

Collaboration Respect Motivation Resilience Positivity

*Term 1 Week 2*  
*Thursday 14 February 2019*

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the 2019 school year! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday and managed to enjoy some special family time. If you are new to our school community, I hope you feel comfortable among us soon and that you and your child/ren make great long-lasting friends.

Last week we had three preschool groups start school and 24 new students from Kindergarten to year 6 began on Monday. Classes are amazingly settled for week two of a new year; I'm guessing that the days teachers spent in 'O Week' analysing student data and planning the term's program has had a very positive effect!

We have some new staff joining our school community this year; their photos are on display on the front foyer big screen so that you can connect faces to names. Sandy Newbery and Gavin Molyneux are our dynamic preschool educators, Bethany Lieschke has joined the Kindergarten team, and Melissa Orton is our new 1/2 team member. Nerida Knight is our new school psychologist and will be at school every Tuesday and every alternate Wednesday (even weeks). I know that many of you met the new staff at either the January preschool interviews, or at Tuesday's Meet the Teacher afternoon. Thank you to those of you who availed yourselves of the opportunity to hear from your child's teacher/s about how the class will operate and how you can support your child's school experience. A special thanks to our wonderful P&C for providing a sausage sizzle to welcome in the new school year.

During the holiday break we had a number of spaces painted; the 5/6 classes, Laura and Lynette's 3/4 room, Daniel's office, the LA room and the staffroom. Apart from the two corridors outside the junior and senior classes, all spaces have now been freshly painted. It makes such a difference to the brightness in the rooms.

Next Monday the Kindergarten to year 5/6 classes will be involved in a swimming carnival, the first since I started in 2013. This is in direct response to feedback from both parents and teachers about the disruption to learning that occurs when we have swimming lessons. Students in year 2 will still be offered swimming lessons later in the year as this

#### Dates to remember

#### **February**

- Mon 18** Swimming Carnival  
School Board nominations close
- Wed 20** Year 5/6 Camp Berry  
Assembly 1:45pm – hosted by year 3/4  
School Board meeting – 5:00pm
- Thurs 21** Fete meeting – 7:30pm at the Raiders Club Kippax
- Fri 22** Year 5/6 students return from Camp Berry

#### Notes home

Swimming Carnival Note  
Term Letters  
Grip Leadership Note  
Fete Newsletter  
Term 1 Calendar  
Seesaw Note  
Year 6 T-shirt order form

#### School Contacts

**Front office – 614 20077**

**Absence Email:** [info@lathamps.act.edu.au](mailto:info@lathamps.act.edu.au)

**Principal:** Liz Bobos

[liz.bobos@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:liz.bobos@ed.act.edu.au)

**Deputy Principal:** Karen Wilson

[karen.wilson@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:karen.wilson@ed.act.edu.au)

**Executive P -2:** Melissa Mongan

[melissa.mongan@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:melissa.mongan@ed.act.edu.au)

**Executive 3 -6:** Daniel Manestar

[daniel.manestar@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:daniel.manestar@ed.act.edu.au)

**Business Manager:** Samantha Chapman

[samantha.chapman@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:samantha.chapman@ed.act.edu.au)

**Latham School Board**

[lathamprimaryschoolboard@gmail.com](mailto:lathamprimaryschoolboard@gmail.com)

is commitment from the ACT Government, but other than that, children in other classes will not have swimming lessons offered through the school. My experience is that swimming carnivals are usually lots of fun, so if you are free, please join us at CISAC. (Seniors start their program at 9:40am, and juniors at 10:30am).

One of our families has the privilege of training a Guide Dog puppy for the next 12 months. As part of his training 'Uno' might sometimes visit the school. He will be identified as a service dog in training by his vest, and when he is wearing his vest, he should not be patted or touched. Identified service dogs are permitted to be on school grounds, but I'm sorry to say that other dogs, even cute puppies, are not allowed to be brought inside our fences. That's not me being mean, that's ACT regulations. Occasionally classes have special 'bring your pet days', and for these, we make a special dispensation.

