

日本語 NIHONGO

(Japanese)

2023



Welcome back!

This year in Japanese, the team consists of Lauren Sensei and Wendy Sensei for Term 1 and 2. Erin Sensei is continuing in the Wellbeing role and will be back in Japanese in Term 3 and 4. We are looking forward to meeting new students and continuing to develop students' love for languages and cultures.

Wendy is here, Monday to Friday and Lauren is continuing in her role from last year, 3 days a week, Tuesday to Thursday. Lauren Sensei is joining the year three team on Fridays in W54.

Exciting news!! We are in our new classrooms in the new building! Feel free to come and check out our spaces on Acquaintance Night.

Please see below an introductory letter from Wendy.

Konnichiwa, my name is Wendy Connor.

You might already know me as I've been at Mawson Lakes School for quite a while! I am originally from Queensland, where I was a teacher for several years. To cut a long story short- I took a step back from teaching when my children were young but now that they are older, I'm ready to get back to it! My three children all attended Mawson Lakes School, with my youngest now being in Year 9 at Endeavour College. I have been very lucky to have been actively involved with our school over the past 14 or so years, firstly as volunteer and for the past nine years, as an SSO. During this time, I've gotten to know many children and their families and am excited to be seeing them in my new role as a Japanese teacher.

In 2023, I will be focusing on the Culture of Japan for Semester 1, with Erin Sensei returning for Semester 2 to focus on Japanese Language.

I look forward to seeing you all and meeting new families at the Acquaintance Night. I am especially keen to meet anyone who has ties with Japan and would be willing to share their knowledge and experiences with us!

Please see the following table for which teacher/s your child/ren will see for Japanese:

Wendy	Wendy/Lauren	Lauren
DC1 Bree	E43 Hayley	E21 Brooke
DC2 Renee		E22 Kate
E33 Anna/Emma Kate		E23 Matthew
E41 Bianca/Michaela		E24 Lauren Munro
E42 Sarah		E31 Reannon/Emma Kate
W11 Steve		E32 Jess P/Lara
W12 Jasmine		E34 Cassandra
W13 Monica		W51 Archna
W21 Justin		W52 Maria/Michelle
W22 Jess Watts		W53 Alysha
W23 Victoria		W54 Casey/Lauren Sensei
W31 Michael		
W32 Ali/Beata		
W41 Vivian		
W42 Jess Webber/Laura		

We will both be based on Site West, in W55 and W56, in the new (not yet named) building.

Please see the following page, for an overview of Japanese at Mawson Lakes School.

Please feel free to contact us via the school or our emails:

Lauren.Macklin924@schools.sa.edu.au

Wendy.connor356@schools.sa.edu.au

Regards,

Lauren Sensei (Lauren Macklin) and Wendy Sensei (Wendy Connor)



JAPANESE AT MAWSON LAKES

Throughout the year we aim to develop students' communicative skills in the Japanese language and their understanding of the life and culture of the Japanese people.

We aim to provide an environment that is rich and uses a variety of teaching and learning strategies, which enable students to be actively involved in producing and using the language to communicate. Students at all levels will have an opportunity to participate in producing big books, shared texts, board games and/or projects to help develop their literacy skills. Students will also have the opportunity to learn to respond to instructions, name objects, give short talks, play language games and engage in role-plays.

Students learn and use the Japanese language in meaningful activities. These involve the routine language of social interaction to introduce themselves, express their likes and dislikes and express ideas in short written texts or short verbal conversations.

The Japanese Program will be integrated with other learning areas such as English, Mathematics, Physical Education, Society and Environment and The Arts including Music and Drama.

JAPANESE WRITING

There are 3 writing systems in the Japanese Language: Hiragana; Katakana and Kanji.

Hiragana will be introduced to varying degrees at different year levels. Junior Primary students will be exposed to this writing system through making connections between characters, words and phrases and through the recognition of key features. They will have the opportunity to copy and trace simple words and sentences.

Students in years 3 - 5 will be actively involved in learning Hiragana by learning to read and write the characters, as well as deciphering the meaning of words and phrases throughout the year.

Students in years 6 will continue to study Hiragana intensively throughout the year, as it is important to have a good grasp of this writing system before continuing with further study in Japanese.

Students will also be introduced to some commonly used Kanji and enough Katakana to recognise some common words and be able to write their names in Japanese.

JAPANESE CULTURE

It is important that the students experience a variety of Japanese cultural practices and are able to make connections between values, practices and the language used in Japan. In looking at Japanese culture we will discuss and carry out activities associated with the many traditions and celebrations that take place during the year.

