



We are "Learning for Life"



Kuraby Special School Newsletter

Issue

2

Friday
3rd March
2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through Term 1 already!

This term, students and teachers have been exploring the use of Lego as a tool for engaging in learning. In Week 4 we were fortunate to have Bricks 4 Kidz come run a workshop for students at the school. This week some of our Junior Secondary students visited Logan North library to explore the Lego Spike kits. As you can see from the photos, everyone is really enjoying engaging with Lego!



School Priorities for 2023

Our school's priorities for 2023 will continue to focus on successful learners, teaching quality and intentional collaboration. We are excited about the progress our students will make as we aim to embed a multi-modal approach to communication, review and refine Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL), build teacher capability to set evidence-based learning expectations from the Australian Curriculum and look to increase opportunities to engage parents and the community.



Individual Curriculum Plans and Student Engagement Plans

The time has come for us to meet and discuss your child's Individual Curriculum Plan (ICP). This year we are also introducing a Student Engagement Plan, based on the Zones of Regulation. Each student's plan will outline the proactive strategies that support them to stay in the green zone and be ready to learn. The plan will also describe any minor (yellow zone) or major (red zone) behaviours the student may demonstrate and the strategies that should be used to help them return to the green zone.

Class teachers will let you know when they are available for a meeting face-to-face or over the phone. If the times offered do not suit, please let your child's teacher know and we will try to negotiate a time that works for you.

I encourage you to be an active participant in these meetings.

Zones of Regulation

As part of Positive Behaviour for Learning, students engage in explicit lessons focused on Zones of Regulation.

This program focuses on getting the body and emotions in the best state of alertness for learning, known as the "Green Zone".

Supplementary Reproducible E for Elementary Ages



The ZONES of Regulation

Blue Zone Sad Bored Tired Sick	Green Zone Happy Focused Calm Proud	Yellow Zone Worried Frustrated Silly Excited	Red Zone Overjoyed/Elated Panicked Angry Terrified

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Adapted from The Zones of Regulation 2-Storybook Set | Available at www.socialthinking.com

A critical aspect of the Zones of Regulation program is that we all know and understand The Zones language.

To support students, we can all:

- use the language and talk about the concepts of The Zones as they apply to us in a variety of environments.
- make comments aloud so students understand it is natural that we all experience different zones and use strategies to regulate ourselves. For example, "This is really frustrating me and making me go into the yellow zone. I need to use a tool to calm down. I will take some deep breaths to help me get back to the green zone."
- help students gain awareness of their zones and feelings by pointing out observations.
- help students become comfortable with using the language to communicate his/her feelings and needs by encouraging them to share their zone with us.

If you would like to know more about the Zones of Regulation, please chat to your child's class teacher. Also, keep an eye out in future newsletters as we will continue to share more information on how you can support your child at home.

NDIS therapists accessing school site

Due to significant enrolment growth this year, we have had to review our policy around allowing NDIS therapists to come and deliver sessions at the school. The space previously accessed by NDIS therapists is now required for school-based staff and all other spaces in the school are required as learning spaces.

Where possible, students should be accessing therapy outside of school hours. However, we acknowledge that this is not always possible. If required, students are able to attend NDIS therapy sessions during school hours and may arrive late to school, finish school early or be collected throughout the day and return after the therapy session.

If your child will be attending regular therapy sessions during school hours, please contact the office or your child's classroom teacher.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Consent to exchange information forms

Whilst we are unable to accommodate NDIS therapists delivering sessions at the school, we are happy to collaborate with external therapists in order to support best learning outcomes for students. In order for the school to communicate with service providers external to the school, a Department of Education Consent form to share student personal information with third parties must be completed and provided to the school. These are required to be updated each year. Please contact the office if you wish for the school to communicate with external parties and we will provide you with a form.

Parent pick up and drop off

A reminder that the school day runs from 9:00am to 2:50pm. There is supervision available from 8:45am – 9:00am and 2:50pm – 3:00pm. If your child is arriving after 9:00am or departing prior to 2:50pm they will need to be dropped off or collected from the office. If there is an emergent, one-off situation where you need to drop your child to school prior to 8:45am, please contact the office to discuss.

Sickness

If your child is unwell, please keep them home to rest and recover. If students are unwell at school, you will be contacted and asked to come and collect them.

Medications

If your child requires medication at school, please ensure you bring the medication to the office. Please do not send it in your child's school bag. A current medication form must be completed and handed in with the medication. These forms are available at the office.

Medication must be in its original container with a clear pharmacy label with your child's name, the dosage and time for the administration of the medication. Medications must not be sent in in strips or in any other container besides the original pharmacy container.

Student Resource Scheme

For parents/carers who have chosen to be part of the Student Resource Scheme, invoices were sent home earlier this term. Thank you to those parents who have already made payment. If you are yet to make payment, or set up a payment plan, could you please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions in relation to the Student Resource Scheme, please contact Cheryl in the office.

P&C AGM

The P&C AGM will be held on Thursday 30th March at 6:30pm at the school.

All positions will be vacated and we are seeking nominations for the Executive Committee positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

If you are interested in being a part of the P&C but would prefer not to hold an executive committee position that's ok too! We welcome new members to our P&C - come along and help shape the direction of the school.

Applications for P&C membership will be available at the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

