Key to Success for this week: Persistence

From the Principal – Mrs Sharon Morrow

Leap Into Learning - Data and Target Setting Meetings with Teachers and Leadership Team

Across all reaches of our school you will hear the phrase “Leap into Learning”. Schools are about learning, it is our core business each and every day.

This year we have continued to invest a great deal of time as a staff discussing what our focus for this “learning” will be. We have a very clear and defined goal around improving our results in Reading, Writing and Numeracy and we are very committed to this plan.

Every 5 weeks teachers meet with a member of the Leadership team (Principal, or Deputy Principals) to share data that has been collected and to discuss student progress towards their 5 weekly goals or targets. This process sits within the framework which we have entitled ‘Leap into Learning’.

This week teachers will come off class for approximately an hour to work in partnership with their Leadership team member.

Why 5 weekly targets?

Students make progress in their learning each and every day. It is important to carefully monitor these little steps forward to ensure that our programs are tailored to the needs of our students.

Often a concept has proven more difficult to grasp than expected and a teacher needs to reassess how he/she is going to plan future teaching experiences to ensure that children have truly understood the task. Hence the need for a cycle of ongoing data and “check in” points or targets. It is vital that the timeframe is short, hence the 5 weekly targets.

I am very proud of the work our teachers have produced as part of this school wide focus. To have the opportunity to sit and work with our teachers and share the improvements and gains made by our students over a 5 week period is very rewarding.

We are very lucky at Sandy Strait to have such a hard working and dedicated teaching team who are focussed on ensuring that all of our students are making leaps in their learning each and every day.

Learning and Teaching in a Digital Age

Sandy Strait State School is recognised as a leader in Elearning across our district and our staff and school has been recognised on a number of occasions receiving awards for outstanding practice.

Just last week the leadership team travelled to Brisbane to attend the Smart Classroom teacher awards to support Mrs Landon (year 7 teacher) who had been nominated and shortlisted as a state finalist.

The Smart Classroom teacher awards recognise teachers who have demonstrated innovation and excellence in their teaching and learning using Information and Communication Technology.

COMING EVENTS

7 Sept—Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes
21 Sept—Last day of Term 3
8 Oct—First day of Term 4
22 Oct—Pupil Free Day
23 Oct—School Photos
excellence in their teaching and learning using Information and Communication Technology.

The event rewards the achievements of the state’s most innovative and engaging teachers - all of whom are committed to their ongoing professional development and learning.

We were very proud of Mrs Landon who was one of 6 teachers in the state to be awarded a Highly Commended at the Smart Classroom State Awards.

Our teachers across the school are committed to eLearning and our students from Prep to Year 7 participate and engage in digital learning each and every day.

Our school is leading the way in professional learning for our teachers and teacher aides who deliver the curriculum through interactive learning incorporating a range of devices including computers, bloggies, ipevos, ipads, data projectors, MP3 players, web conferencing, edstudios and much more.

The National Curriculum has very specific ICT expectations for all of students ensuring they have the necessary skills to interact in a digital world.

Last week I had the very great pleasure of observing a group of year 6 students who had been involved in an online project participating in web conferencing with a teacher in Brisbane. These children were designing an environmentally sustainable resort using a variety of web based programs. Their skills and talents in this area were truly amazing and it certainly makes you well aware that learning in a digital age is very different to the traditional classrooms many of us grew up with.

Be sure to ask your children about the types of eLearning activities they have been engaging with. I am sure you will be very surprised at just what our children can do.

Leap into Pre-Prep Program Session 2 – Early Maths Concepts 18th September.

At Sandy Strait we believe it is important to provide our students with the best possible start to their first year of schooling.

This year we have introduced a Pre-Prep Program to assist our children and parents to best prepare for the curriculum and learning expectations of the upcoming Prep Year.

The second of our 4 part series is planned for Tuesday 18th September from 9.30am-10.30am. This session will focus on Early Maths concepts which is a necessary skill our children require to engage in the National Curriculum when they start school.

Purpose of the Program:

- To provide an orientation and skill based program to help prepare our future students for the Prep Curriculum in the year ahead
- To model and provide activities and ideas for parents to work on with their children at home to ensure that they have the best opportunity to succeed in the Prep Year.
- To foster and build relationships between teachers, students and parents prior to the commencement of the school year
- To provide opportunities for our future Prep students to interact with one another and build relationships prior to commencing school.

