

<b>Class</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
3/4AF	Bethany Arragon (Mon-Wed) , Rebecca Freeman (Thurs - Fri)
3/4 MB	Mikayla Birch
3/4RS	Ruth Shaughnessy
3/4 SR	Sim Riddle

Welcome to the 2022 school year. We look forward to working with the students, and watching them grow academically, socially and emotionally. This year at Latham, each year level is exploring Australian artists. One of the artists 3/4 are inquiring into is Alex Birdfox. Students have elected our 3/4 cohort's (MB, AF, RS and SR) name as the '*Birdfoxes*'.

### **English**

During our literacy block, students will be working on developing their skills through explicit writing, reading, spelling, speaking and listening lessons. We will initially be creating our class routines, using the writing process, language of 6+1 Writing Traits, and building processes for guided and independent reading. We will build expectations around our literacy block, developing students' self management skills as they work through 'literacy checklist'. As a cohort we will begin the term with persuasive writing, initially focussing on opinions, facts and debating. We will use Writer's Notebook to spark ideas for writing and build understanding of how to plan for writing. Students will participate in explicit reading strategy lessons and will work on their comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expand their vocabulary during daily read alouds, as well as guided and reciprocal reading sessions. Spelling will be taught in context, through reading and writing, by studying morphology and etymology of words.

### **Mathematics**

Our number work involves the exploration of odd/even numbers and place value to and beyond tens of thousands. Students will be developing their use of mental computation strategies for solving problems, in particular addition and subtraction operations. We will work towards developing speed and accuracy of calculations as well as building confidence in this area through the use of challenging mathematics games and open-ended questions. We will also be exploring concepts related to measurement and geometry; these include measuring time, identifying angles and symmetry in everyday situations, comparing areas of regular and irregular shapes and making models of three-dimensional objects.

### **Science and HASS**

This term in science, we will participate in experiments, learning about the different types of forces and how objects can move through contact and non-contact ways. We will also explore how heat can be created using friction, electricity or chemicals. During HASS, we will discover the difference between rules and laws, and their importance within our classroom, school and local community. We will build our capacity to distinguish between fact and opinion and develop a compelling argument to make changes within our school.

### **Social and Emotional Program**

This term we will be exploring 'The Zones of Regulation' which will help us identify and regulate our emotions. In this unit students will recognise that emotions, feelings and mood affect behaviour and relationships. Students will investigate resources and strategies to manage emotions and use a common language to develop personal strategies.

### **ICT**

Students will have access to a range of devices over the course of the year. Students will be provided with their personal login details. Students will be working with the Google For Education suite along with a variety of other applications. Please keep an eye out for a note regarding permissions to these applications.

### **Specialist Programs**

This year students will have Japanese with Louise, physical education with Syed and performing arts with Amanda. The days that each class has time with these teachers and library are as follows:

	<b>3/4AF</b>	<b>3/4RS</b>	<b>3/4 SR</b>	<b>3/4 MB</b>
<b>Japanese</b>	Wed 9:40-10:25	Thur 12:00-12:45	Thur 12:45-1:30	Wed 9:00-9:40
<b>Performing Arts</b>	Fri 9:40-10:25	Tue 10:25-11:10	Tue 9:40-10:25	Fri 10:25-11:10
<b>PE</b>	Wed 9:00-9:40	Thur 12:45-1:30	Thur 12:00-12:45	Wed 9:40-10:25
				Fri 12-1 even

### **Japanese ( Louise)**

Welcome to 2021 - the 'Year of the Cow' (丑年, Ushidoshi)! Year 3/4 will be starting the year by learning about some new year (お-しよがつ *o-shogatsu*) traditions and celebrations observed in Japan including the story of the Chinese/Japanese Zodiac. This year students will review and build a *jikoshoukai* じこしょうかい (self-introduction) to deliver to their peers, including a range of information including their name, age, year level, and information about their family and/or friends. They will work on both their communication of this information to others, as well as their understanding in listening to others and asking for information in conversation.

### **PE (Syed)**

Students will begin term 1 with the focus on extending their understanding and application of cricketing skills. Through regular drills and modified activities, they will continue to develop skills of batting, bowling, fielding and teamwork, which will lead to playing a game of cricket with standard rules. During the second half of the term, students will begin preparing for the annual cross-country carnival. It is requested that parents ensure that students are wearing appropriate footwear, have a Sun Smart hat and drink bottle for every P.E. session.

### **Performing Arts (Danielle)**

For the performing arts this term the students are learning about drama. The lessons will explore how the elements of drama (voice, movement, relationships, tension, time, and space) can be organised into dramatic performances involving improvisation and devised drama. The students will also be looking at how the dramatic and production elements are organised.

### **Classroom Organisation**

Our program has been developed to give students opportunities to work in a variety of ways. It allows students to work at their own ability level with opportunity for extension and support. As our timetable is quite tightly run, we ask that students arrive at school by 9:00am. If your child should be away from school please inform us either by phoning the school or with a letter explaining their absence, as it is a legal requirement for absences to be explained. If your child is unable to participate in physical activity, a note is also required.

All students are required to be in school uniform every day including a sunsmart, wide brimmed hat. We suggest students bring a water bottle to have in the classroom during the day. Each morning, we encourage students to have a piece of fruit or vegetable during the first session.

### **Positive Behaviour Structures**

We are currently setting up our class' positive reward system by exploring options for this with students. When students have decided what they would like this to look like, this will be shared with families via seesaw. The purpose of our class positive reward systems will be to recognise those demonstrating positive behaviours and school values within the classroom.

### **Homework for 2022**

The Latham Homework policy states that reading is an essential skill that is to be practised by all as regularly as possible, so we encourage many varied reading opportunities at home. The policy also has additional reading links that can be accessed at home. In addition to this, we will be sending home a list of additional activities or suggested websites you might like to pursue with your child. This will detail activities that can be used to practise skills other than reading. Each student will be provided with a set of number cards to take home at the end of week 2 and a list of activities that are learned within the classroom to practice their mathematical strategies and mental computation.

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.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)

If you have any questions or concerns about your child please contact the front office to make an appointment. We have school commitments every morning and on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, but are available for meetings on other afternoons by appointment.

**Mikaya Birch, Bethany Arragon, Rebecca Freeman, Ruth Shaughnessy, Sim Riddle  
and executive teacher Bec Smith**