TERM 1: ISSUE 3 | FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY, 2021

MITCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Mitchat

Mitcham Primary School
thinkers | learners | leaders

IMPORTANT DATES

MAR 3 3-6 ATHLETICS
MAR 8 PUBLIC HOLIDAY
MAR 14 WORKING BEE
MAR 17 PARENT HELP TRAIN.
MAR 22 PUPIL FREE DAY
MAR 25 HARMONY DAY
MAR 26 KABOOM INCURSION
APR 1 CROSS COUNTRY
APR 1 LAST DAY TERM 1
APR 19 FIRST DAY TERM 2
APR 26 PUBLIC HOLIDAY
MAY 10 DISTRICT X-COUNTRY
MAY 11 NAPLAN BEGINS
MAY 13 NAPLAN ENDS

VALUE OF THE MONTH

KINDNESS

IN THIS ISSUE

- FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK
- IMPORTANT NEWS & INFORMATION
- FROM THE MITCHAM PRIMARY OFFICE
- SUSTAINABILITY DAY
- OSHCLUB NEWS

… AND MORE

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

WELCOME ISABELLE LAMONT!

We are very excited to be able to announce the safe arrival of Mrs Lamont's gorgeous baby girl 'Isabelle Anna Georgia Lamont'. Isabelle arrived in the world on 13th February. Congratulations Lauren and Wil!

THE CYBER SAFETY PROJECT

Our students experienced a wonderfully informative and interactive session with The Cyber Safety Project on Thursday. The entertaining atmosphere and opportunity to interact, discuss problems and brainstorm solutions ensured that students were totally engaged. The energy and storytelling ability of Sam and Jaz, the presenters, allowed students to connect with them and feel empowered to be safe and responsible digital citizens when using digital technologies.

In the evening, Trent presented via a live webinar to a very large group of our parent community with tips and strategies for fostering a positive and safe environment for digitally engaged children in the home. It was terrific hearing Trent articulate the importance of knowing whether children are consuming or creating online and based on this understanding, deciding together with your children, how much screen time is appropriate. All the content was relevant and very up to date, especially with recent changes and updates to apps such as YouTube, Snapchat and Instagram, and gaming programs such as Fortnite and Among Us. We were offered excellent advice, tips and tricks about what parents and teachers can do to help their children and students at all ages.

If you were unable to attend on the night, you might like to access The Cyber Safety Project Blog and website: www.cybersafetyproject.com.au , or click the button below:

CYBER SAFETY PROJECT

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

ARRIVING ON TIME

Please note that the school gates are unlocked at 8:30 am each morning and the students are encouraged to walk to their classrooms independently. At 8:45am the gates will be locked and students will need to be accompanied to the office with a parent or guardian for a late pass. Formal Learning at MPS starts at 8:45 a.m. Arriving late to school is unsettling for the child and other students in the class.

PLEASE PULL LONG HAIR BACK

A reminder that long hair must be tied back, both in order to limit any sharing of head lice and as a matter of precaution, especially when students are engaged in PE classes, Art, and using the playground equipment.

Wishing all families a lovely weekend.

Erin Norman

Principal

2021 MPS SCHOOL COUNCIL COMPOSITION

Nominations for the 2021 Mitcham Primary School Council closed on the afternoon of Wednesday 17 February. This year the number of nominations we received equaled the number of vacant positions, as such, we do not need to go to an election and I am happy to announce the composition of the 2021 Mitcham Primary School Council is as follows:

Parent Members:

- Lucille Matthews
- Joel Curtis
- Stacie Timmins
- Katie Lang
- Heba Elhakim
- Ford Zheng
- Nasra Higgins

DET Members:

- Erin Norman
- Heather Wood
- Emma Bates
- Deborah Williamson

PARK ORCHARDS STEELERS BASKETBALL TEAM

Don't let your child miss out on a place in a Park Orchards Steelers Basketball Team this winter (Term 2 and 3) – REGISTER NOW!

Registration Period:
CLOSES 7th March 2021

Boys teams and girls teams available in U9, U11, U13, U15, U17, U19 age groups for all abilities.

