



# Newsletter

24th October, 2019 Term 4 Week 2

## 2019 Dates to Remember

### Term 4

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

25TH November 2019

**NO CHILDREN AT SCHOOL**

### CHANGE OF DATE FOR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Thursday 12th December 2019 (Evening)**

#### Week 2

Friday 25th October

Kinder excursion to Calmsley Hill Farm

Primary Assembly—Year 4—  
2.15pm

#### Week 3

Tuesday 29th October

Footsteps Dance continues

Wednesday 30th Oct

Year 2 excursion to Rouse Hill Farm

Friday 1st November

World Teachers Day to be celebrated

Infants Assembly—Kinder—  
2.15pm

#### Week 4

Tuesday 5th November

Footsteps Dance continues

2020 Kindergarten

Orientation 9.15am

Tues 5th Nov, Wed 6th Nov &  
Thurs 7th Nov 2019

Friday 8th November

Year 1 excursion to Aquarium

Dear Parents

Some of the areas Mrs Benkovich and I spend a significant amount of time addressing is around the topics of friendships, bullying, conflict and emotional regulation. These areas involving interpersonal skills are extremely important, especially for young children who are still navigating their way around how to make friends, expressing their emotional needs, developing assertiveness and keeping safe. It is very important that children at school feel supported in their efforts to understand themselves, their relationships and how to manage situations that make them feel unhappy, unsafe or uncomfortable; such as bullying, teasing and anxiety. All incidents or concerns brought to our attention followed up with the seriousness that the children deserve. Any amount of time is given to speaking and listening to children and how they are feeling and this can often take hours. This time is well worthwhile as we get to know what are often complex situations and complex feelings.

I have included in this newsletter an excellent article entitled "Standing up to Bullying: Children's Books to Build Social and Emotional Skills." The article from readingrockets.org gives a very good definition of bullying and suggests some recommended children's books which can assist them to learn about: building empathy and perspective taking, awareness of emotions and self-control, practising conflict resolution, respecting others and fitting in. I am sure our school library has other books on these topics. For young children it is always recommended that you read the books first before reading them to your children and for older readers to encourage them to speak to you about the books they read.

If at any time you have any concerns for your child around bullying or any friendship matters, please let your child's classroom teacher know or contact Mrs Benkovich. Whilst we often wish our children to be able to manage social situations independently it is important to know when your child is unable to manage on their own and needs support.

My office door is always open for children to come and discuss what is worrying them. Your feedback on these texts is welcome

God bless you and your family  
Bernadette Fabri  
Principal

## St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 83.9%

**K = 83.9%**

**3 = 84.9%**

**5 = 87.7%**

**1 = 66.1%**

**4 = 90.3%**

**6 = 81.7%**

**2 = 91.5%**

**St Patrick's Parramatta**  
**RETURN TO SCHOOL 2020 DATES**

<b>Week One 2020</b>	<b>Monday 27th January 2020</b>	<b>Tuesday 28th January 2020</b>	<b>Wednesday 29th January 2020</b>	<b>Thursday 30th January 2020</b>	<b>Friday 31st January 2020</b>	<b>Week 2 Monday 3rd February 2020</b>
	<b>Public Holiday</b>	<b>Staff Development Day –</b>  <b>Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments</b>	<b>Staff Development Day –</b>  <b>Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments</b>	<b>Years 1 to Year 6 Commence school</b>		<b>Kindergarten commence school (full day)</b>
		<b>Year 1 to 6—Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 2 days.</b>				
		<b>Kindergarten Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 4 days.</b>				

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA (CEDP) - SYSTEM LEADERS SYMPOSIUM**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This week I will be joining all CEDP principals and system leaders at a two day CEDP System Leaders Symposium. On these days, principals and our colleagues from the office have an opportunity to pray, think, reflect and celebrate the work in schools and as a system as a whole. From previous experiences these days are extremely worthwhile and many key topics that impact on schools and learning are discussed and actioned. Because I will be away tomorrow 25th October, 2019 - **NSW celebrated World Teachers Day - the school will be celebrating this very important occasion on the following Friday - Friday 1st November, 2019. This will take the form of an acknowledgement at morning assembly.**

**WORLD TEACHERS DAY -  
1st November, 2019 at  
St Patrick's Parramatta**

[Message from NSW Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning: The Honourable Sarah Mitchell MLC](#)





## Honour Award

The Honour Award is awarded to the child who demonstrates outstanding behaviour shown in the Student Charter

