



PEACEFUL SCHOOLS PROGRAM PILOT SCHOOL OVERVIEW

St Gabriel's Primary

St GABRIEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, TRARALGON – A WHOLE SCHOOL IMPLEMENTATION

St Gabriel's is successfully implementing CASSE as a whole school approach to bullying. This is made possible by their highly committed Principal, Paul Mc Queen, who provides time and staff resources for this to occur.

The staff regularly touches base regarding various aspects within Staff Learning Meetings. In this way, they can continue to upskill all staff and keep CASSE at the forefront as a strategy for helping to manage social issues. When managing social conflicts, the staff use a common language specific to CASSE, so that consistency is used across the school.

The St. Gabriel's CASSE student team acts as the voice of the student body, meeting regularly to discuss their experiences and to think about ways to share the messages of CASSE with the whole school community. CASSE student team members have acted as mentors to the junior students through a range of information sessions to pass on key ideas, mostly through role play.

The CASSE team assisted in the organisation of an 'R U Ok day', to help promote individuality whilst also promoting acceptance and extending a hand of friendship. The CASSE Upstander Award is awarded to a student during school assemblies to highlight students who have shown 'upstander' behaviours, such as speaking up for other students, showing empathy to others, being inclusive and friendly and also telling the truth when something has happened.

Consistent with the school's theme, the students have been 'making connections together' through the use of CASSE Care Groups. These are multi-age groups which

will meet on a scheduled basis with a teacher other than their own class teacher. In this way, they can work to develop a sense of belonging and connectedness within the school and this in turn helps to create a safe and secure environment for all.

CASSE team member Cohen said that with the help of CASSE, “people are making better decisions and including more people”.

The CASSE student team continues to work on a range of events and activities to promote the CASSE messages. The ongoing work of the student team and the support of their teacher mentors have been instrumental in embedding CASSE practices and thinking across the school and it is clear to that use of student voice is both a powerful and empowering means to achieving the goals of a whole school approach.

Luis, a 2014 School Captain, believes that the work of the CASSE student team is important because the team is “trying to make our school a better place for everyone”.

This resource and further information about Creating A Safe Supportive Environment is available to download at www.casse.org.au.