



Welcome to Term 2, 2018. We hope everyone has enjoyed a lovely break and are ready for all learning term 2 will bring. We have some exciting learning planned as we will inquire into Minibeasts!

English:

Our **writing** genre focus for this term will be informative texts. The primary focus of informative texts is to inform the reader about the natural or social world. Students will explore various examples of informative texts covering a range of topics. They will learn about the specific layout of informative texts including chapter headings, glossary of terms and the index. Students will create their own informative texts and share their newfound knowledge with their peers.

In **reading**, we will continue to work on our CAFÉ strategies (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding Vocabulary). We will explore a range of texts to support our work in writing and develop our understanding the relationship between reading and writing. Students will continue to build their spelling and grammar through focused skill building.

An exciting addition to our learning about literacy is based on the work by Ruth Kulham (6 + 1 Traits of Writing). It is a school wide initiative and both staff and students are responding well. The 6 + 1 Traits are:

1. **Ideas** – the main message.
2. **Organisation** – the internal structure of the piece.
3. **Voice** – the personal tone and flavor of the author's message.
4. **Word Choice** – the vocabulary a write chooses to convey meaning
5. **Sentence Fluency** – the rhythm and flow of the language
6. **Conventions** – the mechanical correctness like punctuation.
7. **Presentation** – how the writing actually looks on the page.

Mathematics:

Children will participate in daily Mathematics learning and activities in...

Number – Students will work on their understanding of number facts and skip counting by 1, 2, 5 and 10, both forwards and backwards and from 0 as well as other starting points. Students will build on previous understanding of addition and subtraction and concepts of place value.

Length – Students will compare lengths using finger length, hands span or a piece of string.

3D Shapes – Students will identify and name shapes and label the vertices, faces and sides.

Money – Students will explore money and matching coins with the correct denomination and coin combining to \$1.00.

Position – Children will explore simple maps and use the terminology of 'clockwise', 'anticlockwise', 'forward' and 'backward'.

Integrated Inquiry unit: *Mighty Mini Beasts*

Our Inquiry unit is going to be another fantastic learning adventure. Where will it lead us? The title for our unit of work is the 'Mighty Mini Beasts' and will culminate in a field trip to the National Botanical Gardens. Students will continue to learn all about collaborating, self-managing, communicating, thinking and researching as we explore our place in the world.

Japanese with Sharee

Year 1/2 are extending their learning about using descriptive terms by adding other adjectives (such as short, tall, little, big) as well as using colours to describe objects. We will learn about different special times, including Children's Day, Tanabata (Star Festival) and how birthdays are celebrated in Japan. Students will make their own jikoshoukai (introduction cards), stating their name, age and favourite colour in romaji and hiragana. They will develop their counting skills to include how to use number words to refer to ages, as well as recognising and writing kanji symbols for numbers. They will also be set a challenge to start developing their hiragana recognition and writing skills.



Health

During health lesson students will continue to explore the 'Mind Up' program. 'Mind Up' is a comprehensive, classroom tested, evidence based program framed around 15 lessons that foster social and emotional awareness, enhance psychological well-being, and promote academic success. Students will also learn more about social skills and how we use our social skills every day in our lives.

PE with Sally

This term in Physical Education, we will begin preparing for the athletic carnival events, which will take place on Thursday, week 5. Class activities will include mini hurdles, sprints, jumps, shot put, discus throw and javelin with modified equipment for safety. In the second part of the term, students will be introduced to lacrosse, a popular north American game, played with a long stick with a scoop, a ball and enclosed goals. In the final two weeks, students from across the school will learn and play Buroinjin, a traditional Aboriginal game. This will also be played in our final enrichment session in week 9, school wide.

Arts with Amanda

This term in the Arts, the students will be studying dance - focusing on the style of line dancing. They will use the elements of dance (i.e. body, action, space, time and energy) to make, rehearse and perform set or created dance sequences that represent ideas, as well as learning about where and why people dance.

Things to Remember:

Hats – Latham is a SunSmart school, so children must have a broad brimmed, bucket or Legionnaires hat every day to wear when outside for play times and sport. Students will be advised late in the term when 'hats off' season starts.

Medication – all medications your child may need during the school day are to be kept at the front office and an authority to administer form should be completed – this includes asthma puffers

Absences – if your child is absent from school, please send in a note or email to your child's teacher as soon as possible or call the school on 026142 0077.

Drink bottles – drink bottles can be kept in the classroom so that children can access water all day long so they can stay as hydrated as possible. Please make sure your child brings **water only** in their drink bottle.

Fruit break – in the morning session children are provided a short time to have a fresh fruit or vegetable, yoghurt or cheese snack to fuel their brain for more learning.

Library days: 1/2 MS – Wednesday, 1/2 Sim and Rochelle – Thursday, 1/2 TB - Thursday.

Home reading:

Children will be encouraged to change their home readers daily. This ideally will be done in their homework folders. We encourage parents to listen to their children reading for at least 10 minutes each night. Don't forget to read to your children too. Read the cereal box, the street signs, letters from friends and relatives. Research shows students learn lots from hearing people read to them.

Please feel free to make an appointment with us should you have any concerns or questions relating to your child. We look forward to working with you and having a great year.

Please note that Sim Riddle works Mon – Thurs and Rochelle Nowland will be in on Fridays. Both Mike Smith and Tania Blak are here all week.

Happy learning

Year 1/2 Team

Sim Riddle, Rochelle Nowland, Michael Smith, Tania Blak and executive Melissa Mongan