



*Lyneham High School is built on the traditional lands of the Ngunnawal people.
We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and pay our respects
to their elders, past, present and future.*



Principal's Message



We've had another busy week, in which we welcomed back another year group with our year 10 students returning this week. And we're another week closer to returning to "normal". On Tuesday, 2 June, years 8 and 9 will also return; and all students will resume using their regular timetables.

Circumstances have dictated that we make a small number of staffing changes towards the end of this term. Some of these arise from us making arrangements to accommodate flexibility for vulnerable staff. And we will soon lose the wonderful Sally Ward, who has been successful in winning promotion into a permanent leadership role at another school. Sally had just commenced an acting leadership role in our student support team. While we are sad to see Sally leave, we are very excited for her.

With Reconciliation Week running from 27 May to 3 June, we have done a number of things to support reconciliation. A full report, prepared by Amanda Murtagh, Executive Teacher for Wellbeing, is included later in this newsletter. The highlight for me was the yarning video with Amanda and Aunty Jenny, which challenged us to think about what reconciliation means and what we can do, together, to support reconciliation in our community.

I would like to recognise the extraordinary efforts of the school's teachers and administration staff over recent months. Their efforts have perfectly embodied the school's values of care, quality and creativity: the level of **care** they have shown to keep connected with students; the **quality** of the teaching programs that they have continued to deliver; and the **creative** way in which they have found new ways to deliver remote learning at such short notice. I know many parents and carers also appreciate these efforts. It has been very pleasing to see the large number of emails and phone calls expressing this sentiment.

Finally, as the last step in our transition to "normal", this afternoon all students will receive an email with their regular timetable. We would appreciate your support to make sure that they read it carefully as a reminder, and to check for any changes to teachers and rooms.

Please stay safe over this long weekend, and responsibly enjoy the social and other freedoms associated with the gradual relaxations of restrictions imposed through the pandemic.

Regards

Rob



School Information

Hygiene and Health

Please remember that there will be a strong focus on ensuring good health and hygiene practices – like hand washing – when students return. Our school has stocked up on soap and hand sanitiser and all students and staff will be regularly reminded to wash their hands with soap and water or hand sanitiser. Parents should also encourage their children to wash their hands before they arrive at school.

While formal social distancing requirements are not being imposed on students at schools, we will be encouraging social distancing wherever we can. This will provide good practice for when students are required to socially-distance while out in the community .

If Your Child is Sick

When students return to the classroom, it is important we are vigilant about health and hygiene. This means if your child has any kind of illness, even if it is just a runny nose, they must not come to school. If your child comes to school unwell, you will be asked to collect them. We will be stricter in implementing these rules than you are perhaps used to, but it is for the health and safety of everyone in our school community.

Students Unable to Return

We understand that some students may not be able to return to school on the expected dates, due to chronic health conditions or compromised immune systems and will wish to continue to study from home. If this is the case with your child, please make contact with the school to advise this. We will place your child on leave, for up to a week. If necessary, we can add weekly increments based on your further advice.

With their focus on face-to-face learning, teachers will then be unable to provide the same level of remote learning as was provided previously. Students studying from home will be encouraged to monitor their Google Classroom for any work (tasks, resources, etc) posted by their teacher and ask questions via email or Google Classroom.

Additions to the Lenni News Feed

Two important announcements were added to the [News Feed on Lenni](#) this week:

- A new [Enrichment](#) page, providing links to faculty pages and many more sites and resources that can be used to supplement student learning.
- A reminder that the PE change rooms remain closed and we continue to discourage students from bringing valuable and sentimental items to class. Students will continue to lock their bags in a classroom at the start of their lesson.

School Information

Enrolments

Applications for 2021 enrolment into primary school, high school and college are currently open, and must be submitted using the online form on the [Education Directorate's enrolments page](#). Applications received by COB 5 June 2020 will receive offers in the week of 27 July 2020.

School Photos

A significant number of school photos remain uncollected. If you placed an order, please have your child or yourself come to the office to pick them up.

School Communication

From next week, we will resume our traditional form of communicating with families: the fortnightly newsletter, to be delivered in each "week B" (weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 of term).

Next week's newsletter will be our first where both adult members of a household, where applicable, will be sent the email. This follows a major exercise in confirming your contact details, and developing an in-house communications solution that provides our staff with a more flexible tool for contacting parents and carers.

School Drop-Off and Pick-Up

With all students attending next week, and the possibility of a temporary increase in the number of families opting drive their child rather than use public transport, families can expect more congestion at the front of the school.

To help reduce this congestion, and increase safety around the school, we urge families to drop off and collect children away from the front of the school: for example, further along Goodwin Street, at Lyneham Shops, Southwell Park etc.



