



# Lucas Gardens School

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Artwork by Michael Fardon

17 June 2022

## Dates for Your Diary

24 June - Pyjama Day

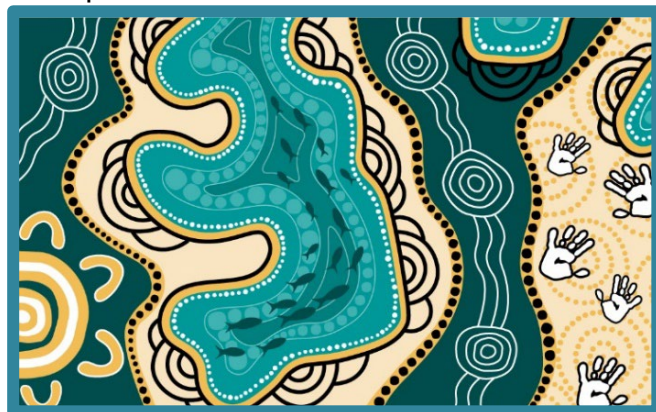
3 August – Education Week Open Classrooms

## R/Principal's Award



***Pierre receiving the Principal's Award for being a respectful learner and always using good manners with teachers and peers***

Canada Bay and the mangroves. It details a journey/path working towards a better future and includes handprints representing Ancestors. An extract of this meaningful artwork now features on our new letterhead, as depicted on this newsletter.



## R/Principal's Message

It has been wonderful to reflect on student progress this semester as teachers finalise end of semester one reports. These will go home to parents/carers in the final week of Term. I would like to acknowledge our skilled and dedicated staff for their commitment to delivering quality teaching and learning programs enabling our students to engage and achieve. Thank you also to our parents/carers for your strong partnership with the school to support your child's learning.

We are pleased to launch the new school artwork. This was designed by local indigenous artist, Michael Fardon. The artwork depicts the school as a place of knowledge and learning and provides a 'bird's eye view' of its location, showing

I am pleased to announce that, provided all goes to plan, new playground equipment will be installed in our Magnolia Courtyard during the school holidays. This will provide students with engaging and interactive equipment that will allow them to enjoy this space and provide them with additional recreational activities.

Staff and parents/carers from Lucas Gardens School recently attended 'A Night in Positano,' a charity fundraiser organised by Community for Communities to celebrate their 20 years of fundraising. It was a lovely evening and an opportunity for us to thank them for their significant support of Lucas Gardens School over the years.





We will be participating in our annual fundraiser on 24 June. This is coordinated by the SRC to support those who are homeless. On this day, students can attend school in pyjamas or a dressing gown. Thank you for your 'ring pull' tinned food donations, which will be delivered to the Exodus Foundation.

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on schools with Disability (NCCD). This process requires schools to identify information already available about school supports provided to students with disability. The NCCD provides State and Federal Governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for outcomes for students with disability. Just to clarify, this process has no direct impact on your child and does not involve testing. Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>). If you have any questions about the NCCD, I am happy to discuss this with you in further detail via phone.

It has been my great pleasure to relieve as Principal for Term 2 and we welcome Jenny Zagas back to this role in Term 3. We look forward to the last few weeks of learning and I wish all our students a relaxing holiday break.

Kind regards

**Wendy du Plessis**

**Please avoid these times when bringing your child to school late or when they leave early.**

**Classes P1 - P7**

10.20 - 10.55am

12.20 - 12.55pm

**Classes P8 - S4**

11.00 – 11.35am

1.00 – 1.35pm

## Aboriginal Education Committee

Term 2 has been a significant term for our Aboriginal Education Committee. As part of our commitment to acknowledge each of the key dates on the calendar for Aboriginal peoples, we marked National Sorry Day on 26 May, leading into National Reconciliation Week from 27 May to 3 June, and finally, Mabo Day also on 3 June. As Wendy mentioned, we were fortunate to launch our artwork on National Sorry Day and used National Reconciliation Week to run a series of activities in classrooms, centred around understanding and appreciating the different elements of the artwork. During the holidays, NAIDOC Week will be celebrated across the country from 3 – 10 July. As this falls in the holidays, we will be engaging in a range of activities throughout Week 10 of the Term to mark this important celebration. We are currently in the final stages of liaising with our Aboriginal artist to plan the creation of artworks by students during this week.

## Library News

Library is back for 2022!

We have been very busy in library lessons. During Reconciliation Week in Week 6, we focused on Indigenous texts for our borrowing and library lessons. Additionally, all students are participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge this year. We have been borrowing books under the PRC list to add to each students PRC reading log.







Finally, during Week 5, all classes participated in National Simultaneous Storytime day where all schools across Australia read the same book, at the same time. This year's book was *Family Tree* by Josh Pyke and Ronojoy Ghosh. Our students really enjoyed reading this story, either with their teachers, or through one of the many videos provided by the organisation, including a reading by the Governor General and an Auslan signing version.

