Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be a Learner

After discussion with students, staff and parents we will be implementing a positive Behaviour for Learning Program at our school where the students understand the importance of being Safe, Respectful and a Learner. They will also learn what each of these areas mean.

BE RESPECTFUL
I respect myself and other people.
I respect school property and the property of others.

BE SAFE
I expect to be safe at school.
I will behave in a way that keeps myself and others safe.
I will follow the school rules.

BE A LEARNER
I am positive when learning new things.
I take responsibility for my own learning.
I have the right to be a learner and respect the learning of other people.

We have begun to trial the implementation in the classroom and playground, with a draft matrix written including guidelines that cover both positive and negative consequences for behaviour at school. This matrix is attached to the newsletter for your information.

Congratulations!

Mrs Benfield has just shared her exciting news that she is expecting baby number 2! Mrs Benfield will be taking maternity leave from the beginning of Term 3, and returning to Lowanna next year.

Harmony Day

We are looking forward to celebrating Harmony Day at Ulong on Thursday, 19th March. We will undertake various activities such as applying Henna and Tai Chi lessons.

There will also be food Stalls and each child will also be able to taste different cuisines eg: Butter Chicken & rice, Fried Rice, Kebab Sticks, Indonesian Cuisine, Mini hot dogs, fruit platter, Australian Lamingtons for desserts plus some other cuisines. There is a $5 charge to cover the cost of the various food provided.

Students can come in dressed in their cultural outfits, or a cultural outfit from any nationality. Please return your permission note and payment by Wednesday 18th.

“It takes a village to raise a child”

Young people feel comfortable with and proud of their identity, including but not limited to disabilities, ethnicity, faith/religion, family status and language.

It is important for youth to feel that they belong. Positive identity brings self-assurance, a sense of belonging, a positive view of personal future, and better success in school. Developing a positive cultural identity—a critical element of personal identity—can be difficult for young people, especially when they may be bridging more than one culture.

The way that youth are treated in regard to their ethnicity, religion, disability and gender directly affects their ability to develop a positive personal identity. As adults, it’s critical that we model recognition, understanding, and celebrating all cultural identities, including the cultures to which we and/or our children do not belong.

Sharing and celebrating different cultural identities increases self-esteem and promotes cultural competence among all young people.

The following discussion topics can help families talk about their cultural identity:

• What is our cultural background?

Debating

Today we will participate in our second debate against Ulong in preparation for the Great Debate at Glenreagh on the 24th March.

The topic for today’s debate is ‘Shark nets should be compulsory for main beaches.’
• What are some things that you value about our culture?

• What are some things about our culture that you would like other people to know?

• Do you know anyone who’s from a different culture? In what ways are your cultures similar and different? Do your cultural differences make it difficult to be friends? How can you share your cultural differences in a positive, nonjudgmental way?

• Make sure that your children learn the story of where they come from—including both family history and the history of their heritage from an early age.

• Even very young children are aware of racial and cultural differences among people. Address the issues of stereotypes, myths, and cultural differences in a positive, age appropriate manner.

• It’s normal for young people to explore different aspects of personal identity, including cultural identity. Children whose parents promote a positive cultural identity, while allowing them the freedom to explore, tend to develop a healthy personal identity.

• Parents should make special efforts to ensure that everyone feels understood, respected, valued, safe, and loved within the family.

Kind Regards,

Alison Hawken

Lowanna P&C News

We are seeking volunteers for our Election Day Barbeque and Cake Stall on Saturday the 28th of March.

If you are able to help out, even for a short while, please inform Belynda James, or another P&C member.

Families are asked to support the upcoming P&C Cake Stall to be held on voting day by donating your favourite home cooked items for sale.

Tickets for our annual Easter Holiday Hamper will be sent out soon and will also be on sale on the day of the election. Your donations of goods for our hamper would be wonderful!

Thank you for your support.

What’s coming up at our school

Wed 18/3  OV Cross Country + Debating
Thurs 19/3  Harmony Day at Ulong PS
Wed 1/4  Easter Hat Parade + Preschoolers
Thur 2/4  Last day of Term 1
Easter School Holidays
Tues 21/4  Students return to start Term 2