



GORDON EDUCATION CENTRE

"Towards Independence"

TERM 1 - Week 3

BACK TO SCHOOL Welcome Newsletter

How to communicate with us: Seesaw: school phone number 81231043

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to term 1 2026. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas break and enjoyed being able to slow life down and spend some well-deserved time with their loved ones. Our educators have been working hard to develop amazing learning spaces which will support students learning and emotional wellbeing. This year we have 3 main school priorities: To enhance the wellbeing of our staff and students, to get curious in our learning and to build partnerships with our local community.

SET UP FOR SUCCESS

We started the year with professional learning from Skyrocket Maths. We spent the day learning more about the Numicon system and how it hands on learning helps to remember concepts and skills.

Every class has started the year with a bang. We have all worked together to share our expectations, set the routines and live into our values of Kindness, Curiosity and belonging.

REMINDERS

Regular attendance is vital to your child's learning and wellbeing. Please be punctual at pick up and drop off and park on the road if you can. Drop off 8.40-9.00 Pick up 3.00 Breakfast club- Thank you to LA8 and LA9 for running our breakfast club. It is open everyday 8.40-9.00 Uniform- We strongly encourage all students to wear navy blue or yellow t- shirt, track pants or shorts.

WE NEED YOU!!!!

Your school's governing council is seeking new members. We meet twice a term for about an hour to discuss what you would like to see happening at your school . If you would like to join us would like to know more please come along to the AGM on Feb 24th 4-5pm.

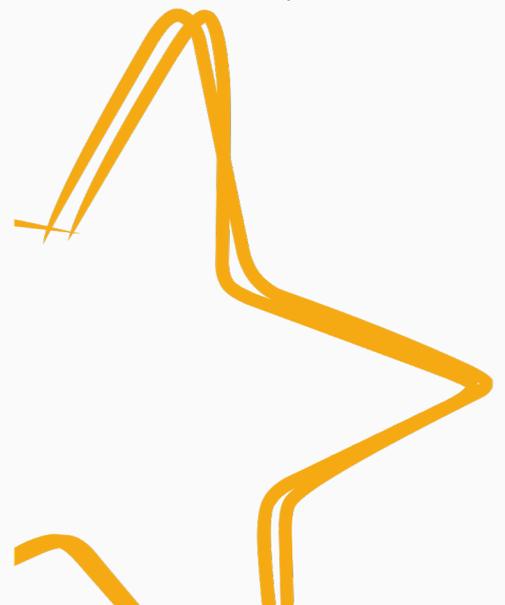
UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 24 - Meet the teacher afternoon 2.30-4.00

Feb 24 - Governing Council AGM 4-6

Feb 27 - Student Free Day Thank you for being a part of the GEC family.

Lisa Thomas



LA1 TAMARA CAMERON

Welcome to a new year. The first 2 weeks of school have been great as we set up new routines and got to know each other. We have started swimming and have gone on 2 excursions already, one to the fringe dome experience and one to the sunflower farm. We have started our learning expedition working with LA5 where we are beginning to look at water, where it comes from, how it gets there and how it is cleaned. We will start this off with some guided learning and will then follow students interests and questions as we work our way through the expedition. In literacy we have been working on sentences, descriptive words and conjunctions. In math's we have been covering a wide range of curriculum areas so I can get a baseline of where students numeracy knowledge is currently sitting. I look forward to the next few weeks as we now start to dive deeper into our learning areas.



LA8 KIRILEE CHAPMAN

This has been an exciting start to 2026. LA8 has been smashing goals with our numeracy superstars showing off their amazing skills. Our students have begun learning about living things in science which of course means class pets. LA8 welcomed four class fish, names still to be decided, 3 goldfish and a betta fish. We have been learning about their natural habitats, their captivity habitats, their diets and other needs. This is just the start of our menagerie so watch this space. Week 3 has been an action packed week with three community outings. On Wednesday we got to visit the Fringe Dome and Wulanda and learn all about the Whale Superhighway around Australia; on Thursday we visited Sandy Rises Sunflowers and got to see some amazing local sunflowers and explore the sunflower maze; and on Friday we enjoyed our weekly swimming. This term has already been so busy and we have so much more fun planned we cannot wait to share with you



LA2 NAOMI ASTON

Settling In and Growing Together

It's been an exciting start to the term as we've been settling into our new classroom and making it our own. Students have been exploring the space, learning new routines, and helping to create an environment where everyone feels safe, comfortable, and valued. Through shared activities we've been focusing on building a strong sense of belonging and connection within our group.

