



## Safety Bay Primary School

Newsletter 12 - 11th August

Dear Subscribers Name

Here is this fortnight's news from Safety Bay Bay Primary School.

[Term 3 Planner](#)

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### Principal's Word Dear Parent/Caregiver

Last Monday's School Development day provided the whole staff with an opportunity to discuss, reflect and plan in the area of KidsMatter.

Dear Parent/Caregiver

Last Monday's School Development day provided the whole staff with an opportunity to discuss, reflect and plan in the area of KidsMatter. As a KidsMatter school we are constantly looking at ways to better address the social and emotional wellbeing of the school community.

It was great to see firsthand, the skills and expertise displayed by our robotics club students who shared some of their learning with parents and staff last Thursday. The explanations given by students on their projects showed a high level of understanding of the creative thinking which was inspired by the technologies available. I know Mrs McCulloch is looking forward to seeing what they can come up with next. Over the last two weeks, I have also met with the student leaders in year 6 and have been impressed with their approach to their schooling and pride that they have in their school.

There are three great sessions on here at school for parents next month as part of the Positive Parenting Program. The three seminars run on consecutive Tuesday's beginning on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. The sessions are relevant to any parent no matter the age of the child so please take advantage of the opportunity if you are able to.

Unfortunately we made the decision to withdraw our participation in this week's Interschool Cross Country event. After much deliberation, it was decided the potential risk for students was too great, taking into consideration the weather and condition of the track. Hopefully those parents who were planning to come along weren't inconvenienced too much. Fingers crossed the weather will look after us later in the term for the years 1-3 and years 4-6 faction athletics carnivals.

Next week's Learning Journey will no doubt be a highlight of the year for many students who are excited about sharing some of their learning with family members. A note has gone out via connect and with students outlining the schedule for the evening along with a sausage sizzle order form.

Please read on regarding our [Visible Learning](#) approach to get an idea on where we are heading as a school.

Have a great weekend

Phil Springett  
Principal



KidsMatter

## Social and emotional learning

### Supporting children's social and emotional development

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## Social and emotional learning



### Supporting children's social and emotional development

Babies are born communicators and are capable of experiencing and expressing a wide range of emotions. Through their many positive interactions with caregivers, they learn to feel good about themselves and to enjoy relating with others. They also learn how to manage a range of feelings and to communicate effectively to get their needs met.

As babies grow into toddlers and later preschoolers, they can manage more things by themselves but still need guidance and support from their caregivers. Toddlers want to please adults and also to be themselves. They do this by imitating others and build their self confidence by 'helping' during everyday experiences such as cooking, cleaning, and shopping. They also adapt their behaviour according to their caregivers' responses and are learning ways to cope with conflict and to solve problems through their relationships with significant adults in their lives.

Preschoolers develop their social and emotional skills through a wide network of social relationships including other adults and children. Supported by their increased language, thinking and planning capabilities, preschoolers are more able to wait for things they want, to negotiate solutions to everyday problems and make decisions for themselves and with others.

Children's social and emotional skills are developing all the time. Skills may develop differently for different children. Children benefit from having many learning and practise opportunities.

There are many facets to social and emotional learning, which are summarised in the infographic below:



## Social and emotional development in the early years

Birth to school age is the period of greatest growth and development. The early childhood years are not only a time for taking first steps or for saying first words. They are also when, through their relationships with others, children are building expectations about their world and the people in it and are developing their first:

- sense of self including feeling good about themselves and what they can do
- social skills to get along in life with others
- emotional skills such as recognising, expressing and managing a wide range of feelings.

These first skills are very important as they form the foundations for children's ongoing development and affect their mental health and wellbeing, now and into the future.

### **Why social and emotional learning (SEL) is part of KidsMatter Primary**

Social and emotional learning is about learning how to manage feelings, manage friendships and solve problems. These are essential life skills that support wellbeing and positive mental health. Social and emotional skills promote children's ability to cope with difficulties and help to prevent mental health problems. Children who have developed social and emotional skills find it easier to manage themselves, relate to others, resolve conflict, and feel positive about themselves and the world around them.

KidsMatter emphasises teaching social and emotional learning as a way of promoting children's mental health. Social and emotional learning provides practical skills that all children can learn and apply to everyday situations. Learning skills such as self-awareness, effective communication and conflict resolution can also help to prevent the development of mental health difficulties in children who might otherwise be vulnerable. In this way teaching children social and emotional skills helps to promote resilience – the capacity to cope and stay healthy in spite of the negative things that happen through life.

### **What does social and emotional learning have to do with learning?**

Research has shown that children's learning is influenced by a range of social and emotional factors. How well children do at school is affected by things such as:

- how confident children feel about their abilities
- how effectively they are able to manage their own behaviour
- how well they can concentrate and organise themselves
- how effectively they can solve problems
- how positively they are able to get on with teaching staff and with peers
- how effectively they take into account others' needs
- how well they can understand and accept responsibilities.

