

Principal: Belinda Andrews
Deputy Principal: Natalie Garrett

Latham Link

Board Chair: Sujit Mukherjee
P&C President: K Thorogood



living to learn

Collaboration Respect Motivation Resilience Positivity

Term 1 Week 2

Date – Monday 5 February 2024

FEBRUARY

Mon 5	School Board Nominations Open
Tues 6	Breakfast Club 8.30am – 9 am Welcome BBQ 4pm
Thurs 8	Breakfast Club 8.30am – 9 am Yr 5 IMP Band Test – 2pm
Tues 13	Breakfast Club 8.30am – 9 am Anniversary of National Apology
Wed 14	Meccano Assembly Year 6 – 2.10pm
Thurs 15	Breakfast Club 8.30am – 9 am
Mon 19	School Board Nominations Close

School Contacts

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Executive for years 2, 3 & 4

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<http://www.lathamps.act.edu.au/>

Yuumma Latham Primary Families,

Welcome to the 2024 school year. Over the weekend, I reflected on the week that was and I cannot remember such a settled and productive start to school in recent memory. Congratulations to our students and their teachers for hitting the ground running and to you, our valued families, for your preparation and support for a smooth start to the year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new families joining us in 2024, I look forward to partnering with you in your child's learning journey at Latham Primary School.

During 'Week 0', all of our staff engaged in professional learning aligned with our strategic priorities for the year. Our first session was Engoori with Scotty and Mark from Murrumatters. This professional learning gave us a deeper understanding of First Nation peoples' connection to country and our responsibilities to country. It also gave us a plethora of strategies used by First Nations people for building teams using their ways of knowing, doing and being. It had a profound affect on all members of staff and has contributed to our amazing start to the year. Secondly, Greg Taylor, our resident maths expert, led staff through some practical activities for our classes as well as linking the practical with theory and the updated Australian Curriculum. Finally, Eddy Bright and Angie Dowell with the support of Murray Hodge-

Neill from EDU, led the whole staff through Team Teach. This is something all schools in the ACT participate in that focuses on keeping staff and students safe. It reviews policy and legislation as well as providing staff with tips and tricks for supporting each other and the students in their care.

We were so fortunate to have Ngunnawal Elder, Aunty Serena Williams, visit our school last Wednesday to give a Welcome to Country. She was amazing with our students, guiding them through what a Welcome to Country is and why it is so important. We look forward to continuing a strong connection with Aunty Serena throughout the year. Thanks to proud Wiradjuri woman and Latham Primary School teacher, Natasha Lillywhite, for organising and leading the assembly.

You should have received your child's Term Letter via email last Friday afternoon. If you haven't received it, please contact the Front Office as soon as possible and we will endeavour to get it to you immediately. These letters give you an in-depth look at what will be happening for your child academically throughout the term as well as general information about routines and specific times for library etc.

We are looking forward to the Welcome BBQ and Class Information sessions tomorrow afternoon/evening. Thank you to our Latham Primary P&C for sponsoring the Welcome BBQ, making it a FREE event for all families. We have included the Class Information Session times at the end of this edition of the Latham Link.

Following on from the Class Information Sessions, we invite you to book in for a Getting to Know You Yarn. A parent/carer questionnaire was sent home last week via email and in hard copy form for you to complete before you come in for the yarn. It will frame your conversation with your child's teacher. These yarns are very important to us as it will help us to support your child as a whole throughout the year.

Our school has a very active school Facebook page that celebrates and informs you about student learning and school events. If you haven't liked or followed us, I strongly encourage you to jump on board!

<https://www.facebook.com/LathamPrimary>

Have a great fortnight!

Yarra, Belinda Andrews
Principal



Acknowledgement of Country

Dhawra nguna, dhawra Ngunawal.
Yanggu gulanyin ngalawiri, dhunayi, Ngunawal dhwara.
Wanggaralijinyin mariny balan bugarabang.

