

**Term 1 Week 10**  
Date – Tuesday 2 April 2024



Collaboration Respect Motivation Resilience Positivity

#### APRIL

Tues 2	Main School Photography Day World Autism Day Breakfast Club 8.30 am – 9.00 am
Wed 3	Meccano Enrichment
Thurs 4	Breakfast Club 8.30 am – 9.00 am
Fri 5	Pre-School Photography Day Catch up portrait day
Wed 10	Meccano Enrichment Mulligan's Flat Excursion
Thurs 11	Netball Finals
Fri 12	Last day Term 1
Mon 29	Pupil Free Day
Tues 30	FIRST DAY TERM 2 FOR STUDENTS

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Dear parents and carers,

Term one is now drawing to a close. Eleven weeks of learning has been a bonus for our students and staff and I wish you all the best for a well deserved term break starting on Friday 12 April. I would like to make a special mention about our School Leader C, Toni Brammall, who is now on maternity leave to welcome her third child. We wish her all the best. Sim Riddle will be acting in Toni's position until her return in term four.

Last week our wonderful LSA, Cheryl, celebrated her 60th birthday! Congratulations on this wonderful milestone, Cheryl. We also had many swimmers who competed in the Belconnen District Swimming Carnival. A big congratulations to Molly Brice in Year 6 who received two third place ribbons in the 12 Girls, 50 Meter Butterfly and 50 Meter Breastroke. We wish her every success at the ACT carnival.

One of the roles I have at Latham Primary School is that of a Gifted and Talented Liaison Officer (GATLO). This role is one that I have had at many schools across the ACT and one I highly value. In this role I support students, families and teachers to provide learning opportunities in and beyond the classroom for our high achieving students. The ACT Education Directorate is committed to ensuring that the needs of gifted and talented students are catered for in all ACT public schools to support them to reach their educational potential.

The Directorate uses Gagné's definitions for 'giftedness' and 'talent':

**GIFTEDNESS** designates the possession and use of outstanding natural ability in at least one domain (intellectual, creative, socioaffective, sensorimotor), to a degree that places an individual in the top 10% of age peers.

**TALENT** designates the outstanding performance or competency in at least one field of human activity (academics, arts, business, leisure, social action, sport, technology) to a degree that places an individual in the top 10% of age peers in that field (Gagné, 2009).

At Latham Primary School, we provide educational programs and services for gifted and talented students that include:

- *A differentiated curriculum that supports extended and personalised learning within a child's classroom.*
- *Grouping strategies that provide opportunities to work with like-ability peers*
- *Extension tasks that deepen a student's knowledge and understanding beyond what is expected of the whole class*
- *Individual inquiry opportunities as enrichment for gifted students*
- *Flexible learning environments that promote student choice and access to resources*
- *Case coordination for individual learning programs when required*
- *Access to events such as Gateways and Tournament of the minds*

As part of our assessment processes, we use evidence from multiple sources to identify potentially gifted and talented students. These include:

- *Ability and achievement tests*
- *Student work samples and portfolio items*
- *Teacher and parent nominations*
- *'Things My Child Has Done' parent observation checklist*
- *External cognitive assessments*

As the **Gifted and Talented Liaison Officer (GaTLO)**, I am your point of contact between our school and the Directorate regarding the needs of gifted and talented students. Please contact me at [greg.taylor@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:greg.taylor@ed.act.edu.au) should you wish to discuss the learning needs of your child.

Please visit the [ACT Education Directorate's website](#) for further information about gifted and talented education in ACT public schools, including factsheets and a copy of the Policy and Procedures.

In addition, the [ACT Gifted Families Support Group](#) is a not-for-profit association that promotes the needs and challenges of raising and educating gifted children.

## Stranger Danger

As we approach the school holidays it is a good time to remind ourselves of how children interact with people unfamiliar to them (strangers) out in the community. One important point we have followed over the years is asking our children not to talk to strangers, but who else are they going to ask for help when they are lost, hurt and need help?