### **How social and emotional learning is taught**

A number of programs for school-based teaching of social and emotional skills have been developed in Australia and internationally. For the implementation of KidsMatter Primary, schools select the program (or programs) that best suit their particular needs. Social and emotional learning programs that have been shown through research to improve children's social and emotional competence are more likely to achieve goals related to improving students' mental health. KidsMatter Primary provides schools with detailed information about programs and the research evidence for their effectiveness.

School-wide classroom teaching of social and emotional learning allows staff and students to share a common understanding of what it is all about. Importantly, the emphasis of its teaching needs to be not just on learning about emotions and relationships, but on practical skills that children can apply across a range of situations at school, at home and in the broader community. Classroom teaching which is offered regularly will maximise the benefits. Opportunities for learning can be coordinated across the school so that children can continue to develop their skills with age and experience.

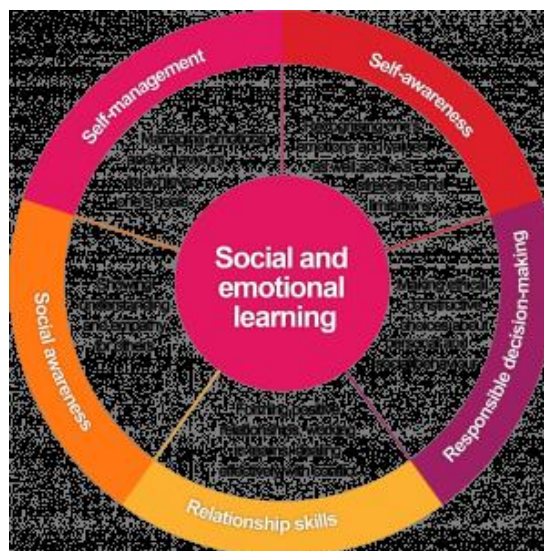
Children learn social and emotional skills most effectively when they are also reinforced at home. Many social and emotional learning programs include components for involving the family and community in promoting the

teaching. This gives parents and carers the chance to learn about the particular approach schools take and what they can do to support children's social and emotional learning. In this way, school-based social and emotional learning offers gains all round – for students, for schools and for families.

### **The social and emotional learning framework**

Many teaching staff and schools already incorporate some aspects of social and emotional learning. The KidsMatter Primary approach looks at what schools are already doing and asks them to evaluate how systematically and effectively they are teaching social and emotional skills. It provides them with a framework for planning, teaching and evaluating to help ensure that from year to year children can build social and emotional skills that are relevant and appropriate for their age and skill level.

The KidsMatter approach to social and emotional learning is based on the model developed by the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL), an internationally-recognised lead organisation for this area of research. The diagram outlines the five core competencies that CASEL has identified as central to social and emotional learning.<sup>1</sup>



*1 Adapted from The Collaborative for Academics, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) (2006). Sustainable schoolwide social and emotional learning (SEL): Implementation guide. Chicago, IL: Author*

These five social and emotional skill areas are viewed as essential for the development of good mental health. Structured teaching of these competencies, and opportunities for students to practise and generalise them in the classroom, school and wider community, are also crucial to implementing effective social and emotional learning. KidsMatter Primary encourages schools to communicate with families about their work in teaching and promoting children's social and emotional learning. Informing and working with families on the development of children's competencies has been found to increase the benefits for children.

### **Why social and emotional learning is important to schools**

Australia's national educational goals for the 21st century, as well as curriculum frameworks for each state and territory, recognise the importance of children achieving positive outcomes that relate directly to the skills of social and emotional learning. In addition, there is broad agreement and research evidence that shows that social and emotional skills can improve academic learning and enhance students' motivation to cooperate and achieve.

Because it emphasises teaching children the skills for positive relationships, social and emotional learning is a key strategy for schools in their efforts to reduce bullying and improve caring, respect and responsibility at school. When children are taught specific strategies for recognising and responding to emotions, thinking through challenging situations and communicating effectively, they are less likely to act out frustrations at school and

elsewhere.

## **Social and emotional skills at home**

For children to develop social and emotional skills they need guidance that is matched to their level of development, as well as practice. In addition to teaching social and emotional learning at school, parents and carers can encourage children to use these skills in everyday interactions at home. Prompting and encouraging children to apply their learning in this way helps them develop their skills. Here we provide two examples that show how everyday situations can be used as opportunities for supporting children's social and emotional skills development.

In the first example, Voula is very excited about a family outing, but her behaviour is very annoying to the rest of her family, especially to her baby brother. The following table considers the problem, the skills Voula needs to learn, and how a parent or carer might support her learning.

