STUDENT BULLYING AT SCHOOLS

Earlier this week the topic of bullying of students at school received wide media coverage. Neil Mitchell from 3AW contacted me for my advice to any parents who may be concerned that their child could be being bullied at their school. Neil began our conversation with a focus on the difference between bullying and incidental bad behaviour by children to other children. Neither type of bad behaviour is in any way acceptable, but there is a clear difference in definition between the two. Bullying occurs when the threats/intimidation/violence/exclusion, etc is a recurring event, not a one-off behaviour. My advice to parents is to be alert and maintain open lines of communication with your child. Having spoken with your child, If you suspect that your child is being bullied at school, then make sure you take the matter up with your child’s teacher initially and ultimately with the principal if you remain unsatisfied with the outcome.

What I wouldn’t do is wait a number of years and then start legal proceedings against the school as what appears to have been the case in the incident as reported in the media. At our school, in cases where a speedy resolution to instances of student bullying cannot be readily achieved, I involve myself very directly in the matter and personally liaise with the children concerned, their parents and of course the class teacher, until it is resolved satisfactorily. As I am on record for saying, I have zero tolerance for bullying.

Continued...
**DIARY DATES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21st - 23rd October</td>
<td>Grade 4 camp - Forest Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21st October</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Regional Hooptime finals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd October</td>
<td>PFA Anxiety information session at 9.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd October</td>
<td>Grade 5 Freshwater Habitat incursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th October</td>
<td>St Margaret’s interschool netball (re-scheduled)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th October</td>
<td>Wakakirri Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 28th October</td>
<td>Helmeted Honeyeater Ambassador - visit 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29th October</td>
<td>T20 Cricket</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th October</td>
<td>Grade 1 Melbourne Aquarium excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 31st October</td>
<td>Grade 3/4 Regional Hooptime final</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd November</td>
<td>Afternoon Delight - from 3.45 - 5.30pm</td>
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**PORTAL PERMISSION TO BE GRANTED BY:**

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<tr>
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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**THE ONLINE LAUNCH OF OUR AUGMENTED REALITY (AR) CAPABLE CHILDREN’S BOOK**

We will be launching *The Adventures of Harry the Helmeted Honey Eater & Hettie the Forest Keeper*, this week on Amazon, from where the book can be purchased as a print-on-demand book for $14.95 plus postage and handling, with all proceeds, bar the small fee charged by Amazon, going to our school. Then all you have to do to access the AR component is to download our free Forest Classroom App and enjoy AR characters in the book. We will have some pre-printed copies available for purchase at the school. This is a very exciting and innovative educational project in which our school is involved and this is only the beginning. The next stage in the project will be to provide our students with the opportunity to engage with AR in a personally creative way – designing and developing AR characters as part of their curriculum. I think it is fair to say, that we are at the very forefront, internationally, in primary school education with this project, in its entirety.

By the way, the book was written in collaboration by our people – Liz Symonds, Robert Kelly & myself. Manjeet Singh, Deakin University researcher, led the development of the AR component of the book.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ’s)**

Q. When should I inform the school that my child/ren will be absent from school for 5 days or longer during school terms due to family holidays?

A. Before you leave on holidays. We do require families to log onto the parent portal & advise their absence or via written/email information, addressed to the principal, in such instances.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE**

‘Take nothing for granted and your life will lack extreme disappointment’

*Henry Grosseck*
EARLY ARRIVALS
Some students are arriving at school before teachers are on yard duty. Please ensure your child/ren are not left unsupervised in the yard before 8.45am. Parents will be contacted if children arrive before this time. If you would like to find out more about the Camp Australia service for before and after school care, please follow the link https://www.campaustralia.com.au/ or telephone: 1300 105 343

