

Quarter Times

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Issue 16 Thursday 30th October

Important Dates and Reminders:

Friday 31 st October	Assembly – 2:30pm
Friday 31 st October	Day for Daniel – Wear a touch of RED
Monday 3 rd November	Student Free Day – NO Students at School
Tuesday 4 th November	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday – NO Students at School
Wednesday 5 th November	QPS Art Show – 3:15pm – 4:15pm



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Principals Message

Dear Families,

As we move further into the last term of the year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued partnership in supporting our students' learning and wellbeing.

Attendance: Everyday Counts

Consistent attendance is one of the strongest predictors of academic achievement. When students miss school—whether for a full day or just part of one—they miss valuable learning time and classroom connections. Please help us by:

- Ensuring your child arrives on time each day, ready to learn.
- Scheduling appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.
- Contacting the school if your child will be absent or late.
- Only being away when unwell

We are having an attendance blitz and are noticing some reasons for absence are not appropriate or in the student's best interest.

Even a few missed days can add up quickly! Let's work together to help every student reach our attendance goal of 95% or higher.

Safety Beyond the School Day

Our care for students doesn't stop when the bell rings. We ask families to help reinforce safe habits before and after school:

- Encourage your child to walk or ride to and from school with friends or family, and come directly to school or make their way home straight away
- Remind them to use crosswalks or not cross a road until it is clear
- There have been reports of some students playing "chicken" with cars on the road – this is so dangerous, please reinforce how unsafe this is
- Know where your child is always before or after school times. The community is watching and when the students are in our school uniform, they are easily identifiable, and the school can be notified of any behaviour concerns.
- Discuss safe online behaviour and responsible use of social media.
- If your child participates in after-school activities, make sure they know where and when they'll be picked up.

By working together, we can ensure our students are **safe, supported, and ready to learn—every single day.**



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Respectful Conversations

We are very fortunate to have a caring and dedicated team of staff at **QPS**. Our staff work hard each day to provide a safe and welcoming environment for every student. As we work together to solve problems and support our students, please remember the importance of **kindness and respect** in all communications—whether in person, by phone, or by email.

Respectful conversations help model the very values we want our students to learn and demonstrate.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community and for the many ways you support our students every day.

Have a great weekend!

Take care,

Liz Davey

Principal



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Wellbeing and Inclusion News

SEL STAR Award Recipients

Congratulations to our SEL STAR award recipients from weeks 1 and 2. These students are being acknowledged for demonstrating our ACHIEVE values and making positive contributions to our school community.



Grade	SEL Star Award Recipients Weeks 1 and 2
Prep A	Tejasveer
Prep B	Awin
Prep C	Gurleen
Prep D	Janika
1/2A	Tanish
1/2B	Zoraiz
1/2C	So'Otuli
1/2D	Xavier
1/2E	Tegh
1/2F	Divon
1/2G	Kristina
3/4A	Vivaan
3/4B	Pavneet
3/4C	Matin
3/4D	Raahil
3/4E	Ishaan
5/6A	Aalok
5/6B	Guransh
5/6C	Madhu
5/6D	Linh
5/6E	Nia

Specialist Awards – Weeks 1 and 2	
PE	3/4A
Visual Arts	5/6A
Auslan	Prep D
DigiTech	5/6B



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Day for Daniel 2025

Australia's largest child safety education and awareness day

Friday 31 October, 2025

Tomorrow is the day! Friday 31st of October, Quarters Primary School will be acknowledging the Daniel Morecombe Foundation by profiling Day for Daniel. Day for Daniel is a National Day of Action to raise awareness of child safety, protection and harm prevention.

The theme for the day is 'Safe Spaces'. On Friday 31st October, we encourage students and staff to wear a touch of red in recognition of Day for Daniel. This could be a red t-shirt, red socks or shoes, a red wig or hat are just some suggestions.

