Celebrating Learning
Redhead Public School Strategic Directions 2016
1. Quality student learning
2. Quality teaching and leadership
3. Developing community learning partnerships

Principal’s Awards
Congratulations to Joel, Jade and Jovi who were presented with Principal’s Awards this week.

Merit Awards
Well done to our Merit Award recipients from Week 6. Please see the back of the newsletter for more details.

Gold Shields
Well done to Ruby, Ethan and Samuel who were our gold shield recipients for Week 5.

“Redhead Public School has innovative programs which meet out students’ aspirations and interests”

Grandfriend’s Day assembly is a special time for grandfriends and their grandchildren. Parents/Carers are welcome to come at recess and for the Easter Hat Parade which commences at 11:30am

Years 3 and 4 camp to Glenrock
Expression of interest and $25 deposit due Monday 21 March

Years 5 and 6 camp to Canberra
Expression of interest and $60 deposit due Friday 1 April

Representing Our School
Zone Swimming
The overall point scores for the zone swimming carnival were recently sent out to schools. Points are divided into 3 divisions – overall, small school and handicap or aggregate. I’m pleased to announce that Redhead placed 3rd in the handicap points score. Congratulations swimmers!

PSSA Sport Trials

AFL Trials
On Tuesday Cooper and Ashley travelled to Maitland for the AFL Hunter trials.
Both boys had a great day of skills, try outs and competition.

**Soccer Trials**
Yesterday James, Harry, Ethan and Ellis travelled to Croudace Bay for the zone soccer trials. The boys had a tremendous trial with James, Harry and Ethan making it to the next stage of competition.

**Rugby League Trials**
Kody and Jesse trialled yesterday for the zone rugby league team at Valentine. They were up against some tough competition and many representative players. The boys played exceptionally well but missed out on gaining selection for the zone team.

**Netball Trials**
Dakoda and Reynah are trialling today for the PSSA netball team. Good luck girls!

**PSSA Cricket**
Next Wednesday our school cricket team will play their second round game in the Brian Taber Shield Knockout. We will be playing Carrington Public School on our school oval beginning at 9:15am. A note has gone home with the selected students today. Please return permission slip and $2 before next Tuesday.

**Hunter Maths Camp**
Last year in the Year 5 Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition, Angus achieved outstanding results. As a result of his achievement he has been invited to Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Camp for the weekend with other talented mathematicians. We are proud of your achievement Angus.

**Sing Out Loud Concert**
All Year 6 parents and caregivers are invited to our ‘Sing Out Loud’ concert to be held in our school hall on Thursday 31 March at 10:00am. The concert will run for approximately 45 minutes.

Light refreshments will be served afterwards to Year 6, their parents and caregivers and our elders as we celebrate the end of a positive experience and a profound learning experience for our students. It will be wonderful to see you there.

**Writing Group**
Our outside areas have been inspiring our writing enrichment group to create masterful descriptions.

**Assembly**
At our assembly tomorrow Delta will share their item. Next week there will not be an assembly item as Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 teachers are involved in Targeting Early Numeracy Strategies (TENS) mathematics training. Assembly commences at 2:10pm in our hall.

**ANZAC Service**
Our school ANZAC Service will be held on Friday 8 April, the last day of Term 1, at 9:30am. The service will be under our COLA area weather permitting.

*Every Face has a Place*
On Thursday 7 April Year 5 and 6 students will attend the 61st annual Newcastle Combined Schools ANZAC Service at Civic Theatre in Newcastle. We will be arriving at 12:00pm for a 12:30pm service and leaving at approximately 1:45pm. There will be a cost for the bus of $5 for each student with the school subsidising the additional costs. Permission notes have been sent home today.

Yarn Group Meeting
Our first meeting for the Redhead Yarn Group for this year will be on Monday 21 March in the staffroom at 6:00pm. Hope to see you there.

Clean Up Australia Day at School
Redhead Public School’s Clean Up Australia Day will be held tomorrow. Each class will have an area to clean. The senior classes will work around our boundaries but younger classes will stay within the school grounds. It would be wonderful if students could have their own gloves for this activity.