We at Latham Primary would like to acknowledge and thank the Ngunawal people for letting us play, learn, and live on this land. We respect your connection to this country, ongoing culture, and elders. We will help pass on knowledge of Ngunawal culture, languages, and traditions.

Ngunawal Language Revival Project Working Group 2018

Latham Primary School Cultural Integrity Project Team and Student Acknowledgement Working Group 2018



We are excited to be working closely with *The Resilience Project* this year to support the wellbeing of our school community.

[The Resilience Project](#) delivers emotionally engaging programs and provides evidence-based, practical strategies to build resilience.



Our Partnership Program consists of online presentations and weekly lessons for students, professional development for staff, and Parent & Carer Hub (inc. digital presentations) for our parent and carer community.

Over the coming weeks, we'll be sharing the Parent & Carer Hub with you. The videos are 5-10 minutes long and will walk through the key pillars of resilience: Gratitude, Empathy & Mindfulness. You'll hear stories and be introduced to activities to show how these strategies can support our kids' learning and development, and also support you as parents and carers.

This program is an important part of our school's effort to look after the mental health of our community.

View the first presentation of the series here:

Part 1: Meet Hugh and learn about The Resilience Project -
<https://theresilienceproject.com.au/2023-parent-carer-hub-inspire-hugh/>

In this presentation, Hugh shares a personal experience about his sister's battles with Mental Illness.

Note: This video contains a story about an Eating Disorder that may be triggering. Please consider this before watching. For mental health resources and support information, visit [The Resilience Project's Support Page](#).

Stay tuned for further TRP updates in the school newsletter and via our Latham Primary Facebook page. We look forward to sharing research and wellbeing activities to integrate into day-to-day life.

GRATITUDE

EMPATHY

MINDFULNESS

EMOTIONAL
LITERACY

WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEACHERS 2024

Natalie Garrett – Deputy Principal



Hi, I'm Natalie and I am the new Deputy Principal of Latham Primary School. I have been working in public education for 28 years with my last appointment as Deputy of Giralang Primary.

I am passionate about creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments, mathematics, and disability education. I look forward to being present in classrooms and working alongside teachers. Outside of school I enjoy reading, cheering my sons on in sport and spending time at the coast.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Belinda, Toni, executive team and staff for making me feel so welcome. I hope to meet many of you at the Welcome BBQ.

Zina Kiss – In Built Relief

I am so excited to be joining the Latham Primary School teaching team. I have been teaching in Canberra for the past four years, and I have three children here at Latham. I love the vibrancy of working in a school; there is always something fun and exciting happening! My teaching passions are reading, writing and visual arts, and in my free time I enjoy being in the outdoors: walking, running, cycling or swimming. I look forward to getting to know your children and supporting them in their learning this year.



Charlotte Panarello – Kindergarten



Hello, I'm Charlotte Panarello and I am very excited to be joining the teaching staff at Latham Primary School. This year I am lucky enough to be working on KAP Wagara on Thursdays and Fridays and Mondays-Wednesdays I will be doing inbuilt relief across the school. This will be my 6th year of teaching. I previously worked over at Macgregor Primary for 5 years.

I have a 2 year old son named Xavier, who keeps me very busy when I'm not at work. I am excited to be teaching at Latham Primary this year and look forward to meeting everyone.

Laurie Imhoff – Yr 6 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Hello! I'm Laurie and I'm thrilled to join the Year 6 teaching team and the wonderful Latham Primary School community in 2024. Spending time with my loved ones is my ultimate happy place. Brad and I will be celebrating our twenty-fifth wedding anniversary this year, and we have two incredible daughters as well as a special fur baby. Some of my favourite activities are walking, swimming, reading, catching up with friends, and exploring different parts of Australia and the world. During the recent break, my family and I had a fantastic time at the beach, splitting our time between Forster and Port Macquarie. I'm a huge fan of Leeds United Football Club! If you ever spot me around, please say hi and I'll gladly share why I have such a strong connection to the club. Although I wasn't born in Canberra, I've spent most of my life here. A fun fact is that I attended Kindergarten at Latham Primary School! Unfortunately, I don't have any photos from back then, but now that I'm here, I'm sure I'll be able to dig some up.



