where the forest meets the sea'.

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This unit links with our geography unit about rainforests. We will be comparing the Australian rainforest to the forests of Borneo and looking at different animals we might see in both places. We even made a 'rainforest' in our classroom!



David thinking about what animals he can see in the Australian rainforest

It has been a great start to Term 1, and we are excited to see how our students connect and engage with all the activities on offer.

Jen and Toulia

Primary 6

Welcome back to all the students in Primary 6! We have had a great start to the year as students are settling into their new routines and exploring their new classroom. Our teacher is Sophie and our SLSO is Bree.

Over the past few weeks in geography, we have been learning about Orangutans and their natural habitat in Borneo. Students are investigating the importance of the rainforest for people, animals and the environment. We have explored the way that orangutans look, how they move and created a model profile of their environment.



Antonia creating a model profile of orangutans and their habitat in Borneo

Our focus for visual literacy this term is 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' by Jeannie Baker. We are learning about how images add meaning to stories. Students have explored the images in the text using their senses to interact with the illustrations and the characters. They have listened to the sounds from the story, felt physical representations of the characters and objects and created artworks that represent parts of the story. This unit ties in with our geography unit as we compare the Daintree rainforest to the rainforests in Borneo.



Christian exploring objects from the story Where the Forest Meets the Sea

Students have been working hard this Term. We are excited to continue learning and share our progress with you!

Sophie and Bree

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Primary 4

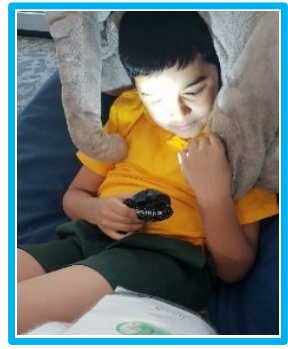
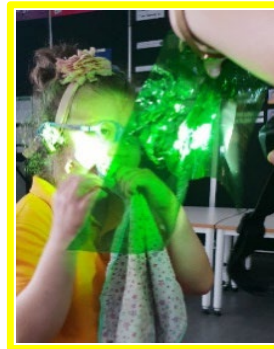
Welcome back to another year at Lucas Gardens School. Students have done a great job exploring and getting to know their new classroom and classmates.

A major focus in Term 1 is visual literacy for English. The book we are studying is *'Imagine a Day'* by Sarah L. Thomson. Students are engaging with a new picture each week and are identifying objects and colours on that picture. Each week we are also focusing on a key word, where students are trying to match it with its *boardmaker* picture.



Alicia is having fun with learning about the key word of the week, 'float'

Students are loving our science unit, which involves them learning and interacting with energy forms. We have started with light energy. Activities that students have participated in includes finding light sources around the classroom, finding their favourite toy hidden in the dark nook using a head torch and finding what material will light reflect off.



Lily is mesmerised by the light turning green and Mahir is getting ready to explore with the head torch

It's going to be a busy and fun Term.

Vicki N and Nobuko

Primary 7/Secondary 1

Welcome back to Term 1, it's so fantastic to have students back on site ready to learn. Primary 7's classroom teacher is Paul and the SLSO is Belinda, we look forward to working together this year. The students have settled back in very well and are working very hard.

This Term, students will be focusing on energy for science. Students will explore different types of energy, where we use them and how they change. So far, we have been focusing on light energy, and they identified and engaged with different objects that produce light.

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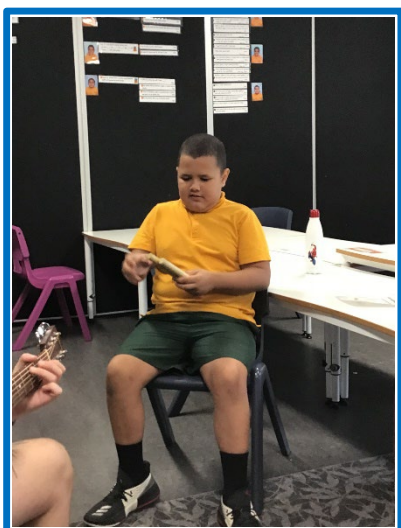
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Ryle identifying and matching different objects that produce light

For music this Term, the wonderful *The Rhythm Village* returned to Lucas Gardens, and we are exploring traditional indigenous music. Students are engaging and enjoying playing with different musical instruments.