Professional Learning
“Quality Student Learning” is one of the goals of our school plan 2015-2017.

In 2015 our staff had a significant focus on improving the writing ability of all of our students. This focus was developed as a part of a thorough analysis of available data including NAPLAN. This will continue over this year and next.

As well, our community shared with our school evaluation team that they would like more information about what their child is able to do and some suggestions on how they can also assist in this process.

Yesterday, in our staff meeting all staff focused on the continuum of learning in the area of writing.

At the parent/carer teacher interviews in week 10 teachers from Year 1 to Year 6 will be able share significant information about where your child is at in the area of writing.

For parents/carers of Kindergarten the focus for your parent and teacher interview is sharing the data from Best Start.

On Friday 18 March the next training day for TENS mathematics training will be presented for Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 teachers.

‘Valuing Partnerships with parents and our wider community’

Grandfriends’ Day
Thursday 24 March – 10:00 am
The invitations have been sent out! Our students are busy preparing to give the senior people in their life a special treat at our Grandfriend’s Day assembly. This is a “seniors” event.

Recess it is our special Easter recess with hot cross buns and a drink. These can be ordered through a special order form for students and for their Grandfriends. Orders need to be placed by Friday 18 March.

At 11:30am there will be a colourful Easter hat parade by Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 students. Parents/carers and Grandfriends are invited to attend this parade.

Stage 2 Camp at Glenrock
Years 3 and 4 received notes home last week regarding our bi-annual trip to Glenrock Camp. Students need to return these notes and deposit by 21 March so that interest can be ascertained and a decision made as to the camp going ahead. This camp requires parent/caregiver assistance with making and serving food. Please indicate if you are able to help as this may impact on the camp.

The camp will be held from Thursday 26 May to Friday 27 May at a cost of $75. Students will be involved in a number of activities including a guided walk through Glenrock with the Awabakal Environmental Education Centre.

Stage 3 Camp to Canberra
Last week all Stage 3 students took home a note regarding our upcoming excursion to Canberra. Please return the attached permission slip and $60 deposit as soon as practicable so that our planning can continue. If notes are not returned by 1 April, we will assume that your child will not be attending and we will plan accordingly.
School Disco
Tuesday 22 March – 2nd Lunch
Our school disco will be held on Tuesday 22 March in our wonderful school hall. This term we will be celebrating Harmony Day, promoting respect, fairness and a sense of belonging for everyone. We will also be raising money to support Fiji’s recovery effort through a school out of uniform day. The theme is ‘Sun, Sand and Surf’ and we ask for a gold coin donation for all students that take part in the out of uniform day. Remember to wear appropriate clothing, closed shoes and have a blast at our disco.

Kidsmatter – Every Face Has a Place

At our school every face has a place and every face has a name. We are encouraging all of our students to ensure that when they are talking to people they use their name, rather than a “nickname.”

The last two pages of our newsletter today focuses on the development of social skills. School brings different types of learning, including social interactions and how to make friends. Parents/carers can lay the foundations at home by teaching their kids these 7 important social skills. Please take some time to read about these important skills.

Being Safe Around Our School
Please sign in when you are helping out in our school. Recently we have held a practice evacuation to an off-site location and a lockdown where we stay inside.

Please remember that when you come onto the school grounds during school hours we need you to sign in at the front office. This is important – in the case of emergency we need to know who is on site.

Mobile Phones And Electronic Devices
Mobile phones and electronic devices are not to be brought to school without permission from the Principal. To gain permission please write a note explaining the circumstances that warrant a student to have a mobile phone or an electronic device at school. In most cases these will be kept at the office during the school day.

This also applies to watches that have the capability to record sound or images.

‘Tell Them From Me’ Student Feedback Survey
I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me Survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 21 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A non-consent form for parents/carers is placed at the end of this newsletter.

If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the non-consent form to school by Friday 18 March. The frequently asked questions and copies of the non-consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.
Year 5 2016 ANZAC Day Essay Competition

Our Year 5 students have been given the details for the 2016 ANZAC Day Writing Competition.