Hannah Hartley – Year 3 Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

Hi I'm Hannah, a new educator and a student at the University of Canberra. I've been dreaming of becoming a teacher since I can remember, and I started working in the education sector in 2019. I am very passionate about sustainability and literature in the classroom, so one of my goals for the future is to provide Latham learners with many opportunities to become informed and active citizens in our communities.

In my personal life I love to create art, write, and play games, such as *The Legend of Zelda*. I spend a lot of time playing games and nerding out with my fiancé, Patrick, and our group of friends.

I love to bring the fun and humour of my life into the classroom, and I can't wait to have a fantastic year with your children!

Tara Mitchell – Year 3 Monday & Tuesday



I am a very passionate primary school teacher who is in my 18th year of teaching. I have been very lucky to experience teaching in a variety of settings and countries. Some of these include: Macgregor Primary, London, Gold Creek School, Germany, North Ainslie Primary and Radford College. I enjoy teaching through inquiry and have completed my Masters in IB PYP Education from Melbourne University. I also enjoy sharing my love of picture books and games with the students, I believe that learning through play is invaluable. Relationships are vital to a positive classroom and school environment, and I look forward to building these with the students, parents, staff and Latham School Community.

I thought teaching was the best job in the world until I became a mum. My fiancé, Brad (who is also a teacher), and I welcomed our son, Jordan Mitchell Luhrs, on Valentine's Day 2023. We just think he is the absolute best and adore watching him grow and rediscovering the world through his eyes. Some of my other interests are travelling, music/concerts, sport, knitting/crochet, baking and being in nature.

I am excited to begin my journey at Latham Primary.

Reagan Minchin – Year 1

Hi everyone! My name is Reagan and some of you may recognise me as I have been a part of the Latham community for the past 4 years, first as an LSA and now as a teacher. Last year I worked as a teacher part time while I was completing my studies, but this year will be my first full year teaching. I am beyond excited to be continuing my career here at Latham. A bit about me, I love reading, the beach and animals! In fact, if you ever visit the zoo, you may even see me running a tour or two!



Get to Know You Yarns

You are invited to book in a time through PTO to meet with your child's new class teacher for 2024 for a 'Get to Know You Yarn', which starts this Wednesday 7th of February.

Username and passwords for PTO will be sent via email on Monday the 5th of February. You can log into PTO [here](#), or on the PTO app using the school code **butv6**.

We look forward to seeing you then!

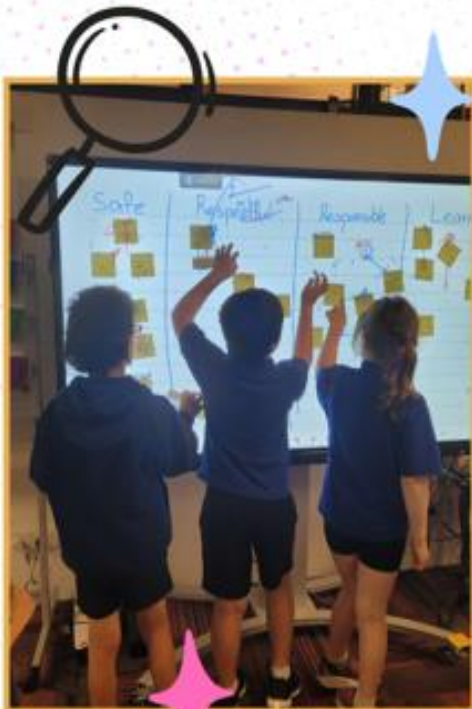


Year 3

WEEKS 1 & 2

Welcome Back To School!