For more information on Day for Daniel or the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, please visit: <https://danielmorcombe.com.au/day-for-daniel/>

RECOGNISE

Encourages students to be aware of their surroundings and to recognise body clues in situations where they don't feel safe.  Keeping kids safe!

Day for Daniel
Keeping kids safe!

REACT

Helps students to consider choices that may keep them safe or help make them safe again as quickly as possible.  Keeping kids safe!

REPORT

Encourages students to report unsafe incidents to an adult.  Keeping kids safe!



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Attendance and Uniform

Become a **HERO** in 2025!
**Here, Everyday, Ready to Learn
and On time**

Attendance Matters

Arriving to School on Time - Morning Routines

One of the main reasons for students not arriving to school on time is the business of the home in the morning. Setting up a good routine helps children arrive at school ready to learn and play.

Please click [here](#) to receive tips about setting up morning routines.

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/school-age/school-learning/school-homework-tips/morning-routine-for-school>

Attendance Guidelines

- **Regular attendees:** miss less than 10 days a year (less than 5% absence)
- **Risk of chronic absence:** miss between 10 and 19 days a year (5-10% absence)
- **Chronically absent:** miss 20+ days (10%+ absence; average 1 day per fortnight)

Currently, we are seeing approximately 25–30 students arriving 15–20 minutes late each day. This ongoing lateness impacts not only their morning routines and classroom readiness but also their overall attendance rate. Regular lateness can accumulate to a significant amount of learning time lost over the term, affecting student engagement and progress.

The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents. Our SWB team will be in touch with the families to follow up on lateness and absentees.



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On a positive note, **well done to our Prep learners** who have shown excellent attendance to start Term 4 and are leading the way on our attendance ladder!

Above 95% is our expected student attendance. So well done Preps!!!!!!

Quarters Primary School Uniform Policy

At Quarters Primary, wearing the school uniform every day helps students feel part of our school community and creates a positive sense of identity. It also makes it easier to recognise students during school activities and when travelling to and from school.

🕒 When to Wear the Uniform: Students are expected to wear the full school uniform:

- During school hours
- While travelling to and from school
- When attending school-related events

🧢 Hats Are Essential: A school hat is part of the uniform and must be worn during outdoor play in Terms 1 and 4. Our **'No Hat, No Play'** policy means students without a hat will be asked to stay in shaded areas during recess and lunch.

☀️ SunSmart Habits: We encourage all students to:

- Slip on protective clothing
- Slop on sunscreen
- Slap on a hat
- Seek shade
- Slide on sunglasses (optional)

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe, inclusive, and respectful school environment.



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QPS Cookbook Cover Design Competition

As part of our Cultural Project “*Finding My Place*,” we’re excited to invite our students and families to help design the **front cover** of our upcoming **QPS Cookbook!**

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your creativity and celebrate the rich diversity of our QPS community through art.

How to Participate:

 **Theme:** *Cooking and Community at QPS*

 **Size:** A4 page

 **Be Creative:** You can use drawings, paintings, or digital designs – the choice is yours!

 **Submit by:** *Saturday, 30th November 2025*

 **Submit to:** *Ms Davey or Mrs Sanghani at the office*

The **winning design** will be featured on the front cover of the QPS Cookbook and acknowledged inside the book.

We can’t wait to see the creative talents of our QPS students and families shine!



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School Celebrations



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Thank you to our QPS community!

It was so great to see so many of our students wearing LOUD shirts to raise awareness for hearing impaired people.

Our school raised an amazing \$422.15 which will go directly to NextSense!



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CASEY 360 BUS

Year 5/6 Students Explore the Casey 360 Bus!