The topic is – “Royal Australian Air Force”.

Research, discussion and gathering ideas can be done at home, however, the writing task is to be completed at school.

The entries will be collected at 3:00pm on Friday 18 March. The winning entry will be read at our school ANZAC Day assembly on Friday 8 April and then at the community service on 25 April.

Parent/Carer Teacher Interviews

Thank you to the 145 people who have already taken the opportunity to book in for their parent teacher interview.

At our school we support the meaningful participation of parents or caregivers in the education of their child. The role that parents/carers play in the education of their child has the potential to strengthen the support provided by schools in improving their educational outcomes. When schools and parents/carers work together in constructive and meaningful ways much can be achieved.

One of the ways that we encourage meaningful participation is in parent/carer teacher interviews. These are held during Term 1 as a chance to share information and develop learning goals for the year. Interviews can be booked online at www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the code 5sgz4

The timetable for interviews is:

- Monday 21 March
  - Omega K with Mrs Jan Vallin
  - Sigma K with Mrs Kath Williams

- Tuesday 29 March
  - Alpha 4 with Mrs Arlene Web
  - Kappa 2 with Ms Melissa O’Donnell
  - Chi 2 with Mrs Kylie McQueen

- Wednesday 30 March
  - Gamma 3/4 with Mrs Christie Johnson
  - Epsilon 2 with Mrs Lisa Budden
  - Delta 3 with Mrs Lynne Church

- Thursday 31 March
  - Phi 1 with Mrs Julie McDonald

Iota 5/6 with Mr Evan Finlay

Friday 1 April
- Theta 4/5 with Mr James McGill
- Lambda 5/6 with Miss Samantha Vaughan

This information is also on our website.

If you are unable to make an appointment on the day of interview, please phone to make an alternative time or to arrange a phone interview at a mutually agreeable time.

Voluntary Contributions

Thank you to those families who have already paid their voluntary contributions for 2016. These funds are utilised to provide “extras” for our students.

Voluntary contributions for 2016 are $40 for one child or $80 for a family.

If your child’s voluntary contributions are paid by 7 April your family name will go into the draw to win one of three $50 vouchers for Charlestown Square kindly donated by the P &C. This draw will be done on Friday 8 April.

‘Valuing Partnerships with parents and our wider community’

Book Packs

Thank you to those families who have made payment for the bookpacks.

There are just a few students who are yet to receive their bookpack. Please contact the office if you are experiencing difficulty paying for them.

Band News

There will be no band rehearsal on Friday 11 March as Mr McGill will not be at school on this day.

Thank you to those members that have returned their agreements and money for this term.

Surfboards

Does anyone know a person who makes surfboards who would consider making replacement boards for our “You Can Do It” surfboards at the front of our school?

Our existing boards are fading and it would be great to replace them with colourful new ones. Of course, they won’t be used. Please let me know.
Library News

The Premier’s Reading Challenge begins this week. The challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature.

It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. Each week students are encouraged to borrow a Premiers Reading Challenge book as one of their library loans.

To enter the challenge, visit the website https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

Click on the logon button on the left hand side of the screen.

Students use the same username and password that they use to access the computer systems at school. They then add books to their personal reading logs. It is easiest to do using the codes that you will find written in the front of the Premier Reading Challenge books that are labelled with coloured stickers.

Kindergarten will all enter the challenge and will have their reading lists entered by me. If you do not want your child to participate, please contact me.

Below are the requirements to complete the challenge.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Number of books you must read</th>
<th>Minimum number of PRC books</th>
<th>Maximum number of Personal Choice books</th>
<th>PRC booklists you can read from</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>5-6, 7-9</td>
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A PDF version of the personal reading log can also be downloaded from the site or if you wish for a copy of the personal reading log please contact me. The Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes Friday 19 August. If you have any difficulties, please contact me. Let’s see if we can beat last year’s astounding participation results.

