



This term, as our Foundation students settle into school, we have been operating our **Better Buddies** program. The Alannah & Madeline Foundation's Better Buddies Framework is an initiative designed to create friendly and caring primary school communities where bullying is reduced.

One of the most common forms of violence in the lives of children is **bullying**. In Australia, it affects approximately one student in every four. Bullying can have a devastating effect on a child. In addition, children who portray bullying behaviours are more likely to commit anti-social behaviour and criminal acts.

Through Better Buddies, children in their first and last year of primary school buddy up and learn the values: *caring for others, friendliness, respect, valuing difference, including others and responsibility*. All children in the school learn these values through formal and informal activities, including their

interactions with the mascot Buddy Bear, our giant, fun-loving and caring purple bear.



Better Buddies enables younger children to feel safe and cared for while older children feel valued and respected. The evidence-based framework complements existing school welfare programs, is easy to implement and links to curriculum initiatives.

It is great to see our older and younger students working together on a Tuesday afternoons as they work on becoming Better Buddies!



Don't forget to download our new app **Updat-ed**. So far we have 95 families who have signed up for the app out of 185 so if you have the app spread the word! We hope you will enjoy the weekly update of the work done in our learning communities. We hope this will help you understand the work your child is involved in as well as provide you with easy to access updates.

To download the app just visit the App Store for iPhones or Google Play for Android's. Search for **Updat-ed** and from the menu select our school. We'll receive your registration request and will need to approve you before your app is up and running. Only approved school community members have access to this App.





It is vital to remember the importance of high attendance at school and ensuring that family holidays are taken in the allocated school holidays. To assist this process I have included the dates for school holidays below. If, for any reason, you need to take time off outside these times please ensure you make an appointment to see me to discuss. Any time over five days of absence needs to be approved.

Term 1 holidays: from 6th April to 22nd April

Term 2 holidays: from 29th June to 14th July

Term 3 holidays: from 21st September to 6th October

Term 4 holidays: from 21st December to 29th January

Remember - Every Day Counts!

Have a good weekend

**Jo Money
Principal**



Cars in Logan St: Just a reminder about watching the parking signs in the street and ensuring that you are not parking too close to the school crossing. We want to make sure that all children and families can cross the road safely. Please set a good example and use the crossing if you are crossing the street with your children. Don't forget to say hello to Rita our crossing lady.

There are also a number of people driving dangerously fast in Logan St and driving in a manner that puts all of our students at risk. This is not acceptable and if it continues will need to be reported to police. Patience and regard for others is really important and will help everyone stay safe.

Zooper Doopers or icy-poles are sold for **\$1.00** from the canteen on Fridays during Term 1 and Mondays and Wednesdays over 25 degrees. Any money raised goes towards equipment for students and Grade 6 graduation. Purchase of these is completely at parents' discretion.



We are a Child Safe School.

Term 1 Diary

School Banking: Every Tuesday

Interschool Sport (5/6) Vs Oak Park PS away game Friday 22nd Feb

Healthy Eating Lunch: Friday 1st March

Body Safety Australia: Parent Information Session Tuesday 26th February 6.00 to 7.00pm

Clean Up Australia Day: Friday 1st March

GRIP Leadership Conference - Wednesday 13th March