



PEACEFUL SCHOOLS PROGRAM PILOT SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Stonnington Primary School

AN INNER URBAN SCHOOL WITH A DIVERSE MULTICULTURAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC MIX, DYNAMIC LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATED STAFF AND PARENTS EMBRACES THE CASSE PSP APPROACH.

After teachers across the CASSE Peaceful Schools Program (PSP) Pilot Schools were trained in conflict resolution skills by CASSE's US experts/colleagues, Stonnington's CASSE Team Leader, Tim Colman, introduced these effectively to his own class. Students were helped to identify how conflict escalates; what physical changes, non-verbal and verbal exchanges might occur for them; and steps used to de-escalate and resolve conflict.

Students explored what their unique 'KABOOM moment' looks and feels like when they are very angry and how they might manage themselves when distressed. Staff also received this training from the two talented CASSE School Facilitators appointed to their school to support and coach them with their implementation of the CASSE PSP approach at their school.

Both Tim and fellow CASSE Team Leader, Simone Radolnik, are well supported in their roles by the staff team, School Principal Anne McPhee, and the school's parent group.

The CASSE student team is a mix of students from grades 3-6, who were chosen for their leadership qualities and influence amongst their peers.

This lively bunch of students, shares an abundance of ideas and enthusiasm to promote CASSE in their school. They have an 'Upstander' award for students who

show altruism and help others at school. They discuss and select students as a group and present the award at their school assemblies each week.

Some of the students have commented that since CASSE began, they have gained confidence and are now able to speak up for themselves. Tim and Kieren (also a CASSE Team Leader) noted that all of the physical fighting in the school seemed to have stopped during 2013.

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