



Tuesday, 11 April 2017

## Important: Parent / Caregiver Information

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Yesterday the school was given the very sad news that our Student Support Officer, friend and colleague Di Wilks passed away. This is a very difficult time for all of us at Elizabeth Grove Primary School as she was a highly valued person in our school community. We are keeping her family and friends in our thoughts.

Today and over the coming weeks, you may be concerned about your child's reaction or expressions of feeling about this news. These reactions and feelings may be part of the grieving process. I also encourage you to let your child know that you are aware of this incident and that you will listen to their concerns at any time they wish to share them. Staying connected and engaged with your child is one of the best ways to support them.

Our school will be concentrating on supporting our students and staff over the coming months. This means, among other things, returning the school to normal routines as soon as possible and recognising that students can be affected by this event for many months to come. If your child is already using the services of a mental health professional, you should ensure this information is passed on to them. A list of helpful websites and services is included in the attachments to this letter.

In the near future, we will organise a special tribute in memory of Di where students and families can come and pay their respects. In the coming weeks, I will liaise with family about her funeral and share their wishes with regards to students and families possible attendance.

Today there has been DECD social work support available to assist in supporting students with this news. If any parents would like further support for their children, please let the Front Office know so that an appointment can be made with social workers.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns about your child on 8255 2108. Attached with this letter is some information about grief and loss that I hope will also assist you.

Yours Sincerely,

Sonja Blazevic  
Acting Principal