SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS PROGRAM

At Reynella Primary School, we want all of our students to experience success in all aspects of their learning and in their relationships with others. For this reason, teachers spend a large part of the first 2 weeks of every school year working with their students to establish a positive learning environment within their classroom to ensure that all members of the class community feel safe, secure and ready to be successful. We call it our Successful Learners Program.

As part of the program students from Reception to Year 7 attended a performance called “Sticks & Stones” by the award winning touring group Brainstorm Productions on Thursday 4th February, during our first week of school. This performance forms part of our effort to promote positive relationships among our students, reduce bullying and encourage healthy active lifestyles.

It is also a great way to help our students develop their Personal and Social Capabilities which are an important part of the Australian Curriculum. From Reception to Year 7, students are expected to develop skills in Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness and Social Management. As usual it was totally subsidized by the school budget to ensure that every student could attend.

In the play, the students were taught to recognise emotions, express emotions appropriately, make decisions and negotiate and resolve conflict—all part of the curriculum as well as being important life skills. The main character was a boy called Toby who had a lot of trouble caused by anger. When Toby became angry, he would either try to fight people or run away. He was helped by a very wise person called Joe. Toby learnt that it is OK to feel angry, but what is really important is what we DO when we are angry. The message of the play was:

“Everybody gets mad sometimes. But don’t hit out, you’ll be OK.
Just walk away- put your hands in your pockets - that’s where they stay.
Take a deep breath and start to count to ten - you’ll be better again.

Brainstorm Productions has provided age appropriate resource materials for class teachers to follow up the messages of the performance with their students. If you would like more information, feel free to contact me at school - or better still, ask your children.

Karen Thorburn - Assistant Principal
DROPPING OFF IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL!
Please be aware that the area directly in front of the office is a no parking zone. The sign (pictured) indicates which side is okay to carry out the drop off of children. On occasions the Parking Ranger takes photos of illegal parking and the first that you will know is when an expiation notice arrives in the mail. The fine is between $300 and $400. The picture with the Road Crossing monitors indicates the section that is referred to.

THE CRIMINAL HISTORY SCREENING POLICY
In the packs that were sent home there was included an explanation about the changes to the screening requirements. The change that effects us mostly is: from Monday 25 January 2016, parents and guardians volunteering in schools and preschools to support their own child’s education will no longer need to undertake relevant history screening.

To clarify this, it means that if you are a parent or a legal guardian of a child at Reynella Primary School and wish to work only with your own child in the classroom or under teacher supervision, then you will not be required to have a check. However, if you are going to work in any way with other children at any time, then you still require a Criminal History Check.

It will be far easier if we continue with all parents, guardians and adults getting a clearance, which is done at the school’s cost. (There is no cost to parents, grandparents etc.) They remain current for three years from the date recorded on the certificate.

All volunteers do need to complete the Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training (RAN) and further sessions will be run during term one at school. These will be advertised at a later time. RAN training is still a requirement following recommendations by the Working with Children Checks Report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

As a further clarification, all volunteers working in the Canteen etc still require a current clearance and RAN training.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF FOR 2016
We welcome the following people to our school;
- Ms Michele Russell – Deputy Principal
- Ms Belinda Feely – teaching year 1/2
- Ms Shelley Arbuckle – teaching year R/1
- Ms Marie Andrews – teaching French and Performing Arts (Tuesdays)
- Mr Brad Espeland – grounds
- Mr Mikal Grainger - grounds

We welcome the return of our longer term contract teachers;
- Ms Denise Patterson – teaching Reception
- Mr Clint Rowland – teaching PE and Fridays in Reception
- Ms Annie Stiffle – teaching year 1
- Ms Michelle Woosnam – teaching year 6/7

Also welcome back Karen Thorburn who was working in Central Office for two terms last year.

Kind Regards,
Steve Freeman : Principal

Have you downloaded the new Qkr App?

RAN TRAINING: Responding to Abuse and Neglect – Education and Care training
Wednesday 24th February
9-10.30am in the library.

We will be running the above course for all LAP and Fun Club volunteers who have not yet completed this training. There are spaces for any interested parents. Please leave your name with Bev at the Front Office if you are interested in attending.

Thanking you,
Michele Russell and Tanya Stephen
WELCOME MICHELE RUSSELL

I am Michele Russell and am very excited to be the new Deputy Principal here at Reynella PS. I have been teaching for over 30 years, most of them being in the south. For the last two years I have been working as a member of the TfEL (Teaching for Effective Learning) portfolio based in central office and at Morphett Vale PS. My role as a TfEL Pilot Leader was to build the capacity of the leaders, teachers and students across Panalatinga Partnership, to design student learning that engaged and intellectually challenged all learners. Prior to taking up this position I spent 9 years at Woodcroft PS, as middle school co-ordinator and later Senior Leader, as well as the Australian Curriculum Coordinator across the then Panalatinga Cluster.

I have been so impressed with the students at this school so far, they are extremely courteous and very caring while being very focussed on their learning. I am very passionate about teaching and learning and am looking forward to the opportunities and challenges that being at Reynella PS brings.

SCHOOL WATCH THANKYOU

A huge thank you to the 9 families who spent part of their holidays ensuring that damage to our school facilities was kept to a minimum.

I would like to acknowledge the assistance of:

Christy Arbon, Therese & Richard Artis, Emilie Dalwood, Vicki Fielder, Kelly & Matthew Hendry, Nathan Inglis & Vanessa Darling, Nick Hodgson, Karina Matson and Jun Pretila.

Thanks also to Leon Mickan, Mikal Grainger, Karina Romanovskis and the staff and students who attended VACCARE for watering our garden compound to make sure that the crops planted by during term 4 made it through the holidays especially on the very hot days.

Karen Thorburn

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WANTED

Anyone have a microwave they wish to get rid of. The LAP program would like one for the LAP room.

If you have one please see Bev in the front office

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VOLUNTEERS WELCOME

Deb and Amanda are always looking for new volunteers for the canteen. Come and meet other parents and learn about our canteen. Any offers of time will be appreciated (eg a few hours, weekly, fortnightly, once a term).

Please come and see us in the canteen and chat about it.

Free coffee and laughter provided.

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CANTEEN ROSTER

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PLAY IS THE WAY AT REYNELLA!

All classes participated in a games session at 12:15pm on our first day back at school as part of our Successful Learners Program. It was a great way for students to get to know their new classmates and teachers and begin to learn how to co-operate better in order to achieve success individually and as a group. Here are some photos of the whole school session.

Karen Thorburn