Keep up the good work everyone!

**Hannah**

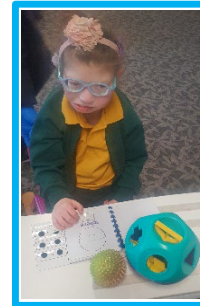
## Primary 4

Primary 4 has been very active this term. In conjunction with hydro sessions, we have been doing athletics for PDHPE. Our favourite has been the games with balls and running.



***Mahir running the MPS obstacle course***

In mathematics, we have been exploring and interacting with everyday 3D objects. Our favourite shape has been the sphere, as it represents the gym ball we have in our class. Students have also been choosing 3D objects by selecting from a few choices on our interactive board.



***Lily engaging with spherical objects***

Students have been learning about heating and cooling in science, and the best way to learn it was with some of their favourite foods. We have experimented on chocolate, popcorn, bread, and butter. Students enjoyed using the microwave and toaster to see the before and after effect of heat.



***Alicia making her toast and completing her worksheet for the experiment***

It has been great to observe such great learning this Term.

**Vicki and Nobuko**

## Primary 6

Students have continued working hard during the last few weeks of the term. They have been enjoying learning and improving their skills in all curriculum areas.

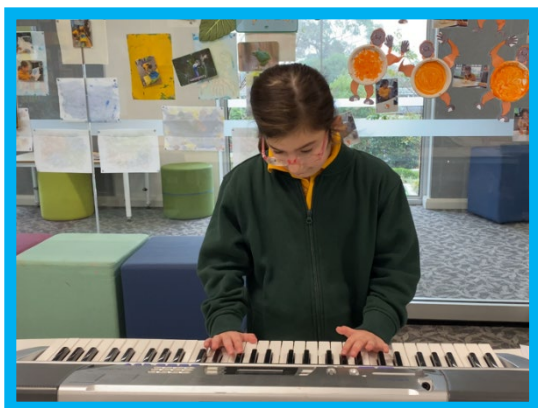


In music, students are exploring making their own songs using instruments and *Chrome Music Lab*. Students are learning about the musical concepts of rhythm, pitch and dynamics through various musical apps on *the Commbox*, as well as making simple musical pieces on *Song Maker*. We have also been investigating what sounds instruments make by playing a range of them.

Students have been participating in playing Pop Music with *Rhythm Village*. We have been enjoying listening to some different Pop songs and playing along with a variety of instruments.



***Christian exploring rhythm on Chrome Music Lab***



***Antonia playing the keyboard***

In mathematics, students are investigating time. We are learning to sequence events, order the days of the week and months of the year, and sort activities into day and night. We are also learning to tell time to the hour, by exploring a clock face and moving the hour hand to change the time.



***Antonia moving the hands on a clock face to change the time***

## **Sophie and Bree**

### **Primary 3**

We are coming to the end of another Term in Primary 3, and it has been a busy one with students really engaged and working hard across all Key Learning Areas.

We have also enjoyed the resumption of extra activities this Term. We have enjoyed library lessons with Hannah each week, and students really enjoyed the activities during National Reconciliation Week, such as the wonderful dance performance earlier in the Term. Students also had fun reading a book together for National Simultaneous Storytime.

In English this Term, students have been reading stories by Aboriginal authors. We have enjoyed reading both Dreamtime stories and modern children's stories. Students have responded to the stories by creating artworks using the books as inspiration and creating soundscapes to complement the books.

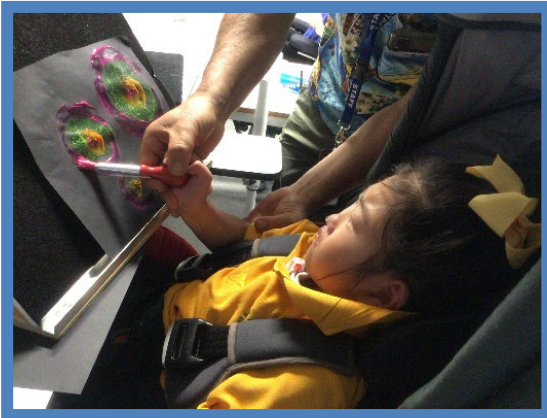
Visual Art this Term has also investigated Aboriginal Arts. Students have studied the work of Aboriginal artists and created works exploring line and colour. Jen and I would like to wish all families a restful break at the end of this Term.







**Archie looking at pictures and engaging with a prop whilst reading 'The Rainbow Serpent'**



**Sophia creating an artwork**

## Julia and Jen

### Primary 1

Students in Primary 1 have been working hard this Term. For science, they have been learning about materials. Students have explored properties of natural and made materials and investigated which materials are useful for making everyday objects.