Reconciliation Week 2020

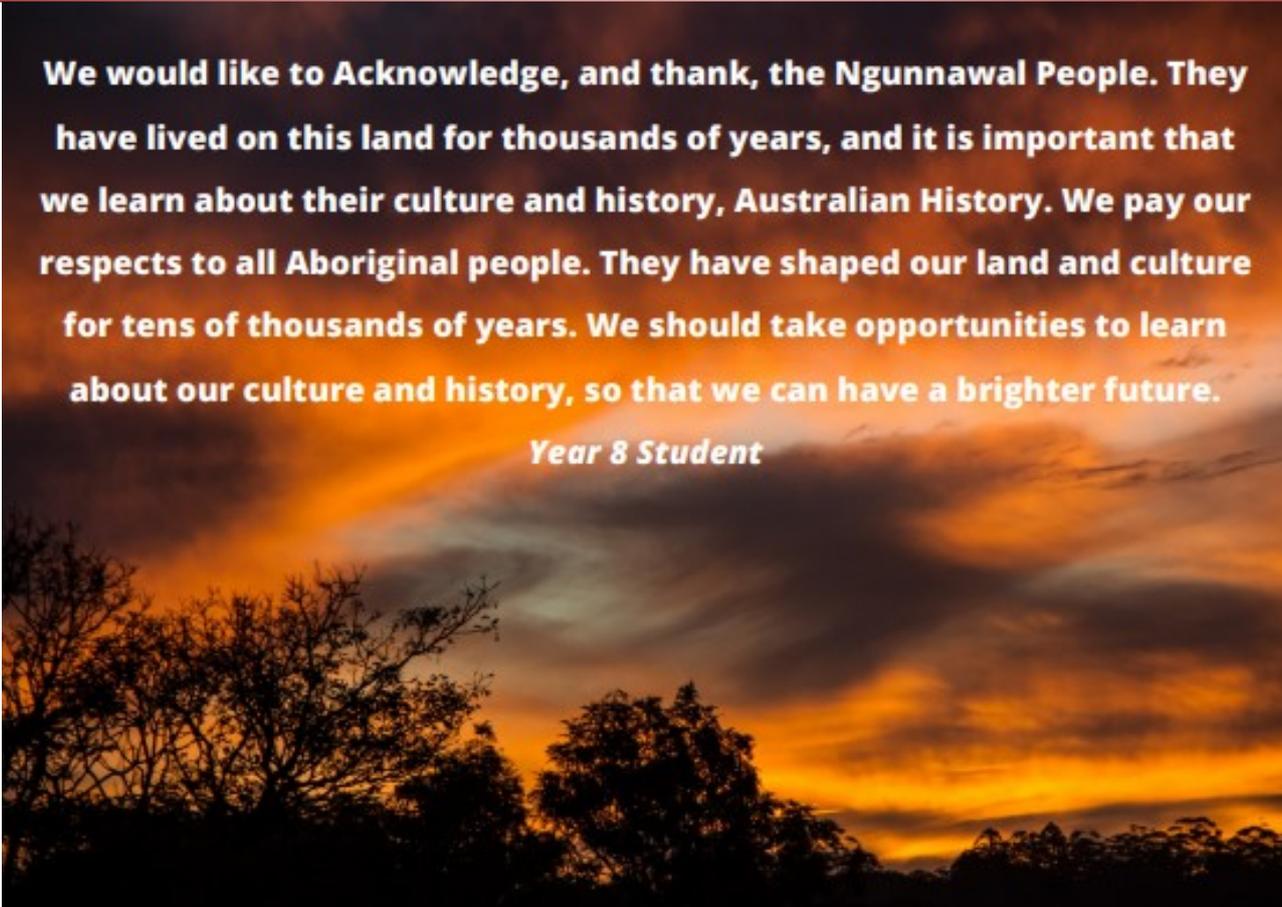


Over the last week and a half, we have undertaken to bring the topic of reconciliation to the fore. Students watched the documentary, *In My Blood It Runs*, and a Reconciliation Yarn (clip) put together by Jenny Dries (our Indigenous Education Officer) and myself. Our messages were many, but the clear focus was on how we can all come together to move forwards. One of the key drivers for this to be enabled, is a connection to country through caring, sharing and respecting; land, people, history and stories. Interestingly at this time, so many of us are out “on country” appreciating the benefits that it brings us. We need to explore more deeply how this country supports us and reflect more on what we can do to nurture it, all that it holds and brings.