P & C News

P & C Meeting/AGM

“New faces, new team, new start for P & C 2016”

Monday 7th March 2016 all positions were vacated in the P & C and there is a fresh new team who are energetic to be the voices of the school. We are very enthusiastic with fundraising & our children’s education.

But we cannot do this without more parent/grandparent/carer involvement.

Our first motion was proposed by Kylie Tayler, canteen supervisor, “That in an effort to overcome excessive lunch orders being placed on Friday, that pies and sausage rolls availability be extended to Wednesday and Thursday as well as Friday.”

Do you have an opinion?

We would love to get parents' responses prior to our next meeting, when it will be discussed in greater detail. We welcome your feedback.

Do you have any ideas for Redhead Public School?

Do you think you could assist in the Treasurer role? This position is vacant & we would love to fill it ASAP.

We would love to have you be a part of Redhead Public School P & C.

We meet once a month, Monday evenings 7pm. Cannot make the meeting? This is fine we are looking for motivated and enthusiastic people to assist with fundraising and assist in the canteen.

The next meeting is April 4 at 7.00pm – 8.30 pm

Entertainment Book

Our online order page is now active and ready to take book and digital orders for the new Entertainment™ memberships at https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/3u4669

Get your orders in ASAP to be eligible for the exclusive early bird vouchers which can be used straight away.

The New 2016/2017 Entertainment™ memberships will be launching in April 2016, but are available for pre-order now. Follow the above
link to order yours today and receive early bird bonus offers. Hurry limited number of vouchers available.

$12 from every book sold comes straight back to the school to be used for resources for our children. If you have friends and family that you think would like to place an order please forward these details on.

Thank you for your continued support in this great fundraising effort. Amanda

Uniform Shop News
Size 10 and 12 polo shirts and all sizes in gold socks are now in stock.

The uniform shop is open each Wednesday morning 8:45am – 9:15am. For access outside of this time contact Tracey 0408 460 737 or Jan 0438 448 703.

Canteen News
Thanks to everyone who has sent in their hot cross bun orders for the 24 March - don't forget that Friday 18 March is the last day you can order!

As discussed in last week's newsletter, the canteen this term has been extremely busy on Fridays, whilst trade on Wednesdays and Thursdays has dropped considerably. This has led to very hectic Fridays, and frazzled canteen workers. I think a major cause of the hectic Fridays is the fact that low-fat pies and sausage rolls are available only on that day.

A motion was put forward at the P&C meeting on Monday 7 March that pies and sausage rolls now be made available on Wednesdays and Thursdays too. Please see information in P&C box above. The motion will be discussed and voted upon on at our next meeting on April 4.

Thanks again to our fabulous volunteers this term: we have only one canteen shift that remains unfilled. It's wonderful to see some grandparents appearing on the roster - they are a very welcome part of our school community! Kylie Tayler

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<tr>
<th>Canteen Roster Term 1</th>
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<td><strong>Friday 11 March</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Friday 1 April</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Friday 8 April</strong></td>
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Opal Card

Over 350,000 students eligible for subsidised travel under the School Student Transport Scheme have been provided with a School Opal Card for travel within the Opal network.

This year, Transport for NSW and transport operators have allowed eligible school students to travel without a School Opal Card for the first six weeks of the school year, provided they are in school uniform or can provide evidence they are attending school (i.e. school student ID card or copy of class timetable).

As most students have now settled in to their new travel patterns for the year and have received their School Opal Cards, the grace period will end on Monday 14 March 2016.

Every Face has a Place
SRE (formerly Scripture)
Local church communities are again offering Christian Special Religious Education (SRE) at Redhead Public School.

Mrs Strongman, Mrs Joyce and I attend classes on Thursday afternoon to present the Godspace or Connect programmes. Information about these programmes is available at www.godspace.org.au and www.cepstore.com.au Or by chatting with the SRE Teachers.

Soon we will be telling the Easter story and joining together for an (after) Easter assembly on March 31 at 2:00pm.

