

## ***Introducing Our School Chaplain: Matt Stear***

My name is Matt Stear and I am Korumburra's School's chaplain.

My initial introduction to working with children and families began as a volunteer with Y.F.C. where I began prison visitation at Tarana boy's correction centre (now Parkville youth corrections centre). Later on I volunteered for six years on S.U family camps at Port Arlington and as a youth leader in our local church youth group for several years.

In 1998 my family (I have four great kids of my own ranging in ages from 11 to 17) and I moved to Foster where I ran a home based relief milking business and volunteered as an R.E. teacher in our local Primary school for three to four years. Later on this became casual employment at both the primary and high schools as I took charge of the maintenance and gardening. I was able to develop good relationships with the kids right through from P-12 and it was here that the desire to work with families took shape.

My main role is to provide Pastoral Care, which seeks to address a person's present needs while being respectful of their unique circumstances. I am not an extension of R.E. I am here for the whole school community, students, parents & staff. As a Chaplain it is not my role to judge anybody. My aim is to instil a sense of purpose, to help kids believe that they are of great worth, to bring hope and to help them reach their full potential!

All matters that are discussed are treated in a totally confidential manner.

I am available by appointment through the school office.