A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Nathan Burke

Ex AFL football star, Nathan Burke visited our Year 6/7 students and they participated in an inspiring session on resilience. The Sports Captains, Brodie and Evie, introduced the ex football star like no other, delivering a ‘This is your Life’ rendition leaving him speechless and claiming it was the best introduction he has ever heard.

“Nathan Burke is an ex AFL player. He played for St Kilda, from 1987 to 2003, playing 323 games, kicking 123 goals. He was known as a tough rover who always backed himself in a contest and was one of the most courageous footballers to play for St Kilda. He set the club record for the most number of games at his retirement, with 323 games.

Some Career Highlights

- St Kilda Football Club best and fairest Trevor Barker Award 1993, 1996, 1999
- St Kilda Minor Premiership side 1997
- St Kilda AFL Cup winning side 1996 (co-captain)
- State of origin representative for Victoria 11 times
- All Australian 4 times
- St Kilda team of the century
- Runner up Trevor Barker Award 3 times
- Third Trevor Barker Award 3 times
- All Australian Vice Captain 1997
- Victorian State of Origin Captain and Vice Captain
- Herald Sun Player of the Year
- Sunday Herald Sun Player of the Year
- Channel 7 Sportsworld Player of the Year
- The Age Newspaper Player of the Year

Our school values—Working Together, Respect, Striving for Success, Honesty, Tolerance

Our school vision—We encourage a love of learning, a strong sense of self, respect for others and the desire to become good global citizens. We promote independence and responsibility as we guide our school towards a positive future.

Something to Ponder

‘The more that you read, the more things you know, the more things you know, the more places you’ll go!’

Dr Seuss
Nathan Burke has also been a Director of the St Kilda Football Club from 2008 to 2015. After retirement from his football career in 2003, he has directed his talents into business as a leadership and culture consultant and now runs his own business. He is a regular expert commentator on ABC Grandstand football coverage, an AFL analyst for Fox Sports News and co-hosts the Sunday sessions on ABC radio. He also writes articles for Inside Football Magazine.

We are honoured to welcome you to Kongorong Primary School.

Nathan Burke captured the students by explaining how the brain works and how your body responds. He spoke about above and below the line (which was a strategy he used daily in his AFL career), taking personal responsibility instead of making excuses and blaming others, then asking yourself why and then how you would do it differently next time to achieve a positive result. Nathan shared examples of his own children, turning negatives into positives, throughout their school experiences, having a growth mindset, the way we think, act and feel about situations. He shared a variety of resilience tools the students could use in everyday situations from home, school, sport and their future.

Nathan entertained the students for 90 minutes. He also shared stories of his playing days, family life and a special trip with ex-team mates up the Kokoda Trail.

After the session had finished I caught up with the Upper Primary students during recess and asked them what was something they found interesting or something they could use in their everyday lives.

“I like the thankful tree and the thankful jar. I also liked the think, feel and act.” Kyla

“I liked how he helped his daughter get ready for Canberra camp, so she wasn’t nervous anymore. And it helped me feel a bit better about going to Canberra Camp.” Crystal

“Nathan came to talk to us about being positive and having a positive mindset. I learnt about think, feel and act. I enjoyed Nathan coming to talk to us. Nathan is an ex-footballer (for the saints).” Jasmin

“The visitor Nathan Burke that came down to Kongorong talked about a lot of inspiring and knowledgeable things, from his talk I took away think, act and feel.” Brodie

“I thought that Nathan Burke was great, he had lots of great things to say. I liked when he talked about under and over the line which meant no excuses and doing the right thing.” Kate

“I learnt that you think before you act because I used to always react straight away when someone annoyed me but now I think before I act.” Bryce

“I learnt that you always take a positive mindset on everything and we come home from school, look at the positive side that happened not the negative. Think, feel and act.” Evie

“I took away from the visit when he talked about the Kokado history, so I can use the information about it.” Hemi

“I learnt to stay positive and to be more responsible for my things.” Shaylea

“The senses in your brain and seeing what they do to your body.” Declan

“We had Nathan Burke come to our school and did a football clinic to teach us about resilience and one thing he talked about looking at the positives instead of the negatives because everyone looks at the negatives instead of the positives.” Chloe

“Nathan Burke was very inspiring with his talk, he taught me about above and below the line, think, feel, act = perform and resilience.” Shak
“When Nathan came to our school he told us about stuff like thinking positive and negative and think, feel and act and getting late for school.” Eliama

“I enjoyed learning from Nathan Burke and I will definitely remember the above and below the line.” Camerin

I would like to sincerely thank Nathan for his expertise and inspiration. A massive thanks to Graham Dowie for organising this special event for our Upper Primary students.

Canberra Camp Fundraising

The McKinnon Family have offered to organise a can/bottle drive. There will be a wool pack or container in the Junior Primary/Kindy area that you can drop off your empty cans and bottles during the week. They will then collect them each Friday and take them to the recycling depot. This will begin on Monday 20th of August.

They have also been busy cutting kindling and have 7kg bags for sale at the front office for $10.00 a bag. If you are interested please come in and speak to the front office staff.

We are also planning on having a Kongorong Fete in Term 4. If you would be interested in helping or have any awesome ideas, I am going to have a get together on Wednesday the 22nd of August in the library at 3.20pm after the mid term assembly. The SRC will also assist us with the fete.

At the moment we have raised $2622.00. Next year we will have 12 students attend Canberra Camp in Term 1 in 2019.

Book Week

On Wednesday 22nd of August we will have our traditional book week parade. Please bring along $2.00 to donate to the drought relief. Angus, thank you for your great initiative and leadership.

External School Review

Kongorong Primary School was fortunate to receive a positive outcome for the External School review. We will be reviewed in four years’ time. Thank you to our wonderful staff, students, parents and community for supporting and assisting this process. The report will be uploaded on the Kongorong
Primary School and CPC website next week for you all to view.

**Playgroup**

Playgroup is now running fortnightly on a Tuesday morning from 9:00am until 11:00am. The next session will be on the 28th of August. It was wonderful to see so many families and their children here on Tuesday.

Please see below the roster for playgroup for the rest of the term.

Tuesday 28th August—Slime Making
Tuesday 11th September—Child Health
Tuesday 25th September—Nature Play

**Attendance**

This term we have had at least a 95% attendance rate except for two days. Congratulations to all students and parents. This is exciting seeing it is flu season and the weather is cold and miserable.

Please see below the graph for week 3.

![Week 3 ABSENCES TERM 3 2018](image)

**Footy Colours Day**

On the 5th of August the whole school will be involved in a Footy Colours Day. I encourage you to wear your favourite team’s footy colours and join in the fun. We will also participate on the Kongorong Sportsman’s Club oval a staff/parent verses student’s match at 2.00pm. We look forward to seeing as many of you there it is always such a highlight on our yearly calendar at Kongorong Primary School and CPC.

Michelle Hunt
Principal