

13 September 2024

Dates for Your Diary

- 27 September - Last Day of Term 3
- 14 October - First Day of Term 4
- 28 November – Graduation Event

R/Principal's Award



Rhythm for increased engagement in class activities and routines

R/Principal's Message

Formal reviews and parent/teacher meetings have been underway over the past few weeks. I would like to extend my thanks to parents/carers for attending these meetings and for your ongoing partnership in your child's educational journey. It has been wonderful to observe the progress that students are making across the school.

National Literacy and Numeracy week was celebrated across all classes with students demonstrating how they use literacy and numeracy each day at school. A photo

display has been created and placed in the foyer area. Individual student photos will be shared with parents/carers. All students have individual literacy and numeracy goals and teachers use explicit teaching strategies to develop their skills in these areas.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Rotary Club of Five Dock who attended the school to present us with a cheque for \$7000, which will be used to help fund our Music Program. This program has commenced and is being enjoyed by all students across Kindergarten to Year 12.



Five Dock Rotary Club members presenting the cheque

We recently celebrated School Administration and Support Staff Recognition week. I would like to acknowledge our resolute School Learning Support Officers, Administrative Staff and General Assistant for the amazing work that they do to ensure the smooth running of our school.

We are currently preparing for the graduation of our Year 12 students. All school families are welcome to attend the Year 12 Graduation Event/Dinner which is being held at Canada Bay Club on Thursday 28th



November. Communication will be sent home shortly regarding how to purchase tickets for this event.

In preparation for our Library stocktake, kindly return all library books, via your child's school bag, by the end of this term. Students will recommence borrowing in Week 2 of Term 4.

I will be on leave for a few weeks until the end of Term 3 and would like to thank Michelle who will be Relieving Principal while I am away.

Kind regards

Wendy du Plessis

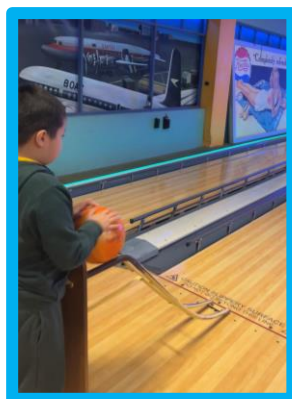
Sport

We have had a fantastic term building our involvement and appreciation of physical education and inclusive sporting participation. I would like to extend my congratulations to the Lucas Gardens School student body and staff for their participation and commitment to the Premier Sporting Challenge in 2024. It was fantastic to see all students participate in physical fitness activities and mobility development activities with enthusiasm.



Our teams were recognised with participation awards for the Boccia and Bowling School Sport Unit Competitions

Lucas Gardens School also competed in the 2024 School Sport Unit Tenpin Bowling Competition at Mascot. It was a fantastic day for our team of four Primary students who were encouraged by parents/carers and school staff. I would like to extend my thanks to the parents/carers who were able to attend to support the students at the bowling competition on the day – it was fantastic to see the involvement of our school community.



Mason and David competing in the School Sport Unit Bowling Competition

The team performed superbly on the day, finishing in 4th place out of nine teams and narrowly missing the state finals by 9 points! The feedback has been outstanding, and we look forward to participating in similar events in the future. A special thanks to Hayley, school physiotherapist, and Brianna, classroom SLSO, for your support and organisation in the lead up to the event.

Mitchell Oxley



Music

Students have been exploring music linked to special days such as the Olympic Games and Paralympics.

Each lesson commences with an Acknowledgement of Country, Walking on Country, and a song from our First Nations people, sharing songs using language from their Country.

The program is also linked to the school literacy program, being Literature from other Countries and to date, we have experienced French, Arabic, Vietnamese, Thai, Spanish, Filipino and Portuguese music.



Cara chose to experiment with an African drum



Mahir experimented with a tambourine



Ethan was interested as to how the tambourine works

Janice

Curriculum Reform Update

Last week we celebrated Literacy and Numeracy Week! Each class focused on what students do *every day* in literacy and numeracy to develop their skills and become independent learners. We also thought about how students use their literacy and numeracy skills outside of the classroom.



