



HEAD OF YEAR 9

Newsletter

TARA NORTON

Term 2: Being Kind: Heart and Compassion Every Day



Welcome back to Term 2!

We hope all families enjoyed a relaxing and joyful Easter break, filled with time to recharge and connect with loved ones. It has been wonderful to return to such beautiful autumn weather, with clear skies and milder days providing the perfect backdrop for a fresh start to the term. We look forward to an exciting and productive few months ahead, with many opportunities for learning, growth and community connection.

This term the school value that the school is focusing on is **Being Kind**. At our school, Being Kind means turning care into everyday choices that help others feel safe, seen and supported. It looks like Kindness through empathy and practical help; Humility by sharing credit and listening first; Fairness with equal turns and transparent decisions; Forgiveness by repairing harm and offering second chances; Love by showing up for friends and celebrating their wins; and Prudence by making careful choices, especially online and thinking ahead. When students show kindness by welcoming new classmates, using restorative conversations and choosing words wisely, we see safer spaces, calmer classrooms and relationships that strengthen learning.

Being Kind: Heart & Compassion in Action

- **Looks like:** Empathy, sharing credit, restorative practices, celebrating others
- **Do it by:** Welcoming new students, acknowledging teammates
- **In short:** Care in action—making others feel safe, seen, and supported

Examples:

- **Zoe** thinks before posting online and chooses kind words when commenting on **Max's** artwork in the class forum.
- **Ethan** lets **Ruby** have a turn to speak during group work and makes sure everyone's ideas are heard.
- **Isla** sees **Tom** drop his books and quickly helps him pick them up with a smile.



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General Reminders

Time to reset those alarms and get back to our healthiest routines. Everyone at our school begins the day focussed and ready to grasp the opportunities presented to them each day. Getting the little things right each day builds positive habits that are lifelong. All students are reminded to uphold our school rules and always present themselves with pride:

- [Mobile Phones and Wearable Devices](#)
- [Attendance Policy](#)
- [Uniform](#)
- **Lost property in B7.** There are many shoes, pencil cases, water bottles and hats. Collect what is yours at second break or before/after school. Any items not collected by the end of Week 2 will be disposed of.
- **Assessment** – all assessments are located on Daymap including all draft and final dates. Please ensure you facilitate exceptional organisational habits, and your young person has these dates ready to show you.

Term 2 dates for your calendar:

- Monday 20 April – Term 2 commences
- Wednesday 22 April – Inter House Cross Country
- Thursday 23 April – Gap Experience
- Friday 24 April – ANZAC Day Assembly in period 1
- Monday 4 May – Labour Day Public Holiday
- Tuesday 5 May – Parent Teacher Interviews
- Friday 26 June – Term 2 concludes

Year 9 Connect Program

The Year 7-12 Connect Program aims to develop and build student wellbeing, resilience, emotional literacy, hope and positive relationships. It is underpinned by the GEM principles of Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness. Research shows development of these personal and social competencies leads to improved academic results, learning culture, attendance and reduced disciplinary actions. This term Being Kind is woven through our Connect Lessons on Mondays. This term the school will be participating in the QEW survey in Week



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2. All students will be invited to contribute, and the results of this survey underpin our Wellbeing programming.

Term 2 Connect Program

- Week 2 – QEW survey
- Week 3 – Public Holiday
- Week 4 – House Week
- Week 6 – Year 9 Assembly
- Week 10 – Junior Secondary Assembly



As we move through the term ahead, we encourage our students to focus on growth rather than perfection—embracing challenges, learning from mistakes, and celebrating progress along the way. We have a strong belief in this cohort and the positive contribution each student brings to our school community. Thank you to our families for your ongoing support and partnership; it plays a vital role in each student’s journey. We hope you finish this newsletter feeling confident, connected, and optimistic about the term ahead.