SRE teachers are delighted with the listening and responsive students we have in our classes. Children are encouraged to participate - they love dressing up to be part of the stories and dramas and to question.

Please feel free to contact the SRE teachers (through the school office) if you have any questions or you would like more details.

Students may re-join SRE classes at any time in the year (if you have not previously ticked SRE on the enrolment form) by bringing a note for the class teacher.

If you wish to join the SRE teaching team, please contact your church group (or me) for information on training and on required child protection checks. You would be most welcome!

Christine Tyler
Christine@tylergroup.com.au

Every Face has a Place
# Class Merit Awards

## Sigma
- **Avalon Morton**: Fabulous work with sounds
- **Nate Murley**: Enthusiastic worker in class
- **Willow Haines**: Careful listening and great completion of work

## Omega
- **Lucy King**: Fabulous oral language
- **Bailey Sawyer**: Fantastic work in maths
- **Natalia Muller**: Excellent book presentation

## Chi
- **Kaylah Szkopkowski**: Being Chi 2 super star of the week
- **Harper Connors**: Chi 2 SRC representative Term 1
- **Riley Hollier**: Chi 2 SRC representative Term 1

## Phi
- **Bella Moran**: Enthusiastic approach to all her work
- **Charlotte Nilon**: Fabulous work in maths
- **Lachlan Hawting**: Super effort in comprehension

## Kappa
- **Locke Sawyer**: Fabulous effort in recount writing
- **Holly McLennan**: Wonderful results in weekly spelling tests
- **Sonny Worrall**: Excellent work in maths groups

## Epsilon
- **Hannah Hadden**: Writing amazing sentences that grow
- **Annabel Rees**: Always completing her best work with a positive attitude
- **Evan Simes**: His amazing counting and counting back skills in maths

## Gold Shields
- **Eden Conrick**: Skyla Poole
- **Tully Elliott**: Tully Elliott

## Alpha
- **Nate Fisher**: Persevering in writing tasks
- **Beau Jackson**: Great work in spelling book
- **James Donald**: Eager participation and great attitude to all learning tasks

## Delta
- **Brooklyn Davico**: Super work in ‘Addition Squares’
- **Taj Stevens**: Excellent work in your money book
- **Cameron Grant**: Writing well thought out introductions

## Gamma
- **Louie Stephens**: His interest and effort in science
- **Scarlett Hardy**: Developing confidence in maths
- **Jack Dickinson**: Being helpful and kind

## Theta
- **Tarah Rusell**: Imaginative fable writing
- **Amba McCarthy**: Persistence in times tables
- **Cassie Corder**: Excellent descriptive writing

## Lambda
- **Jessica Smith**: Compassion and understanding at ‘Sing Out Loud’
- **Rose-Mae Kelly**: Persistence during mathematics
- **Tilly Havebond**: Beautiful book work

## Iota
- **Kody Mackay**: Working hard in mathematics
- **Amelia Lovelock**: Excellent commitment to homework tasks
- **Lucy Niddrie**: Fantastic sports shed organisation

## Library
- **Tahlea Britz**: High quality work in library
- **Samuel Griffiths**: Helping and caring for others
- **Lucy Scobell**: An exceptional historical presentation

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*Every Face has a Place*
COMPETITIONS & ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS

The University of New South Wales Educational Testing Centre conducts competitions for students in Years 3 – 6 in which our school participates. Individual students need to enter the competitions. Students who participate will receive a certificate and detailed results letter. This letter indicates how a student’s overall performance compares with other students in their state.

Students Name ………………………………….……Class …………………Grade………

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Entry Fee</th>
<th>I would like to enter my Child in ✓</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Digital Technologies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
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<td>15 June 055-004</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>13-17 June 055-005</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>2 August 055-001</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>16 August 055-002</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
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</tbody>
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If we receive fewer than three entries per subject we will not be able to complete that assessment and your payment will be refunded.

I enclose payment of ……………………. for the entries.  Signed: ………………………..……

Parent/Guardian

Please return with payment in an envelope to the school office before Friday 25 March

Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey non-consent form

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by Friday 18 March.