Year 3 students have been collaborating to make classroom expectations for this year. In groups we brainstormed different rules for each Positive Behaviour for Learning value; safe, respectful, responsible, learners. Then we voted on which rules we wanted and made posters to display in our classroom.



Classroom Expectations

We used our democratic skills to vote on which rules we wanted and in small groups made many colourful posters to display in our classroom.

The Best Part of Me

As a class, we read "The Best Part of Me" by Wendy Ewald. We talked about our favourite body part, why it's our favourite and how it helps us in our lives.



CREATING OUR OWN BOOK

We each wrote a page about the best part of us. We also took pictures of our favourite part so everyone else can enjoy it too!

These pages and pictures will be made into a display in our classroom as well as our own picture book.



LATHAM
PRIMARY SCHOOL

WELCOME BBQ

TUESDAY

6TH FEBRUARY
4-6PM

A FREE EVENT FOR ALL LATHAM PRIMARY
SCHOOL FAMILIES. GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
OUR LATHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL P&C



Supporting student safety - mobile speed and parking vans

As school re-commences for term 1, we are reminding parents and carers to please drive and park safely and legally, at and around school grounds.

Access Canberra has notified us that mobile speed and parking vans will be in operation. These enforcement teams play a critical role in supporting our students get to and from school safely and we thank them for their ongoing support.

In addition to sticking to the speed limit, please remember to park safely – including not parking across pedestrian crossings, in no stopping zones, on corners, verges and double parking. Unsafe and illegal parking can reduce visibility of our students and motorists to see each other, creating a significant hazard when students cross the road.

We all have an important role to play in supporting road safety. Let's work together to keep our kids safe.



City Hill Ideas Exhibition

How would you transform City Hill park to become a vibrant natural hub in the city centre?

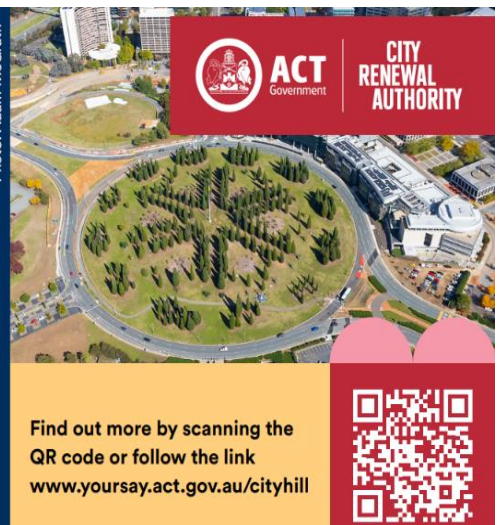
City Hill park is over 4 hectares of open space in the heart of Canberra's City Centre. It is time to consider how City Hill park could be enhanced for residents and visitors alike.

From 13 Feb to 25 March 2024, we will be asking for ideas on the future of City Hill park.

Schools and tertiary educational settings are encouraged to take part. This is an opportunity for students to develop skills in place making, people-centered design and landscape design. The City Hill 'Ideas Brief' will make it easy to draw or describe ideas.

The ideas will be displayed at a public exhibition. There will also be events such as the 'Discover City Hill Day'.

Photo: Adam McGrath



Find out more by scanning the QR code or follow the link
www.yoursay.act.gov.au/cityhill

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY HUB

During our warmer months, Canberra is at heightened risk of emergencies such as storms, floods, and bushfires. It's crucial for us all to be prepared and that's why the ACT Emergency Services Agency are inviting you to the Emergency Preparedness Community Hub!

The Emergency Preparedness Community Hub will be held on Saturday, 10 February 2024 at 9:00am – 1:00pm at the Moncrieff Community Recreational Park, Bon Scott Crescent, Moncrieff.

