



BULLETIN #4

Play is the Way is a program which has been initiated and embedded within the school for the past 3 years. Play is the Way helps teachers to help students develop the life and learning skills necessary to lead meaningful and fulfilling lives. These skills are often called personal and social capabilities/competencies or pro-social behaviour. They are essential if children are to reach their academic potential. They are also the skills we all use to handle ourselves, our relationships and our work effectively and ethically. Play is the Way is a practical methodology for teaching social and emotional skills using guided play, classroom activities and an empowering language.

As part of this program the language is very targeted and specific to provide students with the skills to self-manage and self-regulate their feelings and emotions. The program is also highly weighted in the area of play. Games are structured into challenging activities where students must work together in order to successfully achieve the outcome of the activity.

As with any initiative there is an element of positive reinforcement and challenge for students to work through. Students are encouraged to participate at their level and are pushed to extend their learning possibilities.

Rewards and praise are a vital part of maximising the potential from every child. However praise and rewards can be overused to the point where they have little or no effect on a child's choices. Therefore praise for praise sake does not lead to improved behaviour choices. Staff work in many different ways with all children and one size definitely does not suit all. The challenge is working in a variety of ways to cater for the wide and very diverse range of backgrounds, challenges and successes our children face. This inevitably means we must cater for individual needs at all times and address the needs of the group when we make decisions. ***"Fair isn't everybody getting the same thing, fair is everybody getting what they need in order to be successful"***. If we follow this line of thought when making decisions then everyone is getting what they need to be successful and achieve their personal best.

Pupil Free Day

June 19th is designated as a student free day. Students do not come to school on this day. Staff will be involved in a training opportunity based on moderation of student work.

No Nut school

Governing Council have endorsed the school be a **NO NUT SCHOOL**. This is to protect staff and students from life threatening reactions which can occur if nuts were to be on site. The policy around this process is currently being written and will be passed at the next Governing Council meeting in week 8. The policy will outline what foods cannot be brought onto site and provide information for families to work within.

School Fees

School fees are now overdue. By now you should have received a reminder statement if your fees are still outstanding. Please come and speak with Raylene who can support you in this process if you are having difficulty.

School canteen

Thank you to the community for embracing the change in arrangements for the school canteen. Students are in full swing and have taken to the change extremely well. Congratulations to Sandra for making the change as seamless as possible. Please support the school canteen as often as you can.

Bryan Rotherham
Principal