

Dear Families,

Welcome to the final week of Term 2 - we made it!

This has to be one of the most interesting terms that will go down in education history, and we have made it through together! Thank you to all families that have been cautious in keeping children at home when they are unwell, this has been a huge help in keeping illness out of the school. We also thank families for their understanding in following the COVID-19 health guide-lines by staying in their cars and calling the school when needed. These restrictions will be in force for Term 3, until we are advised otherwise.

Funding:

The school was allocated a special CSEF funding that has allowed for provisions to continue should there be a second wave of COVID-19, and another closure of schools. This funding has been used to purchase updated technology for all year levels that will support both our return to school, and in case of a return to remote learning in the future. We are excited to begin using these new resources next term.

Last day of Term 2, and first day of Term 3:

A reminder to families of our 1:10 dismissal time on *Friday, June 26th*. Also a reminder that school returns for students on *Tuesday, July 14th*. School photos will be on *Wednesday, July 15th*. We are awaiting envelopes from the photographer and hope to have these sent home by the end of Term. A price list is included with today's newsletter to help with budgeting.



2021 Enrolments:

Enrolments are now open for 2021. Enrolment packs are available from the Kinder, our website, or can be posted to families at their request. It is fantastic to have up to date facilities and programs that keep our school standards the same as larger schools, while keeping the small school atmosphere!

Virtual tours will be available on our website early Term 3! I hope that everyone in our Gormandale & District Primary School Community have a safe and happy holiday. Please take care of yourselves and each other, and do not hesitate to

reach out to me during the holidays if you feel the need for additional support.

Tamara Halket



Individual Photo Pricing:

Premium Pack \$52 Classic Pack \$44 Value Pack \$39 Essential Pack \$36 Basic Pack \$35 Group Only \$29 Gift Pack \$15

Family Packs

Deluxe Pack \$30 Value Pack \$25 Standard Pack \$20 Gift Pack \$15



CHAPLAINS CORNER

In this era of technology, we find that raising children is a bit different from those times before the iPod, iPhone, computers, Internet, and all the other amazing gadgets that consume us. Children played outside. They kicked a ball across a field. They played with cards rather than chasing Pokémon on a screen. Children played outside until the street lights came on and they knew they had to go indoors. We are raising children very differently now than we did twenty or thirty years ago. But, perhaps it's time to return to basics.

This is a new world. Children born in this time automatically are given gadgets to entertain them. But, what are we missing? Psychologists at Harvard University have been studying what makes a welladjusted child in these changing times. They have concluded that there are several elements that are still very basic.

HERE ARE 5 SECRETS TO RAISING A GOOD KID, ACCORDING TO HARVARD PSYCHOLOGISTS:

1. SPEND TIME WITH YOUR CHILDREN. It's a simple suggestion. But, we are living in challenging times when we are "on" 24/7 through technology, work, and the bombardment of busy lives trying to stay afloat. It's not just social media – the news, emails, texts, or the fluctuation of being on call at all times strains our relationships. We have become accustomed to the addiction of putting ourselves out there. It's easier to give a child a toy or an Xbox console to keep them busy than it is to actually *do something with* your child.

Spending time with your children means putting everything down, reading a book, kicking a ball, hiking, or just playing an old-fashioned card game. In simplest terms, it means that you interact with your kid person-to-person. These are the things they will remember. They will forget what you bought them. They only want to spend quality time with their folks.

2. SPEAK OUT LOUD TO YOUR CHILDREN. According to the Harvard researchers, "Even though most parents and caretakers say that their children being caring is a top priority, often children aren't hearing that message."

It goes back to spending time to find out what's going on in your child's life. Check with teachers, coaches, tutors, and other caretakers. Find out if there is a shift in behaviour. Allow your child to feel comfortable to come and speak with you. Your child needs to hear that he/she is top priority in your life. It's not enough to show them by giving them things, keeping them safe, or feeding them. **Children require acknowledgment through words.** Words are important. Invite them to sit and share their stories about school, homework, friends, and so on.

3. SHOW YOUR CHILD HOW TO SOLVE PROBLEMS WITHOUT STRESSING ABOUT THE OUTCOME.

One of the greatest gifts you can give your child is the ability to analyze and solve problems. Trust your child to decide for himself what he wants. You cannot solve their issues all the time. It's healthy to allow them to experience life through their own lenses. Achievement is important and, in allowing them to determine what they want, you are gifting them with awareness.

You want to help raise your child to become a productive adult. Allow him/her to come to you and share their problems and guide them to make the best possible choices. It's difficult to step back as a parent and watch your child make a mistake. But, just like you, it's part of learning and the development of our humanness. You want them to be happy for what they have done, and not just to make you happy as a parent.

4. SHOW YOUR CHILD GRATITUDE ON A REGULAR BASIS.

The researchers say that "studies show that people who engage in the habit of expressing gratitude are more likely to be helpful, generous, compassionate, and forgiving-and they're also more likely to be happy and healthy." Parents should be giving their kids chores and then expressing how grateful they are for their accomplishments. It's important for children to see that gratitude is a remarkable gift. Whenever they do something, honour and acknowledge them for their performance. The Harvard psychologists did find that parents are giving praise only to "uncommon acts of kindness."

As parents, our duties are to teach our children to be empathetic and compassionate towards others.

5. TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE.

This goes back to showing them gratitude. Let your child experience the world through your compassion. Researchers say that "almost all children empathize with and care about a small circle of families and friends." Teach your child to be a good listener, to interact without the use of technology, to be empathetic to others outside of their family, and not judge anyone based on their religion or nationality.

You are responsible for helping to raise loving souls. Help them navigate this world through compassion, love, and kindness.

"Raising a caring, respectful, ethical child is and always has been hard work. But it's something all of us can do. And no work is more important or ultimately more rewarding." (Source: powerofpositivity.com)

Just a reminder that I am at the school every Tuesday and every second Wednesday. I am here to provide pastoral care to the whole school community, and I am more than happy to discuss how I can support you or your child while they are here. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you think I can assist in any way.

Brian Heath School Chaplain

Eagles of the weeks Kobee, Lachlan J & Grace

Reading Awards **Beaging Awards**

25 Nights - Reuben, Ava P, Grace, Cooper T

50 Nights - Aussie, Billy S, Natalie, Bailey J & Lochlan S, Koby L

75 Nights -Nellie

100 Nights - Maisie