How the Program will work:

- The program will be conducted over 4 separate 1 hour sessions throughout term 3 and 4.
- Children and parents attend each of the sessions

At the end of each session parents will be provided with a pack of activities to take home to use with their child between sessions. Each of the activities contained within the pack will have been modelled throughout the morning session. A different activity pack will be distributed at each of the sessions.

Each session will have a particular teaching focus with activities and games developing the following:

- Session 1: Oral Language
- Session 2: Early Number Concepts
- Session 3: Developing Reading
- Session 4: Sounds to Letters

At the conclusion of the Pre-Prep Program your child will be presented with a certificate for completing the Sandy Strait Pre-Prep Program.

Parents will need to submit their completed Enrolment Form prior to commencing the Pre Prep Program to ensure that we have all of your child’s details.

Starting school is such an exciting time for both children and parents and we are looking forward to working together with you and your child throughout the Sandy Strait Pre-Prep Program.

To secure your position in our Pre-Prep Program and your placement at Sandy Strait you must return your completed enrolment package including a copy of your child’s birth certificate (this is a condition of enrolment at all schools in Qld).

If you do not have a copy of your child’s birth certificate you will need to order one before we can accept or confirm your child’s placement (an application form for the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages in Queensland has been included in your Prep Enrolment Pack Folder.)
Please contact our school office to collect an enrolment pack today.

**Organisation in Administration for the Coming Weeks**

I will be heading off on Long Service Leave to travel with my family from the 13th September returning on the 16th October.

During my absence Mr Jackson will step up into the role of Acting Principal and Mrs Franz will step up into the role of Acting Deputy Principal (back filling Mr Jackson).

I look forward to hearing about the great progress our students have made when I return from my trip.

**Top Tips**

**NEWS FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL – MRS HILLEN FORGES**

**Leap into Learning**

**Prep**

Prep teachers and students would like to thank all of the fathers and parents who attended and or helped to make the ‘Father’s Day breakfast’ such a memorable event. The students and teachers alike enjoyed the excitement and satisfaction of celebrating such an important occasion.

Preps have spent the term working through a number of maths concepts to develop their knowledge and ability to: count, show and add small amounts, partitioning and combining more than two parts, time-duration of a day and sequencing events, shapes and patterning, problem solving and measuring. Teachers have been monitoring their students’ progress in these concepts and providing the necessary support if needed. Please help your child in any of these maths areas and if concerned speak to your child’s teacher.

In English our Prep students have spent many weeks learning about rhyme and for their assessment they will need to show their understanding of rhyme by writing a simple rhyme. Many stories and chants use rhyme as a fun way to enjoy our language so please encourage your child to share their ability to rhyme through sharing these fun activities.

**Year One**

Year one students are preparing for their final assessments in all subjects for this term. In English they will be writing a retell of ‘Tiddalik’, an Indigenous cultural story about a greedy frog. It’s important for students to be able to identify the key characters, problem/s and solution/s of a story to be able to retell events. When doing your child’s home reading with them you can help them with retelling the story by asking questions about the main events and characters of the story.

In maths students need to be able to tell the time using o’clock and half past. Teachers are finding that some students are struggling with half past times. Money is another area you can help your child become competent with by allowing them to identify coins and their value.

In SOSE year one have been travelling the world visiting many exciting places – China, New Zealand, Canada and recently France. There have been many tense moments in the classroom with taking off and landing the aircraft safely when travelling to these ‘new’ destinations. Please encourage your child to share their knowledge about customs, climate, landmarks etc. of these countries and predict where they may be travelling to next.

**Year Two**

In English, Year two will be assessed on their reading comprehension, in particular being able to infer. Asking ‘how’ and ‘why’ questions encourages your child to think more deeply by getting them to provide evidence based on information given in the text. This is very challenging for all of our students so any practise you can provide around asking these question types will benefit your child. In writing year two students have been studying the difference between narrative and informative texts. Next week they will be assessed on their ability to write an informative text about ducks.

