Welcome to the end of Week 4

By now classes will have created their Student Expectations and Adult Expectations aligned to our 5 School Expectations. This enables the classes to have rules and routines around how they work in the classroom.

At Pine Rivers Special School, School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) is implemented across the whole school. This non-aversive methodology acknowledges that a multi strategy approach is required to achieve positive outcomes for all students. Positive reinforcement of appropriate behaviours is considered the most successful response to behaviours displayed at Pine Rivers Special School. Students will develop responsible behaviours through the teaching of new skills while responding effectively to make challenging behaviours redundant.

SWPBS is a systems-perspective and provides a continuum of behaviour support. There is a strong focus on proactive strategies, including teaching and supporting the appropriate and expected positive behaviours to all students in the school.

School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support is a team-based process for systemic problem solving and planning. The ultimate goal of School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support is to increase the school’s capacity to effectively and efficiently address the behavioural support needs of all students and staff (Lewis, T.J. & Sugai, G. 1999 p. 4). The School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support approach offers opportunities for schools, parents and communities to work smarter and systemically, rather than individually, to achieve these results (Lewis & Sugai, 1999 p. 16).

There are 6 necessary elements of SWPBS:

- The school has an SWPBS Statement of Purpose
- Expected behaviours are clearly defined across the whole school
- School wide expected behaviours are taught and practised
- The school has a continuum of procedures for encouraging school wide expected behaviours
- The school has a continuum of procedures for discouraging problem behaviours
- Decision making is based on data records of all student behaviours.

Who is who in the School

Aaron Sheppard (Acting Deputy Principal)

This semester I will be acting as the Deputy Principal in the Early Years and Primary sector of the school. I am very excited to return to working in a Special school after spending the past five years working in mainstream primary schools as the Head of Special Education Services. Prior to working in mainstream schools I taught at Geebung Special School for five years. I am passionate about working as part of a team and working with creative, innovative and committed educators. I would like to thank everyone from the Pine Rivers Special School community that has given me such a warm welcome since my arrival at the start of the year. I look forward to the opportunity to work with parents and student to have a successful start to the year.

P&C

The P&C is a wonderful way to get to know other parents, to share ideas as well as to help the school with fundraising.

Parental interest is a more potent influence on children’s learning success than parents’ education or cultural background, occupation or family income level.

P&C Annual General Meeting 03/03/2016 – 6:00pm Home Ec Room All welcome
New Build Construction Status

Work has progressed well this last month and the project is to program.

Key construction items:
- Earthworks for the building have been completed.
- Installation of underground services has been completed.
- Excavation and concrete pour for footings has been completed.
- Laying of block work to ground floor has commenced.
- Pouring of concrete columns to ground floor has commenced.
Absences

If your child is absent from school, please phone the school that morning. (ph: 3285 0555)

If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent, for example a medical appointment, a note in your child’s communication book the day before is appreciated.

**It is parents’ responsibility to notify the transport provider if your child is to be absent or if you are going to pick them up early from school.** You will be given the phone number of your child’s bus driver for this communication.

Parents should be aware that there is the same expectation of attendance for students at Pine Rivers Special School as at any other State School. If a student has missed more than 3 days without explanation, teachers are required to Contact the Parent to determine the nature of the Absence. If there is no satisfactory explanation for the student’s absence, teachers are required to report the absence to Administration for Follow-Up.

Communication with the School

As you can appreciate schools are busy places and the sole purpose of schools is the welfare and education of your child. Communication with the school and teachers is extremely important and there are several ways of doing this.

- If urgent, phone School on 3285 0555 and ask to speak to staff member concerned.
- Ring School on 3285 0555 and leave a message with the Administration Officer
- Write a message in the communication book.
- Write a note and address it to the staff member concerned.
- E-mail the Principal
- E-mail class teacher (see teacher for address).

Sometimes issues arise that cannot be resolved effectively with a “quick chat” before school or by talking to the teacher during the course of the normal school day. When this occurs it would be of great benefit to arrange a time to talk to the teacher outside normal instruction time.

“If it is an important enough issue, it is important enough for all to set aside time to discuss”.

NDIS

Pave the Way invites people with disabilities and their families to a presentation about preparing for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) which will begin to roll out in Queensland in July 2016.

The NDIS is a new Federal system for ensuring people with disability have the support they require to engage more fully in social and economic life.

To assist individuals and their families to understand what the NDIS will involve this presentation will explore:

- A general overview of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the role of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)
- What you need to do to prepare for planning with the NDIA
- What you need to do to develop confidence as a consumer of disability services.

For those interested in attending a session could you please let Michelle Sinclair (Guidance Officer) know your interest. We would require at least 8 people for a session to be conducted at school.

Alternatively you can go on line and access these sessions at different settings locally.

To register:
Online registration will be available shortly on the Pave the Way website: www.pavetheway.org.au

Or contact Pave the Way: Phone: (07) 3291 5800; Toll free call: 1300 554 402