This week's Word of the Week is: **inaugurate**. I wonder why this word is relevant for the beginning of a new year?

Just a reminder to you that if you are planning on working with children this year in a voluntary capacity then you need to have an up to date **Working with Vulnerable People** registration. Registration is free for volunteers and can be obtained by contacting Access Canberra on 13 2281 or [accesscanberra.act.gov.au](http://accesscanberra.act.gov.au), or in person at an ACT Government shopfront. When you do have a new WWVP card, please show it to Mel in the front office – the school needs a photocopy for auditing purposes.

I hope you have a wonderful term.  
Warm regards,  
Liz

## **SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATION**

WE WANT YOU FOR THE LATHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

If you are keen to contribute to the governance of Latham Primary School, you should nominate for a position on the Latham Primary School Board. No prior experience is necessary.

The following positions are vacant:

- 1 parent and citizen member position for 2 years

Nominations open at **11am, Monday 4 February 2019** and will be closing at **11am, Monday 18 February 2019**. Nomination forms are available at the school's front office during normal business hours (9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday), or you may request one be emailed to you.

You can submit your nomination by: either hand delivery to the front office or email it to [melissa.cruz-willis@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:melissa.cruz-willis@ed.act.edu.au). For more information, contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Melissa Cruz-Willis on 614 20077.



# What happened in O week?

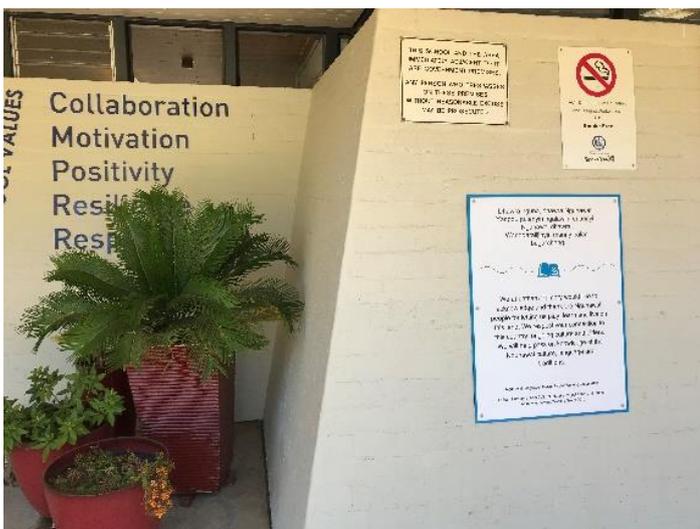
The week before students come back at the beginning of the year, the teachers and admin staff completed professional learning. Latham Primary Teachers spent a couple of days with their minds switched into curriculum planning, looking at how to scope and sequence learning over a cycle of 2 years to ensure our students are exposed to all areas through their multi-age classrooms. They looked more closely at the achievement standards for each area of the Australian Curriculum. This led to some exciting plans for term 1 this year. Should parents wish to access the curriculum, all your links are available here:

<https://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au>



On Thursday we had the opportunity to be part of an Australian Languages workshop run by Doug Marmion. This work supports our ongoing commitment to Cultural Integrity and our Reconciliation Action Plan. Doug

supported the teachers to use correct accents and features of language to pronounce vowels and letters of many Australian languages. It provided opportunity to reflect on language and the importance of histories and communication as a growing community. As you may be aware last year our Cultural Integrity team worked with a group of students to develop Latham Primary Schools Acknowledgement of Country. This work will support staff to understand how to say this acknowledgement in Australian Languages.