Joji telling us it is time to go inside after playtime, using skills in numeracy

Please continue to support your child in developing their literacy and numeracy skills at home, through daily activities.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/literacy-and-numeracy/resources-for-parents-and-carers/helping-your-child-with-literacy-and-numeracy-at-home#Download2>



Read with your child every day

- **Make reading fun** and enjoyable. Children learn about reading by watching, copying and interacting with others.
- **Let your child choose and re-read books** they are interested in.
- **Talk about the book** before you start reading. Talk about the title and what could happen in the story.
- **Discuss the pictures** and how they add to the story.
- Whilst reading **ask your child questions** about the story such as "What do you think might happen next?" "Why do you think that?"
- After reading **talk about the story**. Ask questions such as "Which part of the story did you like best?" "What was exciting, funny or sad in the story?"
- **Take turns at reading** favourite stories with brothers, sisters or friends.
- **Choose a variety of reading materials** such as newspapers, magazines, posters, street signs, recipes and shopping lists.

Counting with your child

- **Count when you do things around the house.** Cook simple recipes together and get your child to count out the ingredients.
- **Encourage your child to help set the table** for a family meal. Ask them to count the people, and the plates, cups, forks and spoons needed for the table.
- **Count with your child** the number of buttons as they do up their school shirt.
- Ask your child to **count how many items** are in their lunch box.
- **Count forward.** Count everyday items such as cars, houses, shoes and bags.
- **Count backwards.** Going downstairs then upstairs. 10, 9, 8

This term I have been collaborating closely with teachers to develop our students' reading and number skills, using explicit teaching strategies such as the gradual release of responsibility; this strategy helps focus on supporting students to be as independent as possible with their learning.



Johan making a choice using a communication device during playtime, using skills in literacy

My designated day as Assistant Principal-Curriculum and Instruction is a Thursday.

Please feel free to reach out if you would like to discuss curriculum reform further with me.

jennifer.angelini2@det.nsw.edu.au

Jen Angelini

AP C&I

P&C

The P & C continues to support events and to fundraise on behalf of the school.

We also hold a P&C coffee morning each term, where parents/carers can come along for a chat. This is a fantastic opportunity for parents to come and meet other parents/carers.

As the P&C president and a parent who has been part of the school community for the past 13 years, I encourage parents to consider being a part of the P&C.

If anyone is interested in becoming a member, or being part of the committee, or you would like to know more information, please reach out to myself or any of the current P&C committee members. I can be contacted on monajoseph@optusnet.com.au

Mona Joseph

P&C President

Primary 7 / Secondary 3

Term 3 has been full of hard work and student achievement! Students have been busy in visual arts, focusing their learning on three-dimensional art. This week, students created self-portraits using a variety of textures and colours. Using bright colours, students painted an initial layer for their skin and uniform. Once dried, students pasted facial



features and hair using different items. This included wool, cardboard, googly eyes, and pipe cleaners.



Ethan mixing wool with PVA glue to create hair

Students also participated in Book Week activities, including reading their favourite texts and dressing up as their favourite characters. Our class spent the day completing mathematics and art-based tasks around the book characters they dressed as.



Ryle and Mahir posing for Book Week photos



Dennis and Lisa

Secondary 6

Term 3 has been an interesting and adventure filled time in Secondary 6. We have explored Asia in history and English, investigated various flora and fauna in science and art, and learnt about patterns and position in mathematics.

One focus for students this term has been working towards meeting their learning goals. We have seen a significant improvement in student engagement and achievement when interacting with various literacy and numeracy tasks.



Juliette engaging with a sensory and written text

Following on from Term 2, Term 3 has seen the continuation of the Minifit program. Students have enjoyed practising ball skills, engaging in sensory experiences and practising taking turns in various games and activities.



Morgan throwing a ball over an obstacle



This has been a challenging term and students have demonstrated great resilience and strength. We are proud of their achievements and are eager to watch their continuous growth and improvement.

Liz and Zenab

Primary 1

Term 3 is flying fast in Primary 1, with students working hard in all curriculum areas.

In science, we have been studying a unit of work on farm animals and farm products. We have explored what living things need to survive, such as food, water, and shelter. We designed and made a watering system for the seeds we planted.

Primary 1 have also been working hard in mathematics this term, too. We have been exploring patterns. Students can match existing patterns, continue a pattern, and make patterns using different shapes. We have also been forming groups in mathematics. Students have been working on sharing objects and exploring the concept of *same*.