3L	Zavier Moujalli	Mary Thomas
3T	Shavene Perera	Marie Rahme
4B	Baxter Gittany	Ellen Nikolakopoulos
4G	Tara Di Chio	Magdalena Gilchrist
5C	Aaliyah Johnston	Oliver Kougellis
5T	Michael Ayoub	Christina Elzahoul
6P	Lorenzo De Guzman	Alani Grohs
6W	Jacob Tamaro	Angelina Wakim



## st patrick's award

The St Patrick's award is given to the child who lives their life through Faith in Action

3L	Sophia Semaan	Gabriel Kalouche
3T	Christian Donaldson	Barbie Koima
4B	Sophie Gahdmar	Alex El Khoury
4G	Estelle Perrett	Nathan Romanos
5C	Ruby Younan	Ava Salloum
5T	Madison Younes	Malcolm Nasr
6P	Katerina Yannakis	Sienna Ghazaryan
6W	Kenneth Zhang	Nyagua Koima

### After School 'Drive Through'

In order for our afternoon 'Drive Through' to run as efficiently as possible we need your assistance by following these guidelines. Please:

- Have a clear label displayed in your front windscreen in **bold black text** (highlighter and biro are impossible to read)
- Have children enter the car from the **footpath only**
- Avoid having children put **bags in the boot** (if another car accidentally accelerated your child could be crushed)
- Remain in your car as it is **illegal to leave your vehicle** in this area as it is 'NO PARKING'
- Make sure that your child/ren can fasten their own seatbelts (this is a requirement if using the 'Drive Through' service)
- Use the designated crossings around the school rather than crossing in between the traffic.

Please note that if you park outside the school or in Trott Street before 3 pm the parking officers have the right to ask you to move as this area is a **NO PARKING AREA FROM 2.30PM—4.00PM.**

We ask that you please follow the road signs and cooperate with our parking officers as we would prefer our parent community do not receive any parking fines.

Mrs Benkovich



**Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week:** Alexandriya Izmestyeva, Jacob Manago,

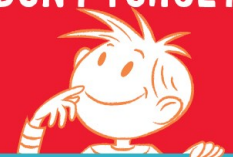
Cynthia Daher, Makayla Kalouch, Oliver Kougellis, Renee Kougellis, Julian Tanna,

Kenneth Zhang, Stephanie Jabbour,

Weyata Lamin, Annette Francis, Alex El Khoury,

Germain Toledo, Scarlett Khoury, Alessandra De Guzman

**DON'T FORGET!**



**SCHOLASTIC**  
**Book Club**  
orders are due:  
**30th October**

## IS YOUR CHILD NOT RETURNING TO ST PATRICK'S IN 2020?

If your child is not returning to St Patrick's in 2020 please send a letter to Ms Fabri stating the last day of attendance at St Patrick's and which school they will be moving onto in 2020. Please note that a term's notice in writing must be given to the Principal before the removal of a student or 10 week's fees will be payable. This does not apply to year 6 students

## Sports Days for Term 4

Children are required to wear their sports uniforms on the following days:

**Wednesday:**

5C 5T KA 1S 6P

**Thursday:**

4G 4B 2Y 2M 6W

**Friday:**

1C KM 3T 3L



## News from the STEM Makerspace

We made a robot called ABE from all sorts of metallic pieces, nuts and bolts. It took us around two weeks of lunchtimes but it was totally worth it. It was a big advancement from using wood or Lego products. We blue toothed it to the iPad and it made sounds, moved and changed its facial expression. This term we will put it on display for all students to see.

Anthony Nakhoul, Brian Chen and Ethan Firmeza

## Walkathon 2019

Friday 18th October was the St Patrick's School Walkathon. The whole school participated by walking laps around an oval in Parramatta Park. Kindy and Year 6 walked together first, followed by Years 1,2 and 5. Years 3 and 4 finished off the day with some children walking up to 9 laps of the oval.

The Walkathon was a great success thanks to the organisation from teachers and the help from parents. Thank you to the parent volunteers who supervised around the oval to ensure the safety of children and gave them encouragement along the way. A big thank you to the parents who also walked with the classes to and from school and some even continuing to walk many laps themselves.

Thank you to the parents and teachers who remained at school and organised for everyone to receive an ice block as a special reward for their great efforts!

"I came to school as a Parramatta Football Player.

We walked to the walkathon and waited until it was our turn. When we started, some of us walked and some ran. Some did 3, 4, 5 or 6 laps! I did 5 laps. I didn't get time to do anymore but I wanted to!"

