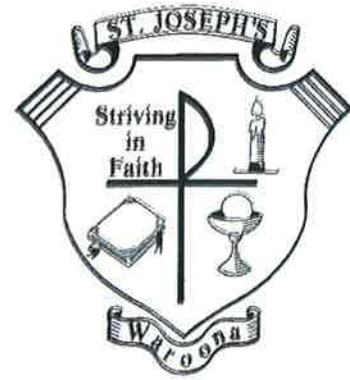




Protective Education Program



27/4/17

Dear Families,

Protective Education for Your Child

This year we will be delivering the Safe4Kids Protective Education program to the children at St Joseph's School (K-6).

The Safe4Kids program is a primary prevention, early intervention program with a holistic approach to Protective Education (Child Abuse Prevention Education). The program is culturally sensitive and children are taught basic, age-appropriate abuse-prevention education concepts, and given the opportunity to practise these new skills in a safe, controlled environment. Each concept is taught and reinforced with learning experiences including fun games, activities and music.

The Safe4Kids program is not just an abuse prevention program; it is also a good life skills program. It teaches children to be persistent and assertive, and helps build resilience in children, which is so important. Prior to each new topic commencing, you will receive a note outlining what will be covered so that you can reinforce these concepts at home.

Here is a list of all the concepts that will be covered:

1. Safe and Unsafe and "We all have the right to feel safe all of the time"
2. "Yes" or "Safe" Touches and "No" or "Unsafe" Touches
3. Feelings
4. Early Warning Signs, and Dobbing versus Telling
5. Risking on Purpose
6. Safety Team and "We can talk with someone about anything"
7. Persistence in Telling
8. Public and Private
9. Saying "No", Personal Space and Strangers
10. Secrets

In the first week the children will learn the First Life Rule of Protective Education: "**We all have the right to feel safe all of the time**". This is a basic human right. Everyone has the right not to be afraid. Your child will also learn the First Life Rule of Protective Education in sign language, which will help reinforce the message. Your child may be very excited with this new knowledge and come home eager to teach it to you. You will find the sign language instruction sheet included with this note. Sign language is a very useful tool for communicating. Please encourage your child to teach it to other family members. A video demonstrating the sign language for the First Life Rule of Protective Education can be found at www.safe4kids.com.au

Also in the first week, we will be exploring the concept of **Safe** and **Unsafe**. The sign language for "Safe" is your hand curled into a fist with your thumb-up. Similarly when you make a fist and your thumb points down it means "Unsafe".

We are very excited about bringing this program to our school and hope you will join us in helping your child to learn these important skills. Please encourage your child to talk to you about what they have learnt in each lesson of the program. If you believe your child has not understood a concept properly or you have any queries about the Safe4Kids Protective Education Program, please don't hesitate to contact us on 97826500.

Kind regards,

Travis Bienkowski
Principal

Signing Instruction Sheet

We all have the right to feel safe all of the time



WE
Extend both index (pointer) fingers, crossing arms to place tips of fingers on opposite side of chest. Uncross arms and point to same side of chest.



ALL
Hold open right hand palm down in front of right side of your body. Sweep arm in an arc backwards to body.



HAVE
Cup right hand, fingers apart towards sky. Then drop hand while closing into a fist.



RIGHT
Move right fist with thumb extended, down in front of body, with force.



FEEL
Run fingertips of open right hand up right side of body from the waist.



SAFE
Place right fist on the back of open left hand. Move hands back towards your body.



ALL
Hold open right hand palm down in front of right side of your body. Sweep arm in an arc backwards to body.



TIME
Extend right hand thumb and index (pointer) finger in an "L" shape. Place thumb into centre of left open palm. Turn right hand until index finger is pointing down.