Follow this link for a short language lesson for the Pitjantjatjara language:

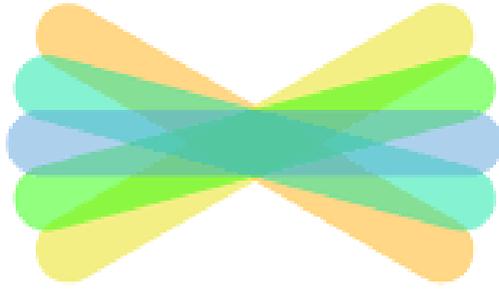
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7d66qbhZOI>.

As a staff team, we pondered the beginning of year expectations and listened to some podcasts from leaders in the areas of education and student management. We also reviewed our positive behaviour guidelines, and whole school expectations. Teachers reflected on how their room can send messages about them and be a second teacher, as well as how they will explicitly teach expectations from the start, whilst building a sense of excitement about being at school and engaging in learning.

This work led to a very positive start to the school year.

Melissa Mongan and Daniel Manestar

# Coming Soon to Latham Primary...



# Seesaw

As part of our school improvement journey we have been investigating ways to improve relationships between students, staff, parents and the wider community. One of our ongoing actions has been to develop a culture that promotes learning for all, and in 2018 some teachers trialled the use of Seesaw as an online platform that allows parents to engage in their child's learning.

### **Testimonials**

*'I love the app for the following reasons... It's easy to use, it's access is controlled as it's contained to the class and not completely open to the public, it allows parents to easily follow our child's activities and progress in class and see examples of their work throughout the term, as parents we can ask questions about our child's work and it allows us to send you any questions or messages via a standard messaging system without imposing on your personal mobile number'.*

*'Communication via Seesaw has been great. It has helped me keep up to date with things in class i.e. permission notes due, and I love being able to see what the kids are doing and ask them questions about the work they've done'.*

*'Seesaw has been amazing to look at daily, especially as a working Mum and not being able to be part of the classroom to help out. Seesaw has shown me how my little one is growing and doing amazing work throughout her class'.*

*'...Seesaw has prompted conversations at the dinner table when I would ask \*child about what he did at school that day. If he couldn't remember, I would ask about certain activities that you completed/posted in Seesaw and he would then have a look of delight on his face as we knew what he had been up to. It is also a useful tool to communicate with you directly as the classroom teacher when I was unable to do so face to face'.*

There are many functions to the app, and as the school trials and exposes the various areas it will become a strong tool for students, teachers and their families. The focus for 2019 is on 'breaking down the classroom walls' and giving you access to the learning journey taking place throughout the year. Students will be linked with a student ID, allowing their online journal to be linked from year to year. For more information visit the seesaw site and watch this tutorial: <https://web.seesaw.me/parents/>

As this is a third-party organisation, registration will require a signed note from you, this will only need to be done once from this year, and this will remain on file for the duration of their schooling at Latham Primary School. Notes were handed out at the 'meet the teacher' event on Tuesday, if you have not received a note, please visit the front office or see your classroom teacher.

Once the note is returned, teachers will send home a unique QR code for you to access their journal.

If you would like more information on the privacy of the Seesaw app you can visit the website:

<https://web.seesaw.me/privacy-policy/>

We look forward to sharing our learning with you

Latham Primary Staff

Melissa Mongan and Becky Pain – Seesaw Coordinators



## Call for donations for the White Elephant Stall

Decided it's time to declutter? We are calling for donations from the Latham Community for the white elephant stall until [Friday 22nd March](#).

### What can I donate?

When considering whether something can be donated, our rule of thumb is if you'd give it to a friend, then it's ok to give to the white elephant stall. For example:

- Homewares, household goods
- Kids toys, games, sports goods, dress up costumes, jigsaw puzzles
- Books, CDs and DVDs
- Men's, women's and children's accessories
- Other bric-a-brac

To make sure your donated items are sellable please ensure items are in **good condition**, clean, not broken or missing pieces and that breakables are wrapped up.

### What can't I donate?

Please **do not** donate any of the following:

- Clothes
- Electrical goods
- Broken goods
- Household waste

### How do I donate to white elephant stall?

You can drop off your wonderful donations to the behind the stage in the school hall.