Joanthony Tannous (Yr 2)

"It was a hot day but it felt cooler when we walked in the shade and Mr Younis sprayed us with a water bottle and cooled us down. Then it would make me want to run around again. I liked that it was different to the sport that we normally do at school. I was dressed as Mitchell Moses."

Matthew Draybi (Yr 4)

"I liked the Walkathon because it was fun. I liked that we got to go out of school to Parramatta Park and walk around somewhere different. I was dressed up as Micheal Sivo."

Jacob Wehbe (Yr 4)

## Uniforms/ Haircuts

Dear Parents,

As the weather starts getting warmer we thought it was a perfect time to remind our school community about the school's protocols around hair cuts and appropriate hair attire. As is outlined below boys hair should be of an even and regular cut and girls hair ribbons should be green.

Please be mindful of this protocol when attending the hairdresser or barber shop. I know it is difficult to go against what is currently trending, however by enrolling in our school you have also agreed to the protocols outlined below.

Please have the conversation with your child if you believe their current hairstyle does not conform to our school's outlines, than adjust the cut or style as needed, over the holidays. Thanking you for your continued support regarding this area.

### UNIFORM

- Full school uniform is to be worn at all times.
- Uniforms and shoes should be clean and neat.
- School hats are to be worn when outside buildings.
- Girls hair ribbons should be green.
- Girls long hair must be plaited or tied back.
- Boys are to have hair cut neatly, above the collar, and of an even and regular cut.
- The use of hair gel or hair dye is not permitted.
- No nail polish is to be worn.
- Jewellery is not permitted apart from a wristwatch, sleepers or small plain studs in pierced ears.

**From the start of term 4 all students will be wearing their full summer uniform including their school hat.**

### SUMMER UNIFORM

All children are required to be in their Summer Uniform. Parents can you please note that as per school uniform guidelines, joggers for sport are to be mainly white.

<u>Girls' Summer Uniform</u>	<u>Boys' Summer Uniform</u>
Tartan School Dress	Grey Shorts
Short White above ankle Socks	Grey Short Sleeve Shirt
Black Shoes	Grey above ankle Socks
Green Hair Ribbon	Black Shoes
Green School Hat	Green School Hat
<u>Girls' Sports Uniform</u>	<u>Boys' Sports Uniform</u>
Green Shorts	Green Sports Shorts
Sport Shirt with School Emblem	Sports Shirt with School Emblem
White above ankle Socks	White above ankle Socks
White Sports Shoes	White Sports Shoes
Track Suit with School Emblem	Track Suit with School Emblem

All School Uniform items available from Oz Fashions 115-127 Parramatta Road Granville NSW 2142 Phone 9897 3121  
[www.ozfashions.com.au](http://www.ozfashions.com.au)

Thanking you for your cooperation in ensuring that the school uniform code is upheld.

**Remember to label ALL clothing and NO HAT PLAY IN THE SHADE ONLY**



## Spotlight on our Year 6 class Members

Today we are focusing on Spotlight on....

Emily Hamilton, John Paul Wehbe, Angelina Wakim, and Georgia Wright

### Emily Hamilton

**If you were an animal what would you be?**

I would be a fox because foxes are orange and because orange is my favourite colour and they are super cute.

**What's your favourite movie?**

My favourite movie is the fox and the hound because I love foxes, so why not.

**Who is your biggest inspiration?**

My biggest inspiration is my mum because she always got good grades at school and got a good job and has inspired me to be just like her.

**What's your favourite place in the world?**

My favourite place in the world is Italy because when I went there I had the best spaghetti I've ever tasted.

**If you could have any job what would it be? Why?**

I would be a lawyer because they earn lots of money and they are successful.

### Georgia Wright

**If you had \$1,000,000 to spend in a day, what would you spend it on?**

I would travel, put it towards my family and me.

**How do you want to help the world become a better place?**

To stop people from littering and sending pollution into our oceans and air.

**When you leave this earth how do you want people to remember you by?**

I want them to remember me by being kind and helping people out.

**What is your favourite movie/tv show ever? Why?**

My favourite movie is Instant family.

**What one country would you like to travel to most and why?**

I would love to travel to Greece (Santorini) because I love the beaches there and the small towns.

### Angelina Wakim

**What one country would you like to travel to and why?**

I would really like to travel to Bali again, because every time I visit Bali, it's always so relaxing and I get to sit by the pool and have a massage everyday. We get to travel to different restaurants and I get to try new and delicious food.

