



GORDON EDUCATION CENTRE

"Towards Independence"

TERM 4 WEEK 3

PRINCIPAL

LISA THOMAS

What an exciting and rewarding term it has been here at Gordon Education Centre! As Term 4 progresses, our school community is truly buzzing with joy and achievement.

Our students have been thoroughly enjoying their swimming lessons this term. The pools have been filled with laughter, excitement, and a real sense of accomplishment as our students splash, play and grow in confidence with every session. It's a pleasure to see their enthusiasm and pride each week as they develop important water safety skills.

This term, our learning expeditions have captured the amazing curiosity of our students. Their eagerness to discover new things and work together is inspiring. Through hands-on activities and interactive experiences, our students are truly bringing their learning to life right now, and it's fantastic to see their love of discovery flourishing.

We have also been thrilled to see families joining us for our Little Animal Encounters session. Thank you Sophie Jones. This was a highlight of our week, offering students memorable, sensory learning moments and giving families a chance to share in the wonder of their children's experiences. Your presence and involvement make these sessions extra special—thank you for being a part of them!

KEY DATES

20/10

Student Free

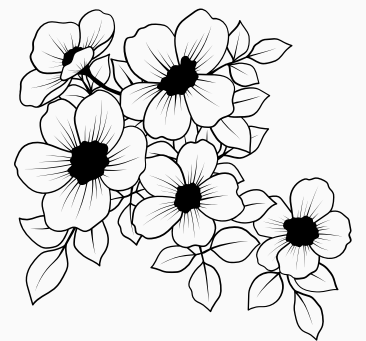
20/10

Student Free

10/12

Lions Lunch

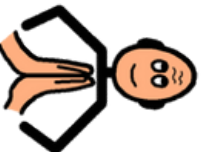
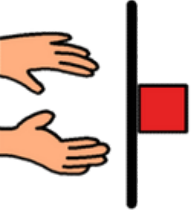
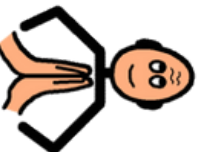
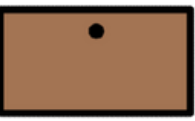
Xmas Assembly



We are pleased to announce a new resource to help make Halloween inclusive and enjoyable for all our students. Our Learner Agency PLC has created a special Halloween-themed AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) device. This device is designed to support students who use AAC by providing simple, accessible phrases related to trick-or-treating, costume fun, and joining in Halloween activities.

Families can use these devices at home, during community events, or while out trick-or-treating, helping children communicate confidently and participate in the excitement of Halloween. We hope this initiative brings extra fun and inclusivity to your family's Halloween celebrations!

Halloween

 I, me, mine	 go, going	 happy halloween	 please	 more
 you, yours	 want, wanting	 trick or treat	 thank you	 scare
 we, us	 dress up, costume	 bell, door knock	 FINISHED	 nice
 no, not, don't	 help	 lollies	 next house	 Say something else



SAVE THE DATE

**MT GAMBIER CHRISTMAS PARADE
SATURDAY 15TH OF NOVEMBER**

Our school has the Hansel and Gretel float this year. Consent forms and more details to follow.



La1

ISABELLE SWANBURY

In LA1 we have been learning about different countries around the world. Students have been creating books, travel brochures and postcards, learning how to say hello in different languages, and are exploring the ways different countries celebrate culture through music, dance and cooking (last week we made Churros from Spain!) In Science and Design and Technology, we have been exploring how light travels and how shadows are made, including how light reflects and refracts and how rainbows are formed. LA1 has been exploring these concepts through hands-on learning experiences such as designing light mirror mazes, shadow puppet shows, tracking shadows with the sun and making rainbows using light and water and prisms!



La2

LISA RYE

We are looking forward to an exciting and action-packed term ahead, filled with a variety of engaging activities for our students. With cooking sessions, stimulating excursions, and dedicated rehearsals for our upcoming Christmas Concert, there is certainly a lot happening in our school community. Term 4 has already kicked off with great enthusiasm, as students settle back into routines and embrace new learning opportunities with energy and curiosity. The past few weeks have been particularly vibrant. Our students thoroughly enjoyed a hands-on visit from some delightful animals, sparking curiosity and providing a wonderful opportunity to learn about different species up close. The Scavenger Hunt around Mt Gambier was a fantastic adventure, encouraging teamwork and exploration as students discovered hidden gems in our local area. In the kitchen, students have relished the chance to get creative with cooking, developing valuable life skills while having plenty of fun.





Making Learning Fun and Meaningful: Our Community-Focused Program

In learning area 4, we love helping students learn through real-life experiences. This term our community-focused program has included gymnastics sessions, weekly swimming lessons and a farm animal visit.

Students enjoy gymnastics to improve their balance, coordination, and confidence. These activities also help students try new things in a fun and supportive environment. Our farm animal visit last week was enjoyed by all and helped bring learning to life. Students had a chance to meet and feed animals, which helps them learn responsibility, care and respect for fellow animals.

