



Class

5/6 MO

5/6 JS

5/6 TM

5/6 AF

Executive Teacher

Teacher

Melissa Orton

Josh Smith

Tayla MacDonald

Beth Arragon & Bec Freeman

Greg Taylor



Welcome to the 2023 school year. We are excited to be teaching 5/6 and working with students and families to have a successful school year.

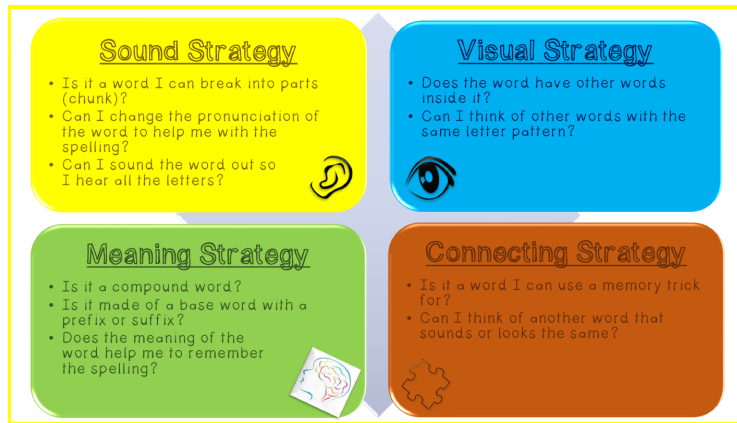
Key learning areas: HASS - Civics and Citizenship, Arts - Visual Arts, Technologies - Digital Technologies, Health - SEL

This term students will be exploring democracy in action as they establish rules and protocols for understanding the use of resources, inclusive of digital platforms, and the various learning spaces within our cohort. Our students will ask how they personally contribute to the community, and see how Australia has democratic systems that are also affected by individuals as well as key figures. Eventually looking at how Australia is a part of a global society, and the students' own roles as global citizens. We will draw connections from our learning and experiences throughout the term and apply them to create authentic and purposeful artwork. We will be exploring positive expectations for how to ensure our space is happy, safe and respectful. We will reflect on our identity in relation to ourselves as a learner, and how emotions affect interactions through the lens of the Zones of Regulation. Together our students will be creating a safe space to learn that allows them to be successful, and to find solutions.

English

Students will be working on developing their skills in writing, reading, spelling, speaking and listening. At the beginning of the term, routines and expectations will be established for the writing process, 6+1 writing traits and cooperative reading. Students take texts through the writing process, from planning to publishing, and use the writing traits (voice, organisation, ideas, conventions, excellent word choice and sentence fluency) to identify and set individual writing goals. This term we will start with a focus on persuasive writing and the features that authors use to create quality persuasive texts. Students will also have the opportunity to create a variety of texts of their choosing, through quickwrites and free writing. In spelling, we will focus on the study of words and the reinforcement of skills and strategies to support spelling. We will be explicitly teaching spelling strategies, including: sound - focusing on sound, visual - focusing on how words look, meaning - thinking about word meaning, connecting

- making connections with other words, checking - using resources to find the correct spelling. As readers our students will focus on their comprehension skills to analyse and explain literal and implied information from a variety of texts. They will use a personal approach to reading, looking at characters, settings and events, and this will influence their own writing. Our students will read and listen to a variety of texts and apply their prior knowledge to support their comprehension.



Mathematics

In mathematics this term, students will participate in MYMC (Middle Years Mental Computation), practising to develop their quick recall and problem solving strategies using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will deepen their understanding of fractions, decimals, percentages and the relationship between them. Students will also learn to solve real world problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

This term, students will review 12 and 24 hour time and to organise timetables to help support them to build their self managing skills in our learning environment. We will also explore shapes and the ways in which they can be manipulated through reflection, rotation and translation in images and logos.

Health and Physical Education

In health this term, we will be identifying and exploring the influence that emotions have on ours and others behaviours through a unit of work called 'Building a Strong Foundation'. This investigation unit will give students the opportunity to examine their own feelings, reactions and strategies to support self-regulation skills. They will also discuss the impact and importance of positive friendships on confidence and wellbeing. Throughout the term, students will explore the strategy of 'Growth Mindset' and how this helps to foster firm and strong foundations when facing difficulties and challenges in life.

This year, P.E. will be run by the classroom teachers. With a focus on teamwork and fair play, students will practise and improve their fundamental skills of dodging, throwing, catching and kicking through small group competitive and cooperative games. Throughout the week, students will be given additional opportunities to engage in physical education, with a Monday 'walk and talk' and core exercises in the morning.

Specialist Programs

This year students will have Japanese with Linda, science with Emma and performing arts with Adam. These classes occur on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

A message from Linda...

Konnichi wa! In term 1 students will examine a Japanese urban environment in depth. We will particularly look at common locations like department stores, supermarkets, and specialty shops, as well as places unique to Japan such as shrines, temples and animal cafes. Students will learn vocabulary to identify these places and learn simple sentence patterns to describe what they may do there. They will also learn about shopping in Japan, Japanese currency and correct shopping etiquette.

A message from Emma

Science Focus: Physical Science

Investigations: Light and Electricity

Big Question: What type of energy can be observed?

This term, our 5/6 scientists will examine light and electricity. They will observe how light behaves and understand that light can be absorbed, reflected and refracted. Our scientists will investigate the different forms of energy, how they can be transferred and transformed, and the generation, transfer and use of electricity in our daily lives.

A message from Adam...

For the performing arts this term the students are learning about drama. The lessons will provide opportunity for the students to work collaboratively using the elements of drama such as focus, tension, mood, and atmosphere, to create performances involving improvisation and play building. They will also explore how the elements of drama are structured and used to communicate ideas within a dramatic piece. We will be exploring puppetry as a key medium in our storytelling, working to engage our audience with our messaging and themes. They will develop skills in communication, self-management, collaboration and critical thinking as they grow their creative minds.

Homework for 2022

The Latham Primary homework policy states that reading is an essential skill that is to be practised by all as regularly as possible, so we encourage varied reading opportunities at home each day and the policy outlines additional supports in this area. Teachers may identify that individual students require additional support in their learning. After a conversation with the parents an agreement will be made and families can have additional activities suggested. 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

Behaviour Management

When supporting student self management and behaviour in 5/6 we take a positive behaviour support approach, focussing on recognising and affirming the behaviours that students show in line with our school values. 'Class Dojo' is used which allows us to recognise and reward individual students for demonstrating the school values. We also

have a whole class system using a marble jar, which we place marbles in when the whole class is demonstrating the school values. We aim to fill the jar and then take part in a whole class reward, such as a pyjama day or class party. Early in the term students have had the opportunity to contribute to our class behaviour systems, suggesting rewards that motivate them and creating the systems that will support our whole class.

We value the partnership of families in managing behaviours and encourage open communication. We may make phone calls or send emails, but if you become aware of an issue please encourage your child to check in with a teacher, or alternatively arrange a meeting, email or phone call, to ensure we can work together to solve any problems.

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

5/6 Contact Information:

Melissa Orton - melissa.orton@ed.act.edu.au

Josh Smith - josh.smith@ed.act.edu.au

Bethany Arragon - bethany.arragon@ed.act.edu.au

Bec Freeman - rebecca.freeman@ed.act.edu.au

Tayla Macdonald - tayla.macdonald@ed.act.edu.au

Executive Teacher - Greg Taylor - greg.taylor@ed.act.edu.au