**If you were an animal would it be?**

I would want to be a butterfly, because although they sometimes scare me, they are very beautiful and I've always wanted to fly and see the world from a different perspective.

**What are you currently excited for?**

Right now, I'm really excited about going to camp, and high - school, because they are both new experiences for me, and I can't wait to go.

**Five words to describe you**

Kind, Caring, Smart, Curious, Funny.

**Who is your biggest inspiration in life?**

My mum is my biggest inspiration in life, because no matter what happens, she's always there to take care of me, and comfort me when I'm sad. She always knows what's best for me, and encourages me to try my best.

### John Paul Wehbe

**If you had \$1000000 to spend in a day what would you spend it on?**

I would spend it on me, my family and the rest to charity.

**What country would you like to travel to and why?**

I would like to travel to Lebanon.

**Your least favourite dish?**

My least favourite dish is soup.

**What are you currently excited for?**

I am currently excited for high school.

**Name 5 words describing you**

Sporty, smart, funny, social, happy

# EXPLORING NUMERACY WITH YOUR CHILD

## YEAR 3 TO YEAR 6—Exploring Sports

Sports provide a good opportunity to engage your child in maths, particularly if they are a keen sportsperson. Here are some questions to ask your child when watching or playing their favourite sport: » How does your favourite sport tally the score? What maths is presented on the tally? » How do other sports tally the score – for example, tennis, golf, cricket, netball, football? » What maths do you use to find the total of the scores? » Who is at the top of the ladder? How is this determined? » Are there other ways to record the score? » How long do your favourite sport games go for in minutes and seconds? How is the time in the game divided? Into halves, quarters or something else? » What are the shapes of different playing fields and courts? Talk about edges and angles. » How can you estimate the perimeter and area of a playing field? » How many cars could be parked on the MCG field? How could we work this out?

## 2020 school travel applications now open

Applications for student travel in 2020 opened on Friday, 11 October 2019.

Students progressing to year 3 and year 7 no longer need to re-apply *if* they:

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have *not* been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.



Where a student meets the new distance eligibility, the system will automatically update their entitlement. If they do not meet the new eligibility, they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If students need to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2019 to ensure student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2019, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2020.



Our **VISION** is to be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.



Our **MISSION** is to –

Live out the Gospel Values in a visibly Catholic tradition

Nurture students for Christian Leadership

Create a range of learning experiences which allow children to progress at their own level

Assist our students to develop into independent thinkers with a deep sense of responsibility and justice

Lead each individual towards reaching his/her potential

Generate a sense of community and compassion in which all Experience belonging.

**Opportunity for all**

### MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday 8.00am, 6.00pm (Vigil)  
Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am (Family)  
11.00am (Solemn), 6.00pm

#### Weekday Masses

Mon to Fri 6.30am, 12.30pm  
Public Hol 8.00am

#### Pastoral Team

**Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev.**

**Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM CONV**

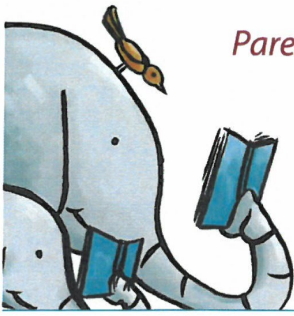
Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini

Fr Christopher Del Rosario Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Meg Gale ( Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst) Mindy Mercado (Youth Co-ord)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary) Donna Missio (Receptionist)



Parent tips for raising strong readers and writers

# Growing readers!

Brought to you by Reading Rockets, Colorín Colorado and LD OnLine

## Standing Up to Bullying: Children's Books to Build Social and Emotional Skills

Learn some basic facts about bullying, a growing problem affecting our schools and our communities. Children's books can help our kids see the world from different perspectives and build empathy. In this article, you'll find books we recommend for strengthening social and emotional learning, as well as books that deal with bullying head-on.

### What is bullying?

Children tease and can sometimes play roughly, and caring adults can guide children towards kindness. But bullying is different. It is **deliberate**, done with the intention of hurting someone. It is **repeated** — a child who bullies often targets the same child again and again. And it involves a **power imbalance**, where the child who bullies usually chooses a classmate thought to be vulnerable in some way.

Bullying can express itself in these ways:

**Physical:** using physical actions to hurt, including hitting, pushing, kicking, and beating up

**Verbal:** using words to hurt, including yelling, name-calling, taunting, insulting, and threatening to harm

**Social:** using friendships to hurt, including excluding, spreading rumors, and turning friends against each other

**Cyberbullying:** using cell phones, social media, and online gaming to send and widely share hurtful messages or images

Bullying is a growing problem, affecting our schools and our communities. Increasingly (especially for older children), it is happening online, expanding the number of kids who get bullied and bully others. The Internet can provide a shield for bullies to hide behind, but it certainly does not protect the targets of bullying.