We need to teach our children when it is OK to talk to strangers. This is best done in practice when you are there to supervise them. But, what if your child is alone and approached by a stranger, that's a different story. Tell your kids that if a stranger ever approaches and offers a ride or treats (like lollies or toys) or asks for help with a task (like helping find a lost dog), they should step away, yell "No!" and leave the area right away. Your child should tell you or another trusted adult (like a teacher or childcare worker) what happened. The same goes if anyone — whether a stranger, family member, or friend — asks your child to keep a secret, tries to touch your child's private area, or asks your child to touch theirs.

Some important points to remember include

- Most abductors try to dress, act and appear enticing to children
- Teaching kids to trust their instincts about engaging with strangers
- Teaching kids to leave situations when they feel like the situation is not quite right
- If your child needs help to first try to find a person in uniform such as a police officer, store worker or security guard. Second options include grandparents and women with children

An excellent article on Stranger Danger which explains this in more detail is <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/stranger-smarts.html> This is well worth a read.

Kind regards

Greg Taylor

Executive Teacher for years 5, 6 and Specialist Teachers



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*

# Merit Award

**Congratulations to the following students on receiving a merit award at the assembly on Wednesday 27 March, 2024**

*Charlie W, Harmony B, Annalise N, Riley P, Henry H, Michael L, Toby DS, Oliver H, James R, Emmanuel A, Kosta D, Mia B, Brodie P, Thomas H, Harrison K, Mason B, Xanthe S, Ashton M, Eva D, Qurratul F, Khloe L, Sienna S, Makenna B, Marieta P, Harriet DC, Dean S, Conor M, Zozo T, George L, Tyren S, Aiden M, Ayyub D, Charli S, Leo C, Janelle P, Jay L, Jacob I, Elliot F, Mark U, Hudson CM, Lilly F, Alyssa E, Bailey N, Lily T, Geri M, Sappho O, Deacon G, Elian K & Mathis L*

RESPECT  
MOTIVATION  
RESILIENCE  
COLLABORATION  
POSITIVITY



Latham  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
*living to learn*





## Pi Day

The maths team at Latham Primary were super excited to start the maths challenges this term while also acknowledging Pi Day, held on Thursday 14 March. Ten enthusiastic students for grades Kindergarten, Year 4, 5 and 6 attempted the challenge of memorising as many of the first 100 numbers in Pi. All students did an amazing effort and should be super proud of themselves. A huge congratulations to Fox Manley who memorised up to 66 numbers.





WEEK 10



# MATHS CHALLENGE

Design a maths poster to help your classmates understand a tricky maths idea.

Hint: Include pictures and a step-by-step example that explains your strategy.



## CAMP BARAMBOLA

In a truly epic adventure that will go down in Latham Primary School's history, the Year 6 students embarked on a journey of a lifetime at their annual camp. Described as nothing short of fabulous, the Borambola Year 6 Camp saw these young adventurers push their boundaries beyond limits, surprising even themselves with their grit and determination. Rock climbing became the ultimate test of teamwork and courage, with belayers below shouting words of encouragement while their comrades scaled towering walls. Meanwhile, the BMX bike track proved to be a labyrinth of twists and turns, unleashing the inner daredevils within each camper (and teacher).

But it wasn't all adrenaline-pumping action; hilarity ensued during kayaking in the billabong, as students paddled their way through watery escapades without a single soul taking an unplanned dip—a feat some might call miraculous! And let's not forget the archery, where everyone aimed for the bullseye, with safety measures firmly in place to ensure no teachers became unintentional targets. As the night fell and the stars glittered above, lights out by 9 PM marked the beginning of a truly restful night—for both students and teachers alike, much to the latter's delight. And who could forget the camp cuisine, hailed by some as "the best," fuelling the campers' boundless energy and enthusiasm. With impeccable behaviour and laughter echoing through the campground, Borambola Year 6 Camp was indeed unforgettable.

