Peer Mediation

We are currently training our Year 5 children to be Peer Mediators. Peer mediation is a program which encourages children to support their peers to problem solve potential conflicts which occur in the yard. Throughout the peer mediation process the children are fully supported by the teachers.

Information about Peer Mediation and Peer Mediators

Mediators are expected to display good qualities

- Has respect for him/herself and others
- Is a good listener
- Likes to help others
- Is willing to give up their free time to do this
- Keeps things in confidence
- Doesn’t take sides
- Doesn’t force the parties to reach an agreement

Peer mediators have no authority over students and students can reject their help.

Skills of Mediation

- Effective communication
- Active listening and reframing
- Understanding feelings and empathy
- Assertiveness
- Conflict resolution

Benefits

- It empowers all students – helping them take responsibility for their lives
- Emphasis of listening and developing tolerance
- Increases interpersonal skills, such as listening, problem solving and communication.
- A high rate of compliance and decisions that hold over time. There is more willingness to resolve future results.

Peer Mediation has 5 Steps

1. Introduction – Explain the process and the ground rules for mediation
2. Telling the story – Each party tells his/her side of the story uninterrupted. The mediators then reframe what they have heard.
3. Brainstorming – Children think of as many solutions to the situation as possible. Mediators can offer suggestions. Often the solution is a combination of ideas.
4. Choosing a solution – This is when a solution is selected and agreed upon by both parties
5. Agreement – Questions to ask – Is it fair for both parties? Does it solve the solution? What needs to be done? Who will do it? Is it realistic? When will we meet again to see if it has worked? The Agreement form is then completed.