

Network Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope the break allowed you to recharge in preparation for the term ahead. This term promises to be busy as two new WEN projects get underway.

Brightpath Science

Brightpath is an assessment tool that utilises teacher judgments to measure student achievement and progress in a range of curriculum areas. Staff from six network schools will work with Brightpath to develop the Science assessment tool. This collaborative process will enable participants to gain an in-depth understanding of the Science Inquiry Skills strand and how to use data to inform science instruction. The refined assessment tool will be utilised by schools across Western Australia in 2018.

Learning Disabilities Flying Squad

Six network staff are engaging in professional learning for the Learning Disabilities Toolkit. The toolkit contains fourteen diagnostic literacy assessments

that can be used to pinpoint weaknesses and inform targeted interventions for students struggling with literacy. Following the training, the representatives will be accredited Toolkit facilitators who will form a 'flying squad' to support schools at their point of need. More information will be provided about the flying squad in the near future.

Youth Mental Health First Aid

One of the aims of our Mental Health project is to build the capacity of staff to support students struggling with their mental health. Last term 23 WEN school leaders and teachers engaged in Youth Mental Health First Aid training. The two day course increased participants' understanding of common mental health disorders among young people and how to respond in crisis and non-crisis situations. The feedback was so positive that another 29 network staff enrolled in this

course for the term two and three school development days. Participants will share their learnings with staff at their school following the second day of training.

In The Spotlight

In the Term One newsletter, we explored determinants for mental health, the mental health spectrum and the prevalence of mental health disorders in children. In this edition, we investigate how mental health problems may present in young people. Read on to discover the internalising and externalising behaviours you may see in a student struggling with their mental health.

Eleanor Hughes
Network Principal

Sources:

<http://www.fanpop.com/clubs/lisasmpson/images/642112/title/crying-lisa-fanart>

http://goodmoviemusicgame.blogspot.com.au/2009_01_01_archive.html



Internalising vs Externalising Behaviours

Students struggling with their mental health may display internalising or externalising behaviours. It is important for educators to be aware of what to look for so students can be identified early and the appropriate support can be given.

When considering the students in your school, it may help to think of Bart and Lisa. Lisa displays typically internalising behaviours whereas Bart externalises.

Internalising Behaviours

- Nervous or anxious temperament
- Excessive worrying
- Clingy and trouble separating from carers
- Pessimistic thinking
- Withdrawn behaviour (sad, gloomy, isolated, doesn't participate)
- Difficult peer relationships (can be isolated, rejected or bullied)



Externalising Behaviours

- Defiant behaviour
- Poor problem solving skills
- Poor social interactions
- Attention difficulties and/or hyperactivity
- Irritability and/or emotionality
- Aggressive behaviour including fighting and damage to property



If you have a concern about a student, speak to your line manager or school leader in charge of SAER/Student Services.

Upcoming Professional Learning Events

Date	Workshop	Venue
11 May	Digital Technologies: Unboxing the Resource Kit (K-2)	Carramar PS
18 May	Numeracy Leaders' Support Network	Spring Hill PS
1 June	Geography—Mapping Skills	Tapping PS
8 June	Impact of Developmental Difficulties on Learning	Pearsall PS
20 June	Using iPads in Visual Arts	Hocking PS
22 June	Attentional Difficulties	Banksia Grove PS
TBA	Instructional Strategies	Joseph Banks SC