

Collaboration Respect Motivation Resilience Positivity

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the 2018 school year. I hope that you had a bit of a break over the summer holidays and that you managed some time to recharge your batteries and spend quality time with the people who are special to you. I certainly had a fabulous rest but was very keen to get back to the excitement of school life. It's week 2 already and teachers were back at work at least a week before the children returned so the school is running smoothly with classes settled and children engaged in learning from day 1.

We have some wonderful new staff join our school community; their photos are on display on the front foyer big screen so that you can connect faces to names. Lauren Jarvis and Mikayla Birch have joined the preschool team, Becky Pain is a new Kindergarten teacher, Emma McGuire is in year 5/6, and Nicola Fenelon is our new school psychologist. Sam Chapman has returned for at least the term to backfill Hayden's Business Manager's role, and Gemma Stolzenheim is filling in for Julie-Ann in the LSU for Semester One. In addition we have been lucky enough to secure Sandy Rees who is a specialist hearing teacher and has joined our student support team.

Please come and meet our new staff and your child's teacher this afternoon. From 4:30-6:00pm you are invited to move from room to room, see the learning spaces and chat with other parents.

Our wonderful P&C will be welcoming all families into the new school year by providing you with a free barbeque; soft drinks will also be available for sale. Term overviews went home last Friday, so if you have questions about this term's learning program, please ask your child's teacher.

We had some significant work done within the school building over holidays break. All the junior classes, the library and the Japanese room were painted, new cupboards were built into the double 1/2 room, Peter's LSU and Mel's executive office, and ceiling fans were installed in every classroom. The fans have certainly made a big difference to the comfort levels for children and staff alike.

ACT public schools have a new computer system for student and staff records, attendance, finances, visitors in schools, timetabling...the list is long! Not all components are finalised yet but one item that started on day one was student attendance records. This is a much 'tighter' data system that we have available to us now and teachers are vigilantly filling out the rolls to reflect the current status of each child. There is facility for late arrivals and early pickups that records exact times, when children are not where they are supposed to be (for example they choose not to participate in class and move away) there is a truancy option, and when

Term 1 – Week 2 February 15, 2018

Important Dates

Thurs 15 Feb – Meet Teacher Night and P&C BBQ

Fri 16 Feb – Bungee Girls Group

Mon 19 – Wed 21 Feb – 5/6 Camp

Tues 20 Feb – Breakfast Club – 8:30am – 8:50am

Wed 21 Feb – Assembly hosted by year 3/4 at 1:45pm in the hall

Wed 21 Feb – School Board meeting – 5:00pm

Fri 2 March – Latham Swim Trials at CISAC

Mon 12 March – Canberra Day Public Holiday

NOTES HOME

Term 1 Calendar

Book Club

Term Letters

Swim Trial notes – available at the front office

Board nomination information

SCHOOL CONTACTS

Liz Bobos

liz.bobos@ed.act.edu.au

Deputy Principal: Karen Wilson

karen.wilson@ed.act.edu.au

Executive P-2: Melissa Mongan

melissa.mongan@ed.act.edu.au

Executive 3-6: Daniel Manestar

daniel.manestar@ed.act.edu.au

Business Manager: Samantha Chapman

samantha.chapman@ed.act.edu.au

School Board

lathamprimarieschoolboard@gmail.com

[m](http://www.lathamprimaryschoolboard.com.au)

you contact the school to let us know your child is sick, that is recorded too. Of course there are many more options, but the area that I particularly want to highlight to you is the late arrivals. School starts for us at 8:57am with the morning assembly and all children are expected be here by then. Children should be sitting with their class listening to the morning announcements. We have noticed a pattern for several children who are perennially late, and this is not acceptable. Rolls will be marked as 'late' and 'unjustified' if there is not a reasonable reason for children being tardy. I ask you to assist us and most importantly your child's learning by having them here by 8:57am.

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, or in person at an ACT Government

shopfront. When you do have a new WWVP card, please show it to Mel, Di or Sam in the front office – the school needs a photocopy for auditing purposes.

This fortnight's Words of the Week have been: **circuitous** and **perilous**. What do these words have in common?

A Wondering for you... If I asked you **'What is quality education?'** what would you say? Four years ago when parents worked with us to develop our school values, they had a really clear picture of what they wanted for their children in their adult futures.

They wanted young adults who could communicate and collaborate, they wanted engaged and active thinkers and learners, they hoped for healthy self-esteems and relationships with others, and they desired resilient characters who could face the ups and downs of life. Out of this work our 5 values Collaboration, Motivation, Respect, Resilience and Positivity were born and they have held us in good

stead. What parents sought was not a set of knowledge but rather some broad characteristics that would carry their children happily through life as a well-rounded contributing citizen.