Students have been preparing and presenting speaking tasks that relate to the work they are doing in SOSE and Science. These speaking tasks are listed in their homework books and are an important part of their schooling so please check in with your child and help them prepare and present for this activity.

Mathematics assessment will assess student’s ability to use fractions (1/2, ¼, 1/8) when working with groups of objects as well as single objects. They will also be assessed on their understanding of skip counting in 2’s, 3’s, 5’s and 10’s.

Year two will have a visit with PETPEP (our local vet and council animal management worker) today as part of their science unit which focuses on life stages of plants and animals.

**Year Three**

Year three are becoming very competent with using PowerPoint as part of their English unit requires them to write the ending to a story and present in electronic format. Students are able to add hyperlinks, add sounds, and add transitions and a number of other features to ensure they present a polished document.

In maths our year three students have been collecting and analysing a range of data to represent in graphs. They have discovered that the most popular car colours in the staff carpark are silver and blue. Teachers obviously prefer the calming colours when driving.
As you would have heard our year three students are going whale watching as a culminating activity to their SOSE unit on Hervey Bay. The trip includes a visit from a scientist who will talk to the students prior to the boat trip. Please ensure you return your payment as soon as possible for this greatly reduced excursion.

**Attendance**

It is vital that our students attend school if physically well. The best teachers and curriculum will never be able to give our students the education they deserve if students are consistently missing one or two days a week/fortnight. Teachers need to teach new concepts every other day and then build on those concepts during the week. If your child is absent they are disadvantaged by missing the new concepts and this often leads to frustration by both the student and teacher with limited time to ‘catch up’. Please work with us to provide the best education we can for your child. If your child is unwell please contact the office so teachers can be notified.

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**Top NEWS FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL - MR BRUCE JACKSON**

**Maths Team Challenge**

As our Numeracy coach Mrs Franz reports in this newsletter our Sandy Strait Maths Team challenge teams put in a huge effort in the recent Hervey Bay/ Maryborough Maths Team challenge. Thirty four teams participated in the challenge and after the teams faced 3 hours of grilling and questioning 2 of our Sandy Strait Teams finished in podium positions (2nd and 3rd) with the team finishing 2nd missing out on top position by 1 mark. An outstanding result.

Another highlight during the Maths Team challenge was a special presentation by our Year 6 student Blair who impressed the large audience with the exceptional speed in which he solved the Rubik’s cube; 1 min 19 seconds. What a talent?

A big thank you to Mrs Franz for coordinating the event. Her thorough planning and organisation ensured the day went very smoothly.

**Education Reform**

The Australian education system is on the verge of a major renovation. Businessman David Gonski was recently commissioned by the federal government to undertake a fundamental assessment of how well existing educational practices are working.

If you are keen to hear the details about the Gonski Report check out the ABC Radio National website for some interesting MP3 recordings.

Just Google: Radio National, click on the first site that the search provides, then when you are on the Radio National home page click on the ‘Features’ button and then scroll down for the The Gonski Report and education.

It’s compelling listening on an essential topic.

**Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students**

A safe, supportive and challenging environment is an essential component to all good schools. If students feel safe and supported by the rest of the school community (students, staff and parents) they are more likely to be willing to actively engage in their learning, take risks and try their best.

Our Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students is the primary document that articulates the processes and practices our school takes to help provide a safe, supportive environment. Next term we will review this plan and we would like to know your opinions/feelings. More details on how you can do this will be out soon.

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**Student Leader News**

As most of you know, our school has a behaviour rewards system, and this term for level one is a trip to the PCYC. Fifty names from the level one category will be drawn out of a hat and the lucky students will be off for a fun and enjoyable trip to the PCYC. Teachers are keeping a close eye on the most efficient working students to give them a chance to go off for a bit of fun, so fingers crossed that there are lots of hardworking students to participate. Zoe Gallagher

In other news the maths team challenge came 2nd missing out on first narrowly by one point to FCAC. I would like to thank the maths team challenge team on behalf of the school. Josh Grinter

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**HERVEY BAY/MARYBOROUGH MATHS TEAM CHALLENGE - KARLEE FRANZ NUMERACY COACH**

On Wednesday 22 August, our hall was converted into a buzzing hub of mathematical problem solving as 33 teams, from 16 state and non-state schools throughout Hervey Bay and Maryborough, battled it out to be crowned the Maths Team Challenge Champions for 2012. All 4 of our teams competed with great team spirit and mathematical prowess. They worked very hard through all the very challenging mathematical problems.