*Continued on the next page ...*

Reading Rockets, Colorín Colorado, and LD OnLine are national education services of WETA, the flagship public broadcasting station in Washington, D.C.





The child who is being bullied feels the emotional or physical sting sharply and can feel powerless; classmates who witness the bullying often don't know what to do; and the child doing the bullying is struggling, too, with anger issues and more.

How can schools and families work together to stop bullying? It starts with creating a school culture that embraces and celebrates diversity and differences, has zero tolerance for bullying behavior, embeds social and emotional learning (SEL) opportunities in classrooms and school events, and provides guidance for teachers on responding to bullying in a direct, effective, and loving way — supporting the child being bullied, the bystanders, and the child who is bullying.

There are excellent online guides and toolkits for schools to use, including [Eyes on Bullying Toolkit](#).

## The powerful bookshelf

At Reading Rockets, we believe in the power of books to help children see the world from different perspectives and build empathy. Children who can empathize respond to others with thoughtfulness and understanding. Why is my classmate wearing a headscarf indoors? A beautiful picture book about choosing a new hijab for the first day of school can open windows.

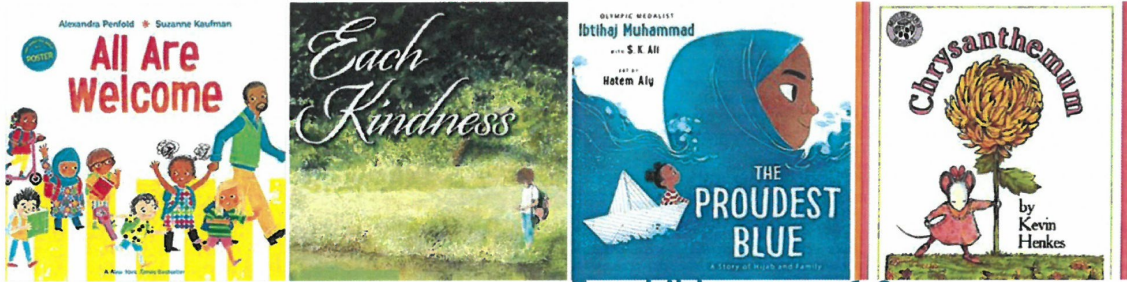
Through stories, children can meet characters who are dealing with strong emotions and who learn to manage those feelings in positive ways. What a powerful model for kids, especially when they've formed a personal bond with the vividly drawn characters.

Some children's books tackle the tricky topic of how to handle conflicts at school or in the neighborhood. Sometimes it's as simple as inviting the shy new kid to join in and play. Sometimes it's about learning to find your own individual voice. And sometimes it's about leaning on an understanding adult to help your classmates see your true strengths.

The messages in these stories can be subtle and powerful. They give kids a chance to reflect, think about their own beliefs and social interactions, and talk with their classmates and family about thorny issues.

Here are some of the books we recommend for strengthening social and emotional learning. Some of the books deal with bullying head-on.