Isabel observing the water system we made



Adam pointing to the pattern he made

Julia, Nobuko, Bree and Bella

Primary 9/Secondary 5

We have enjoyed celebrating the academic achievements of our class in Term 3. Students have been remarkably busy delving into the cultures and histories of Asia, exploring our health through body and mind and creating 3D artworks.

In PDHPE and CAFS, students have been developing an understanding of the key transitional stages in our lives, an understanding of rights and responsibilities, and building their skills in decision making, independence and identifying support networks. We have enjoyed exploring how the body functions and the body's response to nutrition and physical activity.



Santiago building independence by following a procedural text in food technology



In history, we have been exploring different Asian countries and their respective cultures including Vietnam, India, The Philippines, and Indonesia. We have explored the migration history and experiences of these Asian populations and the contributions to Australian society.



Vincent exploring the flags during our in-depth Asia unit study

Within visual and creative arts, we have enjoyed using recycled materials and exploring a variety of techniques, including paper manipulation and papier-Mache, to create 3D artforms and sculptures. It has been encouraging to see all students participate in the process of creating pieces related to our studies in history where they created map sculptures and science and PDHPE with students making fruit and vegetable sculptures.

We hope all families and carers have an enjoyable, safe, and restful Term 3 holiday break. We are looking forward to continuing the development of our skills across the curriculum and toward the achievement of our individual PLSP goals.

Mitch, Allison and Vicki

Primary 8 Secondary 4

Primary 8 Secondary 4 have continued to build our skills in Minifit including throwing, catching, rolling, and kicking, using various

sized objects including bean bags and beach balls. We have been learning how to form shapes with our bodies such as a pencil, star, and tuck. Sometimes we use a skateboard to help form a tuck shape.



Christian catching a beach ball



Harriet in tuck position on the skateboard

In English, we are reading Greek fables. We are learning that a fable is a short story with a lesson. *The Lion and the Mouse* teaches us to be helpful and *The Tortoise and the Hare* teaches us to work at our own pace. We are also exploring the sequence of each fable.



Oscar learning about Greek fables



Our history unit of work is migration to Australia and how this helped to shape us as a nation. We are looking at what countries people came from, with a focus on Asia and how the Asian world has influenced Australia.

Tracey and Grace

Primary 6/ Secondary 2

We have had a busy few weeks, with students participating in Book Week, science Week and Literacy & Numeracy Week activities, as well as continuing to work hard in all learning areas!

In history, we have been learning about symbols of Australia such as the Australian and Aboriginal flags, the Southern Cross and wattle. We have also been thinking about the different people who were in Australia or who came to Australia to live, including our First Nations Aboriginal people and people from countries in Asia. We explored symbols of China, including the Chinese Dragon which is part of the Lunar New Year Festival.

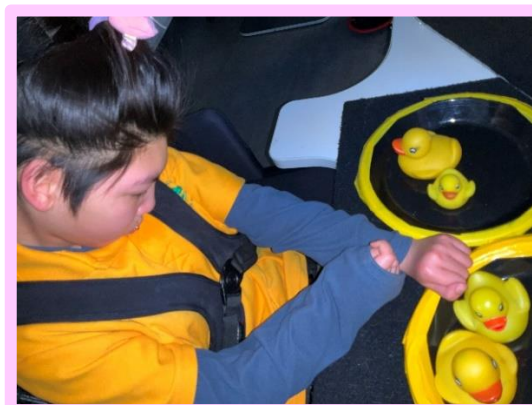


Emmarisa exploring wattle in our gardens, as a symbol of Australia



David helped to make a Chinese Dragon as part of our work in History

In mathematics, all students have had fun making patterns using colour, shape and with musical instruments. Key Stage 3 students have been working on forming groups, by sharing out objects into two or more groups. Key Stage 4 students have been responding to positional language, demonstrating understanding of key words such as under, in and on.



Chloe looking at and interacting with objects in groups of two in mathematics

It has been an exciting term, and it was fantastic to see plenty of engagement with families, who participated in Education Week, and discuss student progress during parent and teacher meetings. We wish everyone a relaxing holiday break!

Jen, Angela and Denise

Primary 3

Primary 3 have worked hard all term to improve their literacy and numeracy skills. Students enjoyed seeing their family members during Education Week. This has made for a busy and exciting term.