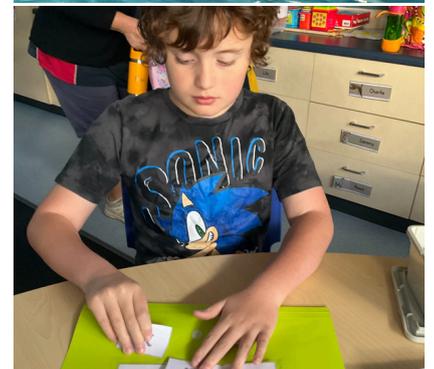
We've also been spending time exploring our wider environment, using these experiences to spark curiosity, encourage communication, and strengthen relationships with peers and staff. These moments have been a wonderful way to support social learning and confidence as we begin the year together.

Another highlight has been the start of our swimming program. Students have shown great enthusiasm as they begin developing water confidence, coordination, and safety skills. Swimming sessions are a fantastic opportunity for building physical skills while also supporting independence and self-confidence.

In addition, we've begun implementing a new core word program to encourage the use of AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication). By consistently modelling and using core words throughout the day, we're supporting students to communicate across a range of settings and purposes. It's been great to see students engaging with their AAC systems and finding new ways to express themselves.

We're looking forward to a term full of learning, growth, and connection as we continue building on these positive beginnings.

Naomi, Rebekah and the LA2 staff team.



LA4

MICHELLE ADAMS & DAKOTA

It has been a fantastic start to the year in LA4, with all our students settling well into their new routines at Gordon Education Centre. We extend a warm welcome to Henry and Raaya as they begin their first year of school. Our focus has been on learning classroom and school routines, and in literacy lessons we have explored the letters Z and L, as well as enjoyed the "That's Not My..." series, starting with "That's Not My Cat" in Weeks 1 and 2, and now reading "That's Not My Hippo". In numeracy, students have participated in activities that compare items to identify which are bigger or smaller. On Thursdays, we have started a community drive, visiting local places such as the hospital and the Main Corner. We look forward to a wonderful term ahead and are excited for what the year has in store for us.



LA5

EMMA BRAMICH

LA5 has had a fantastic start to the term! Students have settled back into routines beautifully and have really enjoyed getting back into swimming. It's been wonderful to see their confidence grow in the pool and their positive attitude towards learning.

In class, students are exploring the water cycle with Ms. Emma. They will be learning about evaporation, condensation and precipitation, and discovering how water moves through our environment. There will be plenty of hands-on discussions and activities to help bring these concepts to life.

In Science with Mr. Mac, this learning will connect to our Biological Sciences unit. Students will be investigating how living things grow and what they need to survive, including the essential role water plays in supporting life. We'll be exploring what plants, animals and people need to live and how these needs link back to the natural cycles in our world.

We're looking forward to a great term of curiosity, exploration and growth!

Lab

MADISON THOMSON

Welcome to Term 1 at Gordon Education Centre. We are pleased to welcome new students joining our community, as well as reconnecting with those returning for another year. The first weeks have focused on building relationships, learning about classroom expectations, and settling into routines.

Our swimming program is now underway, giving students the chance to develop their skills and enjoy time in the pool. In maths, students have begun working with Numicon, using practical activities to strengthen their understanding of numbers. In literacy, we are exploring the letters A, R, K, and I, incorporating a variety of engaging tasks to build recognition and skills.

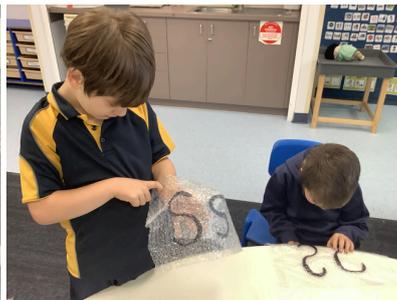
We look forward to a positive and productive term and thank families for their continued support.



La7

ISABELLE SWANBURY

To start this school year in LA7 we have been getting to know each other and feeling a sense of belonging and growing confidence. In Literacy, we have been engaged in play-based activities focusing on letter identification and letter sounds. In Numeracy, we have been playing with numerals and Numicon shapes, as well as counting 1:1 and sequencing. Our class has also enjoyed art, science and social skill activities, as well as building a sense of community through play with other classes.



LA9 Newsletter – Term 1, 2026

Welcome back to a new school year! The LA9 team is excited to start 2026 with energy, enthusiasm, and a renewed commitment to supporting each student's learning and wellbeing. We would like to share some highlights of what's been happening in our class.

Community Outings

We believe real-world experiences enrich our students' learning. This term, we ventured out to a beautiful local sunflower farm. Students explored the fields, learned about plant growth, and enjoyed the sights and sounds of the countryside. These community excursions help our students develop important social and life skills in a fun and engaging way. Thank you to everyone who supported our outing!