## Books about building empathy and perspective-taking, respecting others, and fitting in

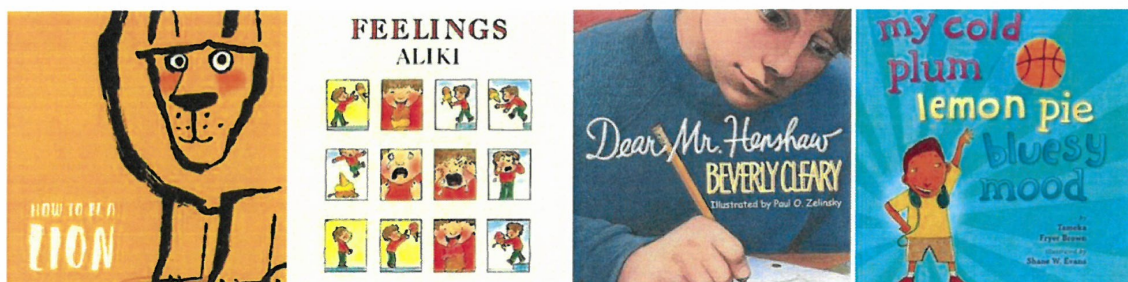


For children ages 6-9

### For children ages 3-7

- *All Are Welcome* by Alexandra Penfold
- *Bully* by Laura Vaccaro Seeger
- *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes
- *Freckleface Strawberry* by Julianne Moore
- *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña
- *Lily Macaroni* by Nicole Testa
- *The Can Man* by Laura Williams
- *Crow Boy* by Taro Yashima
- *Each Kindness* by Jacqueline Woodson
- *Families* by Susan Kuklin
- *The Hundred Dresses* by Eleanor Estes
- *I Walk with Vanessa: A Story About a Simple Act of Kindness* by Kerascoët
- *The Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig
- *The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family* by Ibtihaj Muhammad
- *Those Shoes* by Maribeth Boelts
- *Under My Hijab* by Hena Khan

## Books about building awareness of emotions and self-control



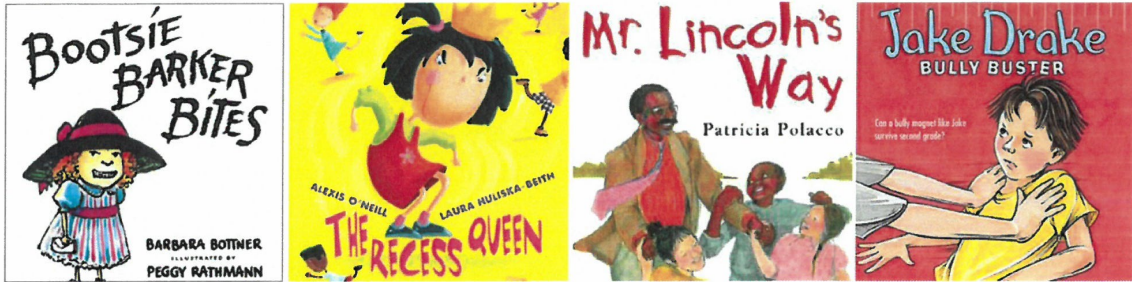
### For children ages 3-7

- *Feelings* by Alike
- *How to Be a Lion* by Ed Vere
- *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* by Kevin Henkes

### For children ages 6-9

- *Anh's Anger* by Gail Silver
- *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary
- *My Cold Plum Lemon Pie Bluesy Mood* by Tameka Fryer Brown
- *Zen Shorts* by Jon Muth

## Books about practicing conflict resolution



### For children ages 3-7

- *Bootsie Barker Bites* by Barbara Bottner
- *Can I Play Too?* by Mo Willems
- *Louder, Lili* by Jennifer Choldenko

### For children ages 6-9

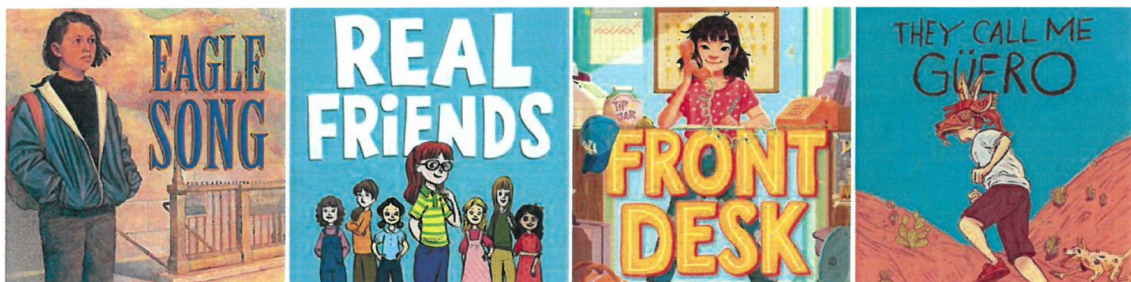
- *Clever Tortoise* by Francesca Martin
- *Enemy Pie* by Derek Munson
- *King of the Playground* by Phyllis Naylor Reynolds
- *Mr. Lincoln's Way* by Patricia Polacco
- *The Recess Queen* by Alexis O'Neill
- *What James Said* by Liz Rosenberg

### For children ages 8-10

- *Jake Drake, Bully Buster* by Andrew Clements
- *Shredderman: Secret Identity* by Wendelin Van Draanen

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## Books about empathy, perspective-taking, emotions, and conflict resolution: For older kids (ages 9-12)



- *Bully* by Patricia Polacco
  - *Eagle Song* by Joseph Bruchac
  - *Front Desk* by Kelly Yang
  - *Real Friends* by Shannon Hale
  - *Smile* by Raina Telgemeier
  - *They Call Me Güero* by David Bowles
-