Congratulations to Sandy Strait Team 1 who came in second, **beaten by only 1 point** by Fraser Coast Anglican College. Congratulations also to Sandy Strait Team 4 who tied for 3rd place with Granville Team 1. Each student received a medallion and the teams each received a trophy to show off in our office foyer.
Team 1: John L 7M, Maddi M 7S, Anthony S 7M, Chris R 7L and Regan Z 7L

Team 2: Lachlan L 7L, Jack B 7S, Jarrod T 7S, Shaun S 7M and Byron K 7M

Team 3: Chloe W 7S, Jessie S 7S, Taylor B 7S, Harmony G 7H and Tamara O 7M


Teams 2 and 3 also represented Sandy Strait well and are to be highly commended for all their preparation leading up the event and their hard work on the day. The students in these teams were:

Team 2: Lachlan L 7L, Jack B 7S, Jarrod T 7S, Shaun S 7M and Byron K 7M

Team 3: Chloe W 7S, Jessie S 7S, Taylor B 7S, Harmony G 7H and Tamara O 7M

Thanks must go to class teachers who continually bring high-level problem solving into their teaching and to Mrs Penny Harrington, who has spent the many weeks training our students for the team challenge. Fantastic work!

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TUCKSHOP NEWS

Reminder: The below items are deleted lines from the supplier, please do not order these anymore.

- Smiths Thins – sour cream and onion
- Munch Mates
- Biscuits (2 in pkt)
- Vanilla Malt Breaka
- We now sell - Hello Pandas 80 cents & Banana Breaka Milk $2.20.

A New menu is currently being worked on due to many deleted lines. If there is something you would like to see sold on our Menu please let Lee know at tuckshop over the next few weeks.

Specials: This special is for the fortnight only (Wed 5th to Fri 14th)
- Chocolate Mousse cup $1.00
- Hash Brown $1.00

Volunteers: We are needing volunteers for morning shifts at tuckshop (8.45am – 10.15am) If your able to help out please see Lee in tuckshop.

If your unable to volunteer but would like to help out by making a donation to the tuckshop, we would appreciate any of the following items:
- Tins of beetroot
- Tins of pineapple
- Tins of 2 fruits
- Tins of fruit salad
- Jelly crystals
- Small freezer bags
- Brown paper bags

Cadbury
**Volunteer Roster:**

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<th>Wed 5th Sept</th>
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<td>Rhonda 1.00 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Nic Hohn 12.45 – 1.45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tammy 1.00 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Kerri 12.45 – 1.45pm</td>
<td>Nic Hill 8.45 – 10.00am</td>
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**P&C NEWS**

**Disco:** Well the final figures are in, our total profit for the Disco was $3187.07. This is a fantastic result. Thankyou to all the Parents, teachers and Children for their support in making this event successful.

**Grandparents Day:** Grandparents Day was outstanding. We had 120 RSVPs returned and easily had 300 people turn up. We ran out of food early on, which was to be expected with so many people attending. Thankyou for supporting your children and grandchildren on this special day. It was great to see all the lovely costumes.

**Fathers Day Stall:** The last two days have been extremely busy for the P&C. Thankyou to Karen Stillman who has assisted me greatly this week with the preparation, and helping out on both days of the stall. Thanks to my other P&C Volunteers Amanda Meagher, Tash Cornack and Susan Blyth. These girls make a great team and can always be relied upon to help where needed. I love Volunteering with them. Lastly thanks to all the Children who were so patient and well behaved, well done. We will let you know how much money was raised in the next few weeks.

**Second hand Uniforms:** The P&C is still a long way from our goal of opening a second hand Uniform shop. We simply do not have enough donations of good quality school uniforms at this point in time. So please keep us in mind when your kids outgrow their uniforms. Lets try to make the Uniform shop a reality, this would benefit the whole community. If you would like to donate, feel free to drop of Uniforms at the school office or contact Kim on: 4125 1630.

