Synergising restorative approaches to conflict and behaviour management

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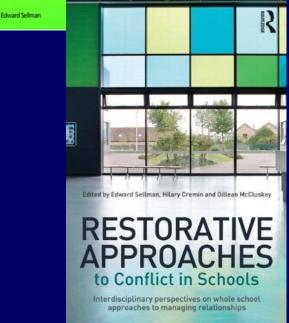
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 My research has shown that:

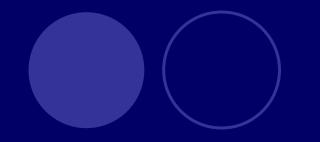
 Peer mediation services can have an impact in schools when the service is well supported and high profile

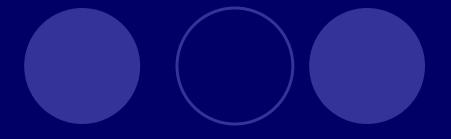
 However, schools frequently underestimate the degree of cultural synergy required





What do we really learn at school?



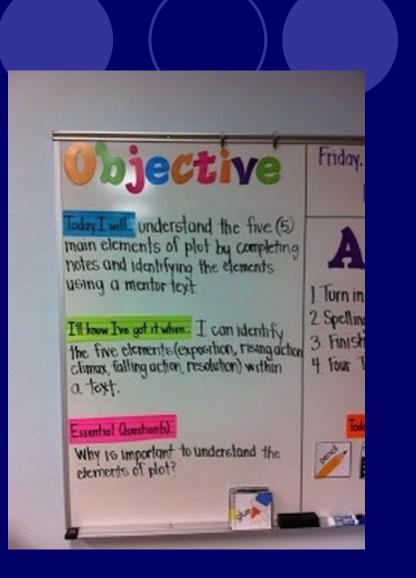


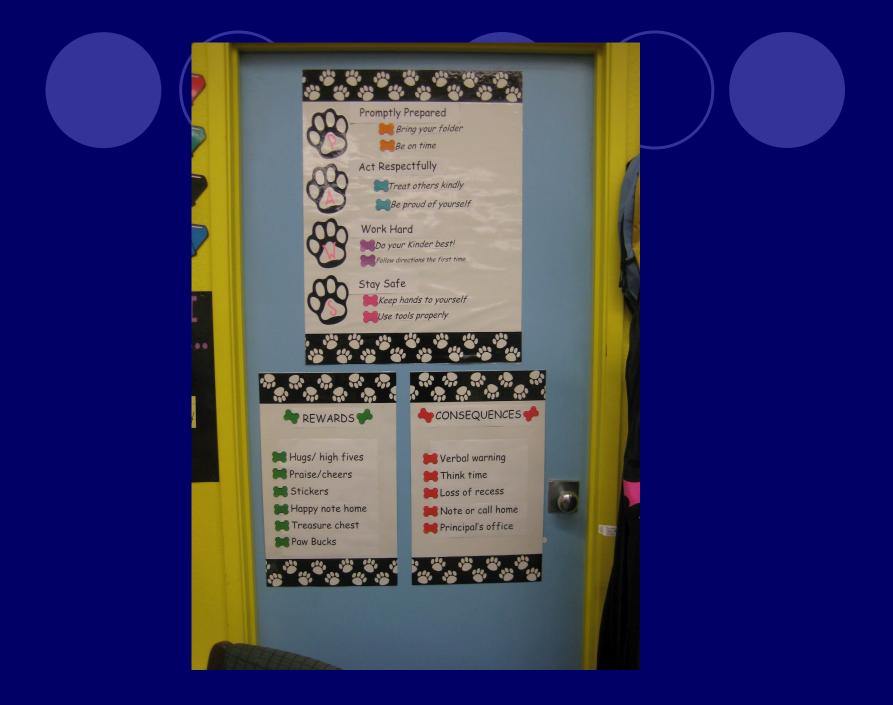




Objectives Literacy: By the end of this week you will understand that summarizing, visualizing and monitoring and clarifying are strategies that can help you as you strive to read and comprehend the story The Butterfly House. * Skills: Sequence Point of View

Math: By the end of this week, you will have experience with clocks and will be able to tell time to five minutes.







Consequences

- 1. Warning/Reminder
- 2. First Time Out
 - Return when you are ready.
- **3. Second Time Out**
 - Stay until end of class.
- 4. Student/Teacher Conference

Levels of Consequences

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Safe, Responsible and Respectful Choices	<u>Teacher</u> Stop & Think Find another space Use stop signal & conflict resolution strategies Adult help Verbal Redirection Data collection	Teacher/Administrator Teacher/ Administrator talk Detention form Phone home Recess reflection Note signed by parent Role playing Put things right	Administrator Contact parent- phone home Incident report Separation from peers Loss of privileges Put things right

BEHAVIOUR BOARD



I am being very good.



I have been warned.



I have been warned twice.



I need to move away from the group.