We have been examining the various symbols for the states and territories of Australia. Students have created a display of their work.

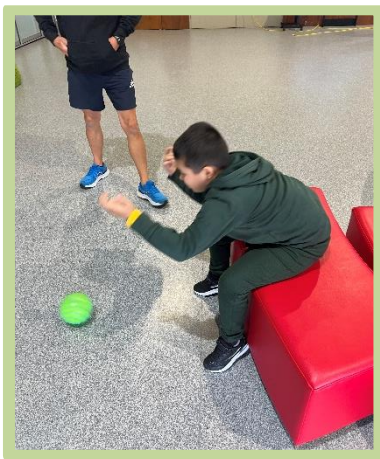




Massimo working on his history display

We have enjoyed using a range of equipment to improve our sporting abilities in Minifit. Students have practised using skateboards, the parachute and bowling during these sessions.

We cannot believe how quickly Term 3 has come to an end and look forward to seeing the students for a final term!



Mason practising bowling during Minifit

Jack and Bree

Primary 2

We cannot believe that Term 3 is almost coming to an end. Students who recently joined Primary 2 this term have demonstrated amazing adaptability, settling in very quickly and demonstrating astonishing growth.

For English, the students continued to practise their communication skills, sight words, phonics, guided reading, and

comprehension skills. During this term, they have been exploring texts from other countries, the students have been reading, writing, and answering questions about *The Magic paintbrush*.



Mahdi answering questions based on the text *The Magic Paintbrush*

For history, the students have been exploring their family life, how things have changed over time and how different generations did things differently. They also investigated common and different celebration around the world.



Rhythm learning about how food, clothing, communication, and entertainment has changed over time

We continue to look forward to the amazing learning and work they will do in Term 4.

Paul and Dani



Secondary 7

It has been another busy term in Secondary 7 with students participating in Book Week, Science Week and Literacy & Numeracy Week activities.

This term, students began their food technology program, putting into practice all they had learned in the *Healthy Living* unit in science. Students were able to follow a recipe to cook and prepare healthy meals whilst learning about food safety and healthy eating, which included making a food pyramid.



Ashan making pancakes

In HSIE, the class focused on different Asian countries and migration to Australia. It was a terrific opportunity to gain knowledge about various cultures and diversity.

In mathematics, we have been learning about *patterns and position*. Students were exposed to robotics, as they were able to program directions into a Bee-bot to make it follow a route.

Congratulations to all the Secondary 7 students on their splendid work this term!

Daniel and Brice

Primary 4

We have had a busy term so far. Students have demonstrated how they use literacy and numeracy in every subject, every day, for Literacy and Numeracy week. They dressed up for Book Week and participated in a range of learning activities over the term.

In mathematics, students have been collecting data on several different topics. They provided input on their opinions on their favourite subject to add to a data display and focussed on the attributes of a variety of objects to create a physical pictogram. Students are learning to answer questions on the data they collected to determine which groups have the most and the least.



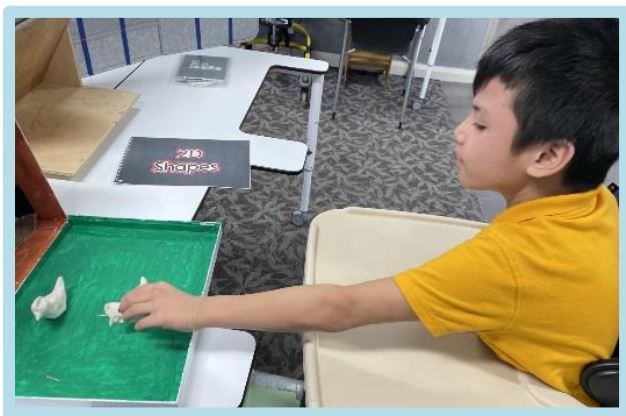
Johan choosing his favourite subject to add to a data display



Alexander sorting students by their eye colour



In science, we are continuing to look at the ways in which food is produced and how these environments are managed. Students are creating a collaborative chicken coop diorama to explore how eggs are collected. Step by step, we are exploring the needs of chickens and how to manage the environment of a chicken coop. We have combined this with our 3D art program to create clay chickens as part of our chicken coop. Students have been learning about the different techniques to mould and shape clay to create a representation of a chicken.



