



GORDON EDUCATION CENTRE

"Towards Independence"

TERM 2 - Week 3

LISA THOMAS

PRINCIPAL

At Gordon Education Centre, we know that strong, positive relationships help everyone feel safe, valued and supported, which is essential for learning and growing. When students have good connections with those around them, they feel comfortable to take risks, try new things, and celebrate their achievements, big and small.

Our Special Persons Day really brings this idea to life. Today we welcomed families and important people into our school to share in their child's learning journey. It's a chance for students to show their loved ones where they learn, introduce their friends and teachers, and share all the fantastic work they're doing. For families, it means seeing first-hand how much effort goes into each day at school and understanding how everyone works together to support their children.

Having families in our school is so important. It helps build trust, open up communication, and create stronger bonds between home and school. When families know what goes on inside the classroom, they feel more connected and confident in the way their children are being cared for and educated. Special Persons Day helps remind us all – students, staff, and families alike – that learning is a team effort. It's about working together, supporting each other, and making school a welcoming and inclusive place for everyone.

Key Dates

22/5

Outdoor Classroom Day

29/5

Student Free Day

11/6

Family Learning Walk

8/7

Mud Day



May 21st is outdoor classroom day. This is a national event where students take their learning outdoors and enjoy a low technology day in nature. As part of our celebration, we will be hosting our own outdoor classroom event. Parents from LA6, LA7 and LA4 are invited to join their children for a picnic lunch on site in the West Wing yard at 12:45. Parents from LA1, LA2, LA5, LA8 and LA9 are invited to join their children for a picnic Lunch at Marist Park at 12pm.

TAMARA CAMERON

We have had a busy and exciting start to Term 2, with students already enjoying a range of excursions and learning opportunities outside the classroom with more to come in the coming weeks. Students are still attending gymnastics with week 5 being their last visit and swimming will continue each week on a Thursday for the rest of the term. Next week is a busy week with the addition of our pet store excursion and our outdoor day at Marist Park. We have also had lots of exciting movement in the yard with the excavators and workers busily preparing the ground for our new bike track. We have been taking photos daily to track the progress and changes that are occurring in the yard on Canva.

In the classroom, students have been working hard across all learning areas. In Literacy, our focus has been on developing confidence in writing and how we can use props to expand on storytelling and helping to build comprehension. In numeracy, we have been exploring a variety of addition strategies including using ten frames and number lines and well as exploring different measurement units. We are continuing our learning expedition on water in our local area this term, and our model of the lakes area is coming along nicely.

We look forward to another fantastic term filled with learning, growth, and exciting experiences.



LA2 NAOMI ASTON

We are delighted to share some of the wonderful learning and experiences that have been happening since the start of Term 2. In Numeracy, students have been revisiting concepts such as big and small, as well as more and less, using hands-on activities that make these ideas come alive in meaningful ways. We've also begun working on recognising patterns, exploring colours and variety of shapes, both in our classroom and in the world around us.

During literacy we have been learning about the letters 'a', 'n', 'm', and 'z'. The students have engaged in games, songs, and hands-on tasks to help them recognise, identify, and write these letters using alternate pencils. We continue to encourage everyone to use their AAC devices to communicate their needs and share their ideas, and it is wonderful to see them becoming increasingly confident and responsible for their own belongings and learning tools.

May is a special month for our class, as we are celebrating many birthdays together! These celebrations have brought a great sense of joy and community to our room. We have also restarted our swimming lessons, and the students are gaining confidence and skills each week as they participate in the pool.

Our class has commenced weekly community drives, which are helping students become more familiar with our local area and develop important life skills. Alongside this, we have started a learning expedition themed 'All About Me, Our Homes and Our Community.' To begin, we have been focusing on 'All About Me'—using mirrors to look at our own features and starting to create personal books that highlight what makes each of us unique.

Thank you for your ongoing support. If you have any questions or would like to know more about your child's learning, please feel free to get in touch.

Until next time,



LA4 MICHELLE ADAMS

We have had a wonderful week filled with creativity, exploration, and learning across a range of subjects.

In Literacy, students created heartfelt cards for Mum, carefully selecting paint stick colours, making personalised marks, and choosing images to include. This special craft activity not only supported their communication and fine motor skills but also provided a meaningful way to celebrate families.

Mathematics saw the class engaging with the concepts of 'big' and 'small,' using Bluey cups as a playful and hands-on resource. The PODD communication system helped students express their ideas and take part in discussions, supporting both understanding and inclusion.

Writing sessions provided opportunities for sensory exploration and letter recognition. Each student participated in tailored activities that promoted their literacy development in a supportive environment.

Across the week, our focus has also included social and emotional learning, collaborative play, and developing independence. Students have shown resilience, curiosity, and a willingness to try new things—qualities we love to celebrate. We look forward to another engaging week ahead, and thank you for your support in our classroom community.