Joji using the tapping sticks to play along with the song "Taba Naba"

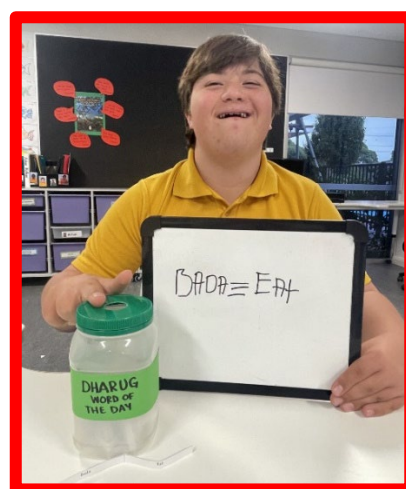
We look forward to continuing sharing the wonderful work the students will do this Term.

Paul and Belinda

Secondary 2

Warami (Dharug word for Hello) from the staff and students in Secondary 2! We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land the Dharug People of the Eora Nation, where we learn and play each day.

As part of our Aboriginal Language studies in Stage 4, we are committing to learning a new Dharug word each day in morning circle. Students will each have a turn picking a word out of the box, we will rewrite it and use it in a sentence.



Benito has drawn the Dharug word 'Bada' which means 'Eat'

Also this Term, we will be exploring the text *Where the Forest Meets the Sea* by Jeannie Baker as part of our English focus of Visual Literacy. Students have been expanding their literacy skills by learning to decode visual cues from the story. It was amazing to hear some of the students predictions about what the story may have been about just by looking at the cover.

In mathematics we will be investigating patterns and algebra. This week students have been working on their ability to predict what comes next in a pattern. In particular we have looked at Aboriginal symbols and how they are used in patterns.

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Santiago draws the next Aboriginal symbol in the pattern

We look forward to an exciting and productive Term. Yanu (Dharug for Goodbye) for now!

Melinda, Richard and Lisa

Secondary 3

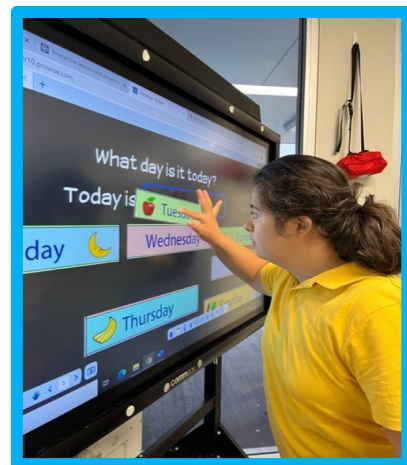
Welcome to Term 1 2022! Students are having a great time settling into their new classroom right next to the playground. It was great to meet parents at the *Meet and Greet* via Zoom and we look forward to working with them throughout the year.

In English, we have explored visual literacy. Within this focus, we have analysed a wide range of texts, including picture books, signs, and even recipes. We followed a visual recipe to make some delicious guacamole! We are looking forward to further exploring visual literacy this term, with many more exciting activities lined up.



Sienna using a fork to mix guacamole

We have been developing our number skills in mathematics, with a focus on big numbers, small numbers and ordering. This has included unjumbling numbers from 1 – 10, counting forwards and backwards, as well as working with number lines. We have been very impressed with the student's number knowledge and we look forward to supporting them to further develop their skills throughout this term.



Ava showing her classmates the day of the week during morning circle

It has been an excellent first few weeks, and we are looking forward to a fun and productive Term!

