

Leadership within a classroom: A journey exploring the “I” in Leadership.

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A vibrant sunset scene over a beach. The sky is filled with streaks of orange, red, and purple. The ocean reflects these colors, and a large, dark rock is visible in the water on the left. A small seagull stands on the sandy beach in the lower right. The quote is written in a white, casual script font over the center of the image.

We do not learn
from experience...
We learn from
reflecting on
experience.

JOHN DEWEY

Leadership

**“The action of leading a group of people or
an organisation,
or the ability to do so”**

In business terms, the actions involved in leadership include:

- Establishing a clear vision
- Sharing that vision with others so that they will follow willingly
- Providing information, knowledge and methods to realise that vision
- Being able to coordinate and balance the conflicting interests of all members and stakeholders
- A leader steps up in times of crisis and is able to think and act creatively in difficult situations

Gumnut Cottage Philosophy

Lifelong love of learning

As passionate advocates for our profession we are committed to creating a lifelong love of learning for all. Learning involves curiosity, creativity and innovation.

Relationships are central to everything we do

We value relationships between educators, children, families and community, that are based on mutual respect and understanding. Relationships create a sense of belonging that is inclusive for all.

Commitment to ongoing change as a learning tool

We view change as a powerful and positive process where reflection, conversations and research lead to our continual growth and development.

Celebrating images of childhood

We view childhood as unique and precious, creating wondrous experiences together with our children. We value and celebrate the memories and experiences embedded in our journeys.

Building a Sustainable future is a shared responsibility

Educators are committed to building a legacy together with our communities that seeks to support a future with enough of everything for all, forever.

Our own Gumnut community

Our philosophy principles are intertwined and create a welcoming enjoyable community in which everyone belongs and thrives. Our community represents multiple ways of being and is a reflection of culture and diversity from our own Gumnut community and the wider community.

A children's service provided by



MACQUARIE
University



Relationships are central to everything we do

We value relationships between educators, children, families and community, that are based on mutual respect and understanding. Relationships create a sense of belonging that is inclusive for all.

A close-up photograph showing several hands of different skin tones (light, medium, and dark brown) reaching towards the center of the frame. The hands are positioned in a circular pattern, with fingers slightly curled as if about to clasp or support something in the middle. The background is a plain, light color, making the hands stand out. The overall composition conveys a sense of unity, teamwork, and shared purpose.

**Making
relationships
central to
everything
we do**

A dark blue night sky is filled with various fireworks. In the top left, a large, bright white firework bursts into many thin, radiating lines. To its right, a smaller, dense cluster of red fireworks is visible. Scattered throughout the sky are numerous small, glowing particles in shades of blue, white, and red, suggesting other fireworks exploding or falling. The overall atmosphere is festive and celebratory.

