

Welcome to 1/2 2023

1/2 AD- Angie Dowell- angie.dowell@ed.act.edu.au
1/2 HM- Hugh Morrell- hugh.morell@ed.act.edu.au
1/2 BM- Brittany Morrison- brittany.morrison@ed.act.edu.au
1/2 HP- Holly Pelengaris- holly.pelengaris@ed.act.edu.au
1/2 SD- Sarah Drew- sarah.drew@ed.act.edu.au
1/2 Executive Teacher- Eddy Bright- eddy.bright@ed.act.edu.au

Welcome to Term 1 2023. We hope everyone has enjoyed their break and are ready for all the learning this term will bring.

English:

To start the year, our major focus will be on building writing stamina and working our way through the 6 + 1 writing traits. These are:

1. **Ideas** – the main message.
2. **Organisation** – the internal structure of the piece.
3. **Voice** – the personal tone and flavour of the author's message.
4. **Word Choice** – the vocabulary a writer chooses to use to convey meaning
5. **Sentence Fluency** – the rhythm and flow of the language
6. **Conventions** – the mechanical correctness like punctuation.
7. **Presentation** – how the writing looks on the page.

We will be creating a writer's notebook where we collect seeds for writing from our everyday lives, and use them to build our creativity and stamina when writing.

Our 'letters and sounds' program will commence this term, focusing on consonant digraphs such as, 'th', 'ch', 'wh', 'sh' and vowel digraphs such as 'ai', 'oo', 'oa'. Students will be exposed to these sounds in various texts and experiences. Students will have opportunities to transfer these new sounds into their writing. Students will be grouped across the 5 classes later in the term for 'letters and sounds' where we will work on our sound and letter correspondence, learn sight words and practise our writing and articulation of sounds.

In **reading**, we will work on our CAFÉ strategies (Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding Vocabulary). We will explore a range of texts to support our work in writing and develop our understanding of the relationship between reading and writing. Students will continue to build their spelling and grammar through focused skill-building.

Mathematics:

This term students will participate in daily mathematics learning and activities with a large focus on understanding the place value of numbers and number facts. We will also be exploring how to order shapes and objects based on lengths using informal units of measurements and investigate the capacities of containers

Fractions – Students will explore half and quarter fractions.

HASS - Caring for our important places and spaces

This term we are inquiring into history and exploring our past. We will be delving into Indigenous perspectives through our Reconciliation Garden, exploring the Acknowledgement of Country and its importance. Students will find significant places within our local area and come to an understanding about why we need to care for them.

Design Technologies

This term, students are going to be using their problem solving skills to design and make objects related to well known fairy tales. Relying on incorporating recycled materials, students will test their designs against set criteria, evaluating what worked well and what needs improvement.

SEL (Social Emotional Learning)

In SEL, 1/2 will be learning about the Zones of Regulation and how they can be used to help to identify and regulate our emotions. We will be developing and testing a range of strategies that can be used when in each zone. We will share their strategy toolbox with families to support their emotional regulation.

Physical Education

Our classrooms will have regular movement breaks, and once a week, we will be practising our gross motor skills in mixed groups with a focus on skipping, hopping, jumping, balance and agility. We will further develop these during class games in targeted PE lessons.

Japanese with Louise

こんにちは *Konnichi wa* - hello and welcome the “Year of the Rabbitt” (うさぎ どり usagi doshi). Students will learn Japanese through stories, games, songs and written activities. We will be starting the year investigating how to describe the weather and days of the week in Japanese.

Science with Emma L and Ruth

Science Focus: Physical Science

Investigation: Energy comes in different forms

Big Question: How do people use their senses to understand the world around them?

This term our 1/2 scientists will be focusing on identifying light, sound and heat energy. They will use their senses to explore the properties of familiar objects and phenomena, identifying similarities and differences. They will explore simple cause and effect relationships, compare and record their observations.

Performing Arts with Adam

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

Things to Remember:

Fruit Break:

In the morning session children are permitted a short time to have a fresh fruit, vegetable or dairy snack to fuel their brain for more learning. Some examples are apples, bananas, carrots, cheese, yoghurt or celery.

Allergies:

Latham Primary School is an allergy-friendly school. We have a number of students attending our school with severe allergies to nuts. We request that students do not bring nuts or food containing nuts to school.

Sun safety:

Hats are required for outside play and students must sit on the silver seats in the shade if they do not have a hat. The expectation is that sunscreen is applied before school. Students will be given time before breaks to reapply sunscreen. Please ensure that all hats and sunscreen are labelled with your child's name.

Please feel free to make an appointment with us should you have any concerns or questions relating to your child. We look forward to working with you and having a great year.

Happy learning!

Year 1/2 Team,

Angie Dowell, Hugh Morell, Britt Morrison, Holly Pelengaris, Sarah Drew and executive Eddy Bright