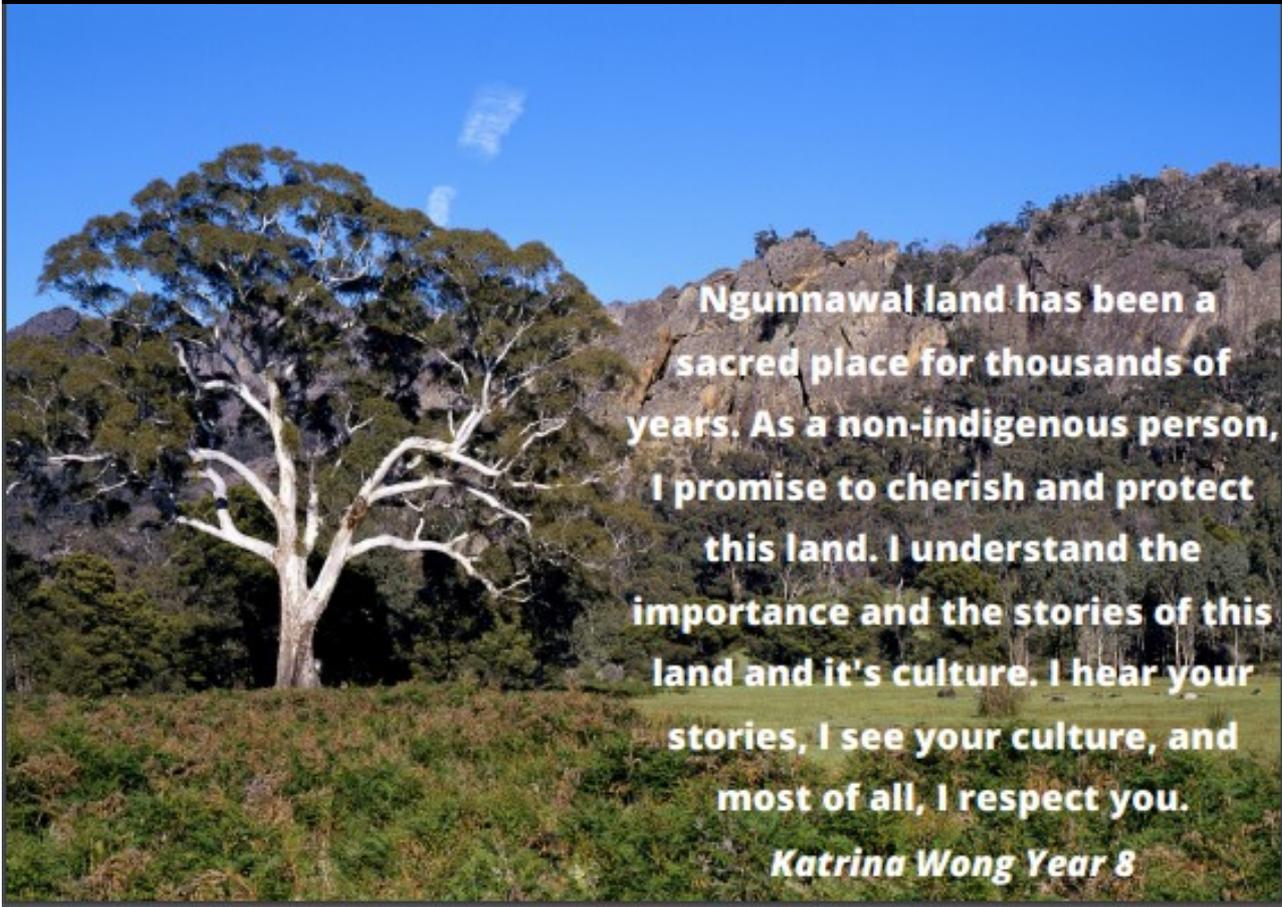
Yarning on country – Jenny Dries and Amanda Murtagh

Following the screenings students were engaged in a variety of discussions and activities. Below are some of the Acknowledgements of Country written by some of our Year 8 students.



