

# Term 1 2020 - Curious Collaborators



Curious Christopher

## **Class**

The Curious Collaborators  
LSA  
Arts  
PE  
Japanese  
Year 3-6 Executive

## **Teacher**

Trudy Grant  
Julie Ayre  
Amanda Bray  
Syed Ahmad  
Louise Poulakis  
Daniel Manestar

Welcome back to a new school year! It has been wonderful to see happy smiling faces from all the students and the interactions they are sharing during learning and play investigation opportunities, so far.

## **HASS**

Our first unit will inquire into Australia's past and present through the lens of identity. We will be exploring significant dates/events and people who have helped shape Australia's identity - exploring the local and national community. We will investigate the connection between people and places and research the contributions people make in these communities. This unit will have a history focus, incorporating other subjects and areas of the curriculum including maths and English. Students will be given the opportunity to drive their own learning through questions relating to this concept.

Inquiry based learning has an overall goal for students to make meaning of their world. They are encouraged to become thinkers and questioners, therefore engaging them in the process of learning. Inquiry begins by posing questions or scenarios, rather than just giving students the facts. They drive the learning as researchers and collaborators, researching open-ended questions which promote critical and creative thinking skills. Through inquiry the subjects of the Australian Curriculum are seen as being linked and are taught as a transdisciplinary approach.

## **English**

During English sessions this term, students will participate in a variety of learning activities focusing on speaking and listening, reading, writing and spelling. We will be implementing whole school guidelines which will see students completing quickwrites and writer's notebook - to build stamina and develop ideas for writing, while participating in differentiated lessons in writer's workshop with

a focus on individual learning goals. English will also be heavily incorporated into our units of inquiry, with a real world focus helping to guide the particular text types taught during writing lessons. The focus for letters and sounds sessions this term will be differentiated and focus on either initial sounds, digraphs and graphemes.

Alphablocks videos on Youtube are a fun and interactive resource to encourage your child to learn how initial sounds can be blended together to form words.

### **Maths**

We will be using the Count Me In Too program to focus on number sense and the application of mental computation strategies. Our other focus areas for the term will be number - number recognition, sequencing numbers on a numberline, before and after, odd and even, place value, counting strategies and addition and subtraction strategies; measurement - including shape and time. Each of these strands includes problem solving activities designed to develop students' ability to work mathematically.

Numberblocks videos on Youtube are a fun and interactive resource to encourage your child to recognise numbers and introduce early addition facts, such as the number pairs that make ten.

### **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL).**

We will be joining with Erin and the I Spy's to complete SEL lessons each week. These lessons will focus on the school values and what these look like in the classroom. We will be engaging with the *Protective Behaviours and So Safe* programs. These aim to promote resilience in children and young people, using empowerment strategies, clear communication, and awareness of 'safe' behaviours. Students will also participate in lessons demonstrating the safe use of ICT and being safe online.

### **Library:**

Regular library times each fortnight starting week 2 Term 1: Friday 12:30-1:00. Please encourage your children to be regular borrowers, including returning and rotating through books each fortnight.

### **Specialist Programs**

Class	Japanese - Louise	Performing Arts - Amanda	PE - Syed
Curious Collaborators	Tuesday 2:00-3:00	Tuesday 12:20-1:20	Friday 9:15-10:00

### **Japanese**

Welcome to 2020 - the "Year of the Rat" (ねずみ とし nezumi doshi). LSUA-TG will begin their Japanese language learning with Louise by developing understanding of some of the new year (お-しよがつ o-shogatsu) traditions and Setsubun celebrations observed in Japan, at the start of each year. Students will develop their communication skills in using simple phrases to say and identify visuals to indicate hello and goodbye at different times of the day, as well as learning the words and Japanese sign language for main colours.

### **Physical Education**

LSUA students will begin the term by continuing to develop their gross motor skills, such as running, jumping and landing, skipping, hopping and balancing. Also, during the first few weeks of term, students will become familiar with routines and class expectations through structured cooperative

activities and games. Students will practise some endurance running around the school to prepare for the annual cross-country carnival event planned for week 8. In week 6, we also have our annual swimming carnival. In the second half of this term, students will begin preparing for our annual athletics carnival scheduled for Term 2. They will learn sprinting, hurdles, relay, throwing and Javelins skills with school-approved equipment. It is requested that parents ensure that students are wearing appropriate footwear, have Sun Smart hat and drink bottle for each lesson.

## Performing Arts

For the Performing Arts this term the students will be learning about drama. The lessons will be aimed at exploring and developing their awareness of voice, movement and situation through acting in different roles for dramatic play, improvisation and games.

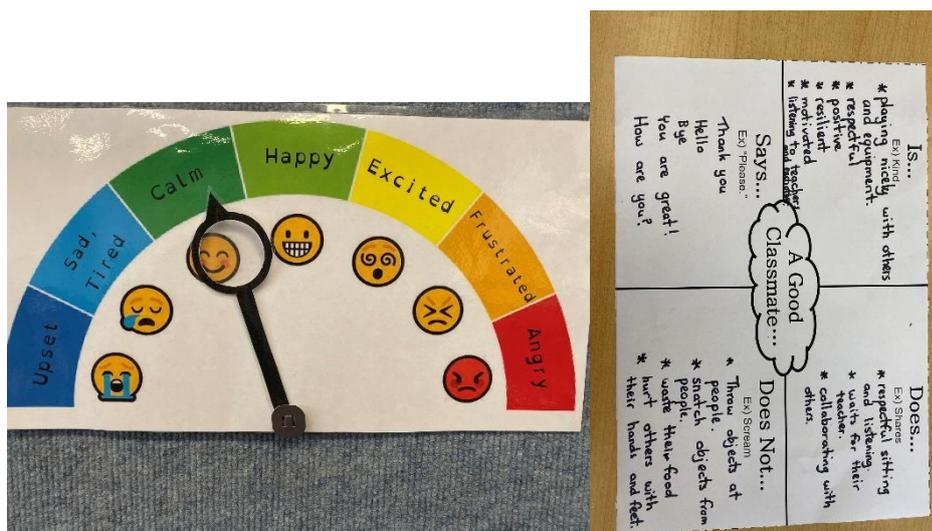
## Homework for 2020...

In 2017 the School Board ratified a new Homework Policy that came into full effect at 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. 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. In addition 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.latham.act.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/409592/Latham\\_PS\\_Homework\\_Policy\\_2017\\_2.pdf](http://www.latham.act.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/409592/Latham_PS_Homework_Policy_2017_2.pdf)

## Behaviour Systems

In the Curious Collaborators we will discuss and create a chart of what a good classmate looks like and sounds like, we will refer to the chart when supporting students behaviour. After each recess and lunch we take turns to discuss how we were feeling during the breaks. This encourages students to recognise emotions, what the emotions look like and identify strategies they can use.



**Things to Remember:**

- Meet the teacher night: Tuesday 18 Feb
- Swimming carnival: Monday 18 Feb
- Canberra day: Monday 11 March
- Cross Country Carnival 27 March

We look forward to bringing out the curiosity in all of us because when you're curious, fun has a way of just showing up.

Trudy Grant, Julie Ayre and executive teacher Daniel Manestar

**Identifying emotions and how to self-regulate**

The Curious Collaborates have daily opportunities after recess and lunch to discuss how they were feeling during breaks. They are supported to identify emotions that are colour coded, for example red represents anger, yellow represents frustration, blue represents sad and green represents happy.

When identifying emotions students will have visual support to identify what it looks like and build on strategies to help them remain or return to the green zone.