PREP TRANSITION PROGRAM – EYE – EARLY YEARS EVALUATION
Our Prep transition program starts very soon with a variety of activities planned for our new students including robotics, garden program, story time, classroom and specialist activities. Each year we encourage our new Prep enrolments to complete the EYE – Early Years Evaluation, which provides valuable information on how we can best support each child with starting school. Our EYE parent information evening is being held on Monday 21st October at 6pm in the staff room. If you have a Prep child enrolled for next year, we strongly encourage you to attend the evening and book your child in for their individual evaluation session. Please RSVP via the office and we appreciate your understanding if you could make arrangements to not bring children to this evening session.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS
Myth:
Education cannot solve the problem of family violence
Fact:
Respectful Relationships isn’t intended to be the whole solution to addressing family violence, but it is an important primary prevention initiative. Just like other major social and health issues such as smoking and road tolls, evidence shows that gender-based violence can be prevented by working with the whole population, and in this case, all schools, to address the attitudes, beliefs and knowledge that supports the prevention of violence. Studies show that school-based violence prevention and Respectful Relationship initiatives can produce lasting changes in attitudes and behaviors. Respectful Relationships Education in Schools (RREIS) was trialed across 19 schools, reaching 1,700 teachers and 4,000 students. The trial found that the initiative had a positive effect on students’ attitudes, knowledge and skills, as well as, school policies, culture and ethos.

GRADE 4 CAMP
On Monday, our grade four students depart for Forrest Edge Camp. The camp is an outdoor adventure camp with many challenging and fun activities. We look forward to hearing about their stories when they return next Wednesday.

Sandra McCrum and Angela Maskery.
Chess Club starts Monday 14th October

BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Book Club orders are due online by 3pm Friday 25th October 2019.
Three things from the PFA this week:

1) On Tuesday 22 October at 9:15am, the PFA will be hosting a FREE parent information session themed ‘what anxiety looks like in children’. (see attached flyer) The informal session will be presented by the Department of Education’s school support services and will cover topics including the types and signs of anxiety in children and tools/strategies that parents can use to help. The session will run for around 1 hour. Please RSVP to the office ASAP.

2) Our next PFA meeting will be on this Monday 21 October at 9:30am in the staff room, starting right after the morning assembly. All welcome as always, including bubs and young ones – there will be donuts!

3) I’ve been in touch with the City of Casey’s school crossings program to check up on James, our missing Mansfield Street crossing supervisor. James isn’t expected to return to the Mansfield Street crossing – he’s having an extended break and will most likely move to another location when he’s ready to return to work.

James started at the Mansfield Street crossing in Feb 2011 – that’s over 8 years of service there in rain, hail and shine!

We’ve arranged a Thank You card for James, which is currently held at the school office for any parents, kids, staff or anyone in our community who wants to sign it or add a thank you note for James.

Please help to spread the word about the card, and of course remember to add a note yourself if you’d like.

Thanks for your help everyone!

Cheers,
Christine
PFA President.
IS YOUR CHILD WORRIED, ANXIOUS OR STRESSED OUT?

You are invited to a FREE learning event for all parents about:
- what anxiety looks like - signs & symptoms in children
- different types of worries & fears experienced by kids
- things you can do to help your child to manage anxiety
- school & community resources that are available to support you & your child

Presented by psychologists from the Department of Education's Student Support Services

TUESDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2019 @ 9:15AM
BERWICK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Please RSVP via the school office - tea/coffee & cake provided
Don’t forget the recent Casey Creations Art competition for Grade 5/6 students. Work must be submitted to Mrs Zammit no later than Thursday 24\textsuperscript{th} October. All forms can be collected from the Art Room.

Please take a look at another competition, which looks at Cyber Safety. Raphael and Rachel are giving it a go again with their creativity and would love your vote!

Check out the links below!

https://whatsyourstory.trendmicro.com.au/entry/4-c54e78/

**Donations**

Thank you to everyone who donates so kindly to our newspaper collection! We are really stocked up now and will call again next year should we need some more.

Jo Zammit/Kylee Muccignat
Visual Arts Teachers
Unleash your creativity and artistic talents with the Casey Creations Youth Arts Competition! Let your imagination run wild and embrace the opportunity to exhibit your work and win some great prizes!

Open for submission in the following categories:

**VISUAL ARTS 2D**

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

**SHORT FILM**

Entries open Monday 9 September and close Thursday 24 October 2019 at 5.00 pm.