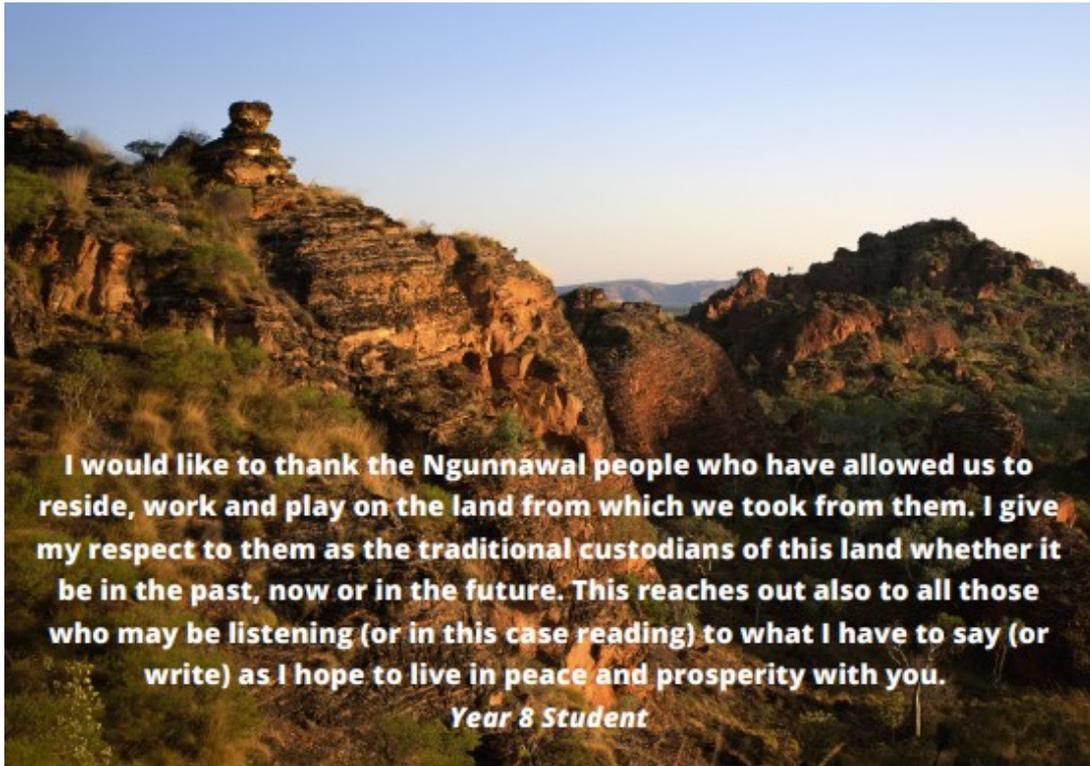
We would like to Acknowledge, and thank, the Ngunnawal People. They have lived on this land for thousands of years, and it is important that we learn about their culture and history, Australian History. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal people. They have shaped our land and culture for tens of thousands of years. We should take opportunities to learn about our culture and history, so that we can have a brighter future.

Year 8 Student



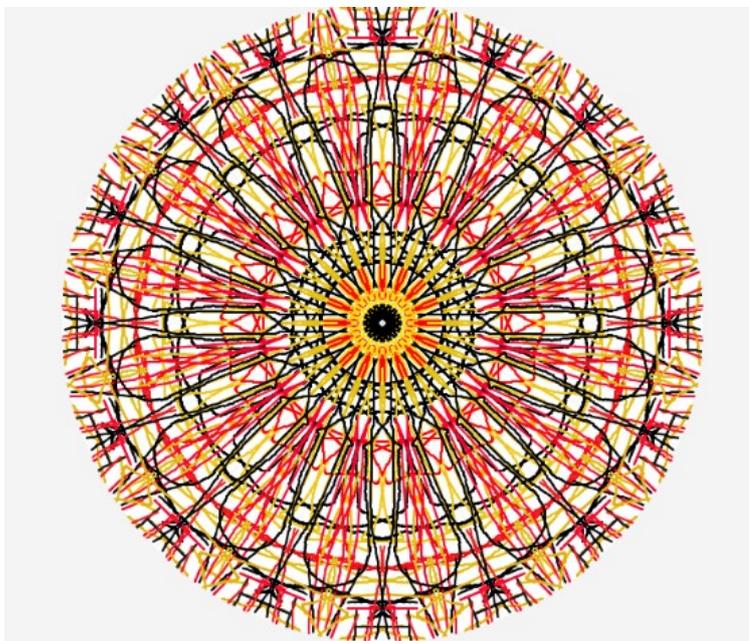
Ngunnawal land has been a sacred place for thousands of years. As a non-indigenous person, I promise to cherish and protect this land. I understand the importance and the stories of this land and it's culture. I hear your stories, I see your culture, and most of all, I respect you.

Katrina Wong Year 8



Another one of our Year 8 students – Sam Colgan – chose to complete his 5 Ways to Wellbeing mandala through the lens of reconciliation.

Thank you to our students and Hollie Aerts, for their contributions.



Postcards are being delivered to all Canberra households this week on which Canberrans are being asked to pledge their support for reconciliation. You can upload your pledge to social media using the hashtag #ReconciliationDayCBR.

People are also being asked to submit a creative response to reconciliation, such as photography, drawing or poetry.

Go to www.events.act.gov.au/reconciliation-day/create for details.

Disclaimer

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