I DO NOT give consent for my child/children to participate in the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey.

Name of student/s …………………………………………………………………………………

Roll class/es ……………………………………………………………………………………

Name of parent/carer ………………………………………………………………………...

Signature of parent/carer …………………………………………………………………….

Date …………………………….

Every Face has a Place
Building parent-school partnerships


disabilities

Social skills for children

School brings different types of learning, including social interactions and how to make friends. Parents can lay the foundations at home by teaching their kids these 7 important social skills.

Children who are able to form friendships when they start school are happier at school and also learn better.

More significantly, positive friendships have long-term implications for social and indirectly academic success.

Friendships skills are generally developmental, but they don’t develop in isolation. Kids acquire these skills when they play with their siblings and interact with children and adults outside their family.

Today’s children grow up with fewer siblings, fewer opportunities for unstructured play and less freedom to explore friendships than children of even ten years ago.

Parents can help kids develop important social competencies by teaching them sociable behaviours at home, being good role models and providing opportunities for kids to play with each other in a variety of situations.

Here are 7 important social skills to help children to develop:

1. **Ask for what you want**
   Help children ask for what they want. It means they don’t throw tantrums, whinge, and sulk or expect parents to guess what’s on their minds. While we need to be patient with toddlers, we need also to give older children the chance and opportunity to ask for what they want. Sometimes we need to ignore shrugs and grunts and expect them to articulate their wishes. This is the basis of civil behaviour, as well as a basic human skill.

2. **Good manners**
   Teach kids good manners, in particular the three ‘power words’. These words are very persuasive because they have a way of breaking down barriers and people’s defences. These three words are: your name; please; thanks. These terms are the basis of good manners, and, when used, will increase the likelihood of getting what you want.

3. **Sharing**
   Sharing is a basic social skill. Developmentally, very young children like to keep their possessions themselves. As they get older and move into Pre School and beyond the notion of sharing becomes a pre-requisite for playing with and forming relationships with others. Other children like to play and be with those who share their time, possessions and space with them. Sharing is the start of empathy as it shows sensitivity to other people’s feelings.

4. **Holding a conversation**
   Holding conversations with others is a lifetime friendship skill. Conversations require self-disclosure, which can be challenging for some children. Good conversationalists give of themselves, but also take an interest in the person they are talking to. Many children forget that good conversations are two-way events, and tend to focus solely on themselves.

   Children within conversations need to learn to ask good or interesting questions; to take turns when speaking and to show you are listening by making eye contact and not interrupting.

5. **Winning and losing well**
   Kids need to learn to win without rubbing others noses in it, and lose gracefully without throwing tantrums and making excuses.

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Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.

parentingideas.com.au

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... Social skills for children ...

Wanting to win is natural, but they need to do so in a way that they maintain a relationship with other players so they will play again. Losing may make kids feel bad, but kids need to control their negative feelings so that others will play with them again.

6 Approaching and joining a group

The ability to approach strangers in social situations is valuable skill that opens up many doors, both friendship-wise and business-wise. These skills can be learned and practised during childhood, so that it becomes second nature in adulthood.

7 Handling fights and disagreements

Disagreements happen in families and among friends. The key is to make sure disagreements don’t lead to the breakdown of friendships. It’s important to get across to kids that having an argument or disagreement doesn’t mean that a friendship is over. Strong friendships, like strong family relationships, withstand disagreements. In fact, they only serve to strengthen friendships.

The results of a number of studies indicate that children can be taught friendships skills. The strategies are simple and revolve around teaching children a range of friendly behaviours such as: talking with others while playing, showing an interest in others, smiling, offering help and encouragement when needed, a willingness to share and learning how to enter a game or social situation.

As parents we often focus on the development of children’s academic skills and quite easily neglect the development of important social skills, which contribute so much to children’s happiness and wellbeing.

Michael Grose

Want more ideas to help you raise confident kids and resilient young people? Subscribe to Happy Kids newsletter, my FREE weekly email parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au. You’ll be so glad you did.