Fringe Dome: Whale Highway

As part of our engagement with the Adelaide Fringe, LA9 attended the spectacular Dome experience, "Whale Highway." Students were captivated by the immersive visuals and sounds, learning about whale migration and marine habitats. Experiences like this broaden our students' understanding of natural science and conservation while encouraging curiosity about our world.

Swimming Program

Swimming lessons have resumed for Term 1! We are delighted to see our students enjoying the pool, building water confidence, and improving their swimming and safety skills. The program caters to all abilities and is a highlight of our week.

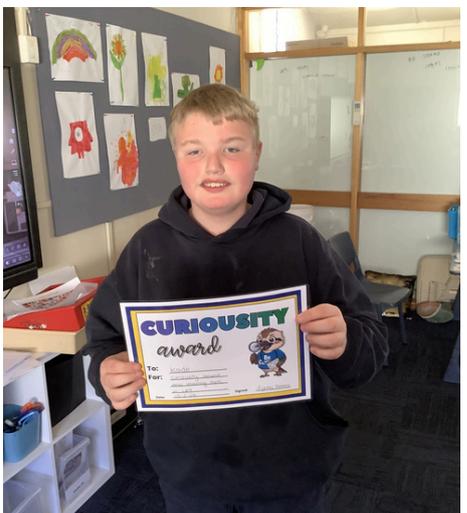
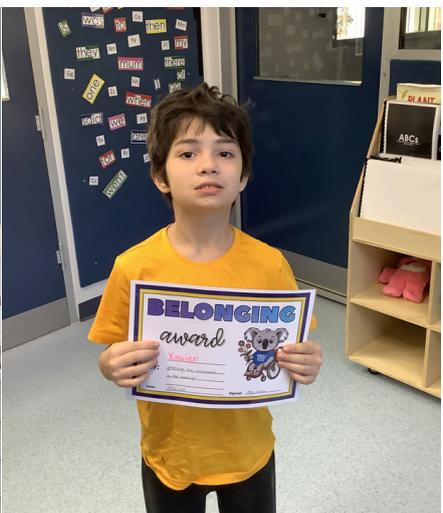
Setting Up for Success

At the start of the year, we focus on setting up our classroom for success. Together, we established clear class expectations and routines, with student input. This helps everyone feel safe, respected, and ready to learn. We look forward to a wonderful year built on teamwork, communication, and mutual respect.



GORDON EDUCATION

Belonging Awards



2026 Learning Teams

GORDON EDUCATION

JUNIOR



Lucas, Abby, Madison, Dakota, Keyarnah, Kayla, Kelly, Kerri, Jamee, Isabelle, Montana & Eoin.

SENIOR



Rebekah, Kirilee, Barb, Kerryn, Carolyn, Grace, Tamara F, Brian, Tamara C, Lesley, Sean, Abby, Sam, Naomi, Lauren & Kayla.

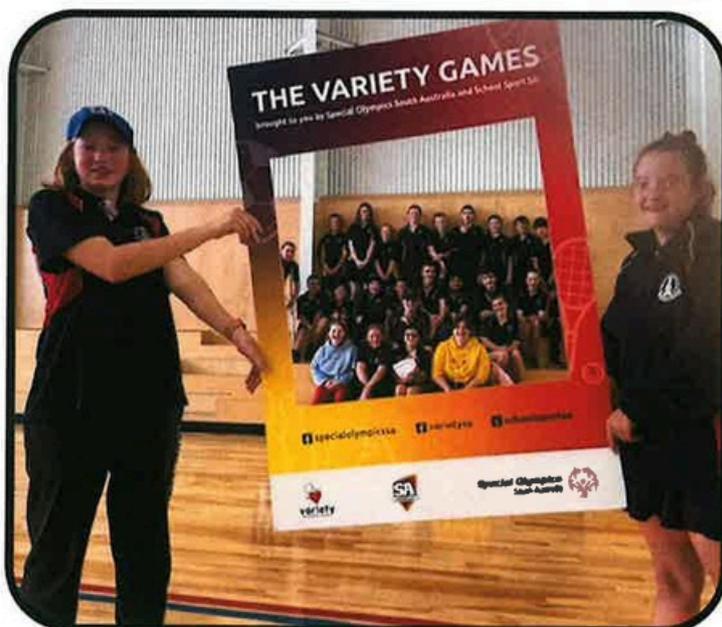
ADMIN



Philippa, Kylie,
Lisa, Tracy,
Ryan, Steven



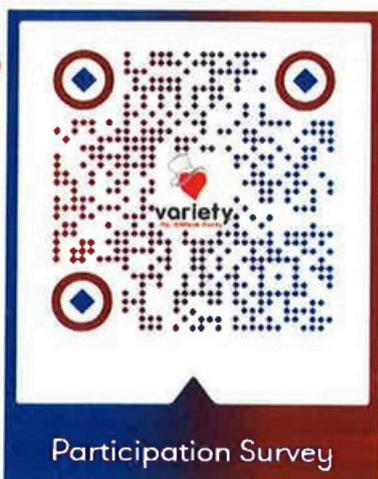
SCHOOL SPORT SA VARIETY GAMES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY



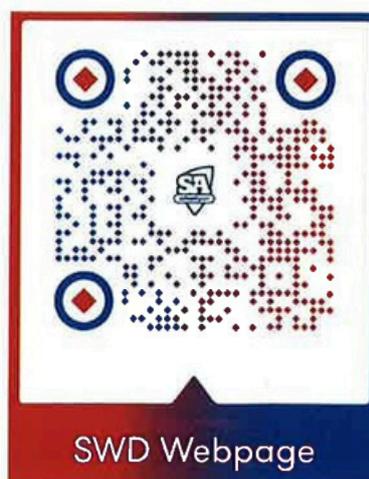
➤ The Variety Games has expanded to provide a greater amount of opportunities for students in primary schools.

Scan the QR codes to learn more about the program and provide feedback using the participation survey.

Feel free to email daniel.hornhardt@sa.gov.au to discuss options for getting your students involved



Participation Survey

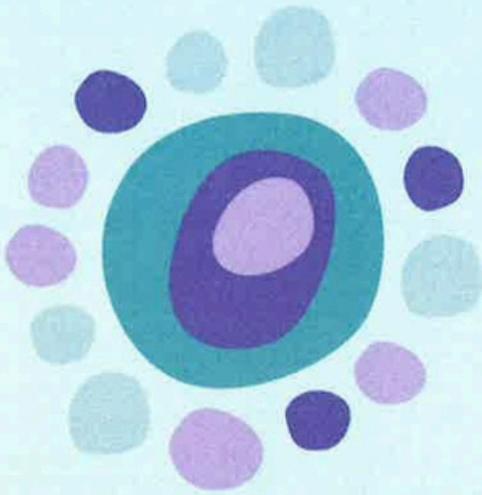


SWD Webpage



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SIES

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education

SAVE THE DATES 2026 SIES REGIONAL CONNECT!

TERM 1, WEEK 5, 2026: THURSDAY 26TH FEBRUARY
TERM 2, WEEK 5, 2026: THURSDAY 28TH MAY
TERM 3, WEEK 5, 2026: THURSDAY 20TH AUGUST
TERM 4, WEEK 5, 2026: THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

Join us via Microsoft Teams for The Statewide Inclusive Education Services (SIES) termly Regional Connect information sessions

If you're a **parent, carer or educator** of a student with disability or difficulty at a DfE School, you are invited to these sessions where SIES staff will be available to discuss resources and supports.

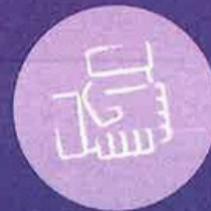
More information to follow regarding subjects, times and registrations.



Next one Thur 26th Feb 2026



TIME TO BE
CONFIRMED



Registrations
to follow



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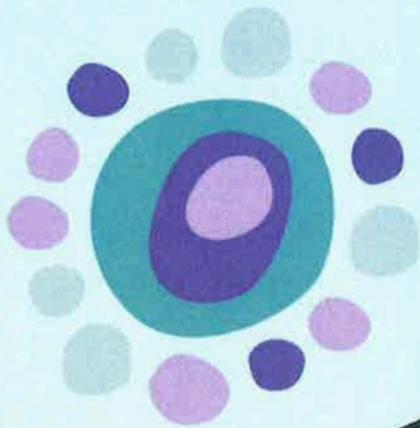


sies.admin@schools.sa.edu.au



www.SIES.sa.edu.au





SIES

Statewide Inclusive
Education Services

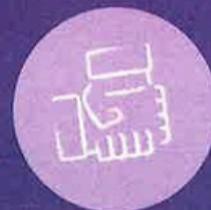


Government of South Australia
Department for Education

COME JOIN THE TERM 1 PARENT/CARER REGIONAL CONNECT!

The Statewide Inclusive Education Services (SIES) is hosting our termly regional information session.

Join us via Microsoft Teams (click the link below to register) to learn about support and services from SIES followed by **Maria Aydin** our Developmental Educator, Inclusive Practices talking about setting your child up for success.



Thursday 26th February 2026 1pm - 1:45pm

Register [here](#)



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www.SIES.sa.edu.au

