

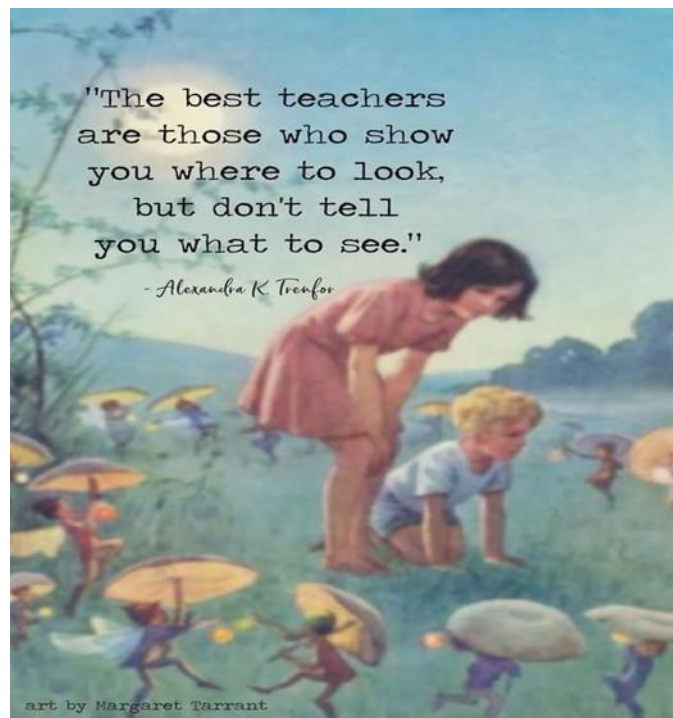
HUME CITY COUNCIL AEL/PSFO INCLUSION

Welcome to Term 1 2023 and our 13th Edition Newsletter.

We trust that you have all enjoyed a relaxing break and that your term with new children and families has begun well. The PSFO team is looking forward to working with you and supporting your important work this year.

In this edition we will explore:

- The PSFO program and team update.
- Exciting news of an Inclusion Conference this year.
- A peaceful article about calm amongst the busyness of Term 1.
- Advertising Term 1 Communities of Practice Network Meeting.



As many of you are aware the Preschool-Field Officer (PSFO) program is a free service for all children in funded 3- & 4-year-old kindergarten, including Early Start Kindergarten, regardless of the service type. It is a time limited, capacity building program that includes consultative support, resourcing, and practical advice to assist early childhood educators to support the access, inclusion, and participation of children with additional needs in a kindergarten program. The Preschool Field Officer program is a State Funded program through the Department of Education. **Our program is NOT related to or connected to the Victorian Inclusion Agency program which is funded via the Commonwealth.**

AEL: AEL@hume.vic.gov.au

PSFO: PSFOTeam@hume.vic.gov.au



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"We want a culture that is inclusive of everyone and where everyone who joins feels they have opportunities to succeed and grow."

Nellie Borrero

The Hume City Council PSFO team are excited to invite you to the **Fostering a Culture for Inclusive Practice Conference**.

Fabulous Guest speaker Louise Dorrat and break out facilitators TBA soon.

Please put in your diaries. More information will be emailed to your services soon.

Date: Friday June the 2nd

Where: Craigieburn Global Learning Centre

This event is for all sessional and LDC services in Hume City who are funded for 3- and 4-year-old kindergarten programs.

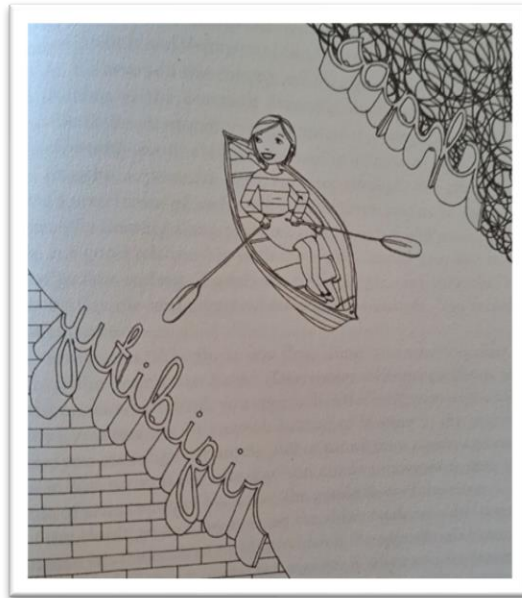
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A mindful reminder at this time of the year. May you all be able to find your own river of wellness in this busy start to the year. Be kind to yourself.



Dan J. Siegel a neuropsychiatrist describes mental health as our ability to remain in a 'river of wellness'.

Looking at the picture above one side of the riverbank is chaos where there is a lack of control which can result in emotional meltdowns and the other side of the riverbank is rigidity where there is too much control, and this can lead to lack of flexibility and adaptability. Where is ideal is in the middle of the river and not moving too close to either side of the riverbank.

The river of wellness is something that you can refer to regularly to assess yourself, your work colleagues and the children in your care and education services. Then you can take the appropriate action/s for support whether that be through building relationships and offering recommendations for referral pathways.

Source: The Whole Brain Child

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Term One Communities of Practice- Inclusive Education

Having Courageous Conversations

We will be discussing and sharing experiences and tips for having those 'tricky' conversations with families.

When : Monday 20th March

Time : 4.30-5.30 pm

Where: This will be an online event

Email for reserving a place will be to you soon.



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Team news. We were sad to see our AEL colleagues Melissa and Melissa leave for new career adventures. Hume is currently recruiting for AEL staff. Right now we are fortunate to have Alyx Brewster filling in for the AEL role until someone permanent is employed. Until then if you have AEL questions you can email Alyx on Alyxandra Brewster.

AlyxandraB@hume.vic.gov.au

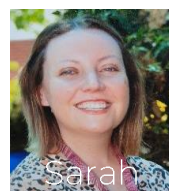
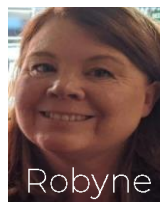


We did email you with the PSFO happy news that we are finally a team of 6  This is our first newsletter with Eufratia Mandhela's happy face in it.

We would love to hear of the wonderful things that your service is doing. Please don't be shy. Celebrate the great work that you all do and let us know what is happening in your service.

We look forward to working with you all this year . Please remember to get in touch with us, by using psfoteam@hume.vic.gov.au

Meet our Team:



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