Alex and Sandy

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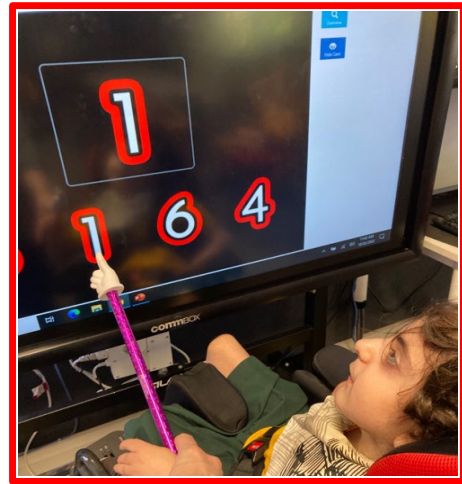
Secondary 4

It has been a fantastic Term so far with students engaged in all their new learning experiences. In science, students have been experiencing the different forms of energy such as light and sound. Students have explored light by investigating where it comes from and how it helps us to see by turning on a torch to see an object. Students have experimented with different sounds by listening, playing, and feeling the vibrations from a range of musical instruments. In mathematics, students have been practising numbers by identifying, matching, counting out objects and interacting with the number of the day using the lightbox. For Aboriginal languages students use a Big Mac switch to practise saying hello "Warami", during morning circle in the Dharug language.

Kristine and Vicki



Cara exploring energy by experimenting with the properties of sound using bells



Juliette practising identifying and matching numbers 1 to 10 using an online mathematics application

Primary 9/Secondary 1

Welcome back to school for 2022! We are having a great time. Our teacher is Sian and our SLSO is Rebecca. Students in our class are Pierre, Ake, Hadi, Jayson and Richard.



Ake counting how many objects she has during an addition lesson

Getting straight to work, one of our mathematics topics for this term is addition and subtraction. We have started by making groups of objects, adding a set number of objects to a group, combining groups of

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objects, and even using our counting on skills to find the total number.



Hadi makes two groups before counting the total amount of objects

In our science lessons, we are learning about energy, and last week we learnt some of the different forms of energy: light, heat, and sound. We look forward to getting into our practical investigations soon.

In our PBL lessons we are learning to be **safe**, and this started with the PBL focus of 'hats on'. Hadi and Pierre learnt this very quickly and were always sure to tell me to put my hat on before going outside!



Pierre always remembers to be safe by wearing his hat outside

Wishing everyone the best in Term 1.

Sian and Rebecca

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Dominic Perrottet MP
Premier of New South Wales



Dear parents,

When school goes back, there is usually a collective sigh of relief from parents that can be heard around the state, along with the customary first day nerves, tears and cheers for our newest, youngest starters.

But heading into the third year of a global pandemic makes life a bit different, and I know every parent has concerns about what 2022 holds for kids in school.

After so much disruption and home learning last year, the Government understands just how important it is to give every student the opportunity to get back into the classroom, and to do it safely.

That is why everyone in our state's education system has been working in overdrive to get our schools ready to welcome students back safely on day one. I'm immensely grateful to our teachers and administrative staff, and especially our Principals and Deputy Principals, for the amazing job they have done to get us here.

Safety in schools is our top priority, and we are taking every step necessary to prove a safe learning environment, including free rapid tests for every student, maximised natural and mechanical ventilation, sensible mask requirements, increased cleaning and other measures.

The past few years have taught us to expect bumps in the road ahead, but even though the coming months may be challenging, the Government knows the positive difference every day of school education can make for our kids, both now and into the future.

So I am determined to make this year as seamless as possible for you, your families and your kids, and I hope getting back to school will ease some of the pressure for you too.

Thank you again for your efforts over the past two years. We have come a long way, and I have no doubt that if we keep working together, we will rise to whatever challenges may lie ahead.

I will make sure to keep you updated, and your schools and the Department of Education will of course keep you informed every day too.

All of us are united in our determination to give our kids the very best opportunity to get the best education possible, while staying safe, healthy and happy.

Wishing you and your families a fantastic start to the 2022 school year.

Yours sincerely,

Dominic Perrottet MP
Premier

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