REGISTRATION fee includes full season registration and weekly court fees (except for finals).

$245.00 1st Child
$225.40 subsequent children

REGISTER NOW: – https://www.playhq.com/basketball-victoria/register/8c8a22

We look forward to welcoming you to the club. Go Steelers!

THREE CHEERS FOR TEAGAN!

In our previous newsletters this year, you will have seen Teagan's story. Teagan vowed to chop her incredibly long hair in order to raise $2000 for the Peter Mac, Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation. Teagan dreams of someday seeing a cancer-free future.

With the assistance of family, friends, and our community, Teagan reached her goal, raising $2072, and bravely made the chop!

Teagan's newly chopped locks will now be donated for use towards the creation of a wig for someone being treated for cancer.

Teagan's initiative and courage for such a worthy cause is inspiring, we are so proud to have her as a member of the Mitcham Primary School community.

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT
3 March	3-6 Athletics Carnival
8 March	Public Holiday
16 March	1/2 History Box Incursion 3-6 Ed Tech Commences
14 March	Working Bee
22 March	Pupil Free Day
25 March	Harmony Day
26 March	Kaboom Percussion Incursion
1 April	Cross Country Last Day Term 1
19 April	First Day Term 2
26 April	Public Holiday
10 May	District Cross Country
11 - 13 May	NAPLAN
14 - 21 May	Robotics Incursion
18 May	School Photos
19 May	National Simultaneous Storytime
4 June	5/6 Interschool Sport
14 June	Public Holiday
18 June	5/6 Interschool Sport
25 June	Last Day Term 2
12 July	First Day Term 3
3 August	5/6 Interschool Sport
21 - 27 August	Book Week
17 September	Last Day Term 3
4 October	First Day Term 4

DATE	EVENT
2 November	Public Holiday
3 November	3 - 6 Swimming Starts
12 November	3 - 6 Swimming Ends
15 November	Prep - 2 Swimming Starts
26 November	Prep - 2 Swimming Ends
17 December	Last Day Term 4

ADVERTISING NOTE: The Department of Education and Training and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) does not endorse the products or services of any private advertisers. No responsibility is accepted by DEECD for accuracy of information.

HARMONY DAY

Thursday 25 March

WEAR CULTURAL/ TRADITIONAL CLOTHING, OR THE COLOUR ORANGE

Special Lunch

Recess chalk drawing

'Harmony Share'

Parade

Lunchtime photo booth & cultural dance performances

FROM THE MITCHAM PRIMARY OFFICE

CSEF (CAMPS & SCHOOL EXCUSRIONS FUND)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend activities like:

- School camps or trips
- Swimming and school-organised sport programs
- Outdoor education programs
- Excursions and incursions.

Applications for 2021 are now open and will close at the end of Term 2. Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply.

Successful applicants will receive $125 per year for eligible primary school students. Payments are made directly to the school and are tied to the individual student. Most payments start from March onwards.

Payments are for the application year and cannot be claimed for previous years.

The CSEF payment cannot be used towards voluntary school charges, books, stationery, school uniforms, before/after school care, music lessons, or formals/graduations.

You will only need to submit an application form in 2021 if any of the following changes have occurred:

- Your child has started or changed schools in 2021 or you did not apply at the same school in a previous year
- Changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2021.

We are able to accept and process applications up until the end of term two each year.

The payment system only allows one application per student. Parents in shared custody situations (who both hold a concession card) must make the decision beforehand who applies for the CSEF at the school on behalf of their children.

If you have already paid for some camp, sports or excursion costs up front, you have the option to

- Allocate the payment towards remaining activities in 2020
- Carry over the amount to be used on eligible activities in 2021

Please note, CSEF funds cannot be directly refunded to families.

If you think you may be eligible, and are yet to apply, or would like more information, please see the information and application sheets enclosed in the later pages of this newsletter. Alternatively, contact our school office for more information.

CENTREPAY

Centrepay is a free bill paying service that allows applicable families to pay bills and other costs, direct from their Centrelink payments.

Using Centrepay you can arrange regular deductions from your Centrelink payment. You can start, change, or stop using Centrepay whenever you like. You can use it for your regular bills and other ongoing expenses, such as rent, electricity, phone and school fees.