**Update on the Christmas Raffle:** We are running a Raffle at Christmas. If any parent/caregiver can assist in any way by donating a prize/voucher, or service this would be greatly appreciated. Lets see what results we can get from within our school community. If you have something that you would like to donate, feel free to drop off the prize at the school office or contact Kim on: 4125 1630.

**Wishing Well:** The P & C are wanting to increase the Parent/Caregivers participation, and are interested to hear from you, our School Community about what you would like to see us spend some of our hard earned fundraising money on, in your school or in the grounds for 2013. You will see a white Wishing Well in the Admin foyer. The well will have some forms attached for you to fill in (don't forget to include your Name and Contact details). The P & C Volunteers will spend some time collating them. Each request will be read. We may pick one or two that may be feasible for next year, we will contact those concerned. Please note: Unfortunately we are unable to reply to each request, we are only a small band of Volunteers. Those great ideas that aren't picked will be held onto for possible future use. So keep your eyes open for the next newsletter.

**Volunteers Needed:** The P & C desperately needs Volunteers. We need these Volunteers to attend our monthly meetings, learn what we are all about, and at the same time get to have a say in the future of our kids school. We also need your help in assisting us with our fundraising efforts, so we need a Fundraising Co-ordinator, and Fundraising Volunteers. To help us with our many projects call Kim on: 4125 1630. This is a great way to meet new people. Remember you can Volunteer only as much time as you can spare. I hope to hear from you.

**Book Packs:** All survey results have now been passed onto the relevant person to be followed up, we will keep you posted.

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**Top**
Anyone who has some old school uniforms they are willing to donate to the SEP classes would be greatly appreciated. If you have any uniforms if you could please send them to D Block.

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LIBRARY NEWS – MRS MELANIE MILLS, LIBRARIAN

Thanks to our Sandy Strait Community for your support of the activities we held at school during Book Week. We were astounded by the overwhelming response we received to our Grandparent’s Day, and have already started the list of improvements for next years event. We also had a great response to our Book Fair, resulting in us being able to take almost $1000 in books as commission! The Premier’s Reading Challenge concludes this Friday, with any forms being handed to class teachers.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

We would like to remind all parents/caregivers who wish to enrol their students into year 8 at Urangan State High School for 2013 that we are currently accepting applications.

Information relating to your student’s enrolment can be accessed by visiting the school’s website: www.uranganshs.eq.edu.au or contacting our Enrolment Management Officer on 4197 0111.

All Student Enrolment Applications must be fully completed and a PHOTOCOPY of all relevant documentation, detailed on the Student Enrolment Application, is to be submitted to the office at Urangan State High School. Please note: ORIGINAL documentation is to be sighted at the time of application. Each Student Enrolment Application will be processed and recorded in order of receipt.

Urangan High Facebook Page

The school now has a presence on Facebook. This Facebook presence is for information only. Posts to the page from students and school community are not possible at this time. To receive information and status updates from Urangan State High School on Facebook, go to http://www.facebook.com/uranganshs and Like the page.

Harcourts

133-141 Tealstock St, Torquay
07 4125 3835

Harcourts

Buying, Selling or Renting?
Call our office for all your real estate needs
424 Margaret St, Torquay
(07) 4124 9477

Urangan High Facebook Page

The school now has a presence on Facebook. This Facebook presence is for information only. Posts to the page from students and school community are not possible at this time. To receive information and status updates from Urangan State High School on Facebook, go to http://www.facebook.com/uranganshs and Like the page.

Enquiries all budding cricketers (both Junior & Senior) to sign on for season 2012-13 as follows:-

Sunday 9 September at P.C.Y.C.
Sunday 16 September at Sport First

Saturday 29 September at Walker Road Grounds, Urangan

From 10.00am to 1.00pm

For further details email
herveybaycricket@yahoo.com.au

or ‘phone Les on 4124 5842 or Neville on 4125 1408

ASD Support Group

Wednesday 5 September at 9.30 am
Hervey Bay Community Centre, Charles Street, Pialba

Topic of the Month: Speech/Language Therapy with children who have autism (presented by Tracey Bennion, EQ Speech/Language Pathologist)

Hervey Bay Athletics Club Sign On

Fri 14 Sept 2012 4pm – 7.30pm
Fri 21 Sept 2012 4pm – 7.30pm
FIRST NIGHT Orientation Night
Fri 12 Oct 2012 5.30pm arrive for 6 pm start
We want YOU!!