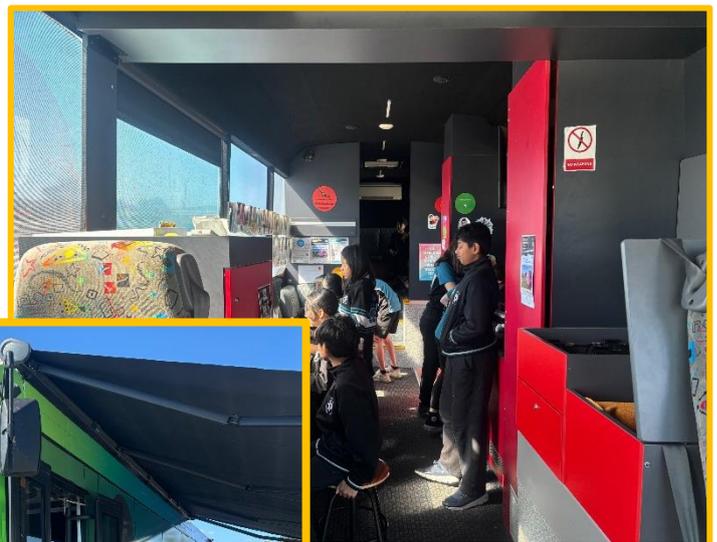
This week, our Year 5 and 6 students had the exciting opportunity to step aboard the Casey 360 Bus, a mobile youth information centre serving the City of Casey. The bus is a safe and welcoming space where young people can talk to Youth Service Workers, access support, and find out about local programs and opportunities.

Students had a fantastic time exploring the bus, playing video games on a range of gaming consoles, and learning about the different services available to help them with school, friendships, and wellbeing. Experiences like this give our students a chance to develop confidence, social skills, and an understanding of how to access support when they need it—all in a fun and interactive way!

Did you know?

Visiting the Casey 360 Bus helps students:

- **Build confidence** by trying new activities and talking with Youth Workers
- **Develop teamwork and social skills** while playing games with peers
- **Learn about wellbeing and support services** available in the community
- **Explore opportunities** to get involved in local programs and events



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Specialist News – IT



POSITIVE PARENTING STRATEGIES Supporting Safe Tech Use

PARENTS BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Presented by Parentzone in collaboration with PRONIA

Parents are telling us that they are concerned about their children's safety online, but with technology evolving so quickly, feel that it is very difficult to "keep up".

These three sessions will build on each other and focus on informing and equipping parents to explore topics such as:

- understanding online child exploitation and keeping our children safe ([we have a guest speaker from the Australian Federal Police presenting the ThinkUKnow program in Session One - don't miss it!](#))
- setting reasonable and appropriate boundaries around tech use at home
- parental controls - what they are and how to use them
- understanding the risks of online gaming

NOTE: These parenting sessions are general in nature, and seek to create an environment where parents are learning from one another. We aim to equip parents with transferrable knowledge and skills, but the sessions may not address specific issues such as neurodiversity.

DATE: Tuesday, 28th October (Session One)
Tuesday, 25th November (Session Two)
Tuesday, 20th January (Session Three)

TIME: 12.15 p.m. - 1.30 p.m.

WHERE: Online (Zoom)
Please note: this session will **NOT** be recorded

COST: FREE!

For more information, contact:

Carey Cole - 0437 428 281
carey.cole@anglicarevic.org.au

Use the QR code or this link:
<https://events.humanitix.com/2025-14-pbs-pronia-positive-parenting-strategies-safe-tech-use-parts-1-3>

Registrations close at 4.00 p.m. the day before the first session



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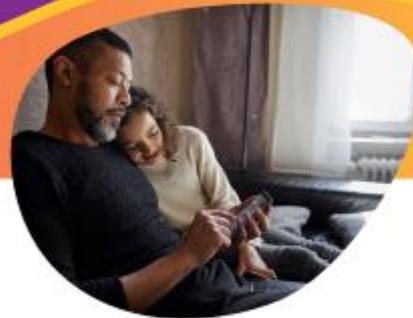


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DigiTalk | Children

Guiding your child's tech journey with DigiTalks



Having conversations with your child is a good way to build a family culture of openness and sharing – ensuring that you have the 'DigiTalk', including discussions about technology and online safety, will help build your child's understanding and go a long way towards ensuring respect, kindness and positivity towards technology. It will also help to avoid unhealthy habits forming which can be harder to undo later.