Contact the Mitcham Primary School Office, or click here for more information.

COMPASS

Have you logged into Compass yet? Compass is our all-purpose communication platform for families at Mitcham Primary School. Using the login details provided on the letter sent home, click here or visit: mitchamps-vic.compass.education to log in and familiarise yourself with the platform.

SUSTAINABILITY DAY

OSHCLUB NEWS

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Last week was Random Acts of Kindness Week, children created a poster titled 'How to be Kind'. The poster included many cloud rainbows where they came up with "acts of kindness'', such as sharing toys and holding the door for someone.

We are proud of the Preps for completing their three weeks of early finish and now starting their full days at school. Well done, Preps!

This week, we focused on our new Nature Corner in the OSH Room. Children enjoyed helping create the terrarium display using the new Lego, as well as made a water can craft out of coloured paper.

We also discussed the importance of saving water, and we created a 'Save our Water' display. Children thought of ways to save water, such as turning the tap off whilst brushing teeth and collecting rainwater to use to water indoor plants. These are displayed on each water drop on our new display.

MOOV MARCH WITH MOOVOSITY

'Moov March' is a twice weekly (Monday & Thursday), five week program, delivering fun, interactive movement and activity sessions. Every Monday and Thursday, there will be fun, interactive movement and activity sessions through the Moovosity App.

A LITTLE THANK YOU

Last year, in celebration of 'Farmer's Day', OSHClub students made a thankyou card for a farmer known by Thomas 1/2 A. Thomas' mum, Trudi sent us an email in thanks on behalf of their farmer family:

"Brett and Kathryn were thrilled by the card made by the kids. Brett grows grapes and other things on this farm and has animals and has in the last few years started growing dates."

POLICY CORNER

4.3 Delivery & Collection of Children Policy

Non-Arrival of Children

This procedure must be implemented when a child is booked into After School Care and does not arrive at the Service.

When a child does not arrive at the After School Care session within 10 minutes of 3:15PM, these steps will be followed:

1. **Within 5-10 minutes after school finishes:** Contact the school office to enquire whether the child was at school on the day and / or went home sick.
2. **Within 5 - 10 minutes after school finishes:** An educator is required to search the licensed area and school grounds for the child. A head count is required.
3. **Within 10-15 minutes after school finishes:** If the child cannot be located on the Coordinator or responsible person is to contact the parent and/or guardian to enquire about the child's whereabouts.
4. **Within 15-20 minutes after school finishes:** If parents/guardians cannot be contacted via phone or text, contact emergency numbers listed on the enrolment record until contact is made and the child is located. An educator to check with the school office for any further details.

REMEMBER...

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

Ensuring your children are booked to attend OSHClub helps us to cater for your children's needs and ensure we are compliant with national regulations and OSHClub policy. If you are having difficulty using the

OSHCLUB NEWS: CONTINUED

OSHClub online booking system, please call head office on: 1300 395 735.

Otherwise, you can book your child into the program on the day by calling or texting: 0422 097 497.

Program times are from 7.00 am - 9.00 am and 2:30pm—6:30pm, bookings will be confirmed during these times. Please notify the program if your child will be absent if you are unable to cancel the booking online. A courtesy phone call, voicemail or text will be highly appreciated and allow our team to focus on the children in attendance.

BEING SUNSMART

A kind reminder that we are following our Sun Smart policy according to UV level index. So, please remember to provide a hat for your child. We supply Coles' branded 50+ protection sunscreen here at the service, however, if your child has specific sunscreen needs, we encourage parents to either leave some with us at the program or ensure that children have some in their bags.

COVID-19 PROCEDURES

We are constantly monitoring the children's hand washing routine. We have reiterated to the children that they must wash their hands for 20 seconds or more. If you have any concerns and or questions regarding the COVID-19 situation, please communicate this to our staff.

NOTE: The Tirana street car park gate and the pedestrian gate will remain closed all the time. If you are dropping or picking up your child from OSHclub please call us on 0422 097 497 and Oshclub staff member will escort child to from the gate to the OSH building and vice a versa.