Its sign on time again at Hervey Bay Oztag.
Oztag is the latest craze in sport that is taking over Australia!
It's just like rugby league but without the tackling so its safe & fun for men, women & children of all ages, sizes & skill levels.
Enjoy lots of evasive running, kicking, tagging and try scoring!
Come & see what all the fuss is about.
Over 140,000 Australians can't be wrong!

Senior Sign on’s : Tuesday 4th September
6pm – 7:30pm
Junior Sign on’s: Thursday 30th August & Thursday 6 September
4pm – 5:30pm
Location: Seagulls Stadium, Ron Stafford Park
Bideford St, Torquay
www.herveybayoztag.com
GET TAGGED.....YOU'LL LOVE IT !!!!
For Sale: Sparkling blue 1/2 size violin with bow. Both in good condition. Have been checked over by local music store. $115. Phone Nicole 0407 987 305

Parenting Workshop – Real ideas to build better behaviours
Presented by Mark Le Messurier, author of Parenting Tough Kids (2007) and Teaching Tough Kids (2010), which recently won international recognition at the UK National Association for Special Educational Needs Book Award.
Brought to the local community by USQ Fraser Coast, Mark will be visiting Hervey Bay on Wednesday 19th September to present his lively and highly practical workshop on the behaviour of children.
The workshop centres around three foundation ideas:
Our children’s behaviour has a purpose
Children continue behaviour when they feel it is being rewarded
It takes an intelligent plan to manage kids wisely
This workshop opportunity is available at no cost. Places are limited so please register your attendance with Stephanie Bayley on 4194 3113 or Stephanie.bayley@usq.edu.au
Workshop to be held at USQ Fraser Coast, 161 Old Maryborough Road, Hervey Bay – Room B104 on Wednesday 19th September at 5:30pm - 7:30pm.
Dear Parents and Carers,

Child Protection Week, to be held from 2 – 8 September 2012, presents a valuable opportunity for you to speak with your children about keeping safe. Here are some key points for you to consider passing on:

If they don’t feel safe, children should immediately go to a safe place and tell an adult they trust about what happened. They should keep on telling (other trusted adults, if need be) until they feel safe. You may wish to discuss different scenarios and ask your child to identify where a safe place, and who a trusted adult, might be.

Younger children should be taught what to do if they become lost, such as: standing tall and strong and looking around for Mum or Dad; calling out to Mum or Dad (or whichever adult they are with); going to a prearranged meeting place (if they can easily find it); and approaching an adult for help, such as a shop assistant, police officer, or parent with children. It is helpful for children to know their full name and their parent’s name, and even better if they know their parent’s mobile phone number (or have it written on a wristband or a piece of clothing/shoes).

My body belongs to me and your body belongs to you. Children should know the correct names for their private parts and the rules about private parts: It’s not okay for anyone: to look at or touch their private parts; to make them look at or touch another person’s private parts; or to show them (or take) rude pictures. If someone breaks the rules about private parts, children should be encouraged to say “NO!”; go to a safe place and tell an adult they trust. Child sexual abuse is the most under-reported of all crimes. It is most commonly committed by a person known to the child, including other children and young people, who represent about one third of offenders.

Children are encouraged to develop a ‘Safety Hand’ of five trusted adults (‘Safety Helpers’) who they can talk with if they have a problem or if they feel unsafe. It is the job of the ‘Safety Helpers’ to listen to them, believe them and help them, if they need help.

The cornerstone to safety is a healthy self esteem. Children with a healthy self esteem are less likely to be victimised and more likely to seek help and report concerning incidents to trusted adults. As a parent or carer there are many things you can do to help boost your child’s self esteem including:

• Saying “I love you” every day
• Giving genuine and specific praise
• Making your child a priority in your life
• Taking an interest in their hobbies, sports or interests
• Eating meals as a family
• Developing special daily rituals (e.g. debriefing the favourite part of everyone’s day at dinner time)
• Encouraging children to demonstrate respect for themselves and others

Warm regards
Senior Constable Kelly Miles
School Based Police Officer
Tel: 41285313
Email: miles.kellya@police.qld.gov.au

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