What to Expect:

- **Be Emergency Ready:** Receive valuable advice from our knowledgeable staff and volunteers on how to prepare your home and family for any emergency.
- **Engage with Experts:** Speak directly with representatives from essential emergency services, including ACT Emergency Services Agency, ACT Fire & Rescue Community Fire Units, ACT Rural Fire Service, ACT State Emergency Service, ACT Ambulance Service, ACT Parks and Conservation Service Fire Management Unit and the Red Cross.
- **Survival Plan:** Pick up and prepare your personalised Survival Plan, ensuring you have everything you need in case of an emergency.
- **Vehicle fleet tour:** Take a tour ACT's Emergency Services Agency impressive fleet of emergency vehicles, showcasing the technology and capabilities that keep our community safe.
- **Meet the mascots:** Bring the family to meet Ember the Echidna, Paddy the Platypus and Kirby the Kangaroo – our friendly mascots who add a touch of fun to preparedness.
- **Family Fun:** Let the kids enjoy face painting while you grab a coffee and connect with your community.

To find out more visit: www.esa.act.gov.au/HUB.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY HUB

ARE YOU EMERGENCY READY?

During the warmer months, Canberra experiences an increase in high-risk events such as bushfires, storms and floods. There are simple steps you can take to prepare your home and family for an emergency.

Visit a community preparedness hub to speak with members from the **ACT Emergency Services Agency, ACT Ambulance Service, ACT Fire & Rescue Community Fire Units, ACT Rural Fire Service, & ACT State Emergency Service.**



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY HUB

SATURDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2024

Moncrieff Community Recreational Park



Find out more:
esa.act.gov.au/HUB



Family Education group schedule, term 1 2024

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group	Playgroup @Latham Preschool	Loose Parts Drop-in Playgroup	Ngunnawal Drop-in Playgroup*	Koori Playgroup	Healthy Habits Play and Learn Group**
Location	Latham Primary School	Westfield Belconnen (outside Reject Shop)	Platypus Park, Ngunnawal	West Belconnen Child and Family Centre	Charnwood-Dunlop School
Time	9.30-11.30am	9.30-11.30am	9.30-11.30am	10-11.30am	9.30-11.30am
Dates	5 February - 8 April	6 February - 9 April	7 February - 10 April	8 February - 11 April	16 February - 12 April
Group	Koori Girls 'Yurwang Gutwan' Group	Circle of Security	Circle of Security	Circle of Security	Yurwang Bullarn Strong Women's Group
Location	West Belconnen Child and Family Centre	CAHMA, Belconnen	CRCS Holt office	Humpy Hall, Scullin	West Belconnen Child and Family Centre
Time	3.30-4.30pm	11.30am-1pm	3.30-5pm	10.30am-12pm	12.30-2.30pm
Dates	5 February - 8 April	23 January - 12 March	7 February - 27 March	8 February - 28 March	9 February - 12 April
Group	Tuning into Kids				Circle of Security
Location	Online				Online
Time	10am-12pm				3.30-5pm
Dates	12 February - 25 March				16 February - 12 April

* Dependent on weather.

** Registration for the term of *Healthy Habits: the first 1000 days* is required.

Note: groups do not run on public holidays.



(02) 6264 0200 | families@crs.com.au
www.crcs.com.au



**Capital
Region
Community
Services**



Healthy Habits: the first 1000 days

Free eight-week program for families in their child's first 1000 days.

Healthy Habits is a small group for parents/carers of children aged up to two years, and expecting parents.

Over eight sessions, we will explore topics about enhancing family connection and child development, including:

- early literacy
- physical development
- speech and language development
- an introduction to Circle of Security for attachment and connection
- emotional health.

Supported by



ACT
Government

When: 9:30 to 11:30am each Friday from 16 February to 12 April 2024

Where: Charnwood-Dunlop School, Bettington Cct, Charnwood ACT 2615

Cost: free!

Morning tea is provided for adults and children.

For more information and to register, call us on
(02) 6264 0200 or email families@crs.com.au.



(02) 6264 0200 | families@crs.com.au
www.crs.com.au



**Capital
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Community
Services**