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YINNAR PRIMARY SCHOOL

### CALENDAR AND REMINDERS

Tuesday	25 Jul - Fri 4 Aug	Scholastic BOOK FAIR
Monday	7 August	Kinder Parents Open Morning (9.15-10.45am)
Thursday	10 August	NAIDOC DAY Celebrations
Mon-Fri	21 Aug-25 Aug	Book Week
Wednesday	23 August	'Escape to Everywhere' Dress-up Day

Dear parents and carers,

In last week's newsletter, I touched on our school GRACE values.

This week, I wanted to dig a little deeper into our value of "Respect" in terms of the interactions between our students and their development of respectful relationships with each other, particularly in the playground.

I have noticed that when an argument or disagreement arises in the yard between two or more friends, some of our students do not know how to manage the conflict that this raises for them and need a teacher to solve or fix the problem.

We proactively teach the students to have a voice and we help them speak with their playmate in a respectful yet assertive manner, to listen to the others viewpoint and try to solve the problem themselves, under teacher guidance.

We do find that when students are having difficulty managing their social relationships they often use the term '**bullying**' to describe the distressing behaviors, which are unpleasant.

Whilst some of these are certainly incidents of bullying, many thankfully are not. As with every school, there are unfortunately, incidents from time to time where students have exhibited bullying behaviours towards others, and we are committed to seriously investigate and address these concerns for all students involved when we are aware of them.

All children are capable of bullying behaviours at some time, and it is important for us to respond in a calm and helpful manner when this occurs.

The language used when referring to bullying behaviour is important as it influences how students involved in bullying situations are perceived. Bullying is about behaviour. Instead of labelling a child as a "bully," we try to use the term "a child exhibiting bullying behaviour," which recognizes that they are first and foremost a child and second that they have exhibited a specific behaviour.

Children with bullying behaviours are provided with support and guidance to learn new ways of behaving, and we consider consequences that allow them the opportunity to redirect their behaviour in more positive ways so they have the opportunity to show how their behaviour can be changed.

It is important that, as a school community, we understand the nature of bullying behaviours, and have consistent and shared strategies to support young people if they are being bullied at school. Bullying is different from the routine mutual conflicts of childhood.

*Bullying is when someone, or a group of people, **deliberately or intentionally** upset or hurt another person or damage their property, reputation or social acceptance on more than one occasion.*

*There is an **imbalance of power** in incidents of bullying with the bully or bullies having more power at the time.*

Some examples of conflict that are **not** bullying include:

- **Mutual conflict:** This often involves an argument or disagreement between students but not an imbalance of power. Both parties are upset and usually both want a resolution. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.
- **Social rejection or dislike** is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.
- **Single-episode acts** of nastiness or physical aggression are not the same as bullying. If someone is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion they are not being bullied. Nastiness or physical aggression that is directed towards many different people is not the same as bullying. However, this does not mean that single episodes of nastiness or physical aggression should be ignored or condoned as these are unacceptable behaviors.

At Yinnar Primary School we are committed to creating a safe and respectful school environment, and work hard to prevent bullying, cyberbullying and other unacceptable behaviors. We have a zero tolerance of bullying behaviours in our school community and see the support of, and partnership with families as integral to this goal.

As a school we aim to provide a positive culture where bullying is not accepted, and in so doing, all will have the right of respect from others, the right to learn or to teach, and a right to feel safe and secure in their school environment at all times.

As a school we have policies that include processes and strategies to prevent and respond to incidents of bullying and other forms of unacceptable behavior, and we work closely with parents to reduce and manage bullying behaviors when they occasionally arise. Our students are taught through the classroom curriculum to be resourceful. We teach them a range of strategies so that when they have a problem they can:

- Try to stand up for themselves in a positive way;
- Try to talk with the person with whom they are having a problem;
- Walk away and ignore the person completely;
- Get help from a teacher or another person they trust;
- Ignore the situation and keep playing or working;

- Talk to a friend to get some ideas to help me make a decision; or
- Try coming to an agreement with the other person.

#### **What can parents do?**

- Encourage your children to be assertive by helping them to practise speaking in a firm but friendly way, making eye contact, looking calm and smile.
- Encourage them to feel good about themselves.
- Encourage your children to interact with other children at school, at home and in the neighbourhood.
- Help your children improve their self-esteem by discussing the things at which they are good.
- Encourage your children to 'have-a-go' at new activities, and encourage them to develop their own independence by allowing them to take responsibility for their belongings or manage their own money.

#### **PARENT OPINION SURVEY**

##### **We're conducting a survey to find out what you think of our school.**

Some of you will receive an invitation to complete the annual Department of Education Parent Opinion Survey during the next week. This is another opportunity for the school to gain some valuable formal feedback on our performance, this time through your parent lens.

The survey is sent to a random sample of 30% of our parent population each year. This year the survey will be conducted online by ORIMA Research Pty Ltd and only takes 15 minutes to complete. It can be accessed from Monday 7th August to Sunday 27th August. The results will be sent back to our school at the end of September.

