

Welfare Report

Hello School Council,

After taking a little bit of time to settle in and get to know the beautiful students and staff of Toora Primary this term, I am excited to say that I have begun working with students. There are a few key areas that I would like to be working on over the year:

- **RESILIENCE** – I am currently working with all students in their grades for an hour a week, running a drama based resilience session. Each session has a different focus, but all point towards building skills of resilience and the ability to bounce back through creative and interactive activities where students use their brains, bodies and ability to work together. As the year goes on, I would love to develop this into a creative arts group that could become a school band or school drama team that put on small performances for their peers.
- **BULLYING** – Another key area that I would like to be proactive on is creating a safe school environment for our students to learn in. I will work within this using KidsMatter principles and theory to ensure that this happens. I will be looking at forming a team of parents, students and staff to help me out with this task.
- **COMMUNITY** – Something I am also working towards is creating a space where school and community can interact better. This currently exists in the form of Breakfast Club, but I would also like to extend that to include potential parent morning teas, an afterschool kids club and potentially talking to locals about mentoring students through Kids Hope. I believe that it takes a village to raise a child, and having the community be a part of the school is vitally important to a child's health and wellbeing.
- **FUN!** – Something that I also believe in is the practice of having fun. I have been working on this through the Drama/Resilience sessions, but also by organising Lunchtime Games on a Wednesday afternoon. These are just simple games where the emphasis is on having fun, but also teaches children to play cooperatively. I would love the students of Toora to enjoy their learning and by offering a space where students can let off steam and be a part of a game means that they are more focused in class.
- **ONE ON ONES** – As required, I will also be taking students out in small groups or one on ones to help them develop the learning skills they need to be able to succeed in class. I am currently working with teachers to identify students that will need this and what skills they would need. I am confident that this should start happening within the next three months.

I feel so lucky to get to work at this wonderful school and I thank you for the opportunities to impact these young people's lives. If there is anything else you would like me to be doing, please feel free to ask me or send me an email: reid.alana.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Alana Reid

School Chaplain