

# Welcome to the K-2 Hub 2020!



(Tavisha, Fiona, Sam & Phoebe)

## Meet the Hub Team

### Fiona Gibb

My aim is for all students to become empowered self-directed learners whose curiosity and creativity are fostered within the learning environment. I have a Masters of Special Education and have spent time co-teaching at a bilingual primary school in Sendai, Japan. Outside of school, I love spending time at the beach, playing hockey and traveling to explore different countries and cultures. You will also often see me wearing quirky broaches! I have the pleasure of leading the K-2 Hub in 2020.

### Tavisha Ginige

As an educator I am passionate about providing equitable opportunities for all students and celebrating their individuality. I aim to create a community of inquiry where students have the freedom to voice their opinions, collaborate with their peers and foster their creativity to become real-world problem solvers. In my spare time I love baking and spending time with my family and my dog. I am always seeking new adventures so I love travelling to new places, meeting new people and learning about other cultures.

### Sam Sorrell

I believe in a student centred approach that allows children to be self-directed, self-regulated and allows them to have a strong relationship with peers, teachers and the learning environment. I believe that learning takes place when a strong relationship forms between teachers and students as all children need a teacher that won't give up on them. In my spare time I love going to the beach, going to the gym and playing with my puppies!

### Phoebe Lillywhite

I'm passionate about teaching and look forward to developing rich and trusting relationships with our students and families. I especially enjoy teaching lower primary. I have a background in Fine Arts, specifically ceramics, painting and drawing. I love working with students to communicate their ideas visually, through language, movement and music. I believe creativity can be transformational and empowering. I have recently returned to living in Sydney from the Blue Mountains. I love spending time outdoors, in the bush or by the water. I'm very excited to be working with such a talented team of teachers.

## A Day in the Life of K-2 Villagers

Our Hub Villagers will be exploring Literacy and Numeracy each day through a variety of differentiated hands on learning investigations. They will also be following their curiosity in our Inter-Disciplinary Unit of work (IDU) and learning how to self-regulate and work as a team in 'Pod Time'. Students will also be participating in the Gateway program three times a week which will be focusing on Drama, PE and Digital Literacies. Here is a quick glance at our daily routine.

8:50am Students need to go to the K-2 Hub, put their bag away and meet their Pod teacher.

10:20am Eating our morning tea

10:35am Playtime

12:30am Eating our lunch

12:50pm Playtime

2:50pm The Hub Educators will bring the students down to the foyer area for dismissal.

## Our Code of Collaboration

In our first week, the students worked together to create our Code of Collaboration. The students discussed what they felt was important in the learning space and what they could do to help their peers learn and create a harmonious community within the hub. The Code of Collaboration that we reflect upon is:

We will show kindness and empathy.

We will collaborate and work together.

We will listen and be alert to our peers.

We will show respectful behaviour.

We will share.

## A Snapshot into the K-2 Hub's Learning Journey

Our K-2 Villages will be using a variety of tools and be exposed to a variety of teaching methods to support their learning. This year K-2 students will be allocated an iPad to use at school which will be used as a tool to support student learning across all Key Learning. K-2 Students will not be able to access technology during playtime.

### **Kindergarten Literacy**

In the daily literacy sessions, our smallest villagers will be focusing on how to read and write. They will be learning their single sounds, how to hold a pencil correcting, how to write and put sounds down on paper and learn how to read simple books. Our Kindergarten students will be investigating fiction and non-fiction texts as they learn about the different types of information texts.

## **Stage 1 Literacy**

Our Stage 1 students will be working on specific literacy skills each week as they investigate and learn how to write informative texts. Students will be encouraged to think like a scientist and how they can educate their audiences. As our Stage 1 students become more confident in their reading skills, they will be developing on their inferential comprehension skills and being able to start to compare and contrast different texts. Students will be completing a daily Synthetics Phonics program, focusing on more complex letter sound combinations and spelling rules.

## **Mathematics**

All our K-2 Hub Villagers will be investigating a range of Mathematics concepts this term including Whole Number, Addition and Subtraction, Time, 2D Shapes, Capacity and Position. Each week the Hub will be completing the same numeracy topic but in differentiated needs-based groups. These groups are very flexible, and students may not be in the same group each week. Before beginning any new concepts we will give students the opportunity to "Show What They Know" in order for the teachers to develop learning experiences that cater for their ability in each individual topic.

## **Interdisciplinary Unit (Science, Creative Arts, English, Maths, Personal Development and Health)**

In our exciting Interdisciplinary unit this term we will be exploring Weather and Food. Next week our Villagers will become curious about our topics by being immersed in different activities that link to our inquiry focus. Our students will be creating a wonder wall of questions they would like to explore and from there the Educators will build the Hub's unit of inquiry. Throughout the unit the students will be conducting Science experiments, exploring Indigenous perspectives and apply their knowledge of Literacy and Numeracy. Stay tuned for this exciting learning journey to unfold!

## **Pod Time (Previously Mentor Time)**

This year students will be having Pod time later in the day and their assigned Pod teacher will be one of the K-2 Educators. This term we will be learning about the Zones of Regulation and how to be able to self-regulate our emotions and be able to make great learning choices.

## **Gateway (PE, Drama / Music & Digital Literacies)**

The Culture and Digital Learning team (a.k.a 'Team Gateway') will be focusing with each class in the areas of PDHPE, Creative and Performing Arts, Languages and Digital Technologies. The team consists of Maria (CAPA), Luke (PDHPE), Jung and Jade (Digital Technologies). Each week students will experience each of these Learning Areas to engage with and enjoy different opportunities and learning activities. Every fortnight, students will engage with Languages and this term we will be focusing on French. Stages 2 and 3 will have Joanna teaching them and K-2, Jung and Jade.