The school's vision to develop global citizens still fits. Our mission; We provide a quality education where everyone belongs and embraces learning highlights that term **'quality education'** so it's important for us to know what that means. This year as part of our ongoing work on Inquiry Learning we will be focussing on **learning assets**. Expect to hear your children talking about themselves as 'researchers', as 'thinkers', as 'communicators', as 'collaborators' and as 'self-managers of their own learning and behaviour'. You can see why we have chosen this path; it aligns perfectly with parent hopes and dreams for their children. I hope you have a wonderful term and to see you all this afternoon

Warm regards,
Liz

HOMEWORK 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](http://www.lathamps.act.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0011/409592/Latham_PS_Homework_Policy_2017_2.pdf)

Welcome to 2018 Latham Learners

Principal	Liz Bobos		
Deputy Principal	Karen Wilson	<u>Years 5/6</u>	
Executive Teachers	Daniel Manestar	5/6MP	Millie Peattie
	Melissa Mongan	5/6EM	Emma McGuire
Business Manager	Samantha Chapman	5/6EW	Erin Weston
<u>Preschool</u>	Evan Gilson		
	Lauren Jarvis	<u>Years K-6</u>	
	Rochelle Merchant	K-6PS	Peter Simmons
	Cheryl Purcell		Annette Watson
	Sheryl Harris	K-6L	Jan Littlejohns
	Mikayla Birch		Gemma Stolzenhein
<u>Kindergarten</u>		P.E	Sally Parker
KBP	Becky Pain	Performing Arts	Amanda Bray
KTG	Trudy Grant	Japanese	Sharee Harrild/Daniel Manestar
<u>Years 1/2</u>		Learning Assistance	Robyn Frencham
1/2MS	Mike Smith	Hearing Support	Sandy Rees
1/SR	Sim Riddle & Rochelle Merchant	Learning Support	Mal Weerasinha
1/2TB	Tania Blak	School Counsellor	Nicole Fenelon
<u>Years 3/4</u>		Library Assistant	Di Rose
3/4LJ	Lynette Johns	BSO	Manuel Famelis
3/4LR	Laura Ryan	Front Office	Melissa Cruz-Willis
3/4SW	Steph Wilson		Di Rose

SCHOOL BOARD NOMINATION



WE WANT YOU FOR THE LATHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARD

If you're 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:

- 2 parent and citizen member positions for 2 years

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.

Nominations must be submitted to the front office between **11am, Monday 12 February 2018** and **11am, Monday 26 February 2017**.

You can submit your nomination by: either hand delivery to the front office or email it to melissa.cruz-willis@ed.act.edu.au

For more information, contact the Assistant Returning Officer, Melissa Cruz-Willis on 614 20077.

What have the teachers been up to ?.....

The week before school started back the teachers were busy attending professional learning sessions in preparation for the year ahead. Two main focus areas were inquiry learning and writing. At Latham this year students will develop their understandings of their 'learning assets'. As inquirers they will learn about being thinkers, communicators, researchers, collaborators and self-managers, through all aspects of their learning, whether it be mathematics, history, science, even reading and writing! The teachers took some time to explore the learning assets and came up with agreed protocols as learners themselves and we'd like to share them with you.



Teachers will be taking an inquiry journey themselves, coming up with their very own wonder wall! When it comes to writing, students will become immersed in a common language across the school. It is called the 6 + 1 writing traits. In classrooms you should start to see reference to 'VOICES' which stands for Voice, Organisation, Ideas, Conventions, Excellent Word Choice and Sentence Fluency, with an overall trait of presentation.



Students will also be explicitly taught that as writers and authors their finished product goes through a writing process from the initial planning, through to the published piece.

More updates to come throughout the year.

Cheers

Melissa and Daniel

LATHAM P&C

The P&C held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 13 February where a new committee was elected for 2018. Thank you to all the families that attended. We would like to thank the outgoing members for the dedication and contribution to the Latham Community for 2017.

There are still a few Office Bearer Positions that need to be filled. If you are interested in any of these positions please contact one of the P&C members or see Mel in the front office.

2018 P&C Committee

President – **VACANT**

Vice President – Peter Newman

Treasurer – Jodie Taylor

Secretary – **VACANT**

Fete Convenor – **VACANT**

Public Officer – **VACANT**

Banking Coordinator – Geniene Barbour

Uniform Coordinator – Vicky Honchera

Fundraising Coordinator – Vicky Honchera and Geniene Barbour

Canteen Treasurer – **VACANT**

meet the

teacher

available
have.

night

THURSDAY 15 FEBRUARY 4:30pm – 6:00pm

On Thursday 15 February from 4:30pm – 6:00pm we will be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' night. Teachers will be opening up their classrooms and will be to meet with you and answer any questions you might

The P&C will also be providing a welcome barbeque during the afternoon. This is a lovely opportunity to meet the staff, see your child's learning space and mingle with other families.

We look forward to seeing you on tonight



6287 3833

Being a parent is the hardest job we'll ever have. All parents at some time experience difficulties and stress.

Parentline ACT

is a confidential and free telephone and face-to-face counselling and information service.

Phone Parentline if you would you like:

- To talk with someone about those parenting issues.
- Help with some ideas on raising children.
- Support in the important job you are doing.
- To know what is available for parents, teenagers and children.
- To build better relationships in your family.
- Help to understand your child or teenager's behaviour.
- Make an appointment for a counselling session.