For PDH, they have continued to focus on recognising and managing their emotions using the *Zones of Regulation* framework. Students have practised demonstrating our PBL focus of the week by using 'good manners' and 'taking turns' with peers in class and on the playground. For PE they have been participating in athletics activities including bocchia and obstacle courses.



For creative arts, students have been enjoying music appreciation lessons with *Rhythm Village*, learning to play different percussion instruments. They have also been learning about Aboriginal artworks, studying art making techniques and learning about how to use symbols to tell stories through artworks.



We are looking forward to even more exciting learning experiences as we wrap up this Term.

**Allison, Dennis and Anna**

## Secondary 2

Secondary 2 have had an exciting few weeks learning and exploring the Stage 4 and 5 Lifeskills Curriculum. In PDHPE, S2 have been busy developing their skills in athletics. Students have shown an extra special interest in ball skills, and have worked well as a team, building on their relationships with their peers through physical activity.



Additionally, in swimming, students in S2 are really enjoying their hydro sessions. It has been such a wonderful addition to our weekly activities.



Moreover, all students in S2 are making great progress with their PLSP goals, in particular, Tjanara is doing amazing work to recount past events during conversation with a communication partner. She has been very excited to tell staff and her peers about special outings and occasions she has engaged in outside of school. She often speaks with such passion and enthusiasm when she recounts them - well done Tjanara!



**Melinda, Richard and Lisa**

## Secondary 3

Students in Secondary 3 have enthusiastically approached their learning this semester. Students have utilised their access to the basketball court area as well as the





clear weather recently, to build their gross motor skills in PDHPE. Athletics has been an area of focus, with students interacting with a range of sports equipment to develop skills including throwing, rolling, passing, catching and kicking.



***William and Amaan performing outstanding athletics skills in PDHPE***

Secondary 3 have been critically investigating the school's and their own personal connections to their local and global community, for their geography studies. Within this investigation, students have identified favoured items within the classroom and discovered where they are made. Items included in this investigation included iPads, lunchboxes, crash-mats and texsas.



***Ava discovering where Secondary 3 gets their paper from***

We are looking forward to working hard and enjoying the rest of this semester!

**Alex and Sandy**

## **Primary 7**

Students have continued to work diligently in all learning areas.

The focus for mathematics this Term has been patterns, volume and capacity, with students enjoying making patterns using a variety of shapes and colours. They also practised filling and comparing different shaped containers to see which will hold more, equal to and less liquid.



***Joji making a pattern using coloured beads***

For geography, we have been exploring different features of a house, identifying where different houses can be located and how Aboriginal people view the term 'home'.



***Ryle Identifying different types of houses in different locations***

We look forward to the amazing work students will continue to engage with this Term.

**Paul and Belinda**



## Primary 5

Primary 5 have been working very hard on all their goals this semester, including personalised learning and support goals. All students have been working on their communication goals - including locating or touching familiar objects related to their timetable and becoming confident using words and key word signs. This Term, students enjoyed activities related to Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week. We made handprints to signify our contribution to 'Sorry' for Sorry Day. We also looked at our amazing new school Aboriginal artwork, and made a collage based on it to represent parts of our local area.

In mathematics, we have been learning about addition and subtraction. We have been thinking about the concept of adding 'more' or 'taking away' objects and counting how many 'altogether.' We have been exploring some traditional Aboriginal games, which involved counting and adding or taking away. Ngaka is an Aboriginal game similar to Tic Tac Toe - we have been learning to count and make three in a row by adding painted stones to a grid.

In science this Term, we have been having fun with materials - either mixing them or adding heat or cooling them to see how they change. Everyone loved watching and listening to the popcorn as it changed with heat. It's been a great Term and everyone has worked really hard. We wish everyone a relaxing holiday.



*Marta looking as we make a collage version of the school artwork for Reconciliation*

## Jen and Toula

### Primary 2

Primary 2 have had a very busy Term and have continued to produce great work in the last few weeks. They have had great learning opportunities across curriculum multiple areas.

In mathematics, students have been investigating shapes, 2D and 3D, and exploring the concept of time. The class have been engaging in a variety of activities looking at sequencing, ordering and sorting time concepts, as well as exploring an analogue clock – even making their own! Students have enjoyed using a variety of concrete materials to investigate 3D shapes, as well as exploring 2D and where they can be seen in our daily lives.



*Mason exploring the properties of 3D shapes*







**Massimo exploring  
the order of numbers  
on an analogue**



**Isabel exploring the  
features of shapes**

We recognised National Sorry Day, National Reconciliation Week and Mabo Day as a school, during Weeks 5 and 6. Primary 2 created collaborative artworks that saw each student participate in creating a *Rainbow Serpent* and an Aboriginal flag. In literacy, we continued the study of Aboriginal Experiences by engaging in activities based on the *Rainbow Serpent* and *How the Birds Got Their Colours*.

