

# CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

The Chaplaincy program at Billanook Primary School commenced in 2006. Ron Buckland, an experienced minister, who has taught CRE classes at the school for several years, spends each Monday on campus.

A school chaplain provides opportunities for “safe” conversations with members of the school community who are hurting in some way. Children caught up in family breakdown, or facing illness or death in their family circle, appreciate one on one conversation with an adult who cares, but is not involved. Staff also find confidential conversation useful at times.

Some children are asked to chat with the chaplain. Other children tell their teacher that they want to have a talk with the chaplain. Some contacts are brief; others continue over a number of weeks. The chaplain works with school staff and, where appropriate, with parents.

Funding support for the chaplaincy program has been generously provided by Montrose and District Rotary Club.

Ron Buckland can be contacted via the school, or on 0419 309 028