BOOKING POLICY FOR BSC AND ASC SESSIONS

Parents will not be able to book in within 24 hours of a session as the booking system is locked 24 hours before the sessions commencement time. Parents can book or cancel their child's attendance on the day by calling or texting 0422 097 497.

A late booking fee of $4 will automatically be charged when a booking is made at short notice (0-24 hrs ahead of the start time of the session).

When a child is booked into a session, but does not attend, and there has been no notification that they will be absent, a $5 'no-show' fee will be incurred. A 'no show' creates additional work for the educators as they must confirm whether a child is legitimately absent.

Our cancellation policy is 48 hours before the session commences. Cancellations within 48 hours will incur full fee.

Enrol Now: www.oshclub.com.au

OSHClub Program Phone: 0422 097 497

OSHClub Head Office: 1300 395 735

ANIMATION FIXATION CHALLENGE

OSHClub Head Office announced a competition across all OSHClub services during January Vacation Care, the Animation Fixation Challenge. Using the topic, 'What does Australia mean to you?' our students worked together to create a fantastic stop-motion video showing off all the wonderful things about Australia.

Four national prizes are up for grabs, consisting of $250 for service resources, as well as $250 to a local charity of the children's choice. Regional prizes are also to be won, including $100 towards service resources, with all OSHClub groups receiving a Certificate of Participation, as well as a certificate for each student.

Children did amazing job alongside our awesome team. Don't miss out! Click the link below to watch our video entry:

ANIMATION FIXATION ENTRY

THE EDUCATION STATE

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname_____

First name_____

Address_____

Town/suburb_____ State_____ Postcode_____

Contact number_____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

☐☐☐ – ☐☐☐ – ☐☐☐ – ☐ **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant_____ **Date**__/__/__

VICTORIA State Government

CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;

a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (education.vic.gov.au)

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2021) or term two (19 April 2021).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (education.vic.gov.au)

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
   Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2021 closes on 25 June, 2021.
   CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

nab AFL Auskick

IGNITE A PASSION FOR THE GAME!

