

BUSY SCHOOLS NEWS

Term 1, Week 6

3 March, 2021

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

The safety and wellbeing of students are our highest priority and the school needs to know when and why a child is absent. Parents/Carers also need to know if their child has not turned up for school.

It is important that parents/guardians must contact the school to inform us if your child is going to be absent from school. The school needs to be informed before 9:00 am either by telephone or email. Parents need to inform Kelly Hodgson, Administration Officer on 0437603997 or email shailerpark@busyschools.com.au and state the reason for the absence and the duration.

Each morning the school takes the daily attendance and if parents have not notified the school of an absence the school will contact parents after 9:00 am as a security measure. We will ask you why your child is absent and when they will be returning to school. Also, if your child is absent due to illness and has a medical certificate, please provide this to the school. Furthermore, if your child is absent when assessment is due or taking place and medical certificate will be required.

If your child needs to depart school early, we will require parents to inform the school and collect the student from school. The school will not release a child without consent from parents. Likewise, if students arrive late to school, parents must inform the school for the reason of the lateness. If your child turns up late without confirmation from parents, the school will contact parents to find out the reason for the lateness.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Shane Blood
PRINCIPAL

Graffiti Artist

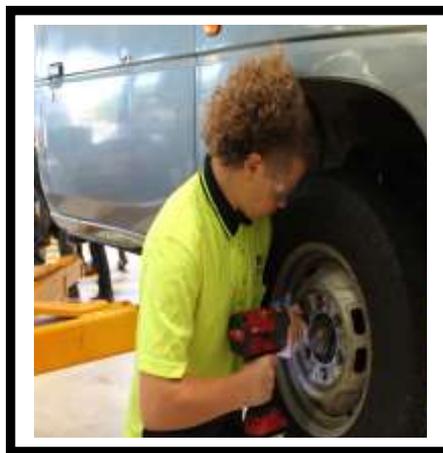
This week the students started to work with a local graffiti artist who is teaching them about the art form. Students will be painting a wall at school using different themes and the use of striking bold colours. This will take place each Monday and Tuesday for the next 3 – 4 weeks. Here is the first stage of the process where students have learned some design techniques and how to use a spray can. The wall will transform into a great piece of artwork over the next few weeks to bring some life and colour to the student recreation area.



Try'a Trade

Nine lucky students this week were invited to visit Acacia Ridge TAFE to participate in a Try'a Trade program in Automotive/Engineering. The students had the opportunity to learn some basic skills to perform a range of tasks related to the service and repair of engines in light vehicles. They also learned about the engineering trade and used a simulator to do some welding to produce and modify objects.





First Response Fire Training

Fire can be very dangerous. Not only can it destroy property, but it can take lives. The potential for fire in the workplace is not something to take lightly. That is why our students this week participated in fire training conducted by Australian Fire Protection. The training was very useful for our students who are now more confident in preventing and dealing with fire emergencies.





Curriculum Coordinator Words

Encouraging Empathy

Who can remember sharing a personal problem with friends, but got replies that made you feel worse? Although we know that our friends mean well, it goes without saying that not every friend has the skill of being **empathetic**. Being empathetic, is having the capacity to understand, relate and carry the feelings of another person- even if you have not been in the same situation before.

To put it simply, being empathetic, is a selfless ability, and puts yourself in another person's shoes.

According to Riess' research, empathy is a built-in biological response to suffering. At the same time, Riess' research assures that even people who do not have empathy biologically ingrained, can, through considerable efforts, successfully show empathy to others.

Here are three easy steps that encourage empathy:

(1) Show care and concern.

Remember the times that you would share a personal problem and just want someone to give you a hug and listen? Well that is exactly how to show care and concern.

So, when someone tells you a personal problem, ask: "How are you feeling?" and "Is there anything I can do for you?" Then, when possible, offer to call them and/or meet up with them in person.

(2) Acknowledge the person's feelings.

One of the biggest problems in communication is that many people do not acknowledge the other person's feelings. Acknowledging means to recognize the importance of something.

For example when someone says: "I feel so frustrated with X." You can acknowledge this feeling by saying: "Why are you frustrated?", "I'm sorry to hear that, or "What happened?"

How you respond to another person's emotion is central to whether the person continues to share or close off from you.

(3) Mirroring the person.

Mirroring means to imitate someone's nonverbal signals — gesture, speech pattern and/ or attitude. The goal of mirroring is to build rapport with the person.

For example, if your friend shares a personal fact, respond by sharing a personal fact of your own. If they make eye contact, respond by giving eye contact, if they look away, look away and give them some private space. This mirroring process assures the person that you have their back.

All in all, in this big world of strangers, filled with fear and uncertainty, it is important more than ever, to stop judgement of others, and instead, show people support through empathy.