HAPPY
New Year



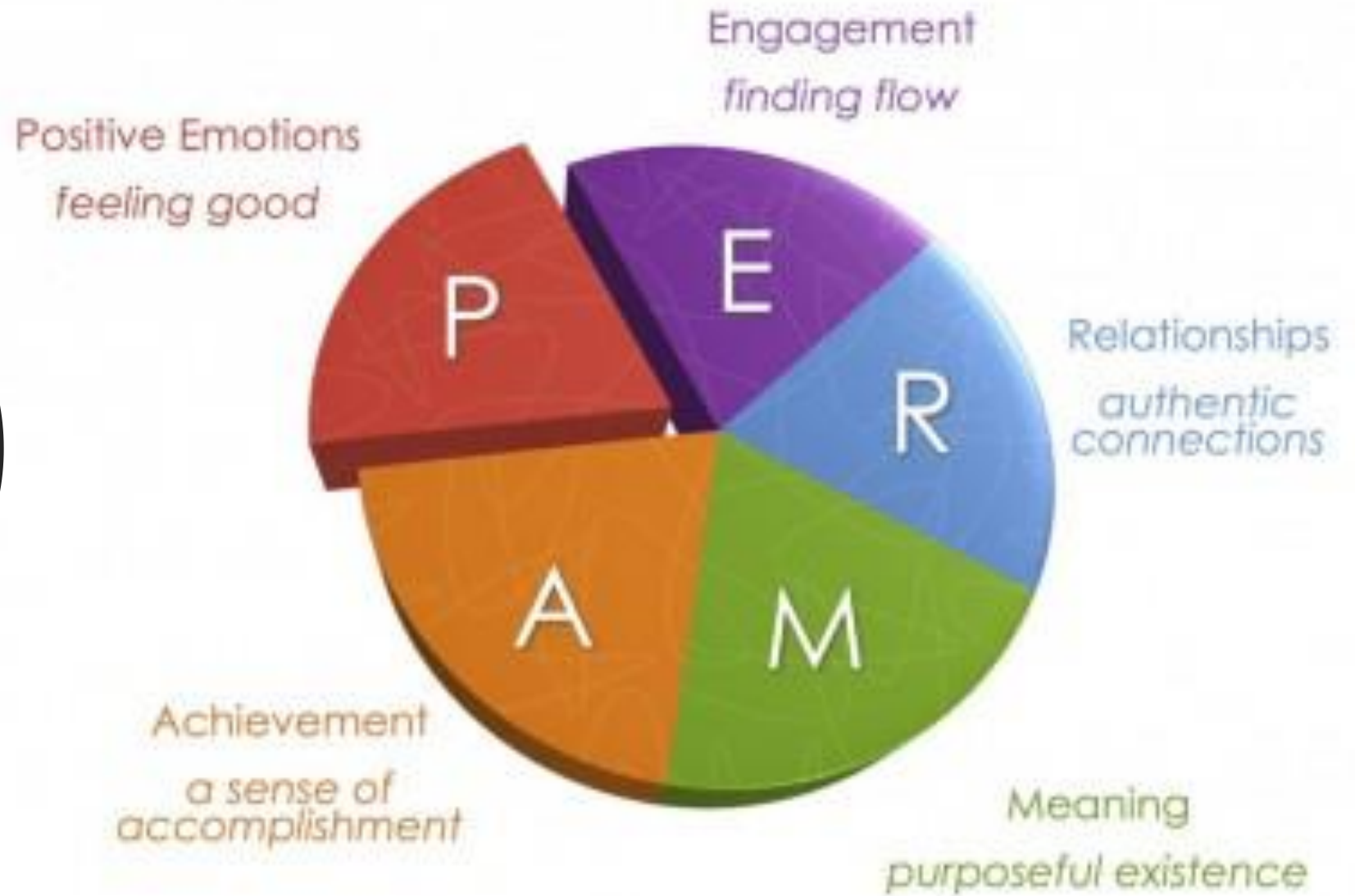
**KEEP
CALM
AND
DO YOUR
HOMEWORK**



Where to
next?

Exploring Positive
Psychology:

How to support
flourishing as an
individual.






Thoughts
from my
team....



HAPPY
New Year



Your
educators
are
your
program

Questions for my team included:

- Think about your communication style:
Can you describe it?
- What is it about working in the nursery
are you most looking forward to?
- What else do you want to share with
your team about you?
- What are your amazing ideas for this
year?

Welcome to the Nursery

This information has been compiled by the families and educators of our nursery to assist any person who is spending time in our room to understand how our program works, how the day flows, and what our expectations are for them.

If you have any questions, please come and speak to Eli, Joo-Young, Kaity, Meg or Satomi.



Just like a snowflake, each of our children, families and educators are unique, different and precious.

Take some time and get to know us.

The “Welcome to the nursery” folder was a **clear** and **consistent** reference point for our **expectations** and **intentions** behind the choices we make within our program.




Leadership in the classroom

My reflections about effective Leadership in a classroom

- Get to know each team members way of being-
what they value & who they are
 - Create a sense of Belonging
 - Understand that being part of this team,
means some sort of change for each person.
- As leaders, we need to utilise a strengths based
approach to team building.
- People notice the energy you bring into the
room as a room leader.


“A leader sets the tone of the classroom,
as you walk into the room you can see,
hear and feel the influence they have
on his/her team:
you can see it in the documentations,
resources, communication,
relationships, philosophy, atmosphere,
flow of the day... and more”.

Eli Clelland



What my team members
learnt about leadership:

The difference between a
great year and a
mediocre year
has a lot to do with the
approach of the room
leader.



**Effective
communication is
paramount to a
successful year.
It is the key when
working closely with
a diverse team**

**What my team
members learnt
about
leadership:**



What my team members
learnt about leadership:

Effective leadership can take
lots of different forms and you
need to adapt to your team.



What my team members learnt about leadership:

Reflection
is a
powerful
tool.



What my team members learnt about leadership:

Belonging is one of the most important aspects in a program for the children families and educators.

If the educators feel they belong they are more invested in the program.

My understanding of the leadership role in
the classroom is that it is so much more than
a title;
it is a way of being within your practice.

Bec G, Final year Intern student.



Reflecting on
our responsibilities
as leaders

My contact details:
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Some websites and books that you might find useful:

Positive Psychology: www.thepositivityinstitute.com.au

Sarah Lewis: www.acukltd.com

Business/ Leadership:

Simon Sinek: www.startwithwhy.com