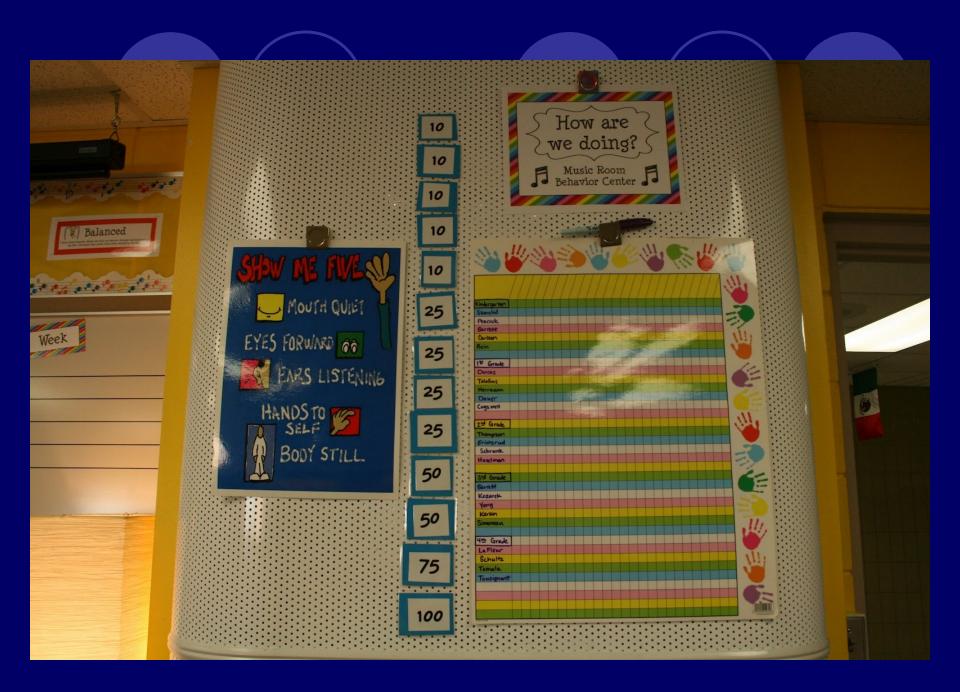


I must go to another classroom.



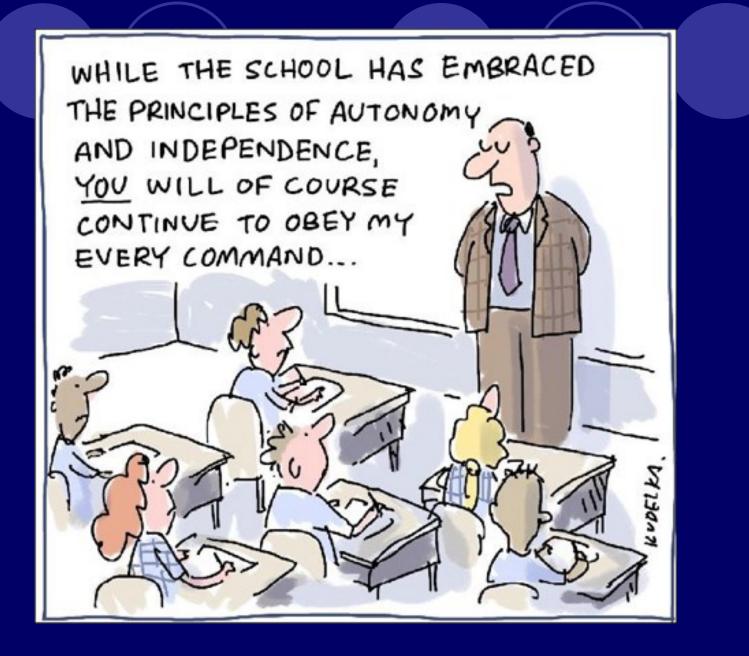












Discussion



- OWhat do punitive/behavioural approaches to conflict actually teach children and young people?
- What would be required of a behaviour management strategy synergistic with restorative approaches to conflict?

Punitive versus Restorative Justice

Punitive Justice	Restorative Justice	
Past focus	Present/future focus	
Who's to blame?	Who needs what?	
Third-party authority	Third-party facilitation	
Involuntary	Voluntary	
Arbitrary punishment	Restoration/transformation of relationships	
Win-lose outcome	Win-(mini)win outcome	

Why is there so much punishment in schools?

- Behaviourism
- Reinforces existing educational policies and practices
- Punitive strategies are clear and consistent to implement, usually operationalised via 'token economies'
- They have a quick and measurable impact

Limitations of a 'behavioural mind-set'

Evidence base

- Impact is highly situated, often short-term
- Goals/needs, feelings, skills are often overlooked in the process
- Punishment damages relationships/ selfworth
- Repetition of 'offences'
- Anti-educational messages

What do we learn ..? This ..?

- My worth is derived from how I compare with others
- I am unworthy if I do something wrong
- It is important to do what somebody in authority says
- It is important to vindicate any wrongdoing
- Everybody has a fair chance of being rewarded if they behave well
- Good things will happen if I behave well

- There are degrees of severity for offences and punishments should be proportionate?
- I should get something in return for making a good choice
- It is important to blend in
- Important learning (English & Maths) can be known in advance and taught in 50 minute blocks
- Fear making a mistake, there will be consequences
- It is the teacher's responsibility to decide what was right and what was wrong and who should be punished

Synergy requires:

- High regard for developing self-worth/love
- Emphasis on learning to make ethical choices
- Curriculum commitment to relationships skills
- Conflict seen as an opportunity for learning/growth (present/future focus)
- Punishment as a last resort only