When do I start?

Children live in the world that we live in and that is a world full of technology, so it's never too early to start talking about the online world and technology use. However, there are ways to make sure this is appropriate for each age group.

Ages 0-4

Young children use devices for entertainment, watching videos or calling family members. They may even know how to unlock your device and access the apps on their own!

This is a good time to start talking about things like security and privacy: you could try things like "I've put this passcode on so that people I don't know can't use my things. Why do you think that's a good idea?"

You could follow this with "Have you ever thought about what could happen if someone else did use my phone/tablet?". This can start a conversation about personal information and what is and isn't ok to share with other people.

Ages 4-8

Children may have discovered that the online environment is a great place to learn more about their current interests or hobbies. This might be in the form of videos, games or articles to read. This is a good time to begin conversations around keeping an eye out for things that could be untrue, or people who are pretending to be someone else.

You could start with something like "I got a request from someone who says they're an old friend, but I'm not sure. Do you think there's a good way to find out if they're real?"

It's also a chance to draw awareness to selecting reliable and appropriate content. You could ask them to watch some videos together and ask how they choose what they watch. Follow up with questions like "What other things do you like to watch or play online? What would you do if something came up that you think you shouldn't be seeing?"

Emphasise that you will always be there to help them handle things, just as you are in the offline world - they just need to ask.

Ages 8-12

At this age, children might be starting to focus more on their social circles and identity, and could be accessing online games that allow chat between players, or video calling each other. It's a good time to ensure they understand that whatever they say and do online is a reflection of their values, and will impact how other people see them.



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DigiTalk | Children

You could ask them "What sort of behaviours do you like to see when you're talking to your friends? Is this different when you're talking to them online?"

This can then start a conversation about treating other people the way you would want to be treated – and in line with your family's values. Once again, ensure your child has thought about what to do if they make a mistake or post something they regret when they're online – you can also encourage them to think about how to respond if someone else isn't doing or saying respectful things.

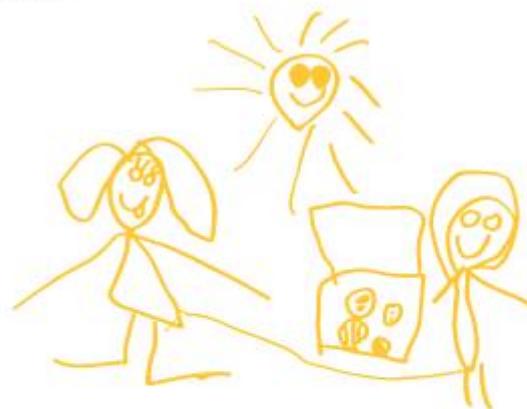
Be a listener, not just a talker.

If your child comes to you wanting to initiate the conversation or is curious about the topic you've raised with them, that is a great thing! Reassure them that you're happy they're coming to you, and invest the time to listen calmly. If they're sharing something that worries or angers you, do your best to not react in a way that might make them wish they hadn't said anything.

If you don't have the answers to their questions or problems right away, let them know that you are going to find out for them. Then make use of the resources at your disposal to find the answer and get back to them.

Key takeaways:

1. Open and regular conversations with your child about technology use help establish a family culture of respect, kindness, and positivity.
2. Start discussing the online world and technology at an early age, adapting the content to their developmental stage.
3. Teach critical thinking skills to your child – help them see the difference between reliable and unreliable information in the digital realm.
4. Shape your child's digital identity by discussing the values they should exhibit online and emphasising the importance of respectful communication.
5. Be a good listener when your child initiates conversations about technology, providing support and seeking resources to address their concerns.