We also greatly appreciate the ongoing feedback that you give us every day that helps us make sure your child has the most effective learning opportunities, and we are able to achieve our aim of building resilient, resourceful and reflective learners who can learn on their own and with others.

We are not infallible and don't always get things right, but we are always open to hearing from you and how we can improve what we do.

You can catch Christine or I before school in the yard, make an appointment at the office, send us an email, chat to your child's teacher throughout

the year or during Parent-Teacher conversations or message us through the SkoolBag app. Other ways you can provide feedback are also to be a part of the School Council, Buildings and Grounds or participate in other school activities.

I have really appreciated your support and willingness to work as partners in learning, and I look forward to continuing to improve the school with your help.

Enjoy your week.

*Tamina*

### **KINDER PARENTS OPEN MORNING**

Parents/guardians of children enrolling at Yinnar Primary School in 2018 are warmly invited to attend an open morning at the school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August from 9.15am to 10.45am.

This will provide an opportunity for parents/guardians to –

- Talk with the Principal
- Tour the school
- Visit the Prep room
- Meet other parents
- Share morning tea

To assist with catering it would be appreciated if you could please confirm your attendance on 51631 362.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LEARNERS OF THE WEEK:**

*Prep N – Sonny, 1T – Isabella, 1/2H – Oliver  
2/3W – Hayden R, 3/4H – Jaydon D, 3/4 L –  
Faith, 5/6C – Meg and 5/6T – Ashley*  
**Well done and keep up the great work!**



### **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE – EVERY DAY COUNTS**

Did you know that if your child/ren's attendance is above 95% they are likely to be a 'STAR PERFORMER' as well as an excellent attendee?

They will almost certainly achieve the best grades for their ability and have real opportunity in further education and the world of work.

We have a number of students at Yinnar Primary School who have recorded 100% attendance up to this week.

The following students are Yinnar Primary School's '**STAR PERFORMERS**' –  
**Dakota, Brock, Jane, Cooper, Sienna G, Harley, Bethany and Teddy.**

Congratulations to all of these students who will receive a \$20.00 voucher as an acknowledgement of this tremendous achievement.



**A special mention** also to the following students who have recorded an **attendance record of 98% and 99% up to this week-**

**Jacinta, Sage, Paddy, Marli, John T, Hunter, Jasper, Shanique, Ben B, Hayden, Charlotte R, Harry T, Ella W, Troy, Susanna, Mia C, Nina, Ty, Harry F, Oliver M, Mackenzie, Grady, Deagan, Alannah, Alex F, Harry L, Charlise, Caleb W S, Levi, Aiden, Olivia, Zara, Gracie, Ebony, Emily L, Sonny and Trey.**

A \$10 voucher will be going out to all these students. Well done!  
A fantastic achievement!

### **NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATION**

Next Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August, we will be celebrating NAIDOC WEEK with a special day at school.

The children are encouraged to wear the colours of the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander flag, as part of our celebration day.



## **CELEBRATING 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL – PREP N AND GRADE P/1 T**



### **GRACE OUTDOOR AWARDS**

*At Yinnar Primary School, we value our **Core Values – Growth Mindset, Respect, Aim High, Curiosity and Enthusiasm.***

*The following students enjoyed a special morning tea for displaying one of these **Core Values** out in the playground:*

***Thomas B, Declan, Aurelia, Harrison F, Eme, Alyson, Emily Y, Nicola, Gracie and Vinnie.***



***Hayden W***



ESCAPE TO EVERYWHERE  
CBCA BOOK WEEK 19-26 AUGUST 2017

## Book Week 2017



Each year, across Australia, the Children's Book Council of Australia brings children and books together celebrating Children's Book Week. During this time Schools, Libraries, Booksellers, Authors, Illustrators and children celebrate Australian Children's Literature. Book Week this year runs from August 19th through to August 26<sup>th</sup> with this year's theme being 'Escape to Everywhere'.

We will be running our special Book Week day on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August where students are encouraged to dress up and take part in different activities based around some of this year's shortlisted books.

The theme for students to dress up is 'Escape to Everywhere'. To give you some ideas, you could be thinking along the lines of books that take you into different worlds, books that have adventures, escape from baddies, save people's lives, make you laugh aloud, blink away tears and make you completely forget about what you were previously doing.

Through books you get to escape to all sorts of places. You can go to Hogwarts, Narnia, visit the Wizard of Oz, different countries, outer space, fantasy worlds, the bottom of the sea or jungle etc. Books also allow you to escape to real worlds too, and learn about everything from creating codes to cooking a banquet.....

There will be awards given for the best costumes (in year levels), looking for originality and creativity. There won't be a dress up 'parade' as such this year but the school will come together in a different way in the morning (9am in the stadium) to support our Book Week day.

We invite parents to share in our Book Week excitement and stay for the first part of the day.

Looking forward to the day,

Nicole Gill & Leanne Millsom



THE CHILDREN'S  
BOOK COUNCIL  
OF AUSTRALIA