For a copy of the competition entry form and terms and conditions of entry, please visit the City of Casey Youth Services website or contact Customer Service on 9705 5200.
WELFARE SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Empasense Counselling is run by Cassie Eckard. Cassie holds a Master in Counselling (Monash University), she is fully insured and is registered with the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia. Cassie specialises in counselling children, teenagers and teachers. She originally trained as a teacher and taught in secondary schools for a few years before going back to university to study counselling. She has since undertaken further training in sandplay therapy, as well as art and play therapy for children.

Cassie has worked in a range of therapeutic settings, and is currently employed as a student counsellor at a P-12 school in the Yarra Valley. As a qualified teacher, Cassie has a unique understanding of the pressures faced by schools, and enjoys helping teachers and students alike. She currently consults out of Pakenham and Lilydale and offers in-school visits throughout the Cardinia, Casay and Yarra Ranges areas.

Contact Cassie to arrange a meet and greet with your School Welfare Team today or visit the website for more information:
 w: www.empasense.com.au
e: empasense@gmail.com
m: 0448 388 750

SERVICES

Counselling for children aged 5-18
- Individual sessions
- Tailored group sessions for targeted groups of children. E.g. resilience building, grief and loss, social skills etc.
- NDIS sessions for clients who self-manage.

Employee Assistance Programs (EAP)
- This is confidential, short term counselling provided to teachers and other staff members. This is funded by employers as part of improving staff wellbeing.
- Such services are of vital importance for teachers, who often suffer from stress, burnout, work/life imbalance and vicarious trauma from emotionally supporting their students.

Teacher debriefing and counselling (privately funded)
- Teachers can also access services privately for debriefing and general counselling.
Hoping to start the Friday class on the 25th October 2019 but we just need a couple more students to go ahead. Please contact Liz or Vicky on the below numbers if you’re interested in joining or would like further information.

New Classes Commencing
Tuesday Evening Class is ready to start. Eastern College will confirm a date soon.
[6.30pm to 10.00pm)
New students are welcome to join this class.
Enrolling for 25 Oct 2019 (Fridays)
(Morning class 9.30am to 2.00pm)
Enrolling for 6 Feb 2020 (Thursdays)
(Morning class 9.30am to 2.00pm)
A minimum of 10 students are required for a class to commence, so do register early for the classes.
Any queries you can call:
Vicky (0414 386 024) or Liz (0411 020 220)

Teacher Aide Course
Qualify with a Cert III in Education Support
(24 weeks / once-a-week / 100hrs placement)

Classes are held at
Berwick Lodge Primary School
139-145 Mansfield St, Berwick VIC 3806.

Why be a Teacher Aide (TA)
A rewarding and stable career choice for a stay at home mum returning to work, or someone looking for child-friendly hours.
Rewarding work | Family friendly hours | Quick to qualify |
Growth industry | Open doors to other opportunities

Supported by: Organised & Community Project of: Course delivered by:
Berwick Lodge Primary School TAmums Eastern College Australia
National Resurgence Training

Register Your Expression of Interest Online:
https://www.tamums.com.au/#register
or Call: 0414 386 024 (Vicky) or Liz (0411 020 220)
Lego Therapy Group

Parents can chat and share experiences with a CASS Committee member while their children work with a Qualified Speech Therapist on the Lego Brickmasters Social Skills Program. This group is aimed at children 7-11 years old.

Lego Based Therapy is a Play-based social skills intervention that aims to:
- Promote the development of appropriate social, communication and play skills
- Utilise children’s strengths to help develop areas of difficulty
- Develop effective problem solving skills including negotiation and compromise.

When: Sessions occur once per week across 8 sessions during term 4:

17/10/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
24/10/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
31/10/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
07/11/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
14/11/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
21/11/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
28/11/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
05/12/19 Thursday, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Where:
Meeting Room 5, Level 2, Bunjil Place Library, 2 Patrick Northeast Drive Narre Warren

Cost: $100 per session, $800 total.
NDIS Funding is welcome.

Individual Feedback is provided weekly and a written summary report is provided at the conclusion of the term.