LA5 EMMA BRAMICH

It has been a wonderful transition into Term 2, with students settling in beautifully as they return to their routines. In literacy, we have continued with our phonics program and embarked on some exciting research into weird and wonderful animals from around the world. The students have truly enjoyed discovering fascinating facts and sharing them with their classmates.

In numeracy, we have introduced the concepts of measurement and data collection. It has been fantastic to see the students enthusiastically measuring various objects—and even themselves—using both informal and formal methods.

Our integrated studies unit will see us revisiting our learning expedition around water. Looking ahead, next week will bring an exciting new project: designing a toy for Play School. This opportunity is sure to inspire creativity, and further information about the competition will be shared soon.



LA6 MADISON THOMSON



LA6 have been enjoying our Science unit on Plants this term. Students have been exploring the school garden looking for different parts of plants, collecting leaves, and sorting them into different categories such as colour, size and shape. The class has loved getting outdoors and investigating the natural environment around our school.

Students are also looking forward to beginning their gymnastics sessions in a few weeks, where they'll have opportunities to build confidence, coordination and movement skills in a fun and supportive environment.

LA7 ISABELLE SWANBURY

LA7 has had a positive start to Term 2, with our weekly visit to the Blue Lake Gymnastic Club becoming a particular highlight! Our class has enjoyed learning gymnastic skills through an educative, fun and exciting program.

In English, we have been reading fairytales such as The Gingerbread Man. To build students' sense of story comprehension and oral language in re-telling stories, our class has engaged in a number of activities such as acting out the story as the characters and making our own gingerbread men.

In Maths, we have begun learning about measurement. Our class has investigated the length of classroom objects, our height, and even the length of our shoes.

In LA7, we have also been learning about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, listening to traditional and contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander music, and creating an Acknowledgement of Country video to watch as part of our morning circle routine. Teaching an Acknowledgement of Country in our classrooms connects children with Indigenous culture through simple, daily routines that foster respect for the land. This also gives our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students an opportunity to share their culture with their peers.



LA8 KIRILEE CHAPMAN

Hello all, and a big welcome back to Term 2 from LA8. This term has been busy already. We have seen the big tree cut down in the yard, observed how the workers are keeping the site safe using fences and PPE, and begun learning about the design process when completing projects.

In Science, we are learning about forces and saw first-hand how gravity can act on something big like a tree to keep it standing. When the force was unbalanced, the tree was able to be pulled down and gravity helped! We have been completing our own small experiments with gravity and other forces to fly model planes, build a seesaw that would support the weight of a student from the little end, and create catapults that would launch erasers over the playground.

We also ventured out to the Jobs and Skills Expo and explored the different jobs available to us in the community. This was something we really enjoyed, and we look forward to touring some workplaces in the coming weeks.



LA9 News: Exploring Our Community

In LA9, students have been busy diving into learning about our local community through the exciting 'Mount Gambier 50 Things to Do' initiative. We are gaining a deeper appreciation for the limestone coast unique features of our town by visiting significant sites, discussing community stories, and reflecting on what makes Mount Gambier such a wonderful place to live and learn.

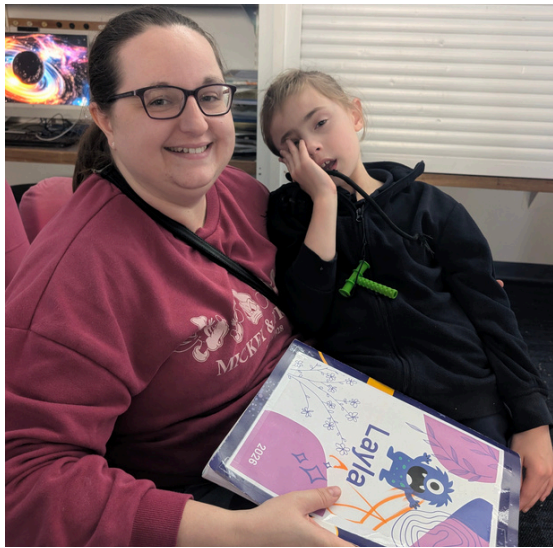
Swimming lessons have started up again, providing students with valuable water safety skills and building confidence in the pool. These sessions are always eagerly anticipated and are an important part of our program.

Looking ahead, LA9 will be exploring a range of post-school option excursions. Some upcoming highlights include visits to Dream to Create, Axis, and the Career Expo. These opportunities allow our students to experience potential future pathways first-hand, engage with local businesses and services, and consider their interests as they move toward adulthood. Later in the term, we will be visiting Bedford and CARA, helping students and families explore further options and resources available in the community.

As part of our ongoing commitment to connecting learning with real life, we are also looking at other places to visit. Our aim is to provide experiences that support families and students in making plans for the future, broadening their understanding of what is possible after school.

We look forward to sharing updates as our learning adventures continue!





Parenthood Day

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