Parentline ACT.

Monday to Friday (except on public holidays), 9am to 5pm.

Phone: 6287 3833

icon
WATER
PRESENTS

AN INITIATIVE OF



SUNDAY 4TH MARCH 2018

10 AM - 2 PM

LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN
(Black Mountain Peninsula)

Come along and reconnect with Canberra's most well-known aquatic location.

Event will Feature:

Land and Water-Based Activities / Face Painting /
Jumping Castles / Live Entertainment /
Barbecue / Prizes
and much more!

SUPPORTED BY



For more information visit: www.RLSSA.org

WHAT TO EXPECT ON **HOT DAYS**

Whilst your child is at school in our duty of care, please rest assured that their safety and wellbeing is our priority and we will make the necessary adjustments to their day to ensure they are comfortable whilst learning.

Schools are subject to the same rules as normal workplaces - which means that there is no maximum temperature. We simply have varying guidelines on how to deal with the heat.

Your child's school will ensure precautionary measures are taken to avoid heat related stress, such as:

- optimising ventilation, air movement and shade,
- additional use of fans or coolers,
- rotate classes around cooler areas on site,
- adjust educational programs to minimise potential for heat stress,
- limiting playground access to shaded areas, and more

Teachers are also aware of the vulnerability of children to heat-related stress and will make necessary adjustments to lesson plan's and break times to help avoiding any stress.

We want you to know, that schools will **not** close due to hot weather unless under extreme conditions. i.e. when there is an immediate or imminent threat to the physical health or safety of students, staff or community members.

If there is evidence that keeping the school open poses a risk to the safety of staff and students, the Director-General may authorise the principal to temporarily close the school. In this case, parents of each child will be notified. Your child will never be sent home without contact.

Should you have any specific concerns about whether your child should attend school on any specific day, please contact your school's front office.



AVOIDING HEAT-RELATED STRESS



Pack a drink bottle and fill it at your school's refill station

Remind children to seek shade when outside



Use the light weight summer uniform

Wear a wide-brimmed or bucket hat and sunscreen



Pack lunch boxes full of fruit and vegetables and avoid salty foods or food that requires refrigeration

Try using an insulated lunchbox (or use a frozen drink bottle or freezer brick)



Attention Kindergarten Parents!



Kindergarten Health Checks are happening this year!

All kindergarten students in the ACT are eligible to receive a FREE health check



VISION CHECK



HEARING CHECK



HEIGHT, WEIGHT AND
BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)



If you have not returned your child's Kindergarten Health Check Consent and Questionnaire



FIND — Information packs will be sent home early in Term 1



SIGN — Complete The Kindergarten Health Check Consent And Questionnaire



RETURN — To your school by 28th February 2018

Your school can provide you with the date of the health check.

Give your kids a REAL Challenge!

School Orienteering

SC-ORE

SC-ORE School Orienteering 2018 Term 1

A before school body and brain work out.

Teams 2 girls and 2 boys

Thursday 1 March	Miles Franklin Primary School
Thursday 8 March	Latham Primary School
Thursday 15 March	Fraser Primary School
Thursday 22 March	Macquarie Primary School

SC-ORE online registration NOW OPEN

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=27914>

For more information visit <http://act.orienteering.asn.au/juniors/blue-sparks/sc-ore/>

Or call 0411 968 001



**EARLY BIRD ENTRIES TILL 23 FEBRUARY 2018 \$20 (for 4-week challenge)
(extra \$5 after 23 Feb)**

GREGORY ACADEMY OF IRISH DANCE

Our classes cater for fun and fitness, performance and competition, solo and team dancing in a friendly, caring, family orientated and safe environment for all skills levels and all ages - toddlers (3+), primary school-age children, pre-teens, teenagers and adults - its never too late to start!

Enrolments open now and taken any time throughout the year!
BRING A FRIEND & RECEIVE \$20 OFF EACH for TERM 1!

Aranda Studio - just a hop, skip and jump across the oval! A perfect after school activity for all ages.

Tuesday	Thursday
Little G's - 4pm - 430pm	Little G's - 4pm - 430pm
Beginners - 4pm - 445pm	Beginners - 4pm - 445pm
Adults - 7pm	

Saturday
Little G's and Beginners - 10am - 1045am

Gungahlin - our brand new class location for 2018!

Saturday
Little G's - 1030am - 11am
Beginners - 1045am - 1130am

"We are excited to discover the Gregory Academy. The strength and athleticism of the dancers along with their mental focus and precision in the detailed steps is inspiring to watch. These are all great skills to develop in anyone and we are thrilled to have our daughter exposed to these qualities through this form of dance"

The Goode Family - one of our newest dance families!

**Contact us today to find out more information
by emailing gregoryacademy@outlook.com**

or call

Liz (ADCRG) - 0419 225 195

Jackie (TCRG) - 0408 232 402

Megan (TCRG) - 0421 654 420