There are large boxes with **signs with donation categories**.

Please assist us by placing your goods in the corresponding categories and if possible in bags/boxes to keep them clean for the big day. Your help is much appreciated!

### Who can I contact for more information?

If you would have any questions or would like to discuss anything please see Meg or Kathy on **Friday** mornings straight after assembly. Alternatively, email Kathy on [ksy\\_tsang@yahoo.com.au](mailto:ksy_tsang@yahoo.com.au)



## P&C Update



**Fete meetings:** Thurs 21 Feb, 7.30pm, Raiders Club Kippax  
Thurs 28 Feb, 7.30pm, Raiders Club Kippax  
Join us and bring along any ideas for this event.

A cake stall will be run at the fete, every student will receive a plate to donate goodies approximately one week before the event. Get your thinking caps on and your kitchens ready! Questions? Want to volunteer to help sell on the day? Please email Kristen ([kristen.sutcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.sutcliffe@gmail.com)).

### **P&C AGM**

Thank you to everyone that attended this meeting after *meet the teacher* 12 Feb. The following executive committee were elected:

President: Emily Kerslake  
Vice President: Kelee Hodge  
Treasurer: Jodie Taylor  
Secretary: Kristen Sutcliffe

Minutes from this meeting will be available soon on the school website.

Next P&C meeting Thurs 21 Feb, 7.30pm Raider's Club Kippax (Fete meeting), everyone welcome.



**Try Hockey for FREE**

Come along to Hockey ACT's  
Come & Try Weekend on  
February 16 & 17.

Saturday, February 16  
9am - 12pm  
National Hockey Centre, Lyneham

9am - 11am  
Tuggeranong Hockey Park

Visit [www.hockeyact.org.au](http://www.hockeyact.org.au) for more information.

Hockey  
ACT



**Y** YOUNG  
MUSIC  
SOCIETY

CELEBRATING **50** YEARS  
1969-2019

# GALA AFTERNOON

MUSICAL FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

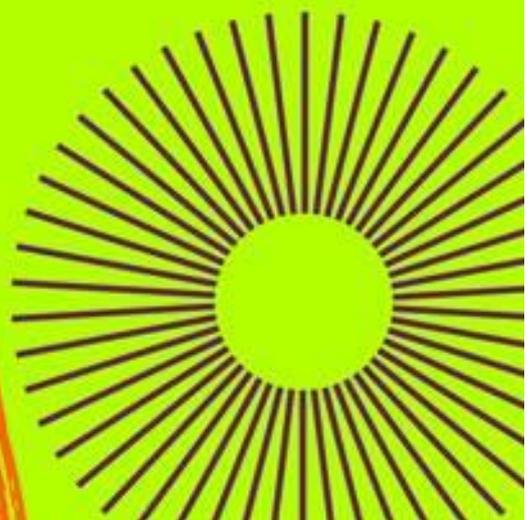
HEAR PERFORMANCES BY FAMOUS YMS ALUMNI,  
FANTASTIC LOCAL MUSICIANS AND CURRENT YMS MEMBERS  
AND FEATURING THE "IN FULL SWING" CONCERT BAND

CANBERRA'S  
YOUNG MUSIC SOCIETY  
CELEBRATES 50 YEARS



SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019  
FUN STARTS AT 1:00PM  
CONCERT STARTS AT 2.00PM  
ALBERT HALL, CANBERRA

Adults \$20, Concessions \$10 Families \$50  
Afternoon tea for sale  
bookings 6258 0200 or available at the door



LAUGH

LEARN

PLAY

SHARE

# A Great Place To Learn and Grow



**ENTER PLAYGROUP  
DETAILS HERE**

**Latham Community Playgroup**

**9.15am to 11.15am**

**Fridays, school terms**

**Latham Primary School  
Preschool Unit,  
14 Wanliss Street  
Latham**

**Bring a piece of fruit to share.  
For more information contact  
ACT Playgroups on  
1800171882**

## **What is Playgroup?**

Playgroup is a group of parents/carers and their children under five meeting together to play and socialise.

