



Latham Primary School

Parent Information Years 3/4 – Term 1 2018



UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, It's not."

Dr Seuss, The Lorax

Welcome to the 2018 school year. We look forward to working with the students, developing their skills as they become organised and independent learners.

Classroom Organisation

There are three classes in the 3/4 unit, 3/4LR Humming Fish, 3/4SW Cheshire Cats and 3/4LJ Brown Ba Ba Loots. Our program has been developed to give students opportunities to work in a variety of ways as a unit and as individual classes. It also allows students to work at their own ability level. As our time table is quite tightly run, we ask that students arrive at school by 9:00am. If your child should be away from school please inform us either by phoning the school or with a letter explaining their absence, as it is a legal requirement for absences to be explained. If your child is unable to participate in physical activity, a note is also required.

All students are to be in school uniform every day including a sunsmart, wide brimmed hat. We suggest students bring a water bottle to have on their desks during the day. Each morning we allow students to have a piece of fruit or vegetable during the first session.

Literacy

Students will be working on developing their skills in writing, reading, spelling, speaking and listening during our literacy block. Over the course of the year students will be exploring different text genres including persuasive texts, procedural texts, imaginative and information texts using the 6+1 Writing Traits. This term we will be looking at imaginative text and later in the term we will be looking into persuasive devices in our writing. Students will focus on building their comprehension of texts throughout the term using a variety of strategies.

Numeracy

Students will be developing their use of mental computation strategies for solving problems, in particular addition and subtraction and developing speed and accuracy of calculations. The strategies taught will enable students to apply them to solve problems with larger numbers. We will also be covering place value up to tens of thousands, measuring time to the minute and using formal and informal measurements to calculate the length of objects.

History and Studies of Society

This year students will be working through the inquiry approach to all areas of their learning. This term we will be focusing on the students building their skills as *thinkers, collaborators, researchers, self-managers* and *communicators*. These are known as the *Learning Assets*. This term as part of our history and geography curriculum, we will be exploring our personal identity, the indigenous people and their history and the impact of the First Fleet. This will incorporate visual arts and link closely to other learning areas

Social and Emotional Program

We will be starting the year exploring our five school values of *respect, resilience, positivity, motivation* and *collaboration*. We will move onto the program MindUP which explores the brain and how it impacts our actions and thought processes.

ICT

Students will have access to a range of devices over the course of the year. Students will be provided with their personal logon details. Students will be working with the Google For Education suite along with a variety of other applications.

Specialist Programs

This year students will have 45 minutes of Japanese with Daniel, 45 minutes of PE with Sally and 45 minutes of performing arts with Amanda. The days that each class will have time with these teachers and library are as follows:

	3/4LR	3/4LJ	3/4SW
Japanese	11:20-12:05 Friday	9:15-10:00 Thursday	10:00-10:45 Thursday
Arts	10:00-10:45 Thursday	10:00-10:45 Tuesday	9:15-10:00 Thursday
PE	9:15-10:00 Thursday	10:00-10:45 Thursday	11:20-12:05 Wednesday
Library	Monday	Friday	Monday

A message from Daniel....

ようこそ! Welcome to Japanese for 2018. I am excited to be teaching Japanese to all the senior classes this year. This term in 3/4 the students will be revising greetings such as 'good morning', 'hello' and 'goodbye' and simple sentences such as 'my name is...' and 'I am ...years old.' By the end of the term they will be presenting a short jikoshoukai (self-introduction). We also will be exploring a variety of cultural traditions such as festivals and daily life of students in Japan.

A message from Sally....

This term, year 3 and 4 students will participate in modified cooperative cricket games, designed to maximise participation of all students in the class. The skills of bowling, batting, overarm throw and catching skills will be specifically taught. There will also be some additional longer running to prepare the students for the cross country carnival in week 10. In the later part of the term we will have AFL lessons run in conjunction with ACT AFL development coaches. This is a great opportunity to learn kicking and other skills associated with the game, with an option of an Auskick gala day this term. Please ensure your child is wearing suitable footwear for their PE sessions.

A message from Amanda.....

For the Arts this term the students are learning about drama. The lessons will be aimed at extending their knowledge, understanding and skills of dramatic practices (i.e. improvisation, devised and scripted drama) through focusing on some of the key elements of drama such as language, body, relationship, space, time and dramatic action. They will also be making comparisons between the dramas they make, perform and view as well as exploring the intended purpose and meaning of drama in different cultures.

Homework for 2018

In 2017 the School Board ratified a new Homework Policy that comes into full effect as of the beginning of 2018. The new policy states that reading is an essential skill that is to be practised by all as regularly as possible. At the beginning of the school year a list of possible activities or suggested websites you might like to pursue with your child will be sent home by the teacher. This will detail activities that can be used to practise skills other than reading. Teachers may identify that individual students require additional support in their learning. After a conversation with the parents an agreement will be made and other activities assigned. Additional to this, parents may request other activities for their child to complete. More information about the policy is available on the school website at http://www.lathamps.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/409592/Latham_PS_Homework_Policy_2017_2.pdf

Please see the list attached for activities that could be done with your child.

Student Management

Each teacher promotes positive behaviours in their classroom linked to the school values. These positive behaviours ensure successful participation in learning. Each classroom space and teacher's guidelines and processes for reminding students of these behaviours may differ. There is also a warning system in place to support students who have a lapse in behaviour to get back on the right track. The child will be supported at every step with counselling and encouraged to own their behaviour and reflect on future behaviour choices.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child please contact the front office to make an appointment. We have school commitments every morning and on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, but are available for meetings any other afternoon by appointment.

Lynette Johns, Laura Ryan, Steph Wilson and executive teacher Daniel Manestar