We would like to congratulate Primary 2 on a great semester 1 and we look forward to engaging in more exciting learning experiences.



**The Rainbow Serpent and Aboriginal flag  
created by the students of Primary 2**

**Mitch and Zenab**

## Primary 9/Secondary 1

Warami ngani! Hello, how are you?

We celebrated Reconciliation Week by writing our own Acknowledgement of Country.

Inspired by a video of Uncle Jimmy Smith speaking about the significance of waterways to the Wangal People, Primary 9/Secondary 1 studied the local landscape and each chose the specific things about our area that we are grateful for.



**Hadi chooses to look after the kookaburras  
in his Acknowledgment of Country**

This is Pierre's Acknowledgment of Country:

*"We at Lucas Gardens School would like to say thank you. Thank you to the Wangal People of the Eora Nation for caring for the land on which we grow. We promise to look after it, the rivers, kookaburras and people too."*



**Pierre chooses what to write for his  
Acknowledgement of Country**

We have also been learning key word sign to use alongside our Acknowledgment of Country. So far we have practised the signs for fish, river, bat, and kookaburra.





***Jayson uses two hands to make the key word sign for river***

At the beginning of each school day, we Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we grow, learn and play.

**Sian & Rebecca**

## **Primary 8**

Students of Primary 8 have been working so hard this Term! In recognition of National Reconciliation Week, we all participated in creating our class artwork, listened to dreamtime stories and Aboriginal music. We also learnt about the importance of this week to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.



***Trung used his communication device to identify the colours of the Aboriginal flag***

For PDH, we focused on the *Zones of Regulation* by learning to identify our own emotions and the different tools we can use. We also continued to learn about the different expectations of being safe and respectful during our PBL lessons. A big

congratulations to all the students who received a Marlee Award this term!



***Archie sorting the emotions into the correct zone***

We have been very lucky to have Rhythm Village again to facilitate our music program. Every week, we learn and listen to different genres of music such as rock and roll, disco and pop. We also engage and play with different instruments, such as the drums, shakers and guitar. This also presents as the perfect opportunity for students to practise communication goals by using their device to make a comment or make a request.



***Marcus having a go at playing with the guitar***

**Nicole & Angela**

## **Secondary 4**

Students have been working hard on their goals this Term! All students have demonstrated great progress towards their PLSP goals, as well as their goals in literacy and numeracy.

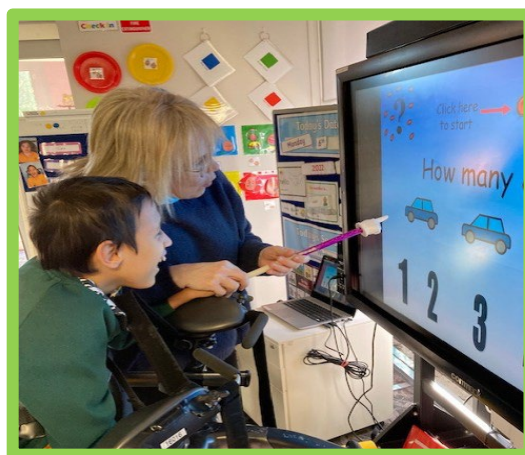




In mathematics this Term, students have been focusing on developing their understanding of pattern and been learning to continue or repeat a pattern, using colour or shape, with blocks and beads.

In science, students have been exploring the topic, "Chemical Changes." They began by investigating a range of materials to test a variety of chemical changes and learn that when a chemical change occurs, new substances are formed. They explored this through chemistry cooking and art experiments where they created a melted crayon artwork to examine what happened when they applied heat to crayons. Students also in engaged in chemistry cooking including baking a cake and making popcorn to deepen their understanding of the 'Material World.'

In Hydro, students continue to increase their familiarity with water and work hard on developing their swimming skills.



***Morgan using the Commbox to investigate whole numbers***

**Kristine and Vicki**



***Cara, Isaac and Morgan enjoying the hydro session***





# Lucas Gardens School

Artwork by Michael Fardon

*We invite you to attend*

## *Education Week Open Day*

*celebrating the theme*

*'Creating Futures - Education Changes Lives*

*on*

*Wednesday 3 August at 9.30am - 10.30am*

*Participate in classroom visits from 9.30am - 10.00am*

*then join us in the Multi-Purpose Space for*

*The Principal's Address and celebration of student learning,  
followed by light refreshments.*

*RSVP is essential by 27 July 2022*

*Education changes lives #EdWeek22  
[education.nsw.gov.au/edweek](https://education.nsw.gov.au/edweek)*

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