One of our favourite Whole–School Values Events is completing Care Bear jobs...

Every second year the girls in the Junior School carry out ‘Care Bear’ jobs to demonstrate care for their friends, their families, themselves, their property, animals, the environment and members of the wider community, seeking sponsorship money for their efforts.

In 2011, the girls raised $3,593.65 to purchase books for Kerang Primary School Library. Families from this school were affected by drought, fire and floods.

In 2009, the girls raised $3,072.80 for children at Strathewen Primary School, who lost their much-loved school in Victoria’s devastating ‘Black Saturday’ bushfires. The money raised was used to purchase two sets of listening posts and a collection of audio books for the children.

In 2007, the girls raised $1,316.30 for children living in Rainbow, North West Victoria, who have been very badly affected by the drought. The money raised provided some much-needed new sports equipment for the local primary school.

Student Reflections

Respect: When I show respect for others I can earn respect.

Care: I believe that one thing that is better than being cared for is caring for others.

Inclusion: When I include someone in an activity, I see the look on their face and think how I made them feel – happy and wanted.

Responsibility: Responsibility means owning our actions and taking charge of them.

Perseverance: Persevering is not always easy, but I feel proud of myself when I have tried.

Differences: If everyone looked the same and acted the same life would be boring. Let’s celebrate how unique we all are.

Honesty: Honesty is about being true to yourself and to others.

Accomplishment: It is great to stop, think and celebrate what we have achieved because we can do so much.

Resilience: Resilience is thinking about the positives and forgetting the negatives.

Humility: We should be thankful for our successes rather than boastful. We need to practise humility by learning from our mistakes.
Values

‘The principles and fundamental convictions which act as a general guide to behaviour, the standards by which particular actions are judged as good or desirable.’


The aim of the Values Programme in the Junior School is to promote student understanding and knowledge of values, and to develop the skills and dispositions of our students so they can enact particular values as individuals and as members of the wider community. This directly correlates with the philosophy of Ruyton Girls’ School.

At Ruyton, we value:

- Respect
- Care
- Inclusion
- Responsibility
- Perseverance
- Differences
- Honesty
- Resilience/Bouncing Back
- Accomplishments

**RESPECT:** We are respectful when we are polite and considerate of others. We show respect to our friends, our family, teachers and members of the community. We also try to earn the respect of others.

**CARE:** To care is to give someone or something serious thought or attention. We show we care through our words, our body language and our actions. We care for our friends, our family, ourselves, members of the wider community, our property, animals and the environment.

**INCLUSION:** When we actively include others in our work and play, we are creating a climate of trust and mutual confidence. Our words and body language help others to feel included.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** We are responsible for our actions, our words, our belongings, our work habits and for our environment. We are responsible for the way in which we interact and co-operate with others; especially for resolving differences in constructive ways.

**PERSEVERANCE:** When we persevere we keep trying to achieve something even though it is difficult. Feeling proud of a job well done can bring confidence and prepare us for future challenges.

**DIFFERENCES:** We aim to show pride in our own differences and respect diversity in others. We understand that diverse communities can combine to create unique and valuable outcomes.

**HONESTY:** When we are honest, we are being open and truthful in our actions, thoughts and words. Honesty expresses both self-respect and respect for others.

**RESILIENCE/BOUNCING BACK:** When we bounce back or display resilience we show that we can ‘overcome odds’ and demonstrate the personal strengths needed to cope with some kind of hardship or adversity.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Our accomplishments reflect our desire to achieve something special. When we make the most of our abilities and aim to achieve our best we deserve to feel proud.

Each classroom in the Junior School, from Prep to Year 6, displays the values that the Junior School as a whole will focus on throughout the year.

The Values Programme is integrated across all areas of the curriculum in the Junior School. Through formal and informal activities (including class and whole-school activities) and in a supportive environment, we discuss and reflect on values through role play, drawing, picture story books, oral stories, literature circles, research, and songs. Each year level in the Junior School depicts one of our values at one of the Junior School Assemblies over the course of the year.

Additionally, in pairs during Share Time Friends, a component of the Year 6 Leadership Programme, Year 6 students work with one class over the year, sharing knowledge, ideas and reflections on each of the values. Each of the Junior School’s values is presented as a Whole-School display to showcase the students’ learning.