## **Home Learning**

This year, our K-2 Villagers will be offered a range of home learning suggestions. Regularly reading out loud to an adult or older sibling is critical to the development of reading and literacy skills. To help facilitate this, students will be bringing home a home reader Monday to Thursday starting in Week 4 and will change them each day. Kindergarten students will be bringing home their 'camera words'; these are high frequency words that need to be learnt as they cannot be sounded out. This term we will also be giving each family a 'Why not' home learning grid. These are suggestions of individual or family activities that your child might like to undertake.

# What's new this year?

## **Introducing Synthetic Phonics in K-2**

Synthetic phonics involves teaching small groups of phonemes (letter sounds) rapidly, then students are shown how these phonemes can be blended to pronounce unfamiliar words. The K-2 Educators will teach groups of phonemes to students and once our students know them, we will move onto the next set. This program will be run each day.

## **The Zones of Regulation**

At Lindfield Learning Village we believe in Ross Greene's approach that "children do well if they can". The Zones of Regulation is geared towards helping students gain skills in consciously regulating their actions which results in increased control and problem solving abilities. The Zones is a systematic, cognitive behaviour approach used to teach self-regulation by categorizing all the different ways we feel and states of alertness we experience into four concrete zones. The four Zones are:

The **Red Zone** is used to describe extremely heightened states of alertness and intense emotions. A person may be elated or experiencing anger, rage, explosive behaviour, devastation, or terror when in the Red Zone.

The **Yellow Zone** is also used to describe a heightened state of alertness and elevated emotions; however, one has some control when they are in the Yellow Zone. A person may be experiencing stress, frustration, anxiety, excitement, silliness, the wiggles, or nervousness when in the Yellow Zone.

The **Green Zone** is used to describe a calm state of alertness. A person may be described as happy, focused, content, or ready to learn when in the Green Zone. This is the zone where optimal learning occurs.

The **Blue Zone** is used to describe low states of alertness and down feelings, such as when one feels sad, tired, sick, or bored.

Students will be learning about the Zones of Regulation during Pod time and will be applying what they have learnt throughout their day.

## **Building our community through food.**

Following on from the changes in Term 4 last year, K-2 Hub students will be eating their food within our learning space. There are many studies from around the world that corroborate the LLV philosophy that eating together is an important part of building community and culture. It is the cultural practice in many countries around the world to teach children to eat together, along with their educators, developing appropriate expectations and manners as they do so. Each student needs to bring a placemat to put under their lunchbox. Once students have finished eating, they will then go to the foyer or playground to play. The K-2 Hub educators will be teaching students how to clean up their area and our learning space is regularly cleaned by our cleaning staff to avoid any mess left in our hub.

## **Introducing the new LLV Learning Characteristics Wheel**

Building a strong learning culture together will be a major focus in the K-2 Hub as we explore our expectations around the learning environment and the way we interact within it. At the heart of our learning culture are LLV's Learning Characteristics. This year we will be exploring and learning about each of these characteristics as the Hub team support students to achieve their best both inside and outside of the classroom. A copy of the LLV Learning Characteristics Wheel is at the end of the newsletter.

## **PALS Program (Kindergarten only)**

The transition to 'big school' is made just a little easier and a lot more fun with a program called *PALS*. *PALS* teams Kindergarten children up with Stage 3 mentors in a daily playground orientation.

The general idea of the PALS program is to allow the new Kindergarten students to experience lunch breaks in a settled, organised and supervised manner for the first few weeks of Term 1. Students are playing a number of inside and outside games with their peers that will focus on getting to know one another, taking turns and learning about the playground areas both inside and outside. They will take part in this program from Monday- Thursday at lunch time for the first few weeks of school, until we feel they are settled to play on their own. Fridays will be free play for the students.

## **Dates for the Term 1 Calendar**

Meet the Teaching Team – 12<sup>th</sup> of February 4:00- 4:45pm

Swimming Carnival (Year 2s who are turning 8 in 2020 only) – 20<sup>th</sup> of February

## **Friendly Reminders**

- Label all your child's belongings;
- Ensure your child has a spare change of clothes and underwear in their bag (especially Kindy!)
- As we have a number of children with anaphylaxis, please do not put nuts in lunches or use spreads such as peanut butter.
- Ensure your child has their lunch placemat each day.
- Please make sure your child wears enclosed shoes each day.

## **Have a question or a concern about your child?**

We are always very happy to answer any questions you might have about how your child(ren) are going at school. The best form of communication is emailing so please ensure you cc Fiona, Tavishia, Sam and Phoebe as this will help the whole team receive the inquiry. We kindly ask that you make an appointment to see us as we often have scheduled meetings before or after school and we would prefer to make sure our conversations were not rushed. If there is an urgent change of plan for an afterschool pick up, please ring the office as we may not see our e-mails during the school day.

We are so excited to be working with your child(ren) in the K-2 Hub as it is going to be a great year of inquiry, creativity and learning.

### **The K-2 Hub Team**

Fiona Gibb (Relieving Assistant Principal), Tavisha Ginige, Sam Sorrell and Phoebe Lillywhite

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**LINDFIELD LEARNING VILLAGE**  
COLLABORATE • THRIVE • INSPIRE

## LLV's Learning Characteristics