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DigiTalk conversation cards for Children



DigiTalk | Children

What do you think would be fun for us to **do together online?**

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Have you seen anyone post something you thought **was unkind online?**

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Have you seen anyone post something that **made you feel a bit yuck?**

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Do you **treat people differently online and face-to-face?**

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What do you think happens to something when you have **posted it to the internet?**

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What is it that you **enjoy** about the game you're playing at the moment?

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How do you check that the person you're playing with online is **who they say they are?**

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How would you feel if someone stood up for you online?

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Have you ever stood up to someone about how they were **treating someone else?**

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How do you decide what you are going to post online?

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DigiTalk | Children

Where would you go for **help** if something happened online that you didn't like?

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DigiTalk | Children

Do you talk about how to stay safe online at school?

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DigiTalk | Children

Would you show me some of the videos you like to watch online?

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DigiTalk | Children

How does talking to your friends online make you feel?

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DigiTalk | Children

If you could change one thing about the internet, what would it be?

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How to use your DigiTalk conversation cards at home:

- Step 1:** Print out this sheet and cut out the DigiTalk conversation cards.
- Step 2:** Choose an option that suits your family – you can try one approach or experiment with all three.

Option 1 - Choose your own adventure: Place the cards on your kitchen table face down and draw a card from the deck. Use that to start your chat.

Option 2 - Plan the week: Stick a different card on the fridge each week and make it a priority to chat about that topic some time across the week.

Option 3 - Share the responsibility: Lay out all the cards on the table face up. Take turns with your child and each choose a topic to discuss until you have worked through them all.

No matter how you choose to use the cards, it's important to have the DigiTalk. And don't forget, these topics are just the start. Your family's DigiTalk should grow and evolve along with your family.

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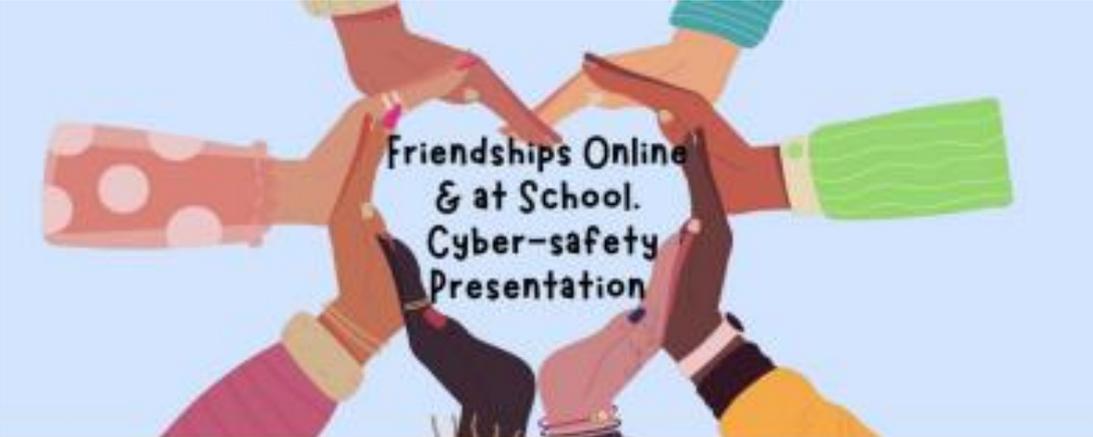
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Community News



Friendships Online & at School. Cyber-safety Presentation

A FREE event for parents and carers of primary school children in the City of Casey



Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, child and adolescent Psychologist and author will present on:

- Cyberbullying
- Screen time
- Privacy settings
- Gaming



Event details

Date: Wednesday 29 October

Time: 5:30-7:00 pm

Where: Wilandra Rise Primary School
25 Aayana Street, Clyde North 3978

Register: Scan the QR code

Our expert speakers will be available to answer your questions. Dari and Punjabi translators will be present, and supervised activities will be provided in the adjoining room for children, as they will be unable to attend a section of the presentation.



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