MITCHAM JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

WALKER PARK - Whitehorse Road NUNAWADING

Start - 23/04/2021 Friday Nights 6pm - 7:30pm

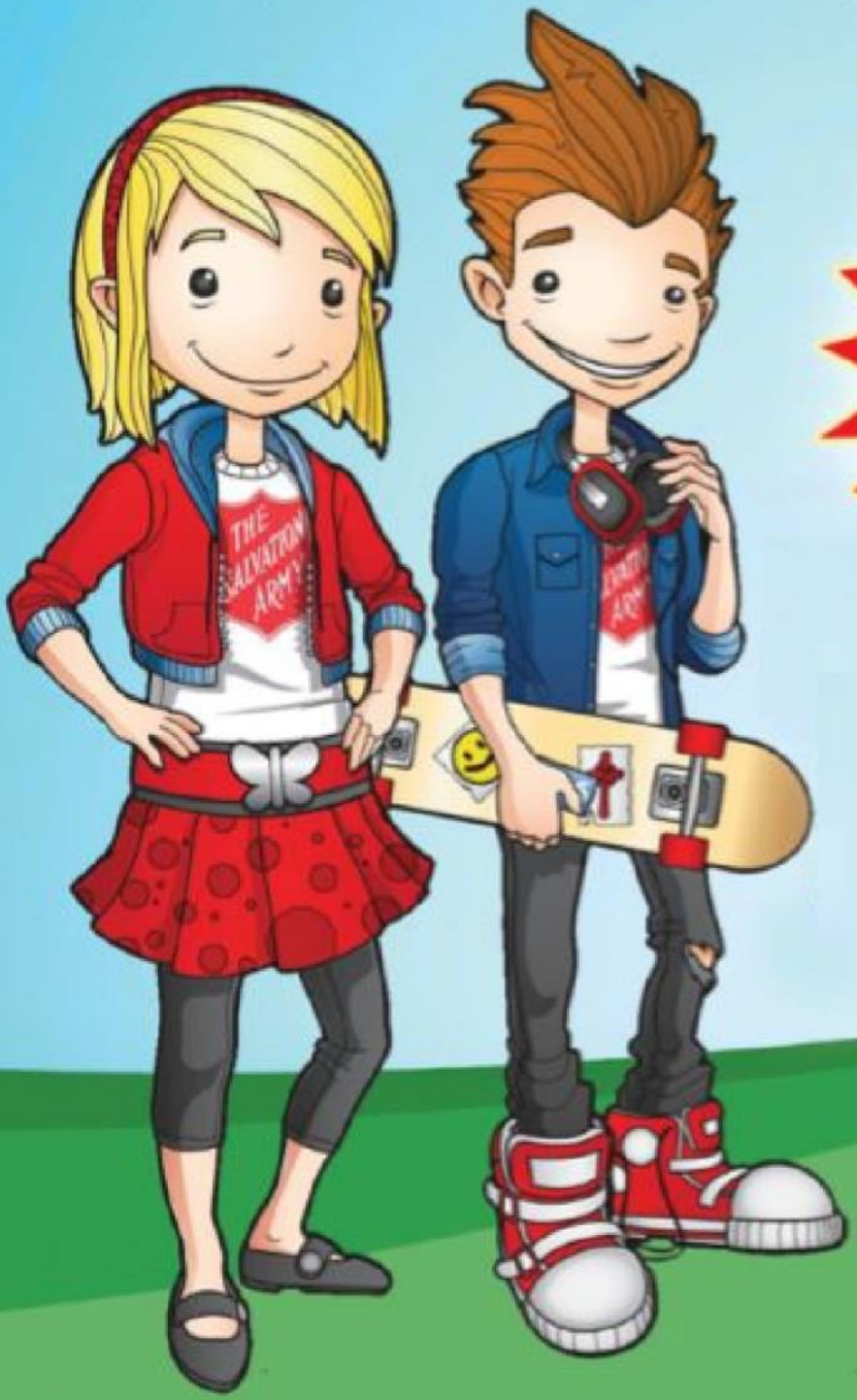
https://www.playhq.com/afl/org/mitcham-auskick-centre/501d5474/register - Craig 0408536539

play.afl/auskick

THE SALVATION ARMY

kid zone

For Primary Schoolers



FRIENDS, GAMES, LOADS OF FUN!

Thursdays
4pm-5:30pm
$5 donation
Per Family

325 Mitcham Rd,
Mitcham
Phone: 9873 4822

For further information contact
Tristan on 0401 691 160 or 9873 4822

KNOX
your city

Reach Out and Connect; The Suicide Conversation for Parents

Supportive connection is early prevention

Join us for this webinar presented by Amy Corcoran and Sarah Matta, LifeConnect Neami National, to help recognise and support young people who may be at risk of suicide.

Free Event

Date: Thursday 11 March, 2021

Time: 7-8.30pm (Zoom Webinar)

Bookings essential - Register here

For more information, contact Michelle, Knox Youth Services 9298 8311 or michelle.pascoe@knox.vic.gov.au

Topics covered include:

- Suicide and suicidal thinking.
- Young people are at higher risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviours - Understanding why a young person might feel this way.
- Gain confidence in asking appropriate questions and listening with empathy.
- Learn how to play a part in community suicide prevention and support the wellbeing of young people in your family.

Proudly supported by

LifeConnect
neami national

Knox City Council

This session is based on evidence-informed practice and was developed in consultation with people with a lived experience of the impacts of suicide.

Anglicare Victoria

Raising Resilient Kids

A Parents' Building Solutions 6-Week Online Program

Do you want to:

- Get a clear understanding of resilience and coping with life's set backs?
- Learn how to build resilience in your child?
- Learn strategies to help your child bounce back from adversity?
- Build a strong emotional connection with your child so they share more with you?

Program suitable for parents of children aged 5-12 years of age.

Join us for 6 weekly online sessions:

23 February to 30 March 2021
Time: 10:00 - 11:30 am
Bookings: 9721 3646 or
parentzone.eastern@anglicarevic.org.au

Where: Join us live online via Zoom.
Cost: Free of charge for parents and carers in Melbourne's Eastern Region.

Bookings essential.

PARENTZONE