Going to playgroup connects you to your local community. Parents often talk about going to playgroup every week for themselves just as much as for their child's benefit.

Parents are children's first educators and playgroup provides the perfect opportunity for you to take pleasure in this role. When children play they develop language, use their imagination, explore, experiment, learn, practise new skills and express ideas and emotions.

## **Why is Play Important?**

Play is fundamental to your child's social, emotional, physical, and intellectual development. It enables children to learn about themselves and others around them.

Through early play experiences, children are able to organise and make sense of their own world and develop a positive sense of self.

Playgroup allows children to make choices and engage in self directed play. They develop and improve body control, hand-eye coordination, spatial awareness and balance. They discover shape, size, texture and quantity and develop hand-eye coordination skills. These are all skills necessary for success in more formal learning environments such as kindergarten and school.

# Belconnen Youth Centre



Belconnen  
Community  
Service

## Term One calendar for Fridays at Belconnen Youth Centre 2019



BCS Youth Services provides outreach and activities to young people aged 12-25 years living in, or accessing the Belconnen area. On Fridays we open a little later, with activities generally from 4pm

### 8<sup>th</sup> February – Modern Art – 3-7pm

We will be taking over the BCS gallery at the end of February, so this is your chance to make a masterpiece for the exhibition, that or a prestigious piece of art for the fridge.

### 15<sup>th</sup> February – Yu-Gi-Oh! Tournament– 3-7pm

Are you ready to duel? We're summoning all players to the field, from beginners to experts. For those without a deck, we have some spares. Special thanks to Patrick for organising.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Drama Games – 3-7pm

We're dropping a drama bomb... and it's that drama games are back! Get ready for a high energy, hilarious evening.

### 1<sup>st</sup> March – Clean Up Australia Day – 3-7pm

You wouldn't believe the stuff we found last year. Help us and nearly 600,000 other volunteers across Australia rid our environment of rubbish. Celebratory park BBQ included!

### 8<sup>th</sup> March – Music Night – 6-10pm

Hearing is believing, so for all the true believers we've got a show for you! Details TBC, keep your eye out for posters!

### 15<sup>th</sup> March – Mario Kart Comp – 3-7pm

Mama mia it's-a Mario Kart! Classic game, classic comp.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Harmony Day Trivia– 3-7pm

We're celebrating all the different, amazing cultures that make up our fantastic community. Join in for some casual trivia, you might even learn something along the way.

### 29<sup>th</sup> March – Indoor Sports at BCC – 3-7pm

Bring your headbands, bring your sweatbands, bring your legwarmers... or don't, just come along for a run around!

### 5<sup>th</sup> April – Screen Printing – 3-7pm

You think you've seen it all, and then you see some of the designs people come up with for screen printing. We'll provide the shirts, you provide the creativity.

### 12<sup>th</sup> April – Karaoke – 3-7pm

With 'Belco's Got Talent' just around the corner, this is the perfect opportunity to warm up those vocal chords. *Bonus:* There's always someone to sing with for a classic rendition of 'A Whole New World' at our karaoke nights.

If you want more info about any of our events, visit the **Belconnen Youth Centre** on the corner of Chandler St and Swanson Court, phone 6264 0200, email [bcs@bcsact.com.au](mailto:bcs@bcsact.com.au), or search **Belconnen Youth Centre** on Facebook

Supported by



**Belconnen Community Service** | Swanson Court, Belconnen

02 6264 0200 | [bcs@bcsact.com.au](mailto:bcs@bcsact.com.au) | [www.bcsact.com.au](http://www.bcsact.com.au) | [f/BelconnenYouthCentre](https://www.facebook.com/BelconnenYouthCentre)