Johan placing his clay chicken in the coop

Students have shown excellent progress over this term. We are excited to continue learning and growing as a class.

Sophie and Jen D

Secondary 8

We have had a busy and exciting term and all students in Secondary 8 are making fantastic progress in their learning!

In mathematics, we have been exploring patterns and positions. Students have done a fantastic job creating visual and sound patterns, using mathematical language to describe where objects are placed. It has been lovely to watch them grow in confidence with these new concepts!



Sienna applying coloured tissue paper to her papier mache apple

In visual arts, we have been diving into 3D art. Students have been busy working with recycled materials, focusing on fun techniques like rolling and manipulating paper, as well as papier mache. We have been creating sculptures and tying in our art projects with broader learning.



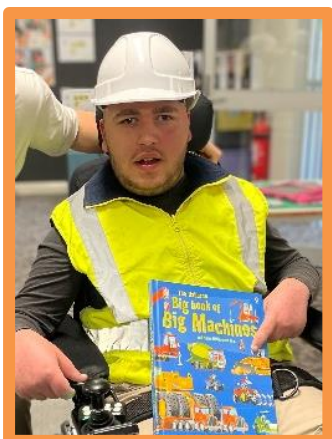
Pierre working on developing his communication goal

When it comes to their PLSP goals, most students have already achieved their current goals and are now expanding and developing new ones. We are proud of their hard work and progress this term.

We also want to give a big shoutout to everyone for Book Week! The costumes were brilliant, and everyone had a wonderful



time. It was such a fun and creative day for all!



Hadi dressed for Book Week

We cannot wait to see what the rest of the term brings!

Next term, several exciting things are planned and we cannot wait to reveal what's in store!

Connor and Toula

Primary 5 / Secondary 1

Students engaged with visual arts, making 3-dimensional paper line sculptures using paper strips of assorted colours, forms and widths. Students observed the modelling of a paper line artwork and then copied the steps by choosing colour strips and then helped glue them to a contrast paper.

Madison's mother, Lisa, shared photos from their recent trip to Europe. They showcased Paris in France and its impressive buildings, and the preparations for the Paralympics. We explored the *Ville de l'amour* through the song *Au Champs-Elysees*.

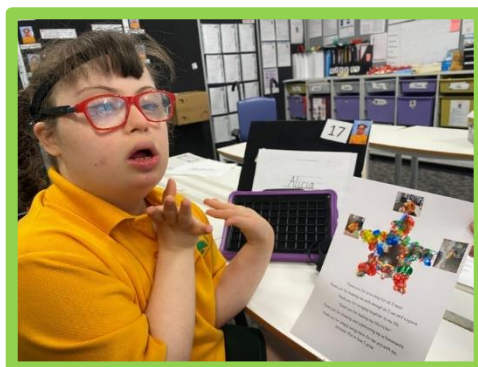
In science, we explored various organs of the human body and their functions. Students deconstructed and reconstructed a face using the model shown in the next photograph.



Eleanor visibly enjoys identifying and removing body parts



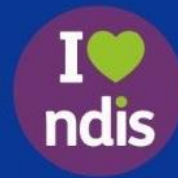
Lily pushes down on a paper strip to glue it to the background in visual arts



Alicia proudly presents her Father's Day gift

David, Sibeal, Sandy and Bella





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SCHOOL HOLIDAY

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Age category
7-17 age

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Join us for a free information session about disability supports

In collaboration with **Services Australia** and **Strathfield Council**



Tuesday 17 September • 10:00am - 12:00pm • Strathfield

Join us for this **free event** to gain valuable insights into **NDIS access** and pathways, including information on the evidence needed for your application.

Learn strategies for exercising choice and control with service providers and tailoring your NDIS plan. Plus, discover more about the supports that **Services Australia** offers, such as the **Disability Support Pension (DSP)**.

Enjoy **morning tea** and free transport via the **Strathfield Connector bus** between Strathfield Station and Dutton Centre.

Where: Dutton Centre, 40 Augusta Street
Strathfield NSW 2135



Contact **Shreetaj Pandey** for more information:
e shreetaj.pandey@ndis.gov.au

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