Places are limited so please book early to avoid missing out.
For Bookings please follow the link below to our Eventbrite Page:

Casey Asperger Syndrome Support
“Embracing the brilliance of a different mind.”
NARRE WARREN CALISTHENICS CLUB

Come and Try Classes
Fun, Fitness, Singing, Dancing, Gymnastics, Confidence, Coordination, Team oriented

Monday 18th November 2019
3-7yrs 4.30pm - 5.30pm
8-10yrs 5.30pm - 6.30pm
11-13yrs 6.30pm - 8.00pm
26yrs+ 8.00pm - 9.30pm

Tuesday 19th November 2019
14-17yrs 5.30pm - 7.00pm
18yrs+ 7.00 - 8.30pm

Fleetwood Primary School
Fleetwood Drive
Narre Warren, Vic 3805
Ph: Marilyn (03) 9795 1298
enquiries@narrewarrencalisthenicsclub.com

We'd love to see you there!!
COMMUNITY ADVERTISING

Starting 5th October 8:30am until 11:00am
First 2 weeks free for New Athletes

Come & Try
Little Athletics

Track & Field Events Every Saturday Morning
Robert Booth Athletic Track
Clow Street, Dandenong
Register Online:
dandenonglac.com.au

Ph: 0417 744 992 (Peter) – Ph: 0417 368 844 (Greg)
COMMUNITY ADVERTISING

FOUND ITEMS!

Does your child belong to any of these?

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BELEZA HALLAM
7/151-159 Princes Hwy
P: (03) 9702 3181

VIP SALE
20% OFF*

Wednesday 13 Nov - Saturday 16 Nov 2019

TRADING HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9AM - 5PM
SATURDAY: 9AM - 1PM
SUNDAY: CLOSED

*VIP SALE CONDITIONS:
Discount applies ONLY to Beleza brand full retail priced items.
Shoes & Discounted items excluded. Some other exclusions apply.
Calling all Lego Lovers...

A Mega Lego Building Event is coming to CCL!

Roar into Dinovember with an awesome series of dinosaur themed Lego building events hosted by contestants Maddy and Jimmy from Lego Masters Australia.

During the month of October we will be running a range of fun, hands on workshops where you can learn new skills, participate in mini competitions and work alongside Lego lovers Maddy and Jimmy.

Then join Maddy and Jimmy for a meet and greet and mega reveal where you can showcase your builds and celebrate being a Lego building extraordinaire.

If you are aged between 8 and 16 and want to be part of this amazing series of events register your interest now, registrations close on September 16.

Free event, bookings required.

Visit: www.ccl.vic.gov.au to register your interest!

Maddy and Jimmy from the show Lego Masters are visiting the Casey Cardinia libraries across October and will be holding lego building sessions at our larger branches! They will be offering tips and tricks to budding lego builders and helping put together some big lego dinosaurs to be displayed at Bunjil Place in November.

The dates for the events are as follows:

Saturday 5th October
Cranbourne 10 to 11.30
Pakenham 1.30 to 3

Saturday 12th October
Emerald 10 to 11.30
Hampton Park 1.30 to 3

Saturday 19th October
Doveton 10 to 11.30
Endeavour Hills 1.30 to 3

Saturday 26th October
Bunjil Place 10 to 11.30
Big Reveal Bunjil Place 12.30 to 3.30

If families want to enter the ballot for tickets they can head to the following link: https://www.cclc.vic.gov.au/mega-lego-event-at-ccl/
BECOME A VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILY

WEP is looking for volunteer host families to host exchange students from countries including Italy, France and Belgium, arriving in Australia in July 2020!

If you have an interest in other cultures, we would love to hear from you! Remember, sometimes the greatest rewards in life come from doing things you never thought you would!

Contact WEP on 1300 884 733 for more information or email info@wep.org.au.

Laura from Italy
Ciao from Italy! I am able to see the good in anything and anyone and I perceive every life event as a lesson. I love spending time outdoors, swimming, walking, participating in team sports, taking photos and meeting with my friends.

My family is relatively small, but we are very close; I respect and admire my parents.

I can’t wait to meet my Australian family!