Swimming lessons are important for safety and fitness. They help students become confident in the water, learn important life skills, and have fun whilst trying new things. These activities bring all our learning together because they're real, hands-on, and linked to everyday life. They make learning more meaningful for our students and help them see how what they learn in class connects to the world around them.



Welcome to Term 4, LA5 families. I hope you all had a wonderful and restful break over the holidays. The students have settled back into school and classroom routines exceptionally well this term.

All students thoroughly enjoyed the Animal Encounters session, where they had the opportunity to interact closely with a variety of animals. The miniature goats and the lamb were particular favourites amongst the group.

This term, students will continue participating in the Literacy for All program, which they have been engaging with extremely well. In Numeracy, we will build upon our learning around numbers, with a focus on hundreds, tens, and ones. The interactive Numeracy Circle will also continue, as it has fostered positive engagement and outcomes for the students. In Term 4, our primary focus in Numeracy will be on position and location.

In Science, students will be exploring Physical Sciences, specifically investigating movement and classifying objects based on how they move. We will observe how differently shaped objects move down slopes and investigate how the material an object is made from can affect its movement.

In Design and Technologies, students will continue to explore the outdoors by investigating what bugs need to thrive and identifying the variety of insects living in our school garden. Building on this, the students will design and construct a 'bug hotel' to enhance our garden environment.

This term, our weekly singing sessions will return on Friday afternoons. The students thoroughly enjoy these sessions, which focus on well-known nursery rhymes and incorporate engaging props. Additionally, students will develop body awareness and explore how body bases, parts, and zones are used in dance, such as experimenting with movement using different body parts. We will also explore the elements of dance—space, time, dynamics, and relationships—as we create and observe movement patterns during our sessions.





We have started the term on a wonderful note, engaging in weekly literacy lessons focused on exploring a variety of letter names and sounds. The children are thoroughly enjoying our new play-based and sensory activities, which have added an exciting, hands-on aspect to their learning. With Halloween approaching, we have been incorporating seasonal themes into our lessons, making the learning environment both fun and relevant.

A popular activity has been our "pumpkin basket of letter sounds," which has greatly supported the development of letter recognition and phonics skills. Alongside our letters of the week, we have been exploring the letters in students' names, including searching through magazines to find and identify these letters within different texts.

In Mathematics, our focus has been on measurement and capacity. Students have explored these concepts through activities involving dried pasta, rice, and water play. They have particularly enjoyed comparing the capacities of different containers, which has provided valuable opportunities for tactile, hands-on mathematical learning.

We have also had a visit from some furry friends last week which the students loved and opened up a lot of question around animals and their habitats and what they eat and drink. We have had a busy start to the term and we have a lot planned for the remainder, we cant wait to see the growth and learning we do in the coming of weeks.



La7

DAKOTA MILLER

In La 7 we have had a great start to term 4. Throughout literacy students have been leaning about the letters L,M,N and O and the letter sounds. Throughout literacy we have been reading the Maisy Mouse books; Maisy goes on holidays and Maisy goes trick or treating. Throughout numeracy we have started exploring mapping, positional language and telling the time. The students have also continued to develop their understanding of quantity through the Numicon program. Last week the students had a very special visit from the animal encounters petting zoo. Each students had a go at patting the animals and loved having the opportunity to see some animals that they don't get to see in their everyday life. For the last three weeks the students have been going on visits to the Blue Lake gymnastics club. The students have been trailing the different equipment and developing their skills.



La9

REBEKAH EDEN

LA9 students have been enthusiastically developing their skills in making coffee and taking orders as part of their modified SACE maths program. Students have been practising measuring ingredients, filling orders, and handling money. It has been wonderful to watch their confidence grow with each order completed.

In addition to our maths focus, we have been exploring the theme of spring. Students have been learning about the different senses associated with this season and have created beautiful spring-inspired art using mixed media. Their creativity has really shone through in these projects.

We are also excited to share that our class entered a Fairy Garden in the recent Mil Lel Show. The students enjoyed working together to design and create their garden, and we are very proud of their collaborative efforts.

Well done, LA9!





TAMARA FLEMING

This term, LA8 students have been working hard as we continue preparations for our pop-up shop, which is scheduled for later in the term. This exciting project gives students hands-on experience in planning, making, and managing real products for sale.

In Mathematics, we have started exploring statistics and data. Students have enjoyed surveying their peers and learning how to read and interpret the information they collect. Alongside this, we continue to strengthen our money and number skills, which will be vital for running our pop-up shop successfully.

Cooking and shopping remains a highlight every week! Some sessions are dedicated to cooking meals we can enjoy together, while other weeks focus on making products for our upcoming shop. This practical learning helps students develop independence and real-world skills.

In Literacy, our learning recently included a visit from some friendly farm animals. Students loved meeting different animals and have since been researching and creating informative posters about a range of farm creatures.

We are proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by our students and look forward to showcasing all their hard work at the pop-up shop at the end of the term



SCHOOL VALUES AWARDS