[Continued....](#)

**Our kids matter.**  
KidsMatter helps our school nurture  
happy, balanced kids.

**KidsMatter**  
Australian Primary Schools  
Mental Health Initiative  
kidsmatterprimary.edu.au



### **Merit Certificate Recipients Assembly - Friday 11th August**

**Congratulations go to the following students, the latest recipients of our prestigious Merit Certificates. Well done!!**

#### **Assembly - Friday 11th August**

**Congratulations go to the following students, the latest recipients of our prestigious Merit Certificates. Well done!!**

**W1 - Layla**

**W2 - Charlotte**

**W3 - Madison and Wynter**

**W4 - Matilda and Annelise**

**W5 - Emma and Braxton**

**W8 - Shyla and Lilli**

**S3 - Nate and Eka**

**S4 - Malachy and Owen**

**S5 - Jade and Ryan**

**S6 - Oliver and Alexis**

**S7 - Miles**

**P7 - Keiki**

**P8 - Logan**

**P9 - Moriah**

**P10 - Ethan**

**C12 - Holly**

**C13 - Daniel**

**C14 - Kade**

**C15 - Jaelah**

**C16 - Nova**

**C17 - Jayden**

**C18 - Kirralee**

**C19 - Georgia**

**C20 - Jorja**

**LOTE - Michael**

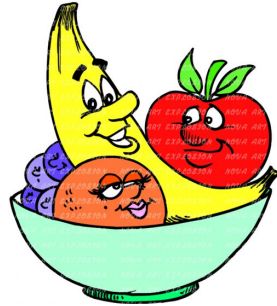
**PHYS ED - Amber**





## Evie Smith - Fruit Bowl Project

Our beautiful Smith family from W5 have again kindly donated fresh fruit from Donnybrook to Safety Bay Primary School.



Our beautiful Smith family from W5 have again kindly donated fresh fruit from Donnybrook to Safety Bay Primary School.

Our magic fruit fairy Evie has happily delivered fresh fruit to all wet areas for students and staff to help themselves to in case they forgot their Crunch & Sip.

Please help yourselves to the delicious fruit provided.

A huge thank you to Evie & her family for your kind heart and on going generosity to Safety Bay Primary School.

It is fruitastically appreciated!!!



## Special Visitor to Safety Bay

Last Wednesday Safety Bay Primary School received a special visitor....

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"Percival" the pelican stopped for a rest before continuing on his journey, fortunately he stayed around long enough to say "Hello!" to our students at afternoon recess before continuing on his journey.

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### Scholastic Book Fair

Safety Bay Primary School annual Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the Library from Tuesday 15th August finishing Monday 21st August at the following times:

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Tuesday 15th - after school until 3.45pm

Wednesday 16th - 8.30am + lunchtime and after school closing at 3.45pm

Thursday 17th - 8.30am + lunchtime and after school closing at 6.00pm

Friday 18th - 8.30am + lunchtime and after school closing at 3.45pm

Monday 21st - 8.30am + lunchtime and after school closing at 3.45pm

Remember to save your money as it is a great opportunity to buy some fantastic books as well as helping support our school Library!

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### Community News

NOTICES FROM OUR COMMUNITY: Safety Bay Primary School does not endorse nor assume any responsibility for the information provided.

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### P&C News

**P&C Meeting** We had the P&C meeting yesterday at 1.00pm. We struggled again yesterday to have a quorum and that makes it very difficult to vote on spending the P&C money. We want to encourage as many parents as possible to attend so we decided the next meeting will be at 6.00pm on Wednesday 6th September. Babysitting will be provided for the parents that need to bring their children to the meeting...all we ask is that people RSVP so we can make sure we have enough people organised to watch the children. Please email [sbbspandc@hotmail.com](mailto:sbbspandc@hotmail.com) if you would like to attend the meeting and require babysitting for your children. **Canteen Volunteers** If you can spare an

hour or two a week to volunteer in the canteen then please see Beki, our Canteen Manager. Any extra help Beki can get is always greatly appreciated! Sports Carnivals The P&C will be running a sausage sizzle and a food stall for the sports carnivals on September 12th & 14th. There will also be a coffee van selling specialty coffees. Sausage sizzle pre-order forms will be going home September 1st and forms are to be returned by the 8th. We will need volunteers on both days so please see Tamara Toghil or email [sbbspandc@hotmail.com](mailto:sbbspandc@hotmail.com) if you can help out. Thanks Jill Erikssen  
P&C President Communication Please like our Facebook page to keep track with P&C news: Safety Bay Primary P&C Noticeboard or you can email us any questions, feedback or comments on [sbbspandc@hotmail.com](mailto:sbbspandc@hotmail.com) P&C Meetings P&C meetings are held twice a term in weeks 4 and 8. Please refer to the term planner for meeting times.

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